

# THE *Current*

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## **Chula Vista Student Wins First UCSB Emeriti Research Contest**

Jodell Linder, a junior student in the College of Creative Studies, has been named winner of the first University of California, Santa Barbara Emeriti Association Undergraduate Research Competition. Linder, of Chula Vista, was awarded the \$500 first prize for her project, "A New Procedure for Testing Female Resistance in *D. melanogaster*."

College of Creative Studies students at UCSB have freedom to fashion their own curriculum. Linder's courses emphasize study of evolutionary biology. She has been working with Bill Rice, a professor of ecology, evolution and marine biology, in his evolutionary genetics lab. *Drosophila melanogaster* is a species of fruit fly often used in genetic research.

Earning honorable mention were Leah Ow, a mechanical engineering senior from Concord, and Johnpaul Cross, a business economics senior from Berkeley. Ow's project was titled, "Santa Barbara Channel Coastal Long Term Coastal Research Project," and was done with support from UCSB's Institute for Computational Earth System Science and its Marine Science Institute.

Cross's project was "Sport Utility Legislation Loopholes and the Resulting Social Impact."

About 25 percent of all undergraduates at UCSB are involved in organized research efforts, working on teams with graduate students and faculty mentors. The campus awards about \$200,000 per year in undergraduate research grants.

The UCSB Emeriti Association is an organization of retired UCSB faculty. The undergraduate research competition was organized to encourage and recognize outstanding research by junior and senior students at UCSB. The first contest drew 19 entries. The Association recognized Linder, Ow, and Cross at its Spring Luncheon.

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## **About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.