

SCCURI

Sacramento City College Undergraduate Research Initiative

Professor Bill Miller, Chemistry
Professor Todd Gruber, Chemistry
Kimmy Do & **Kate Davies**, current SCC students

LRCCD Board Meeting
October 14, 2026

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Why Undergraduate Research?

Twice as likely to graduate college in four years[1]

10 times as likely to graduate in six years[1]

Closes equity gaps[2]



Xong Vue (2019), Ph.D. Candidate, Chemistry, UC Davis

1. Undergraduate Research - Center for Engaged Learning
2. Haeger, H.; Bueno, E. H.; Sedlacek, Q. Participation in Undergraduate Research Reduces Equity Gaps in STEM Graduation Rates. *CBE Life Sci Educ* **2024**, *23* (1), ar11.

What Is SCCURI?



A conference and a hub for original research

What began in 2012 with SCC Chemistry students is now an inspiration and a place for students to grow as researchers.

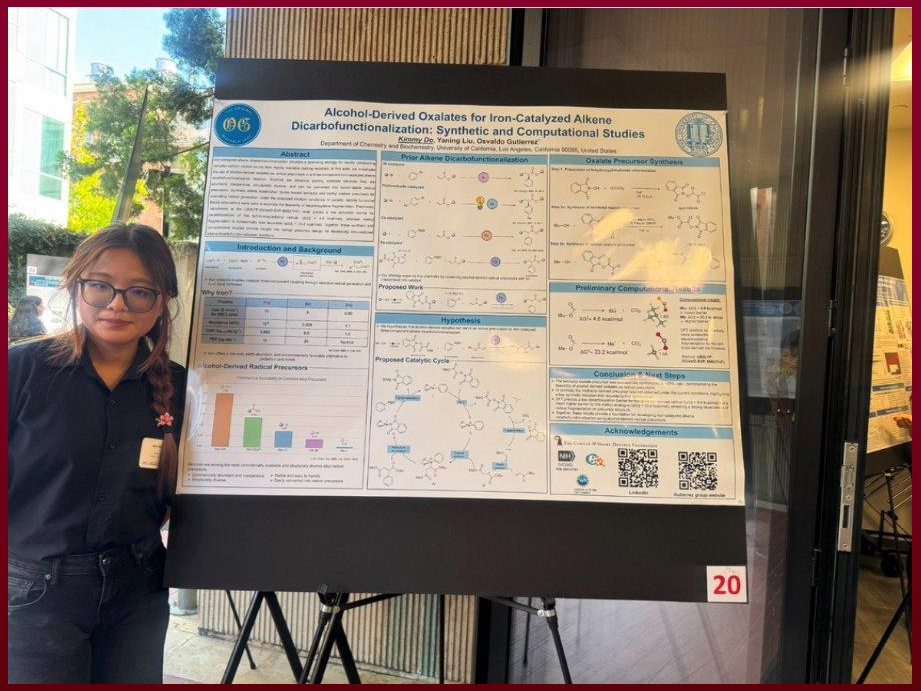
Kimmy Do

CRC MESA Scholar & Pre-Med Major

CHEM 484, Spring 2026, Project: "Computational Study of Three-Component Iron-Catalyzed Difluoromethylation Reaction"

Undergraduate Researcher, UCLA Gutierrez Lab, Summer 2026, Project: "Iron-catalyzed alkene dicarbofunctionalization using alcohol-derived oxalates"

CHEM 486, Fall 2026, Project: "Challenges in Modeling Water"



UCLA, Summer 2026

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Kate Davies

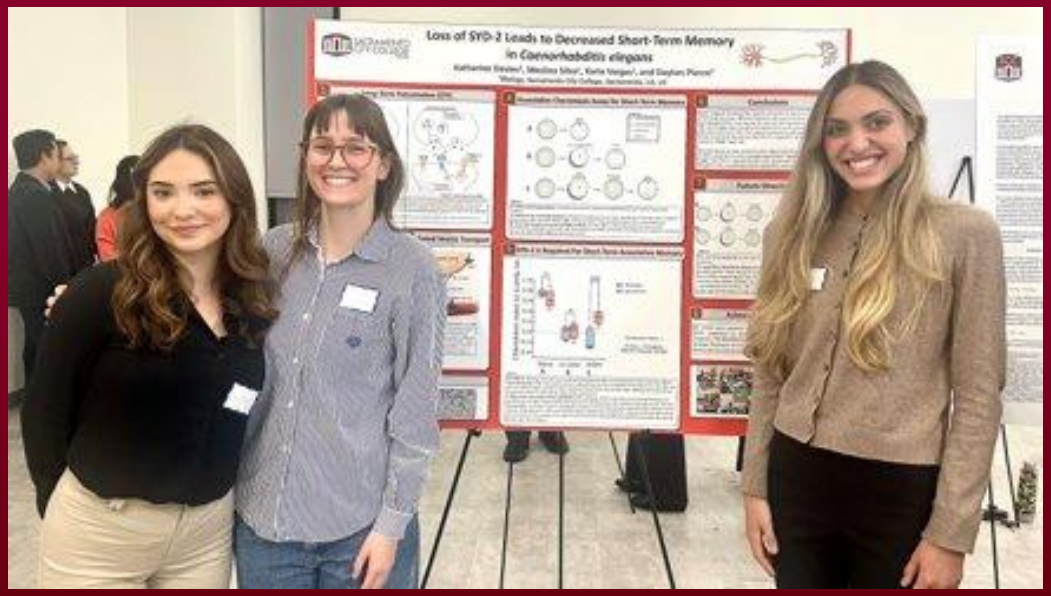
SCC MESA Scholar & Chemical Engineer Major

CHEM 484, Fall 2024, Project: "Build and Calibrate a Falling Sphere Viscometer"

Research with Dayton Pierce, SCC Biology, Spring 2026 leading to publication and poster presentation award, Project: "Loss of SYD-2 leads to decreased short-term memory in Caenorhabditis elegans"

Research Experience for Undergraduates at University of Utah, Summer 2026, Project: "Taming Linear Frontal Polymerizations"

CHEM 486, Fall 2026, Project: "Using 'Cheap' 3D Descriptors for Reaction Modeling"



Karla Vargas, Kate Davies, and Meclina Silva, Spring 2026, 1st Place, General Posters

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We Collaborate with…

MESA and Honors to recruit students and take them to conferences to present

Graduate student mentors at UCLA and UC Davis

Chem Tech program to prepare students with research for the workplace



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Where Are They Now?



Lillian Kuang (2012), Pharmacist, his&hers

Xavier Garcia (2015), M.D./Ph.D. Candidate, Cornell





Michael Flores (2013), Obstetrician, Sacramento

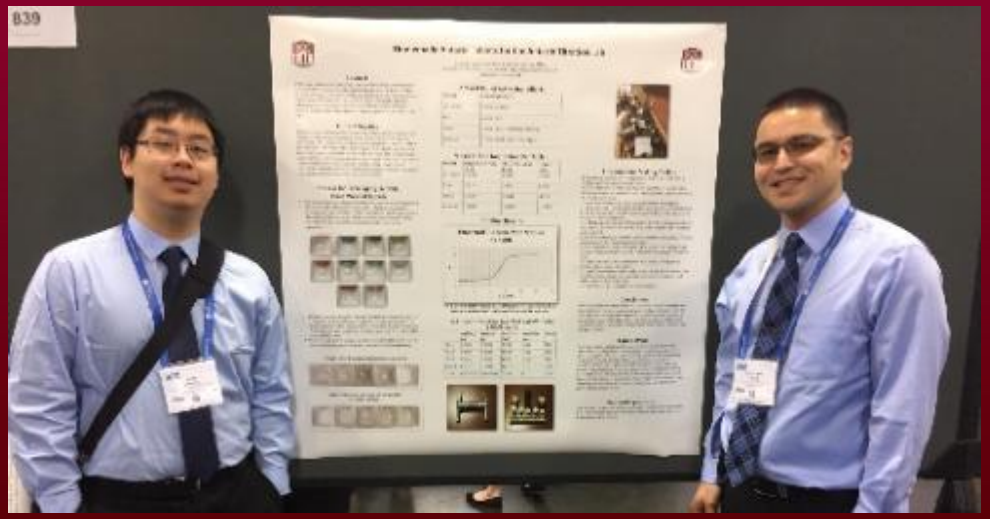
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Where Are They Now?



Megan Lee (2015), Senior Research Associate, one: bio & Malak Haidari (2015), Process Engineer, Lam Research

Jamie Thom (2016), Pharmacist I, CDCR & Adon Kwang (2016), Research Associate II, Medicinal Chemistry, Eikon Therapeutics



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Please Come!
SCCURI Conferences

December 3 and 4, 2026—Oral presentations (online)

May 6-7, 2027—Poster Session (online and in-person in the Sacramento City College Natural Sciences building)

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