

## News

23 August,  
2021

# Nine SWOSU Biology & Chemistry Students Participate in Summer Undergraduate Research Program



SWOSU biomedical research interns this summer were (from left) Bryler Atchley, Preston Garner, Hannah Budde, Emma Detrick, Audra Crisp, Emily Burgess and Elah Alcuitas. Not pictured are Camille Goerend and Ashtyn McAdoo.

Nine SWOSU biology and chemistry students in Weatherford participated in an 8-week summer research experience on the SWOSU campus as part of the Oklahoma Idea Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (OK-INBRE) Summer Undergraduate Research Program.

Participating were: Elah Alcuitas, Enid; Bryler Atchley, Clinton; Hannah Budde, Edmond; Emily Burgess, Weatherford; Audra Crisp, Hydro; Emma Detrick, Ringwood; Preston Garner, Lookeba; Camille Goerend, Weatherford; and Ashtyn McAdoo, Oklahoma City.

During their internships, students gained valuable experience performing independent research projects in the biomedical sciences. Participants earned a \$5,000 stipend, and the research laboratories that supported their work received \$2,200 to purchase necessary supplies.

Student researchers were mentored by SWOSU faculty in the Biological Sciences and Chemistry & Physics Departments. Mentors included Drs. Trevor Ellis and Tim Hubin (professors of chemistry), Drs. Jon Henrikson and David Martyn (associate professors of chemistry), Dr. Regina McGrane (associate professor of biological sciences), Dr. Vijay Somalinga (assistant professor of biological sciences), and Dr. Andrew Bigley (assistant professor of chemistry).

Students presented their research findings at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center alongside OK-INBRE interns and researchers from three additional undergraduate research programs. In total, 60 undergraduates from across the United States participated in this prestigious event. The keynote speaker was Dr. Cammi Valdez, an alumna of the SWOSU Department of Chemistry & Physics and current assistant professor of chemistry at Northeastern State University.

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