



JREC Members: Dhruvik Parikh, Marcus Amalachandran, Arkaprabha Bhattacharya, Sriharshita Musunuri

Jackson High School Students Win at Regional Science Fairs

Members of Jackson's Science Research and Engineering Club gained recognition for their work at the Washington Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (WJSHS) held at Seattle Pacific University on March 10 and 11 and at the Central Sound Regional Science and Engineering Fair (CSRSEF) held at Bellevue College 12 March, 2016.

Sophomore Dhruvik Parikh research, *Simultaneous Hydrogen Production and Wastewater treatment by Photocatalytic Titanium Dioxide* placed 6th amongst project presenters and as a result was invited to compete at the Symposium's National Fair in May. Parikh's research also received distinction at CSRSEF by placing 2nd in his category and winning multiple special awards: Stockholm Junior Water Prize, ASU Walton Sustainability Solutions Award, and the RICOH Sustainability Development Award.

Sriharshita (Harshu) Musunuri's research, *Molecularly Imprinted Polymeric Nanoparticles: A Novel Theranostic System to Detect and Neutralize Endotoxins*, garnered the American Chemical Society's Outstanding Chemistry Award - Second Place, First Place in her Category (Biomedical and Health Sciences/Bioengineering/Material Sciences) and was further distinguished by being named CSRSEF Grand Champion – the fair's overall best project. As a result she will be competing at the international Intel Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) later this spring.

“Of course I am proud of Dhruvik and Harshu, but I am just as proud of our new club members Marcus and Arka, said Andrew Sevald, the Research and Engineering Club Advisor. The first fair is always somewhat daunting – having to engage judges over a three hour period with the goal of convincing them on the thoroughness and significance of your work. These fairs are tough but competing in them strengthens the mind and also builds among other things, impressive public speaking skills. There is not one aspect in this process that isn’t beneficial. It is a mystery that more students don’t take advantage of the opportunity”.

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