

# *THE Current*

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Joan Magruder

## **Research Awards Presented to a Faculty Mentor & Students**

A graduating senior, two graduate students, and a faculty member have been recognized for their contributions to undergraduate research at UC Santa Barbara.

Kimberly Spears, a mathematics major from Portland, Oregon, will receive the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research.

The award is presented to a graduating senior with distinction as an undergraduate researcher. Spears conducted research for over two years with Jeffrey Stopple, professor of mathematics, on the genus theory.

Her own research paper will be published soon.

Glenn Beltz, professor of mechanical and environmental engineering, will receive the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research for his distinguished record of mentoring undergraduate researchers.

Graduate students Laura Mydlarz, a marine science researcher from Boca Raton, Florida, and Tom Jaramillo, a chemical engineering student from Carolina, Puerto Rico, will each receive a Fiona Goodchild Award for Excellence as a Graduate Student Mentor of Undergraduate Research.

Mydlarz mentored high school students as well as UCSB undergraduates, teaching writing and communications skill in addition to laboratory skills.

Jaramillo served as mentor to 11 undergraduates in chemical engineering, a record for the department.

Approximately 25 percent of all UCSB undergraduates are involved in organized research efforts, often working on teams with faculty members and graduate students.

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## **About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.