



UCLA CEED PROGRAM

# CEED VISION

FALL 2025

**UCLA**

**Samueli**  
School of Engineering

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# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

To our Donors,

Thank you for your donation in support of the UCLA CEED Program. Your donation allows us to continue providing high-touch services that support the recruitment, retention, and graduation of CEED students.

This past Fall, your donations were used to host the CEED IAB Leadership and Planning Conference with student leaders and industry partners, hire instructors and tutors for the CEED BREES, Bridge and CISE summer programs, host dinner at the CEED Town Hall, and provide scholarships for ten CEED undergraduate and graduate students.

Your commitment makes a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support of the CEED Program.

With deep appreciation and sincere thanks!



Catherine Douglas  
Director, UCLA CEED Program

*\*\*\*Due to changes with Donor Privacy Policy, our office is unable to acquire email information to send personalized "Thank you" messages.*

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# SUMMER HAPPENINGS

## Amazon SURE@UCLA Program

This summer, CEED welcomed 19 students from universities across the nation to the SURE@UCLA Program. Supported by Amazon, the program provides engineering and computer science undergraduate students an opportunity to conduct innovative and cutting-edge research for eight weeks on the UCLA campus. The program culminated in a collaborative research paper and a final presentation.



Participant profiles are available at: [www.ceed.ucla.edu/sure-ucla/](http://www.ceed.ucla.edu/sure-ucla/)



## CEED Welcomes Incoming First Year and Transfer Students

During the month of July, CEED hosted the First Year Orientation (July 16) as well as the Transfer Student Lunch (July 21) to welcome newly admitted CEED Bruins.



The gatherings connected students with peers, student organizations, and staff as they began their journey at UCLA.

## CEED Industry Advisory Board Planning & Student Conference

On August 15 and 16, CEED and Samueli staff, industry representatives, and board members from AISES, NSBE and SOLES convened to discuss accomplishments, challenges, and needs of the CEED program. The conference resulted in the development of an action plan to address service gaps, aligned with this year's theme, "Planning for the Future."

## MESA Idea Accelerator

Israel Alejos, an Aerospace Engineering junior, represented UCLA at the MESA Idea Accelerator, a statewide competition where students apply Human-Centered Design to develop and present innovative solutions.

## CEED Summer Programs

Over the summer, CEED welcomed 52 first-year, 21 transfer students, and 28 continuing students through the CISE, BREES, and Summer Bridge programs.

A total of 101 CEED students enrolled in 15 courses spanning Math, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, and, for the first time ever, Physics 1A.

These programs provide academic preparation and community-building opportunities to help students transition smoothly into the UCLA quarter system.

## Ace Your Interview Workshop

On September 11, incoming CEED students participated in an interview-preparation workshop led by Wendy Nix, JD, MBA, in collaboration with the UCLA Career Center.

# MEET THE CEED TEAM



## CEED STAFF

### DIRECTOR

Catherine Douglas

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Jessica Martin-Gonzalez

### COUNSELOR

Sherry Hormozi

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR & BUDGET MANAGER

Dakota Duffy



## CEED OFFICE STUDENT STAFF

Aammarah Gage  
Alejandra Gonzalez  
Jeanie Montiel  
Isabella Pascual  
Hugo Sandoval  
Isrrael Sumano  
Jasmine Tadros



## PRE-COLLEGE STUDENT STAFF

### MESA

Excel Baadi  
Isaacc Chavez  
Chizom Chuku  
Jeannette Merlos  
Ruth Reyes  
Martha Santos

### MAP PROGRAM

Anahy Barajas Bautista  
Heidi Benitez  
Yaseen Masry  
Ayomide Olowookere  
Arionna Smith



## CEED TUTORS

Freya Chen  
Jose Elizalde  
Daniel Murillo  
Emily Orozco

**Thank you to our incredible student staff for your work. You play a vital role in the success of our programs and daily operations. We truly appreciate the energy and perspective you bring to our work, and we are grateful for all that you do!**

# BUZZWORTHY NEWS

Congratulations to all the CEED students who graduated the 2025 summer and Fall quarter.



## CEED Summer 2025 Graduates

- Jorge Enrique Bautista, Jr.
- Iyesomi Eigbe
- Naketris Kirk
- Ashley Martinez Sandoval
- Andres Manuel Michel
- Maxwell Wippich (*Cum Laude*)

## CEED Fall 2025 Graduates

- Marcos Chavez-Pina
- Joseph Cisneros
- Tyson Peter Finch
- Christian Paul Gonzalez
- Jeannette Merlos
- Cameron Gregoire Monast
- Emily Alejandra Orozco
- Gabriel Rodriguez Cortez

## MAP Program Updates

On September 27, new students and families gathered for the MAP orientation—UCLA Samueli CEED’s four-year program that strengthens math readiness for students from under-resourced schools and prepares them for advanced high school and STEM coursework.

## Alumni in Action: Guiding, Mentoring, and Empowering

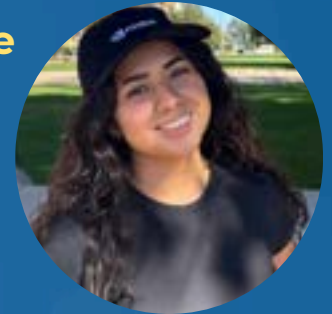
Alumni continue to step up in support of CEED’s professional development events, sharing their time and expertise with CEED students. Their ongoing engagement not only helps students sharpen their skills but also strengthens the connection between current scholars and the broader professional community.

## CEED Peer Tutoring Program

This year, CEED launched a peer tutoring program to support students who need extra help to succeed in their courses.

## Student Feature

Congrats to First-Gen CEED student Wanda Barahona! She has been featured in Samueli’s news.



Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, Wanda Barahona rarely had access to computers. But those early glimpses of technology sparked a curiosity that would eventually lead her to internships at Lockheed Martin and Nvidia, two of the world’s top tech companies. Barahona’s passion took root in high school when she joined its FIRST robotics team, where she discovered the excitement of programming and watching her code bring designs to life.

Read full story: [www.cs.ucla.edu/first-generation-ucla-cs-student-secures-nvidia-internship/](http://www.cs.ucla.edu/first-generation-ucla-cs-student-secures-nvidia-internship/)

## LadyLike Day at UCLA

LadyLike Day at UCLA is an empowerment event that brings young women to the UCLA campus for a day of learning, mentorship, and inspiration.

On December 13, 2025, the event featured interactive STEM workshops hosted by the CEED and WE@UCLA programs, a celebrity panel, and other workshops. Participants build confidence, leadership skills, and a vision for their future.

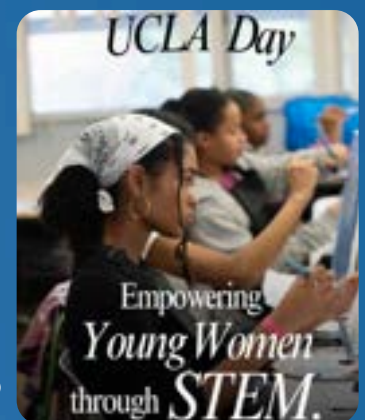


Image source: LadyLike Foundation

# DEAN'S LIST

Congratulations to the following CEED students who earned recognition on the Engineering Dean's Honors List for their academic achievements in Fall Quarter 2025!!

**Israel Alejos**  
**Nyala June Bingener**  
**Rika Nicole Lumagbas Canlas**

**Aaron Cervantes**  
**Sagana Chattanathan**  
**Sergio Bryan Curiel**

**Kenneth Warren Fambro III**  
**Maria Julia Guerra**  
**Kaena Wayne Kiakona**

**Sarah Elizabeth Meadows**

**Andrew Pai**  
**Diego Palma Lopez**

**Logan Kenji Person**

**Anthony Ragasa**  
**Anthony Ramirez**

**Andrew Rios**

**Daniel Armando Serna**  
**Eduardo Gabriel Servin**  
**Joshua Dorian Uribe**

**Kevin Ricardo Valencia**  
**Jeremy Eleonia Xivir**

# MENTORING PROGRAM

## EZRA GEDION AWARDED CEED OUTSTANDING MENTEE AWARD

The 2025 CEED Outstanding Mentee Award was granted to sophomore Ezra Gedion, Civil '28. This award recognizes CEED mentees who have demonstrated exceptional engagement, initiative, and growth throughout the mentorship term. We had over 50 mentees participating in the 2024-2025 academic year and awardees are selected based on nominations provided by their mentor. Special thanks to CEED Mentor, Winston Boyce B.S. '17, M.S. '18 for his dedication and commitment towards the CEED Program.



In this Photo: Ezra Gedion (Mentee) Winston Boyce B.S. '17 & M.S. '18 (Mentor).

## CEED MENTORING PROGRAM



2025-2026

The CEED Mentoring Program kicked off with a brand new group of students on September 9th. This year, we paired 45 incoming first-year and transfer students with CEED alumni mentors, encouraging them to build connections, explore career paths in engineering and computer science, and make informed academic and professional decisions.

As part of the Mentee Challenge, mentees are grouped into five teams based on their major. Teams that complete all milestones, including their introductory meeting and quarterly check-ins with their mentor, will earn a special reward at the end of the year.

Interested in mentor in a CEED student during the 2025-26 academic year, complete the linked form or scan the QR code:

<https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/FBItR>



CEED Mentor  
Interest Form

# TRI-ORG UPDATES



## AISES

The UCLA chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) attended the AISES National Conference from October 2–4, 2025, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The event brought together Indigenous STEM students and professionals for workshops, networking, and career opportunities, celebrating culture, community, and innovation in science and engineering.



## NSBE

The UCLA chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) attended the Fall Regional Conference (FRC) in San Diego, California, hosted by NSBE Region VI. Centered on the theme “Inspire, Excel, Elevate: Engineering Tomorrow’s Innovators,” the event brought together students and professionals for networking, workshops, and professional development focused on innovation and future trends in engineering.



## SOLES

The UCLA chapter of SHPE/Society of Latino Engineers and Scientists (SOLES) attended the SHPE National Convention from October 29–November 1, 2025, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The event brought together thousands of STEM students and professionals for workshops, networking, and career opportunities, celebrating the SHPE Familia and inspiring future Latino leaders in engineering and science.

## Contact Information

### Website

[sites.google.com/g.ucla.edu/ucla-aises/](https://sites.google.com/g.ucla.edu/ucla-aises/)

**IG:** @ucla\_aises

### Website

[www.nsbebruins.wixsite.com/nsbe](http://www.nsbebruins.wixsite.com/nsbe)

**IG:** @uclansbe

### Website

[www.uclasoles.org](http://www.uclasoles.org)

**IG:** @uclasoles



# HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, UCLA CEED highlighted Hispanic and Latinx role models who have made an impact in STEM and Social Justice

This year for Hispanic Heritage Month, we highlighted the following Hispanic and Latinx features:

- Marcos Aguilar
- Ralph Alvarez
- Linda Alvarez
- Dr. Amada Armenta
- Yreina Cervantez
- Dr. Mirella Diaz-Santos
- Tom Fears
- Senator Ruben Gallego
- Dr. Patricia Gándara
- Dr. Miguel Garcia Garibay
- Dr. Osvaldo Gutierrez
- Guillermo González
- Dr. Juan Herrera
- Christina Hernandez
- Dr. Yvonne Hernandez-Kapila
- Alicia Miñana de Lovelace
- Andres Martinez
- Rosevelie Márquez Morales
- Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez
- Congresswoman Luz Rivas
- Dr. Claudia Salcedo
- Dr. Gary Segura
- Andres Snaider



Thank you to the CEED student staff who drafted the flyers on these features.

To view the HHM Write-Up, click the link <https://www.ceed.ucla.edu/archivesnewsletters/>



# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

In honor of Native American Heritage Month, UCLA CEED highlighted Native role models who have made an impact in STEM and Social Justice.

This year for Native American Heritage Month the below-referenced public and historic figures have been highlighted:

**Dr. Carol Vallee Crouch**

**Dr. Gavin Clarkson**

**Delight E. Satter**

**Dr. Jesse Peltier**

**Brocade Stops Black Eagle**

**Dr. Arne Vainio**

**Amber Kanazbah Crotty**

**Dr. Johnny Poolaw**

**Dr. Carolyn Lewis Attneave**

**Dr. Tim Anderson**

**Alice Sanchez**

**Dr. Raymond Reid**

**Dr. Terry Maresca**

**Graham Greene**

**Lily Gladstone**

**Dr. Lelemia Irvine**

**Dr. Maveric Abella**

**Dr. Kenneth Bowen**

**Jessica Garcia Fritz**



Thank you to the CEED student staff who drafted the flyers on these features. To view the

NAHM write-ups, click the link

<https://www.ceed.ucla.edu/archivesnewsletters/>



## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS: E-87 RESEARCH IN FALL 2025



For incoming freshmen in Fall 2025, the Engineering 87 course is a dynamic platform where CEED integrates practical research experiences into the undergraduate curriculum.



E-87 is structured to enhance teamwork and collaboration among students, fostering essential skills for future success in engineering through group-based projects and activities.



The course prioritizes the development of communication skills, with a focus on writing and presenting, preparing students for the multifaceted demands of the engineering profession.

*A big thank you to all the professors and student instructors who have mentored and worked with students to make this research opportunity possible in Fall 2025*



# Technical Projects



## Autonomous Rover

Develops and programs autonomous vehicles capable of navigating challenging terrains, advancing robotics with innovative real-world applications.

*Stephany Gutierrez Madrid · Andrew Pai · Eduardo Servin · Jeremy Xivir*



## Coffee

Hands-on introduction to chemical engineering and design, using coffee roasting and brewing experiments to explore concepts like CAD, 3D printing, circuitry, and how process choices affect flavor.

*Natalia Becaria · Daniela Curiel · Luna Gonzalez · Isabella Hernandez*



## Electrocardiogram

Explores electrical engineering and bioinstrumentation as students work in teams to design and program microcontroller-based circuits that measure human electrocardiogram, culminating in written and oral presentations.

*Julianna Cummings · Oyshee Dey · Christopher Leon · Ayaan Mohammad*



## Go-Karts

Designs high-performance vehicles, enhancing understanding of mechanical systems, aerodynamics, and fostering collaborative engineering skills.

*Heidi Benitez · Anthony Ramirez · Isaias Ramirez · Rafael Vega*



## Machine Learning

Develops data-driven algorithms to build predictive models, enabling smarter and more efficient decision-making across industries.

*Kaden Bautista · Anthony Bazalaki · Logan Person*



## Planes

Explores airplane design, teaching students to build aircraft and understand aerodynamics and engineering basics through practical projects.

*Aaron Cervantes • Kenzo Compilati • Kenneth Fambro III • Luis Vargas Alvarado*



## Rockets

Specializes in designing and developing Rockets, where students design and launch rockets, experiencing the excitement of space exploration and the practical challenges of aerospace engineering.

*Mario Aluizo • Sagana Chattanathan • Cameron Kane-Ross • Andrew Rios*



## Engineering Design-Environmental

Project Title: Antibacterial Resistance. Assesses pollution in environment surrounding concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) through partnerships with nonprofit organizations.

*Excel Baadi • Emma Enriquez • Diego Quezada • Alexa Romero • Santi Sarbeland*

# 2025 CEED First-Year Class





# Research Projects



## Dr. Idil Akin

Project Title: Palisades Fire; Solar Research. Students analyze pre- and post-fire LiDAR data; do field work to verify remote sensing observations, install soil sensors, collect soil samples; and run laboratory tests to characterize soil samples.

*Johnny Acero · Suha Alvario · Noah Hernandez · Darwin Sierra*



## Dr. Tierra Bills

Project Title: California Vehicle Survey. Students analyze electric vehicle (EV) charger accessibility and quality in EV adoption, using novel measures transportation accessibility.

*Destiney (Solé) Laurent-Lubin · Clarissa Rubio*



## Dr. Tim Fisher & Ben Heronimus

Project Title: Solar concentrator cleaning; AI integration. The project focuses on researching, developing, and testing drone based technologies for cleaning the mirror concentrator and similar solar technologies.

*Leslie Juarez · Jonathan Nguyen · Ethan Njikang · Brian Quintero*



## Dr. Tim Fisher & Zachary Wong

Project Title: Depository and display case for multiphase electronics cooling systems. Students aid in building lab infrastructure to support two-phase thermal management research.

*Emily Centeno · Demetrious Coleman · Aiden Martinez · Brandon Yan*



## Dr. Sanjay Mohanty

Project Title: Contamination of soil during wild fire and protecting environment and humans from their exposure. Students assess contamination of soil during wildfire.

*Jasson Hernandez Marquina · Sherly Luis · Lauren Nonato · Jessica Resendiz · Alyssa Yopez*

# FALL EVENTS

## Town Hall

On Tuesday, September 23rd, CEED hosted its annual Town Hall to welcome students and share upcoming opportunities for the year. The event introduced students to CEED's programs, resources, and support network within the UCLA Samueli community.

Guest speakers included Dean Alissa Park, Associate Dean Veronica Santos, Dr. Audrey Pool O'Neal (WE@UCLA), Dr. Pilar O'Cadiz (WE@UCLA), and Leslie Calderon (UCLA Undocumented Student Program).

The Town Hall also gave students space to connect with peers and board members from AISES, NSBE, and SOLES strengthening collaboration and a sense of belonging within CEED. Dinner was provided following the event.

## Resume Critique

On Wednesday, October 2, CEED students participated in a Resume Critique session with industry representatives from CEED partner companies and UCLA alumni. Students received individualized feedback that helped them more effectively showcase their technical projects, leadership experiences, and skills. The session increased their confidence and preparedness as they approach the upcoming recruiting cycle and career fair season.

Thank you to our alumni and industry partners for supporting our students and their professional growth.

# CORPORATE GAMEMANSHIP



On October 7, 2025, CEED hosted Corporate Gamemanship, an annual event designed to help students build confidence and connect with professionals in STEM industries.



Students engaged with participating companies and took part in mock interviews, strengthening their networking, communication, and leadership skills.



Two professional development workshops were offered: Networking & Personal Branding by Wendy Nix (Career Center) and Fellowships & Graduate School by Catherine Douglas (CEED)

*Thank you to our sponsoring companies MOOG, Lockheed Martin, and Sandia, and to our workshop leaders Wendy Nix and Catherine Douglas for their valuable guidance.*



CEED thanks alumni Gabriel Alpuerto, Greg Caguimbal, Roselin Campos, Rene Martinez, Navarre Miles, Melissa Moz, Melanie Rivera, Melissa Soon, and Adam Provinchain for generously volunteering their time to conduct mock interviews with CEED students attending Corporate Gamesmanship.



# SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

The 42nd Annual CEED Scholarship Banquet was celebrated on November 14, 2025, bringing together scholarship recipients and donors. Thank you everyone who attended the reception and congratulations to the award recipients.



## Paul Mendez Memorial

Suha Alvario  
Emma Enriquez



## Bright Family Foundation Scholarship

Kaden Bautista  
Zion Paulino



## Enrique Ainsworth Legacy Scholarship

Pedro Calderon  
Tahlia Garcia  
Naomi Garza



## Augustine Esogbue Scholarship

Nyala Bingener



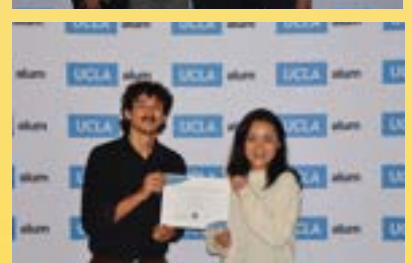
## NSBE President Scholarship

Victoria Madu



## CEED Scholarship

Christopher Loupeda  
Yaseen Masry  
Daniel Montano  
Brianna Perez  
Joel Venegas



# UCLA Samueli Recruitment Scholarship



Suha Alvario  
Excel Baadi  
Marlo Barge  
Anthony Bazalaki  
Heidi Benitez  
Emily Centeno  
Aaron Cervantes  
Freya Chen  
Oyshee Dey  
Luna Gonzalez  
Onam Hernandez  
Jasson Hernandez Marquina  
Leslie Juarez  
Cameron Kane-Ross  
Aweys Kharraz

Sole Laurent-Lubin  
Alex Lopez  
Sherly Luis  
Adrian Luna  
Daniel Murrillo  
Diego Quezada  
Anthony Ramirez  
Isaias Ramirez  
Alexa Romero  
Humberto Rosas  
Clarissa Rubio  
Eduardo Servin  
David Valdez  
Rafael Vega  
Jeremy Xivir



Olana Abraham  
Nicholas Equihua  
Taya Holmes  
Jenna Lacuata



Colene Agbo  
Andrea Alas  
Carlos Alvarado  
Tom Cabrera  
Robert Castillo  
Julia Castro  
Lorenzo Cova  
Nathan Damtew  
Mark Diaz  
Daniela Finch  
Ezra Gedion  
Khang Ninh Nguyen  
Arnulfo Orozco  
Sara Sanchez  
Kevin Valencia  
Sophia Walter



Elizabeth De La Vega



Eduardo Angeles-Sanchez  
Jonathan Silva



# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

The CEED office has implemented a variety of initiatives designed to encourage greater student engagement and increase foot traffic to the office. These efforts aim to create a more welcoming and interactive environment where students feel comfortable stopping by and spending time.



## SWEET ADVICE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

Graduating seniors shared advice for incoming students, reflecting on lessons learned and moments that shaped their journey. Their advice was paired with a chocolate, a sweet reminder that growth and success are worth celebrating.

## HALLOWEEN DOUGHNUTS

Spooky season came with a sweet surprise! Our office got a festive boost when undergraduate counselor Sherry Hormozi treated students to Halloween doughnuts. Thanks to everyone who stopped by to grab a treat, say hi, and share some fall vibes with the CEED community!



## THANKSGIVING WALL ACTIVITY

We celebrated the season of gratitude with a small moment to connect and recharge. We're thankful for our students and the supportive CEED community!



CEED students shared what they feel grateful for during the month of November.

Special thanks to Alejandra Gonzalez (Mechanical Engineering) for coming up with the creative wall design!



# CEED ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## CORPORATE ROUND TABLE

*January 28, 2026  
6 - 9:30 PM*

CEED is seeking alumni volunteers to share career advice with current CEED students while also helping them to develop their networking skills and fine tune their elevator pitch.

**ATTENDING THE EVENT IS FREE AND INCLUDES  
DINNER AND PARKING**

**REGISTER**



**REGISTER BY JANUARY 5, 2026**

[HTTPS://SA.UCLA.EDU/FORMS/P/DA1EB](https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/da1eb)



Questions? Contact  
[jmgonzalez@seas.ucla.edu](mailto:jmgonzalez@seas.ucla.edu)

**UCLA**

**Samueli**  
School of Engineering

# THANK YOU TO OUR INDUSTRY PARTNERS

## INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD



## INDUSTRY PARTNERS



## STRATEGIC PARTNERS



### SINCE 1983, CEED'S INDUSTRY AFFILIATES HAVE:

- Contributed to CEED efforts and student scholarships
- Committed the time and resources of representatives
- Hired undergraduate student interns
- Hired CEED graduates for full-time employment



Thank you to the CEED Staff and Student Staff who contributed to the creation of the Fall 2025 CEED Newsletter

Visual Design: Jeanie V. Menjivar

Contributors: Catherine Douglas, Jessica Martin-Gonzalez, Sherry Hormozi, Dakota Duffy, NSBE, AISES, SOLES Student Organizations

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