



The UCF Academic Advancement Programs (AAP) prepares UCF students — particularly underrepresented, low-income and first-generation college students — to pursue graduate school. AAP works in collaboration with faculty, staff, local and national partners to provide a range of graduate school preparation programs and services. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of initiatives designed to increase their awareness and knowledge of the graduate school application process, graduate funding, summer research programs, and fellowship opportunities.

AAP coordinates two selective structured programs, the **McNair Scholars Program** and the **Research and Mentoring Program**. Scholars participating in these programs are provided support, guidance, and resources to help them reach their post-graduate goals.

AAP Scholars Prestigious Awards (2003-2020)

38 NSF GRFP Recipients	3 Goldwater Scholars	2 Pickering Scholars	4 Frost/Oxford Scholars	29 Order of Pegasus	6 Astronaut Scholars
2 Rangel Fellows	2 Gilman Scholars	2 Gubernatorial Fellows	1 Udall Fellow	2 Ford Fellows	1 Fulbright Scholar

Thank you 2019-2020 McNair and RAMP faculty mentors!

Dr. Karin Chumbimuni-Torres
Dr. Bhimsen Shivamoggi
Dr. Shawn Putnam
Dr. Jonathan Caranto
Dr. Ronald DeMara
Dr. Grace White
Dr. Jonathan Powell
Dr. Lana Williams
Dr. Jennifer Kent-Walsh
Dr. Yeonwoong Jung
Dr. Steven Ebert
Dr. Alla Kourova
Dr. Tania Roy

Dr. Mel Stanfill
Dr. Stacey Malaret
Dr. Fernando Rivera
Dr. William Hanney
Dr. Saleh Naser
Dr. Debopam Chakrabarti
Dr. Brian Fisak
Dr. Christopher Bennett
Dr. Kyle Rhode
Dr. Chase Mason
Dr. Linda Walters
Dr. Candice Bridge
Dr. Kevin Mackie

AAP Staff:

Michael Aldarondo-Jeffries, Director | Dr. Natalia Leal Toro, Assistant Director | Arlene Ollivierre, Coordinator
Colleen Smith, Advising and Digital Learning Coordinator | Alexandra Lyew, GA | Malkia Williams, GA

**Special thanks to Dr. Laurie Pinkert and Emily LaPadura for their support of AAP Scholars*



AAP Scholars - Placements



Cody Autrey

Biomedical Sciences

Florida International University
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Medical Degree



Zoe Barbeau

Mathematics

Stanford University
Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering
Astronaut Scholar



Chance Brewer

Computer Engineering

University of Central Florida
Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering



Julissa Burgos

Biomedical Sciences

Vanderbilt University
Ph.D. in Biomedical and Biological
Sciences



Gustavo Camero

Computer Engineering

Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. in Computer Engineering



Stephanie Castelin

Psychology

University of Cincinnati
Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology



Carla Garcia

Economics and Political Science

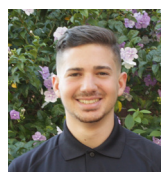
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Ph.D. in Political Science
NSF GRFP Recipient | Rangel Scholar



Stefani Hammond

Anthropology

Johns Hopkins University
Ph.D. in Functional Anatomy and Evolution



Luis Hurtado

Electrical Engineering

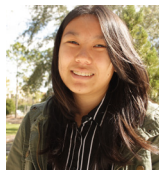
Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering
GEM Fellowship Recipient



Lauren Houchin

Biomedical Sciences

University of California, Irvine
School of Medicine
M.D./Ph.D.



Madison Manley

Electrical Engineering

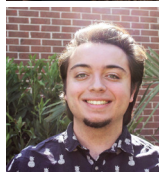
Georgia Tech
Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering



Maria Martinez

Psychology

Louisiana State University
Ph.D. in Chemistry



Isaiah Morales

Digital Media

University of Washington
Masters in Human-Computer Interaction &
Design



Darwins Olcima

Psychology

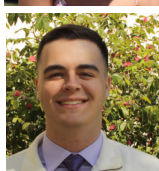
Bowling Green State University
Masters in College Student Personnel



Bianca Pizarro Vazquez

Sociology

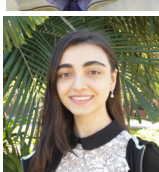
The University of Texas at Austin
Masters in Community and Regional Planning



Bolivar Perez

Civil Engineering

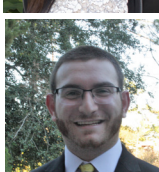
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Masters in Civil and Environmental
Engineering



Aseelia Samsam

Biomedical Sciences

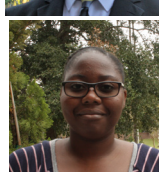
Medical Degree



Justin Shaw

Biomedical Sciences

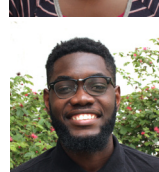
Florida International University
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Medical Degree



Tiara Smith

Psychology

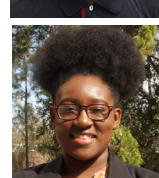
University of Central Florida
Masters in Clinical Psychology



George Walters-Marrah

Molecular Microbiology

Stanford University
Ph.D. Program in Biophysics
NSF GRFP Recipient | Goldwater Scholar



Danielle Waugh

Biology

Lehigh University
Ph.D. in Earth and Environmental Sciences