

### 2025-2026 Student Research Fellowship Recipients

The UNE COM Office of the Associate Dean of Research and Scholarship and the UNE COM Research and Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce the awardees for the prestigious Peter Morgane, Carmen Pettapiece, and Kahn Family Foundation fellowships. We would like to thank the faculty and student reviewers of proposals as their work was crucial for determining fellowship decisions.

#### Peter Morgane Student Research Fellowship

1. **Student Names:** Sophia Moschella, Jhanvi Puri and Brandon Asika Etuka  
**Project title:** Fostering Empathy in the Patient-Medical Student Relationship During a 48-Hour Hospice Home Immersion: Aggregate Journal Analyses for AY 2020-2021  
**Mentor:** Dr. Marilyn Gugliucci
2. **Student Name:** Melissa Browne  
**Project title:** Continued Study of Radiofrequency Cauterization Thermalid™ Procedure as a Combination Treatment for Meibomian Gland Dysfunction and Conjunctivochalasis  
**Mentor:** Dr. Edward Jaccoma
3. **Student Name:** Shelley Chen  
**Project title:** Cannabis Usage Across U.S. States and Potential influence by State Cannabis Legalization Status  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ling Cao
4. **Student Names:** Morgan Cheney, Sandhya Vellayappan and Suzanne Ellis  
**Project title:** Food Insecurity in University of New England Medical Students  
**Mentor:** Dr. Kyle Scully
5. **Student Name:** Anjanadevi Govindaraj  
**Project title:** Effect of Antimicrobial Peptides on Antibiotic-mediated Killing of Staphylococcal Biofilms  
**Mentor:** Dr. Kristin Burkholder
6. **Student Name:** Albert Kim  
**Project title:** The role of Dock7 in the Osteoclast function and Bone Resorption  
**Mentor:** Dr. Katie Becker
7. **Student Name:** Varsha Medidi  
**Project title:** Investigating the role of NAD metabolism in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex  
**Mentor:** Dr. Harry Filippakis

8. **Student Name:** Vishva Patel  
**Project title:** Inhibiting MPC to suppress kidney cystogenesis in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex  
**Mentor:** Dr. Harry Filippakis
9. **Student Name:** Tessa Peredy  
**Project title:** Pregnancy Morbidity and Maternal Health Disparities Among Immigrant Populations in the United States  
**Mentor:** Dr. Annekathryn Goodman
10. **Student Names:** Kevin Reale and Tyler Dentry  
**Project title:** Learning by Living: 48 Hour Home Hospice Immersion Program  
**Mentor:** Dr. Marilyn Gugliucci
11. **Student Name:** Carleigh Rosenberg  
**Project title:** Targeting the Kynurenine Pathway in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex: A Novel Therapeutic Strategy to Inhibit Renal Angiomyolipoma Growth and Cystogenesis  
**Mentor:** Dr. Harry Filippakis
12. **Student Name:** Violet Sullivan  
**Project title:** Sex Differences in Biomechanics of Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis of the Knee following ACL Reconstruction  
**Mentor:** Dr. Adam Tenforde
13. **Student Name:** Vivian Tran  
**Project title:** Developing a Landmark-Based Brain Atlas for Mapping the Parabrachial Nucleus and Trigeminal Nucleus Caudalis  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ian Meng
14. **Student Name:** Eriks Ziedins  
**Project title:** Studying Dyschromic Hypertrophic Scar in a Transgenic Mouse Model: Protein-level confirmation of differentially expressed genes identified by RNA sequencing  
**Mentor:** Dr. Bonnie Carney

**Carmen Pettapiece Fellowship awardees:**

1. **Student Name:** Samantha Blau  
**Project title:** The Role of Dock7 in Wnt/Beta-Catenin Signaling and Osteoblast Function  
**Mentor:** Dr. Katie Becker
2. **Student Name:** Sarah Micucci  
**Project title:** Evaluating the implementation of LEAP in patients undergoing major lower extremity amputation in the EMMC Department of Vascular Surgery  
**Mentors:** Dr. Samuel Hui and Dr. Amber Murphy

3. **Student Name:** Chase Sisk  
**Project title:** Teaching Behind Bars: Investigating Empathy Growth in Medical Students  
**Mentor:** Dr. Kyle Scully
4. **Student Name:** Shama Varghese  
**Project title:** Effectiveness and potential long-term impact of a social determinants of health-oriented interprofessional education program.  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ling Cao
5. **Student Name:** Justice Picard and Michael Miller  
**Project title:** GATHERecovery  
**Mentor:** Dr. Selma Holden

#### The Kahn Family Foundation Funds

1. **Student Name:** Riley Cott  
**Project title:** Chemotherapy Regimens Influence CD4+ T Cells and Peripheral Nerve Loss in CIPN  
**Mentor:** Dr. Diana Goode
2. **Student Name:** Marina Farag  
**Project title:** Significance of Reorganizational Processes in the VMH on Epileptogenesis  
**Mentor:** Dr. Russ Ferland
3. **Student Name:** James Gray  
**Project title:** The brain bone connection and its implications in bone loss related to microgravity and other factors  
**Mentor:** Dr. Clifford Rosen
4. **Student Name:** Kaci McLaughlin  
**Project title:** Neuronal activity map changes in mice with forebrain-clonic compared to those with forebrain->brainstem seizures following exposure to the repeated flurothyl model  
**Mentor:** Dr. Russ Ferland
5. **Student Names:** Luu Pham, Josef Khalifeh, Kathryn Cama Huamani and Sarah Stevens  
**Project title:** Optimizing and Validation of Intraoperative Fresh Gas Flow and Delivered Anesthetic Concentration to Enhance Cost Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability Using Gas Man® Simulation  
**Mentor:** Dr. Kyle Scully
6. **Student Name:** Katharina Roese  
**Project title:** Title: HIV Tat-induced changes in lumbar spinal cord TRAF2 expression in a mouse HIV neuropathy model  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ling Cao

7. **Student Name:** Sabah Sabir  
**Project title:** Using Genetic Variants identified by the Pediatric Cardiac Genomics Consortium (PCGC) to Predict Attention Outcomes (as measured by NNNS) in Neonates  
**Mentors:** Dr. Sarah Morton and Dr. Thomas Miller
8. **Student Name:** Sarah Savoy  
**Project title:** Labeling neurons receiving direct input from corneal primary afferents in mouse brain  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ian Meng
9. **Student Name:** SungJin Shin  
**Project title:** Investigation of EPG5 Missense Mutations and Their Relationship with Chronic Pain Diagnosis and Perceived Pain Intensity  
**Mentor:** Dr. Ling Cao
10. **Student Name:** Avery Stilley  
**Project title:** Anatomical and Histological analysis of the T3 Sympathetic Ganglion and Rami Communicantes: Optimizing Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy (ETS) and Autonomic Nerve Preservation  
**Mentor:** Dr. Joel Talsma