



NEWSLETTER



Advanced Materials Research Institute

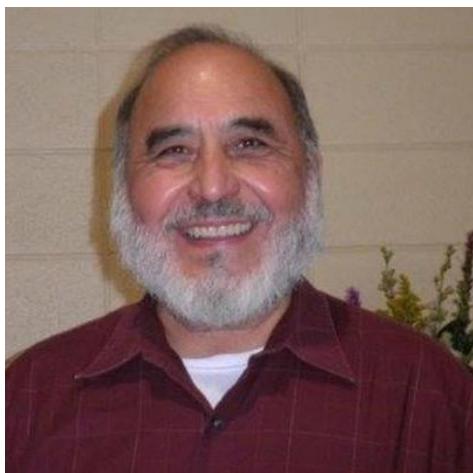
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September 2018

Poncho De Leon

We mourn the loss of Poncho De Leon, who unexpectedly passed away in early July. Poncho served as the Assistant Director of AMRI since the beginning of the institute and has been essential to its success. Poncho helped to manage a variety of programs in AMRI including those involving major grants, finances, hiring efforts, inventory, and our extensive summer outreach program. Though always committed to maintaining the highest level of quality and integrity in his work, he will be mostly remembered for always being extremely thoughtful, caring, and kind.



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

This summer we were saddened by the loss of Mr. Poncho De Leon. Poncho served as the Assistant Director since the creation of AMRI and his sudden, unexpected departure has left a huge void in AMRI and UNO. He is greatly missed.

In this issue of the newsletter we will highlight Poncho as well as events from the spring and summer including our fundraising efforts and summer program.

--John B. Wiley

Crowdfunding Effort Provides Extensive support to Summer High School Research Program

Thanks to the support of many generous donors, AMRI's first efforts at crowdfunding have been a big success. Started in early April, the ~5-week campaign generated funds allowing for support of 4 high school students from the Greater New Orleans area. With over 50 donors providing between \$10 and \$1000, we were able raise over \$8000. All of the funds were then used to provide stipends for the 4 students. These funds, plus additional funding from other sources then allowed us to recruit 6 excellent students into the summer program (see story below).

We wish to thank all our donors:

Ferroelectric Level

Advano

Crystalline Level

Pierre Champagne

Peter Politzer

Richie Prevost

Miles Wiley

All Other Donors

Lee Taylor

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Terry Shields

Cole Ogdon

Rebecca Mitton

Jin-Hee Lim

Viktor Poltavets

Jack Vaughey

Zeev Rosenzweig

Anonymous

John Wiley

Anonymous

AMRI Summer Outreach Program

The AMRI Summer Outreach Research Program closed on July 26, 2018 with the traditional poster session and barbecue held each year on the last day. This program first began in 2002 and since then, has impacted over 150 high school students. This final event marked the culmination of an 8 week scientific research experience for 6 greater New Orleans area high school students. These student participants displayed their research efforts on posters in the hallways of the Science Building in the morning and then joined AMRI and UNO faculty and visitors in the afternoon for a barbecue cookout. We appreciate the efforts of these students and their faculty mentors. The student stipends from this year's program were sponsored by generous public

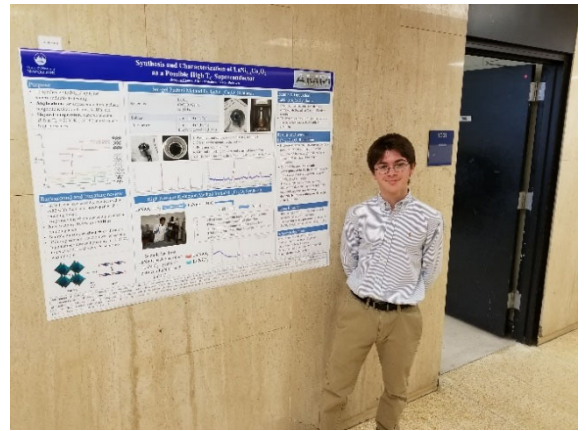
donations to the Institute. We hope the students have enjoyed their experience and that the program has enriched their understanding of how scientific research is developed. We also hope to perhaps see some of our former fellow high school researchers return to UNO in the future to study the sciences throughout their college careers.



Participant, Allison Pham



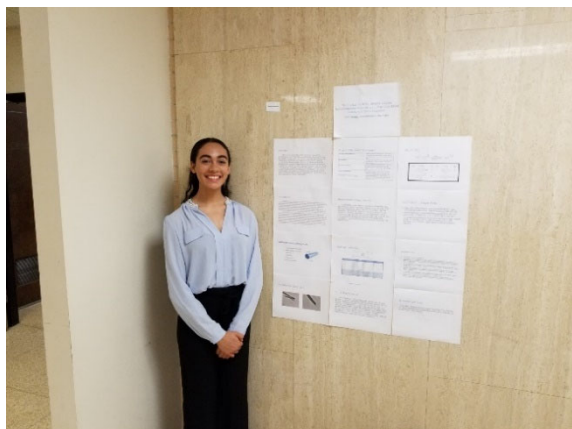
Participant, Jahday Brown



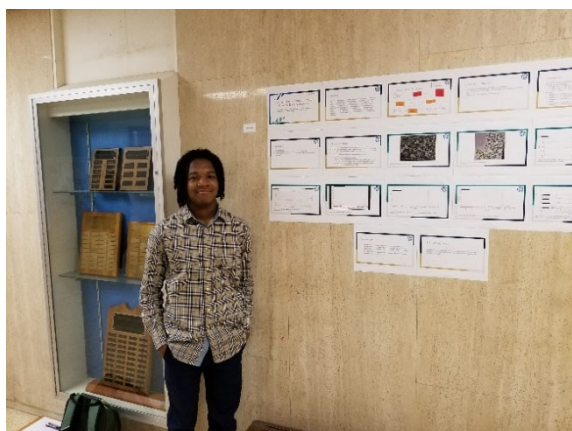
Participant, Joaquin Gomez



Participant, Colette Lair



Participant, Anya Trumbach



Participant, Zion Louding



Poster session held before Outreach Program close-out barbecue.



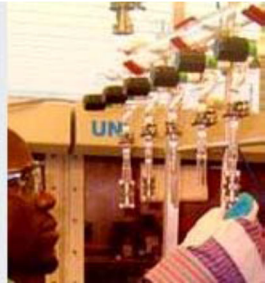
2018 Summer Outreach Program participants

AMRI on Facebook!

Check out the latest AMRI updates on social media. Announcements are posted weekly providing information regarding upcoming events, research group meetings, and awards and acknowledgements of AMRI students and faculty. Navigate to the link below and click the *Facebook* box/link for follow if you want to receive updates in your *Facebook* notifications list.

<https://www.facebook.com/AMRI.University.New.Orleans>





Survey

For those of you that have not yet had time to do so, we would appreciate your input and insights as a current or former member of AMRI. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and at the end of the survey, you can include information that you would like to appear in the next newsletter – we would very much enjoy hearing from you.

Access the survey at:

https://neworleans.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0MUWaN72QmXa0o5.

Consider making a donation to the AMRI UNO Foundation Account.

To donate, simply click on the link, and choose AMRI under designation:

<http://www.unoalumni.com/cos-giving>

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