Sorrell Chesin '58 Research Award

GENESEO



"I wasn't sure I made the right decision to transfer to Geneseo. From the Bronx to a small town would be a major adjustment. More people lived on my street than lived in the town. Talk about an adjustment! At least there was a movie theater, open on weekends and a bowling alley in town. How's that for entertainment?

As I walked on the street, people wished me "good morning." Faculty focused on the students as they lectured. The campus environment was engaging and welcoming. I joined clubs, met students



from different places, looked forward to each day and sought to do my best. I thought about Psychology Professor Richard Bloomer, who allowed me to participate on a research project he was undertaking. It was an extraordinary experience for me. I was thinking about all this when my name was called and, dressed in an academic robe, I walked across the stage and received my degree. Where did the time go? In retrospect, those college years were a transformative experience and set the foundation for my professional career in higher education. I owed something!

The reason I established this fund was based on that experience. To my surprise, the research article was published in The Journal of Educational Research in 1960 and he included my name as his co-author."

Sorrell Chesin began his undergraduate education at NYU but completed it with a B.S. from the SUNY College at Geneseo. His M.A. is from Syracuse University and his Ph.D. from Michigan State University, where he served as a Head Resident Advisor.

He dedicated his career to the advancement of higher education. He held an administrative and part-time faculty position at the University of Bridgeport (CT) prior to being appointed Associate Dean of Students at SUNY Albany in 1965. He held several senior administrative positions over the course of his tenure, including service as Executive Director of the University at Albany Foundation, and retired in 2013 as Associate Vice President for University Development. Upon retirement, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the UAlbany Emeritus Center, an association of retired faculty, administrators and professional personnel and served as its Vice President and then President.

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The purpose of the endowed fund is to provide financial support to establish undergraduate student research awards designed to recognize those students who have successfully undertaken a research experience in the natural sciences and related disciplines under the direction or mentorship of a faculty member in the field of study and to promote this research experience.

Guidelines

- Student nominees must be full-time juniors or seniors.
- Students must have conducted research with a faculty member for the fall semester of the current year and must plan to continue the research into the spring semester.
- Funds must be utilized for a research project overseen by a faculty mentor or may be used to augment an Undergraduate Travel Grant for a conference presentation.
- These funds may be in addition to other grants, fellowships and assistantships students have receive for their projects.
- Awards will range from \$250 to \$500, and its equivalent amount in the future.

Process

- Department(s) reflective of the donor's designation will be determined each fall by the Office of Sponsored Research.
- A nomination form will be made available to faculty in selected department(s) by October 1.
- Each department chair or program director asked to issue a call for nominations to their faculty members.
- Nominations will be due by on the first Monday of December each year.
- Recipients will be selected by the beginning of the spring semester by the Office of Sponsored Research staff, in conjunction with appropriate department chairs/program directors.
- The Office of Sponsored Research will generate award letters and will provide students with instructions on how to access their award.

2025 Award Recipients

up to \$465 awards

Sarah Alfiero

Comparative 3D Morphometric Analysis of 100-m-scale Impact Craters on Mars Faculty Sponsor: Nicholas Warner, Geological, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences

Matthew Aviles

Reactions Towards the Total Synthesis of Spirotryprostatin A Faculty Sponsor: Barabara Casavant, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Thomas Back

A Survey of the Fruiting Plants and Their Insect Parasites in the Forests and Orchards of Western New York Faculty Sponsor: Suann Yang, Biology

Ashley Biondi

Neuroinflammation and Ketogenic Diets Faculty Sponsor: Allison Bechard, Neuroscience

Victoria Brzezinski

Amyloid Beta Coated Gold Aggregation Process Faculty Sponsor: Kazushige Yokoyama, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Jacob Calus

Characterizing the Diet of Invasive Rudd Fish in Conesus Lake Faculty Sponsor: Mackenzie Gerringer, Biology

Michaela Cawley

Mutations in the Reverse Transcriptase and Thumb of R2Bm Proteins and Their Impact on Nucleic Acid Binding Faculty Sponsor: Varuni Jamburuthugoda, Biology

Joelle Chang

Genetic Profiling and Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing of Bacterial Isolates from the Microbiology Laboratory Environment Faculty Sponsor: Ifeoma Enweani-Nwokelo, Biology

Ledis Coronna

Characterizing the Diet of Invasive Rudd Fish in Conesus Lake Faculty Sponsor: Mackenzie Gerringer, Biology

Jordyn Farner

Mutations in the Reverse Transcriptase and Thumb of R2Bm Proteins and Their Impact on Nucleic Acid Binding Faculty Sponsor: Varuni Jamburuthugoda, Biology

Madison Forcier

Characterizing Mice with an APOE4 Knock-in Mutation, A Risk Factor for Alzheimer's Disease Faculty Sponsor: Allison Bechard, Neuroscience

Margaret Guilfoyle

Comparative 3D Morphometric Analysis of 100-m-scale Impact Craters on Mars Faculty Sponsor: Nicholas Warner, Geological, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences

Ryan Hacker

Two is Better Than One: Exploring Bidentate Ruthenium-Arene Complexes for Anti-Aβ Activity Faculty Sponsor: Michael Webb, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Christopher Kolilias

Reversible Aggregation Process of Amyloid beta 1-40 Coated Gold Colloids Faculty Sponsor: Kazushige Yokoyama, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Nicole Mathewson

Imaging of Cancer Cell by Utilizing Surface Enhanced Raman Scattering Process Faculty Sponsor: Kazushige Yokoyama, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Abel McCall

Reactions Towards the Total Synthesis of Spirotryprostatin A Faculty Sponsor: Barabara Casavant, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Meganne Moore

Genetic Mapping of Bacterial Isolates from Three Teaching Classrooms and Palms of Students in ISC Building Faculty Sponsor: Ifeoma Enweani-Nwokelo, Biology

Kevin Pereira

Comparative 3D Morphometric Analysis of 100-m-scale Impact Craters on Mars Faculty Sponsor: Nicholas Warner, Geological, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences

Abisage Sekarore

Susceptibility Profile of Selected Bacterial Isolates Using Nauclea latifolia and Morinda lucida Plant Extracts Faculty Sponsor: Ifeoma Enweani-Nwokelo, Biology

Grace Sutherland

Characterizing Cytosolic Malate Dehydrogenase of Trypanosoma brucei Faculty Sponsor: Varuni Jamburuthugoda, Biology

Mitsuki Tabei

Imaging Aggregation Process of Gold Nano-particle Attached Proteins Faculty Sponsor: Kazushige Yokoyama, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Madeleine Turton

The Novel DNA Methyltransferase Inhibitor CM-272 Inhibits Bacterial Growth via a DNA Methylation-Independent Mechanism Faculty Sponsor: Kevin Militello, Biology

Liam Wilson

Comparative 3D Morphometric Analysis of 100-m-scale Impact Craters on Mars Faculty Sponsor: Nicholas Warner, Geological, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences