Undergraduate Research Opportunities in Linguistics at UC Santa Cruz

Linguistics at UC Santa Cruz is renowned for the high quality and rigor of its undergraduate programs. Graduates of both the linguistics and language studies majors go on to careers in tech, speech pathology, and academia, among others. For many of our graduates, conducting their own research is one of the most important and memorable parts of their undergraduate educations.

Christopher Garcia, a senior in the linguistics major, has spent the past year investigating the Zapotec language, an indigenous language of Mexico, interviewing speakers of the language who live in the diaspora community in Santa Cruz. Working closely with Professor Maziar Toosarvandani, he received both a Korets Scholarship and a Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellowship for this project. After presenting his findings at a poster session last spring (above right), he is now developing them into a senior thesis.

The department is committed to making research opportunities like Christopher’s available to all of its students. $330 supports one undergraduate student researcher for an entire quarter, as they carry out fieldwork, conduct experiments, or analyze linguistic data as part of their undergraduate training at UCSC.

As 2018 comes to a close, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support undergraduate research at UCSC. Your gift of any size will help move us closer toward our goal of making research opportunities available to all our undergraduate students.

Warmest regards,

Junko Ito
Chair and Professor of Linguistics

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