

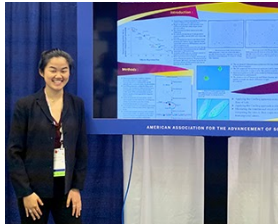
AAAS and Center for Biology and Society

2020 Meeting

Each year, the [Center for Biology and Society](#) and Barrett the Honors College at Arizona State University send undergraduate researchers as representatives to the American Association for the Advancement of Science conference. Learn more about [travel and logistics](#).



2020 AAAS Students



Danielle Brister

"It was my first time presenting research at such a large meeting, but I had a wonderful experience at AAAS this year. The judges asked such insightful comments on my project, it really encouraged me for future conferences and presentations. It was incredible to be included as a part of such a diverse scientific community."



Delaney Bunker

"Science: An interdisciplinary collaboration, collection, and cooperation. During the 2020 AAAS Conference, I think this was most notably depicted through the opportunity to exchange ideas by listening and being listened to by people from around the globe and peers from my own campus. My curiosity is inspired by the diverse world we have the opportunity to learn from!"

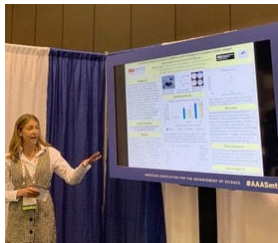
Winner of the 2020

AAAS Student
E-Poster
Competition in the
Social Sciences
category



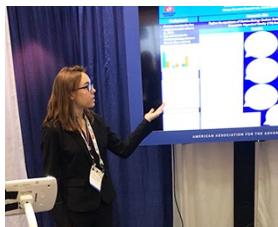
Madison Frazier

"This experience was not only very fun but very educational. I got to learn a lot about the fields I'm interested in while also getting to show research of my own. It was also great getting to know everyone in the group and their research as well!"



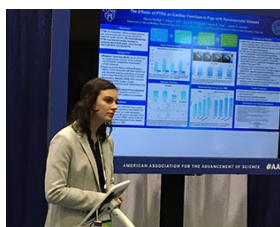
Brenna Kayce

"AAAS was such an incredible experience and I am very fortunate to have been able to attend. I really enjoyed being able to sit in on a variety of educational seminars and present the beginnings of my own exciting research. It was wonderful being able to connect with new ASU faculty and fellow classmates. This was my first scientific conference— a large one I might add— and I am looking forward to AAAS 2021."



Samantha Maas

"I had a great time at AAAS learning about all the research people were conducting and meeting a ton of accomplished and kind people. I loved being able to go to a wide range of talks -- especially the ones about how scientists are trying to become more involved in policy -- and getting the ability to present my research to a wide audience."



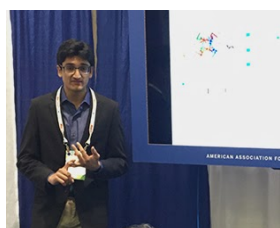
Kenna McRae

"The AAAS was such an amazing opportunity to be part of the scientific community. I was so honored to present my own research and enjoyed all the conversations I had with other researchers from around the world. I learned so much and I am so excited to participate in more conferences in the future!"



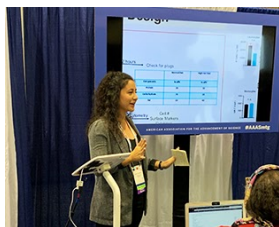
Haley Nadone

"At AAAS, I was able to attend lectures given by experts from a wide range of fields, network with people from around the world, and present my own research to an esteemed audience. The experience challenged me, inspired me, and allowed me to explore my passions more deeply. I can easily say that attending AAAS proved invaluable not only to my education but to my future career as well."



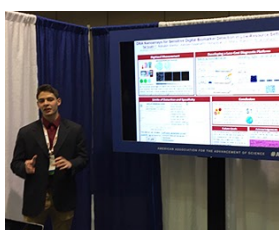
Karan Shah

"Attending AAAS gave me the opportunity to learn about the larger world of scientific research, policy, and communication enlightening me to current issues in the fields and giving me an idea as to what the future entails. Attending many of the amazing talks, I was able to better determine where I want my place in this future to be -- policy, communication, and ethics -- areas I've always been interested in but hadn't explored deeply, and through networking events, I was able to meet many people working within these fields, getting a better idea of what they entailed and determining the best path for me to reach my specific goals. Overall, AAAS was an amazing learning experience that helped me grow as a scientist, giving me the opportunity to present my work to a greater audience, learn more about the field, and learn more about my own goals, as well as getting the chance to explore the wonderful city of Seattle with new friends and old."



Maya Shrikant

"Attending AAAS was one of the best opportunities I have had in my time as an undergraduate in Barrett and the Biology and Society program. Being able to prepare and present my research, attend sessions and talks outside of my disciplinary interests and connect with other students and faculty on the trip was invaluable. I will carry this amazing experience with me throughout my personal and professional career in science and communication."



Tal Sneh

Honorable Mention
in the Biochemistry
and Molecular
Biology category

"The opportunity to travel to AAAS with a group of peers who were all going to go through the same presentation and networking opportunities during our trip was absolutely invaluable. Beyond that, the challenge of presenting for a semi-technical audience is a necessary one that forces you to evaluate the impact of your work and refocuses your entire lab time. Besides now I can tell my mom I've seen Bill Gates in person. I know few people have probably scrolled all the way down to read what I have to say since I'm so late in the alphabet, but to potential students for next year, don't miss this opportunity, and for the donors, thank you for this incredible growth experience!"



Whitney Tuoti

"It has been a pleasure attending the AAAS 2020 conference. The event was a wonderful opportunity to improve my presentation skills and convey my research to a general audience. Furthermore, the discussions I attended, the other students I met and developed friendships with, and the atmosphere filled with new and exciting scientific advancements made me realize the true strength that comes with being a part of a scientific community."



Theora Tiffney

Graduate Student
Honorable Mention
in the Social
Sciences category

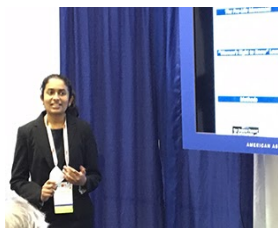
“AAAS was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the research being conducted across a wide spectrum of academic fields, and to connect with academics and specialists from around the world. It gave me the chance to present my research to a broader audience, and to explore diverse career opportunities. It was a valuable experience—and a lot of fun, too!”



Ananth Udupa

Honorable Mention
in the Environment &
Ecology category

“Upon first glance, attending the 2020 AAAS conference was an incredible opportunity to become a better informed researcher. The conference allowed me to present research I find extremely important and hear about new research in the field. But, more so, I found that this trip introduced me to friendships with incredible ASU students who are very passionate in their respective fields and who I can now seek out for advice in the future endeavors.”



Richa Venkatraman

“I’m glad my first conference experience was AAAS. It was a wonderful opportunity to talk about my work in a welcoming environment and with the support of my fellow students. I learned so much from the panels and presentations I went to and am grateful I got to learn from researchers from such a diverse array of fields.”

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Science in Society
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