Livermore Lab FOUNDATION

Open the Door to the Future

Livermore Lab Foundation Awards
Two New Scholarships to UC Merced Students

Two rising seniors at the University of California, Merced have each been awarded one-year scholarships by the Livermore Lab Foundation. The $15,000 scholarships include the opportunity to participate in Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Data Science Summer Institute as well as an internship at the Lab throughout the academic year.

The UC Merced student recipients are Jose Garcia-Esparza of Clovis, who is studying computer science and engineering and Teagan Zuniga, a political science major from Modesto. Their scholarships will support both educational and living expenses for the students, allowing them to focus on their studies, the LLNL internship and post-graduation prep. Both students began their new internships on May 26.

"We were delighted to award these first-ever UC Merced scholarships to two very worthy students, " said Dona Crawford, chair of the Livermore Lab Foundation. "Both Jose and Teagan have been interested in STEM-related programs and specifically data science and its real world applications for several years. They are great role models for our future generation of scientists and engineers."

"The academic distinction and research excellence that are the hallmarks of UC Merced are on display through this exciting partnership with the Livermore Lab Foundation and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory," said Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Gregg Camfield. "We are excited to further our involvement with both organizations and for the experiential learning opportunities this affords to Teagan and Jose and future UC Merced students."

This is the second year the Livermore Lab Foundation has awarded one-year scholarships to local university undergraduate students. Alan Noun, a Modesto resident attending Cal State East Bay, was the first recipient in 2019. Noun graduated in May 2020 and plans to become a software developer.

"Our Foundation is establishing strong relationships with both UC Merced and Cal State East Bay," noted Crawford. "We will continue to identify opportunities that 'open the door' to the future for all who are interested in STEM in the greater Bay Area and Central Valley. We appreciate the strong new partnership with UC Merced and wish both Jose and Teagan the very best as they start their senior year."

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About the Livermore Lab Foundation
The Livermore Lab Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) IRS- recognized nonprofit organization committed to advancing the power and promise of science and to launching the next generation of scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians. For more information, visit livermorelabfoundation.org

About UC Merced
UC Merced opened in 2005 as the newest member of the University of California system, and is the youngest university to earn a Carnegie research classification. The fastest-growing public university in the nation, UC Merced enjoys a special connection with nearby Yosemite National Park, is on the cutting edge of sustainability in campus construction and design, and supports high-achieving and dedicated students from the underserved San Joaquin Valley and throughout California. The Merced 2020 Project, a $1.3 billion public-private partnership that is unprecedented in higher education, will nearly double the physical capacity of the campus and support enrollment growth to 10,000 students.