



California State University SAN MARCOS

Committee for Undergraduate Research (CUGR)

MINUTES

May 8, 2025 · 12:00–1:00 PM · Administration Building 2302 · <https://csusm.zoom.us/j/82869404191>

Attendees:

Jane Kim (Chair), Charles De Leone, Deanna Schmidt, Jesus Cordova, Jimmy Kezos, Kang Du, Michael McDuffie, Osmar Pinto Neto, Sergio Nigenda-Morales, Robert Iafe

1. **Welcome!** *Chair Jane Kim called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm*
2. **Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Kim asked if everyone had a chance to review the April 10, 2025, CUGR minutes. *Minutes were approved as distributed*
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Kim reviewed the agenda with the committee. *Agenda reviewed by committee and approved as distributed*
4. **Announcements & Events**
 - a. Symposium on Student Research, Creative Activities, and Research
 - [Ten finalists](#) from CSUSM Symposium attended the [CSU Student Research Competition](#) at Cal Poly Humboldt, April 25-26, 2025.
 - Bianca Delia (mentor Dr. Yasmine Sherfat) won 1st place in Behavioral, Social Sciences & Public Administration (undergraduate).
5. **Student Expectations**
 - a. The committee discussed the importance of providing students and mentors with clear guidance and expectations for delegates attending competitions and conferences.
 - b. The committee agreed that Dr. Kim will refine the reported expectations and ensure they are available to share with students and mentors.
6. **Fall Business and Timelines**
 - a. [Student Poster Showcase](#)
 - i. Thursday, December 4, 2025
 - ii. Abstracts due Monday, November 3, 11:59pm
 - b. [CUGR Student Excellence Award](#)
 - i. Personal statement due Monday, November 3, 11:59pm
 - c. [Kerri Mowen](#)

CUGR 2024–2025 Meeting Schedule:

Time: 12:00pm–1:00pm	2024: 9/12, 10/10, 11/14,
Location: ADM 2302, Zoom	2025: 1/30, 3/6, 4/10, 5/8

- i. Nominations are due on Monday, October 20, 11:59pm
- ii. Dossier due Monday, November 3, 11:59pm

7. Sigma Xi

- a. Installation News Article: <https://www.sigmaksi.org/news/article/2025/05/06/new-sigma-xi-chapter-installed-at-california-state-university-san-marcos>
- b. A Sigma Xi event was held May 6, 2025, to accept student nominations, including student leader Maya Qaddourah. Dr. Iafe reported there have been 15-20 student nominations to date.
- c. Two students have volunteered for leadership roles in SLIC student organization, which has been established.
- d. Student membership fees are \$50 for students plus a one-time \$20 initiation fee for new members. Assistance with these fees through CUGR or at the department level was discussed and will be revisited in the next academic year.

8. **CUGR priorities for 2025-2027** (Deanna)

- a. Faculty Fellow Deanna Schmidt will be on sabbatical in the Fall. Dr. Jane Kim will continue in this position as interim.
- b. AY25-26 meeting dates (12-12:50p third Thursday of the month, with adjustments for breaks/holidays)
 - i. 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, 1/29*, 2/19, 3/19, 4/16
 - ii. A date in May will be determined
- c. Discussion of ideas and initiatives
 - i. CSU Systemwide Student Research Competition at CSUSM in April 2027
 - 1. Cross campus committee to be established
 - 2. This year at Cal Poly Humboldt, there were 20 sessions (8-12 talks per session); separate grad and undergrad sessions
 - a. Behavioral, Social Sciences and Public Administration
 - b. Biological and Agricultural Sciences
 - c. Creative Arts and Design
 - d. Health, Nutrition and Clinical Sciences
 - e. Humanities and Letters
 - f. Education
 - g. Engineering and Computer Science
 - h. Interdisciplinary
 - i. Physical and Mathematical Sciences
- d. Establishing process for Sigma Xi student nominations/participation

9. **Adjournment**

- a. *The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 12:49 pm.*

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