

Ling-Lie Chau Graduate Student Award for Brain Research



Eden Barragan FY19-20 Award Recipient

Eden Barragan is a fourth-year PhD student at UC Davis, studying the cellular mechanisms underlying learning and memory in the lab of Dr. John Gray. She earned her degree in Biological Sciences at UC Irvine, where she investigated potential therapeutics for genetic epilepsy disorders via sodium channel recordings and *Drosophila* behavioral testing. This experience taught her to think critically about the effects neuronal properties and receptor dysfunction can have on an organism's behavior. Since joining the Gray lab, her research focuses on the role synapses play in learning and memory, and the specific changes that neurons undergo following learning. She will continue to focus on mechanisms underlying memory formation and how these go awry in disorders affecting long-term memory in her future scientific career.

Impact of Philanthropy

Thanks to the Ling-Lie Chau Graduate Student Award for Brain Research, Eden Barragan was able to attend the Neuroscience School of Advanced Studies course on Learning and Memory in Venice, Italy. Eden had the opportunity to learn from world experts in examining memory and the neural networks that underlie them at multiple levels of investigation, greatly expanding her professional network and informing her own collaborative project on learning-induced changes in neural activity.