

The university community joins together to give praise and thanks to those graduates who have demonstrated excellence during their years here.

The Thomas More Storke Award for Excellence,

symbolized by a bronze medal forged by Francis Minturn Sedgwick, is given to the graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and extraordinary service to the university, its students, and the community. This year this distinction is awarded to:



Emily Elizabeth Lopez



The Jeremy D. Friedman Memorial Award

is presented in grateful recognition of outstanding leadership, scholastic excellence, and innovative contribution to student and community life at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in memory of Jeremy D. Friedman, undergraduate 1979-83. This year's recipient is

Michael Zargari

Alyce Marita Whitted Memorial Award

This award, established in 1993, is presented to one non-traditional graduating senior who has demonstrated endurance, persistence, and courage in the face of extraordinary challenges while in pursuit of an academic degree. This year's recipient is:

Hugh Darius David Cook

Yonie Harris Award for Civility in Public Discourse

is presented to graduates who best exemplify the principles of free speech and respectful dialogue and who foster a campus climate of civility and open-mindedness. This year's recipients are:

Vonnie Feng Wei

Michael D. Young Engaged Scholar Award

This award recognized the legacy of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Emeritus, Michael D. Young, particularly his commitment to empowering students toward principled leadership. It is awarded to students who have skillfully integrated their scholarly knowledge and/or values into action. This year's recipient is:

Timnit Kefela & Ryan Flaco Rising

University Award of Distinction

The following seniors and graduate students have been selected as recipients of this year's University Award of Distinction, given to students who have contributed greatly to the quality of life by giving unselfish service to others within a particular area.

Casidy Chen
Carlos Osvaldo Gomez
Mallika Rajesh Gupta
Valerie Htun
Enaiya Simone Judkins
Kim Kryshak

Sophia JeHong Lake
Sofia Lyon
Danielle McGary
Jeddson King Mejorada
Keily Vanessa Molina
Marco Christian Muñoz

Sophia O'Hara
Zena Omar
Lucas Parsons
Victoria Bianca Perez
Jon Stefan Pisocki
Alexander S. Proksch

Ashley Jean Rusch
Nicholas Ryan Schierman
Nyah Rae Castro Scott
Jessica Simonson
Komal Kumari Sood

Anya Sriram
Katherine Viola Swartz
Shannon Sweeney
Ruiqi Yang
Carly Young

University Service Award

The following seniors and graduate students have been selected as recipients of this year's University Service Award, given in recognition of unselfish and dedicated service to the University, its students, and the community.

Cecilia Armenta
Jennisa Madelyn Casillas
Abigail Cervantes
Yuval Cohen
Monica Cordova

Julietta Corral Phun
Novia Dattatri
Diana Aurelia Escamilla
Celine Liu
Haochen Long

Teannae Owens
Cesar Alejandro Marquez
Britney Jayleen Martinez-Zavala

Christopher Pantin
Kathryn Kelly Quinones
Jose A. Quintero
Jamilith Rodriguez
Logan Ruggles

Jose Guadalupe Torres-Gonzalez
Eliyana Van Doren
Melissa Vinluan
Alexis Xa

Vice Chancellor's Award for Scholarship, Leadership, and Citizenship

This award is presented annually to one or more graduating seniors and graduate students who embrace the principles of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship through activities that enhance UCSB's academic environment, contributions to a consequential project, or extraordinary service to the campus community.

Emily Irene Diaz
Lea Harlev

Geovany Abimelec Lucero-Barahona
Bailey Nicole McCraner

Stella Rufeisen
Mina Santamaria

Mortar Board Award

The Mortar Board Award is given each year in recognition of the graduating senior having the highest cumulative grade point average in the graduating class, combined with the fewest number of transfer units. This year's recipient is to be announced at the ceremony.

Award winners, their families, & interested faculty & staff are invited to attend the Virtual University Awards Ceremony on Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 3:00pm.