



# 2025 Community Academic Scholars Program

Informational Session  
November 18th, 2024

# Introductions: Staff



Celina Wu Trujillo, PhD



Max Wallace, MPH

# Introductions: Students



Kathure Kiunga



Madisen LeShoure



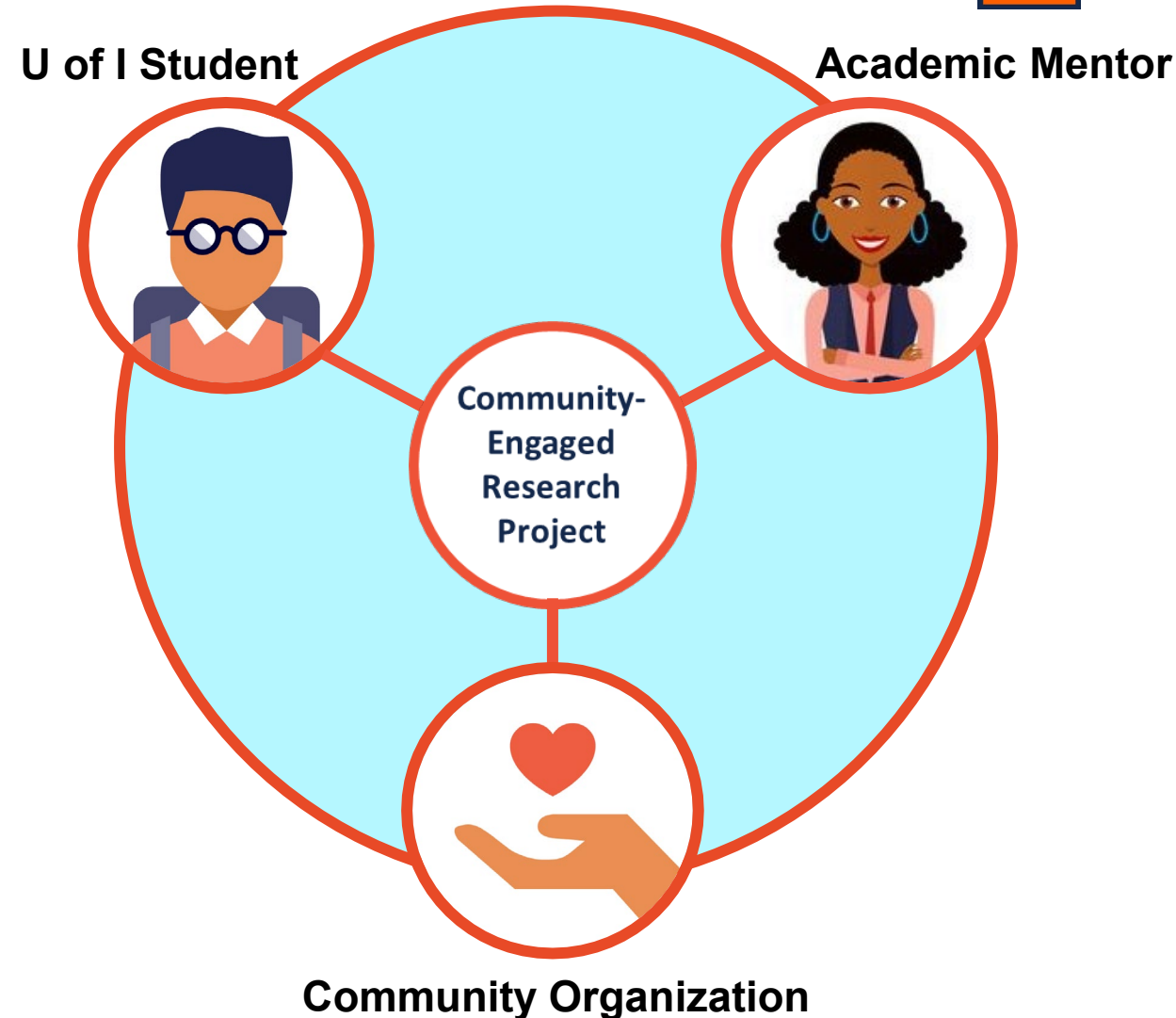
Jose Patino

# Program Overview



Scholars conduct community-engaged research for **10 weeks** during the summer of 2025

Each scholar is supervised by an academic mentor and a community mentor





# Previous Research Themes

Health Equity

Mental Health

Poverty

Education

Nutrition/Food Security

...and more!



# Benefits to Scholars



- \$4,500 housing stipend
- Flexible scheduling
- Weekly professional development workshops
- Optional community service opportunities
- Strong mentorship
- Broad exposure to public engagement and community-engaged research





# Program Expectations



- Must physically be in CU over the summer
- Maximum 20-hours/wk
- Agreed upon 10-week timeline for progress
- Ongoing communication with CAS and research team
- Weekly meetings with both CAS students and staff and with your research team
- Final poster presentation in the community during the last week of the program

# Program Details/Schedules



- Timeline – applications open January 23rd, interviews occur in starting February, and we choose the cohort by the end of March.
- We will coordinate a meeting between you and your research team before the summer program begins
- Summer research runs from May 28<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup> .
- Three stipend payments are made around May 16<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 16<sup>th</sup>
- Opportunity to continue in the fall based on agreement between you and your faculty and/or community partner



# Tips for Applying



- Get on our e-mail list
- Mark your calendars for January 23rd
- Rank Projects
- Describe how you feel personally connected or passionate
- Be explicit about your skills, languages, etc.
- Describe relation to future plans

Note:

Not merit based

No previous research exp needed

No transcripts/Resume/CV

No specific majors



# 2024 CAS Project Example



## Flocking Bicycles: Autonomous Two-Wheeled Urban Mobility

**Scholar:** Kathure Kiunga, Electrical Engineering

**Academic Mentor:** Juan Salamanca, Assistant Professor, Graphic Design

**Community Partner:** Champaign County Bikes



# 2024 CAS Project Example



## The Development of a Community Strengths Assessment for Black Families and Communities in Champaign-Urbana

**Scholar:** Madisen LeShoure, Information Sciences

**Academic Mentor:** Sharde Smith, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

**Community Partner:** Driven to Reach Excellence & Academic Achievement for Males (DREAM)





# 2024 CAS Project Example



## Supporting STEM+C Learning Through Connected Spaces

**Scholar:** Jose Patino, Human Development and Family Studies

**Academic Mentor:** Mike Tissenbaum, Associate Professor, Curriculum & Instruction

**Community Partner:** The Well Experience, Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement in Males (DREAAM)





# Thank you!

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