

Cynthia S. Moncada

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EDUCATION

UC Santa Cruz | B.S. IN NEUROSCIENCE
Expected 2018 | Santa Cruz, CA

UC Santa Cruz | B.S. COGNITIVE SCIENCE
Emphasis in Evolution
Expected 2018 | Santa Cruz, CA

AWARDS

AMGEN Scholar | STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Summer 2017

Pathways to Research Award | UC SANTA CRUZ
Fall 2016

Dean's Honors | UC SANTA CRUZ
Spring, Fall 2016

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Stanford Summer Research Program (SSRP) | AMGEN SCHOLAR RESEARCHER
Summer 2017 | Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine, Stanford, CA
Laboratory of Dr. Gerald Crabtree
"Investigating the mechanism of ASD-causing mutations in BAF53b"

Mexican Center for Music and Sonic Arts (CMMAS) | VISITING SCHOLAR
Summer 2016 | Morelia, MX
"Computational Models of Cochlear Dynamics"

- Independently conducted a massive literature review to understand the complexities of the mammalian auditory system and its physiology.
- My conceptual contributions provided a groundwork for a compendium of research and methods for computational modeling of the cochlea.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Stanford University | TEACHING ASSISTANT

Summer 2016 | Mobile EEG and Computational Tools for Auditory Research Summer Workshop

- Co-instructed a summer workshop in which students learned to record brain activity using a custom mobile electro-encephalogram (EEG) to study fundamental patterns of cortical activity unfolding over time, machine learning and statistical tools to clean, analyze, and visualize EEG data.
- Presented a lecture teaching students the fundamentals of anatomy and physiology of the peripheral and central auditory systems, as well as cognition of music and speech.

UC Santa Cruz | UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall-Winter, 2015-16 | Brain, Mind, & Consciousness (COWL 39), with Professor Cassidy Sterling

- Held an active role in designing and writing the curriculum for a 10 week, student-led undergraduate course offering an interdisciplinary introduction to the study of the neuroscience, cognition, social psychology, and their applications in fields such as health science, technology, and social development.
- Led a weekly, supplemental discussion section to aid students in learning comprehension.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

UCSC Cognitive Science Student Association (CSSA) | PRESIDENT

Fall 2016 - Current | UC Santa Cruz, CA

- As president, I initiate and facilitate regular club meetings, represent the organization for funding. In addition, I create a quarterly plan in collaboration with executive board members to host faculty talks, seminars, and workshops related to all interdisciplinary fields of cognitive science.

Society for Advancing Chicano & Native American Scientists, UCSC | OUTREACH SECRETARY

Spring 2017 - Current | UC Santa Cruz, CA

- As outreach coordinator, I initiate and maintain year-round outreach and communication with students pursuing an undergraduate degree in the STEM fields or biosciences.

AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- AMGEN Scholars Foundation - current
- SACNAS National Society - current
- PSI CHI International Psychology Honors Society - current
- Peralta Engineering and Medicine Science Club (PEMS) at Laney College, Oakland

LANGUAGES

- English - Native Language
- Spanish - Native Language