ZANT NEWS
A Publication of Zoroastrian Association of North Texas

www.zant.org

March 2020

ZANT Upcoming Events

- Mar. 8: ZANT Religion Classes (12:00pm)
- Mar. 15: Panjeh Prayers
- Mar. 21: ZANT NouRuz Celebration
- Apr. 5: Planning Meeting—Carnival Fundraiser
- Apr. 12: ZANT Religion Classes (12:00pm)
- Apr. 12: Community Involvement Meeting (4:00pm)
- May 9: Annual ZANT Carnival

Happy NouRuz

Website: www.zant.org

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Jamshed Jamadar
Vice President Mahervan Karbhari
Treasurer Jamshid Contractor
Secretary Anahita Kyani
Social Director Pearl P. Balsara
Director Kurush Dehnugara
Director Dilnawaz Rustomji

We welcome and encourage feedback from our community. Please send comments or suggestions to president.zant@gmail.com or mail to ZANT, 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Blossom by blossom the spring begins and adds new life everywhere. How beauty is celebrating our New year, NouRuz, on spring equinox at the beginning of spring. ZANT Board would like to wish all a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year (3758 Yazdegerdi). **NouRuz Mubarak!**

The moment of NouRuz is on March 19th at 10:50 PM CST. We look forward to your RSVPs & hope you will attend ZANT NouRuz function on March 21, 2020 with your family & friends!

CHILDRENS’ RELIGION CLASS AND VOHU MANAH GROUP

Our next *Childrens’ Religion Class* will be held on **Sunday, Mar. 8, 2020.** Please be at the ZANT Center by 11:45am so we can have the Prayers & Tandarosti for kids in the Prayer Room at 12:00pm. For further details about the class please contact Pearl P. Balsara.

The *Vohu Manah Group* will meet on **Sunday, Mar. 8, 2020 at 2:30pm** at the ZANT Center Library. We have started to study the Shah Nameh, and since many stories are available on the internet and some participants also have their own books, we encourage everyone to read something on Rustom - the pehlvan. Let's see how many versions we can find.

Also, please **save the date** Sunday April 12, 2020 for a very special Vohu Manah Group, when we will have a Skype session with Ervad Soli Dastur. As you may remember, Ervad Solibhai helped perform the Vendidad ceremony and opening Jashan at ZANT Center in 2011. Ervad Solibhai has done an extensive study of the Shah Nameh and he will entertain and enlighten us on the topic of "The Khans (obstacles) of Rustom." It will be a good continuation of our discussion in March. Please plan to attend!

PANJEH PRAYERS

Panjeh Prayers will be held on **Sunday, March 15, 2020 from 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm** at the ZANT Center. We’ll have potluck lunch, so please bring a dish to share.

If you’d like to help prepare Aash & Sirog for the Gahambar, please come to ZANT Center by 10am on **Sunday, March 15, 2020**

If you wish to submit the names of your dear departed family members and friends for inclusion in the Panjeh prayers, please complete and email the form on page # 5, to Poras T. Balsara (ptbalsara@gmail.com) by March 10, 2020.
**Graduation Write-ups Requested**

**Congratulations to all Parents of ZANT Graduates!**

As in the past, ZANT will be honoring our graduates. This year ZANT is honoring our graduates on **Saturday, June 20, 2020** (tentative date) in our “Graduation Ceremony” ZANT-style!

For this, we need you to send us a short write-up on your kid (at least 4-5 lines). Please send it to Pearl Balsara at ppbalsara@gmail.com by ASAP by **May 16, 2020**.

Hope you all will be attending with your Graduate & family & friends!

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**Community Involvement Meeting**

ZANT would like to invite all community members to attend a "Community Involvement Meeting" to be held on **Sunday April 12, 2020 at 4 pm at ZANT Center**.

The purpose of this meeting is to collectively brainstorm and come up with NEW ideas to increase community involvement in ZANT, suggest NEW projects or programs to meet community needs and interests as related to ZANT goals, facilitate flow of knowledge and skills to meet community goals, and encourage volunteers to take part in implementing & organizing suggested programs & projects. We encourage the entire ZANT community to participate, so together we can move ZANT forward to face current & upcoming challenges with the best possible outcome.

If you cannot attend the meeting or prefer to submit your suggestions in writing, please feel free to email them to **president.zant@gmail.com** before **April 12th** & state in what capacity you would like to volunteer. Your suggestions will be acknowledged & presented at the meeting.

This meeting will be conducted by the community members in a new format to facilitate communication and dialogue. Every community member's suggestions & input is important to us. Please join us with your community spirit, creative ideas, and progressive thoughts to energize our community.

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**Planning Meeting for Carnival Fundraiser**

Mark your calendar for **Saturday May 9** for the Annual ZANT Carnival! Since this is the day before Mother's Day it will be a great opportunity to give Mom a break and stock your refrigerator with home-made goodies! Invite your friends and enjoy an evening of fun at ZANT Center!

There were many fund-raising ideas suggested at the AGM in January, including making some changes to the carnival. We are organizing a Planning Meeting for the Carnival on **Sunday April 5 from 3 pm to 4 pm at ZANT Center**. Please attend and bring your ideas, comments and suggestions. Being tea-time you can be assured we'll serve special treats! If you cannot attend, but have some ideas, please call Anahita Sidhwa at 214-862-5745.
CONGRATULATIONS !

Our heartiest congratulations to Janet K. Allen who is John and Mary Moore Chair of Engineering and Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Oklahoma for receiving the 2019 Ruth and Joel Spira Outstanding Design Educator Award, one of the highest honors presented by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The citation reads:

“Janet K. Allen through her long career in academia has modified her research thrusts and developed courses and curricula to meet changing needs in education. She continues to make contributions to the scholarship of knowledge discovery, the scholarship of synthesis of knowledge, and the scholarship of knowledge transmission (teaching, publication, etc.). Further she continues to mentor undergraduates, graduates and faculty. On account of her past and continuing contributions to furthering engineering education through scholarship, teaching and mentoring Janet K. Allen is clearly a role model to emulate.”

For further information about this award and Professor Janet K. Allen see write-up in the Norman Transcript.


Janet K. Allen is married to Farrokh Mistree. Their children, Dinsha and Behram and their wives Fareeza and Kristen, respectively, live in California. In the North American Zarathusti community, Janet K. Allen is known as Yashfara Mistree. Yashfara is one of the co-founders of the Sunday School for the Australian Zoroastrian Association in Sydney. She started the library for AZA in Australia and for the ZAH in Houston. In 1990 she co-edited (with Farrokh) the Proceedings of the North American Zoroastrian Congress that was held in Houston; this was the last one circulated in print. Together with her mother-in-law Nergesh, she hosted the Atlanta Zarathushti Anjuman’s monthly Sunday School for 11 years in Atlanta. Yashfara, together with Farrokh, offer a seminar entitled “A Seminar for College Age Kids and Their Parents.” Currently, she is an active member of the Zoroastrian Faculty Network focused on mentoring and financially supporting Zoroastrian students who wish to pursue graduate studies, succeed, and give back to the Zoroastrian community.
**Names for the Panjeh Prayers**

This year our priests will perform the Panjeh Prayers on **Sunday, March 15, 2020.**

If you wish to submit the names of your dear departed family members and friends for inclusion in the Afringan Prayers, please complete and email the following form to Poras T. Balsara (ptbalsara@gmail.com) by **March 10, 2020.**

Name of the Deceased Name of His/Her Father/Husband

1. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

2. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

3. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

4. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

5. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

6. E O Oi B K ____________________________ E O B ______________________________

*(Please use additional sheets for more names.)*

______________________________ _________________________________

NAME                                                   TEL. NO.

The names of the deceased are always recited together with their father/husband’s name along with their status, i.e. Ervad, Osta, Osti, Behdin or Khurd, as per Zarthushti custom. No Surnames are recited in the prayers.

E = Ervad (male who is /was a Navar)

O = Osta (male from Athornan, or priestly family but not a Navar)

Oi = Osti (female from Athornan family)

B = Behdin (male/female from Behdin, or non-priestly family)

K = Khurd (person whose Navjote has not been performed)
Dear Sir/Madam,

The Zoroastrian Association of North Texas (ZANT) cordially invites you to put an advertisement in our upcoming directory to be published in March 2020. The ZANT has been published since the 1990’s. With over 500 individuals and 250 families in the Dallas Fort Worth area, your advertisement will serve as a helpful source of information to all our members in need of goods and services.

The deadline to receive all advertisements is February 20, 2020. Please complete the attached form and e-mail along with your advertisement in PDF or JPEG format to anahita_kyani@yahoo.com. For further information please contact Anahita Kyani, at 310-754-0565.

**Prices are as follows:**

- **Outside Back Cover** $550
- **Inside Front Cover** $350
- **Inside Back Cover** $350
- **Inside Center Double Page** $350
- **Full Page** $100
- **Half page** $50

**Checks should be made payable to ZANT at 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028.** Please make a note “ZANT directory 2020” in the memo of the check.

We appreciate your generosity in placing an advertisement in our directory!

Sincerely,

ZANT Board
ZANT Ad Order Form 2020

(Please fill out one form for each ad you purchase)

This form is due February 20, 2020

Date: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________
Name of Business/family/individual: _______________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________
Size of Ad: ______________________________________
Outside Back Cover $550
Inside Front Cover $350
Inside Back Cover $350
Inside Center Double Page $350
Full Page $100
Half page $50

Please note: Digital Submission by CD is welcome. However, CDs will NOT be returned so please keep a copy for yourself.

Where to turn in this form:
Mail to: Anahita Kyani, c/o ZANT 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028.
E-mail: anahita_kyani@yahoo.com
Hand over: ZANT representative who has been in touch with you.

Contact: Anahita Kyani at 310-754-0565.
weekendwonders4kidz

Making weekends wonderful ...
one kid at a time, one bag at a time, one week at a time

Due to popular demand, we have organized another Bring n Bag session at the ZANT Center after the March religious class and practice. Come and support us and bring the kids to have fun whilst learning to give back to the community.

Please go to the link below and sign up for a slot or two. Even if you cannot be there on March 8th please try and drop off your donation at the center or call us and we will pick up from you.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BA8AF23A0FE3-weekend2

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday March 8th!!

Take a little time out to help make these kids’ weekends wonderful!

Thank You!

“Helping a person will not change the world, but it will change the world for that one person.”

….. thatonerule.com
Past Events: SuperBowl at the ZANT Center
PAST EVENTS: CERAMIC POMEGRANATE MAKING WORKSHOP
The Iranshah Initiative

What is the Iranshah Initiative?

The vision is to provide a continuous stream of global financial support to perpetuate the legacy & timeless heritage of Iranshah, Udvada.

Goals: The 5 five goals for this project include:

TO PRESERVE the Sanctity of Iranshah by honoring, helping and supporting all those who take care of this great spiritual power-house with utmost dedication and selfless commitment — in particular our senior and respected Mobed sahibs who have dedicated their entire lives towards serving our Sacred Iranshah with impeccable sincerity, devotion, dignity and integrity.

TO CREATE a monetary incentive for the present Mobed Sahibs and to inspire our future Mobeds to pursue the noble profession of Mobedi as a career. This is of vital importance for the survival and revival of Sacred Iranshah. An institution like Iranshah needs to be kept alive to keep our religion alive, we need to keep the Mobeds or Priests alive.

TO KEEP the flame alive we need to provide firewood or Kathi. The current Kathi Fund needs to be increased substantially to meet the rising cost of Kathi.

TO PROVIDE round the clock (24/7/365) Security Service for the premises of Iranshah. In addition to this, we also need the voluntary services of devoted and sincere Parsi helpers to keep the premises clean, tidy and presentable for the local, national and global devotees/pilgrims who visit Udvada to pay their homage to OUR Sacred Iranshah.

At the 7th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in Los Angeles in July 2019, Tinaz Karbhari presented a beautiful sensory experience and an interactive talk on the Iranshah Initiative she has been spearheading. Here is a video link to refresh your memory.

We encourage you to kindly assist with presenting it to your Zoroastrian associations, and local communities and associations back home, as well as with your friends and family. Make it your goal to spread the word about this initiative so that it can well and truly take flight, creating a thorough awareness of the project encouraging global involvement.

At this time, we also encourage each and everyone of you to personally get involved in a financial capacity. A project like this can only succeed if we collectively come together. You cannot put a price on the survival of our religion. This is something we need to do, and we need to do now. Let the voice of the youth be heard over a worthy cause like this.

You can donate online. Donations made in the USA are tax-exempt as the online payments are processed through FEZANA.

Tinaz Karbhari

TheIranShahInitiative.com
FEZANA Annual General Meeting—2020

Please be informed of the details for the upcoming 2020 FEZANA Annual General Meeting (AGM) hosted by the FEZANA Association Member, Sacramento Zoroastrian Association (SZA), from Friday, May 1st through Sunday May 3rd, 2020.

Please make sure to adhere to the deadlines that are requested of your associations and committees.

Committee Reports – Deadline 4/1/20
Committee Chairs should submit their reports to myself (secretary@fezana.org) and copy the FEZANA Administrator, Zenobia Damania (admin@fezana.org) latest by April 1, 2020. The format is no different from that in the previous years. When possible, please mention your committee's accomplishments in the past year as they tie in with the FEZANA Second 10-year Strategic plan. Please plan to submit slides along with your report, so that they may be presented during the AGM as your report is presented.

Association Reports – Deadline 4/1/20
Association reports in slide form, should be submitted to myself (secretary@fezana.org) and copy the FEZANA Administrator, Zenobia Damania (admin@fezana.org) latest by April 1, 2020.
- Please keep the length of your presentation to a maximum of 5 minutes and 12 slides.
- Showcase your community by including photos, special events, infrastructure/construction projects, and other memorable activities from your association.
- Include your organization's name/logo on each of the slides in the bottom right hand corner for identification.

AGM Agenda
A copy of the 2020 AGM Agenda will be circulated shortly. The FEZANA Executive officer positions that are open for election at this AGM, are the following: President, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary. Please note that the nomination forms are on the next page.

The AGM will start Friday, May 1st at 9:00AM and will end at mid-day Sunday, May 3rd, followed by a Gahambar hosted by the host association. Details on pre/post-AGM events will be emailed out separately.

Meeting Venue
The 2020 FEZANA AGM will be held at the:
Sacramento Zoroastrian Center
10528 Armstrong Ave.
Mather, CA 95655.

Hotel Information
SZA has made special reservations for a group rate of $90/night at the following hotel:
Comfort Inn & Suites
12249 Folsom Blvd.
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Please call the hotel directly at (916)-351-1213 and mention code “ZSAC” to avail of this special rate, or book online at https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/RY94M2
If you are planning to attend the AGM, please RSVP to Zenobia Damania (admin@fezana.org) and myself (secretary@fezana.org) ASAP so that we can maintain a count of who will be coming

Please contact Zenobia Damania or myself if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you in Sacramento soon.

Best Regards,

Percy M. Master
FEZANA Secretary
Call for Nominations for FEZANA Officers (2020-2022)

The 2020 FEZANA Annual General Meeting is fast approaching and it is now time to prepare for elections of FEZANA Officers for a new term. Hence, this correspondence is a call for Nominations of FEZANA Officers for the 2020-2022 term of office.

Attached please find the nomination form for the election of the following FEZANA Officers for the 2020-2022 Term of office:

1. President
2. Treasurer
3. Assistant Secretary

The deadline for receiving all nominations is midnight (US EST) on February 15, 2020.

The results of the elections will be announced on May 1st at the 2020 FEZANA AGM in Sacramento, CA.

The current President, Homi D. Gandhi, has completed his second term, and is ineligible for reelection, as per terms of the FEZANA Constitution. The President's position is open for nominations.

The current Treasurer, Mahrukh “Rooky” Fitter, has completed her first term, and is eligible for reelection, as per terms of the FEZANA Constitution. The Treasurer’s position is open for nominations.

The current Assistant Secretary, Xerxes Commissariat, has completed his first partial term, and is eligible for reelection, as per terms of the FEZANA Constitution. The Assistant Secretary’s position is open for nominations.

Please note that only those associations in the membership lists, whose membership dues form and payments for their 2020 membership dues have been received, will be eligible to participate in nominating and voting as per terms of the FEZANA Constitution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Percy M. Master

FEZANA Secretary

Download the 2020 FEZANA Officer Nomination Form
SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AT KING’S COLLEGE, LONDON

8 TUITION FEE SCHOLARSHIPS

HEAR YE, HEAR YE, HEAR YE ALL
How would you like to spend your summer in London with a Scholarship from Kings College?
Ideal opportunity for our WZCC youth.
Take the initiative. Make something happen. Good Luck!

Undergraduate Summer School
King’s College London Summer Programmes is offering 8 tuition fee scholarships to bright students from around the
globe to study on our 2020 Undergraduate Summer School.

The Summer@King’s scholarship covers the 2020 tuition fee of £1,800 and the application deadline is April 13, 2020.

Who are we looking for?
If you like expressing your thoughts and are able to present and synthesize your thinking in a video blog, we would love
to hear from you.

We are looking for bright candidates from anywhere in the world who are passionate about thinking, learning and com-
municating. All applicants must fulfil our standard academic criteria.

How do I apply?
1. Apply online via the King’s Apply portal. For details on how to submit your summer school application, please fol-
low the instructions on our ‘How to Apply’ page. In addition, you must also do the following:

2. Include the statement “I am applying for a Summer@King’s scholarship” at the top of the Personal Statement
section of the application.

3. Create a video (no longer than 2 minutes and 30 seconds) of yourself answering the following question: “Why does
London matter to the world in 2020?”

4. You can approach this question in a number of different ways, considering a range of themes, and you may also wish
to reflect on the question from the perspective of your particular subject area.

5. Upload the video to Dropbox and add the Dropbox link to the top of your personal statement. IMPORTANT:
Video should be in one of the following formats: .mov or .mp4 or .avi or .wmv.

What are we looking for?
We will be assessing how well argued your answer is and we are looking for videos that express your own original ideas
clearly and concisely. We encourage the use of secondary literature, remember to acknowledge your references. The art-
stistic quality of the video is not part of the assessment, so please feel free to use a mobile phone or a tablet when record-
ning.

When will I find out?
Successful applicants will be notified in the week beginning May 4, 2020. Unsuccessful applicants will NOT be contact-
ed. Due to the high volume of applications feedback on individual applications cannot be provided.

Very truly yours,
Edul Daver
WZCC Global President
The Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington, DC, Inc. (ZAMWI) is excited to welcome athletes, spectators, volunteers, friends and family from across the globe to the 2020 Z Games, July 1 - 5!

The Z Games Advisory Committee, chaired by Farshid Behmardi, has been working hard to prepare for this great event. This email provides important updates, deadlines, and ways you can get involved.

The **early-bird registration is now open**! To save money, we highly encourage you to take advantage of this early-bird opportunity. You can start your registration by visiting our website [https://www.zgames2020.com/register.html](https://www.zgames2020.com/register.html). Bahar Boroumandrad chairs the registration subcommittee. Please reach out to Bahar at zgames2020@zamwi.org with any questions.

Stay informed about 2020 Z Games updates and deadlines by following our Instagram @2020zgames. In our Instagram account, you will also learn more about our volunteers, event developments, and you can reach out with suggestions and questions.

Hosting a well-organized and unifying event can only be possible with the help of volunteers. ZAMWI volunteers are partnering with volunteers from ZAPANJ to support the Games throughout the 4 days. If you are interested in volunteering, please click the link to complete the volunteer form [https://www.zgames2020.com/volunteer.html](https://www.zgames2020.com/volunteer.html) or by going to our website, and submit the form under Get Involved.

The Z-game promises to be filled with intense competition, camaraderie, and lots of fun. Our mission is possible with your donations. For donations, please visit our website's donation page, [https://www.zgames2020.com/donate.html](https://www.zgames2020.com/donate.html)

If you are a business owner, this is the perfect opportunity to promote your business by becoming a sponsor. Our fundraising group has worked hard and put together several great sponsorship packages from which you can select what works for you. For more information please visit [https://www.zgames2020.com/sponsor.html](https://www.zgames2020.com/sponsor.html).

We are super excited for 2020 Z Games and hope that you join us!

Best,

2020 Z Games Advisory Committee

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17th Z GAMES 2020
We are delighted to announce that registration for Social Events for 17th Zoroastrian Games is open, now!

Please click on below buttons to register today and take advantage of early bird price. Please note that tickets for are three events are limited!

Follow us at Instagram for the latest about the games.

• Location: Kamran Dar-e Mehr, 15316 Barnesville Rd, Boyds, MD 20841
  Date and Time: July 2nd, 2020 from 7:30pm to 11:30pm
  Early-bird price: $55

• Location: National Mall, Downtown Washington DC
  Date and Time: July 3rd, 2020 from 7:30pm to 10:00pm
  Early-bird price: $25

• Location: One Bethesda Metro Center (7400 Wisconsin Ave),
  Bethesda, Maryland, United States, 20814
  Date and Time: July 4th, 2020 from 7:30pm to 11:30pm
  Early-bird price: $125

Best regards,

Registration Committee
17th Zoroastrian Games

17th Z GAMES 2020
Professorship of Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto, Canada

For several years, FEZANA has made extensive efforts for the establishment of an academic program for advanced studies and research in the Zoroastrian religion, and the teaching of Avesta and Pahlavi and ancient Iranian languages in order to perpetuate them and keep from becoming extinct.

A scholastic committee set up by FEZANA evaluated all proposals and options and recommended the acceptance of proposal of the University of Toronto (UoT), Toronto, Canada, a highly ranked institution in North America.

In May 2019, FEZANA received a revised proposal from the UoT to establish a Professorship of Zoroastrian studies. Under the proposal, UoT will create the position with an investment by FEZANA of US $1.5 million, to be matched by UoT funding of CAN $1.5 million.

UoT has adopted a stated objective "to become a leader in Zoroastrian studies in North America", and has assembled a large faculty of Iranian studies to teach courses on Zoroastrianism. The Zoroastrian Studies program will be maintained in perpetuity and administered by the Department of Near and Middle Eastern studies, Faculty of Arts and Science.

UoT aspires "to permanently offer advanced training in [Avesta and Pahlavi] languages of the Zoroastrian scriptures and sacred texts. The program will make UOT "the premier institution for establishing the scholarship on Zoroastrianism, unrivaled amongst its peer institutions in North America." The aim is "to prepare a new generation of rigorously trained scholars who are dedicated to original research in primary Zoroastrian texts."

As a member association of FEZANA in North America, I invite you to consider this very exciting proposal. A detailed Program Brochure developed by FEZANA with collaboration of UoT, is attached. Also attached is the Donation form. I will also follow-up with a telephone conversation at a time convenient for you. FEZANA needs to act quickly as UOT's offer for matching funds will expire on April 30, 2020.

FEZANA has initiated a capital campaign to raise $1.5 million by April 30, 2020. A fundraising committee has been created and actual solicitation of funds began in December 2019. To date a total of $270,000 has been raised from 9 families and $35,000 raised from 2 FEZANA member associations for a total of $305,000. All of our volunteers and committee members working on this project are extremely enthusiastic and optimistic of achieving success. I would like to set up a meeting with you to discuss this very important opportunity and seek your input and support. Please let me know your availability for our telephone conversation.

This is an opportunity not to be missed if the world Zoroastrian community is serious about promoting research in its ancient languages, texts, culture, traditions, etc. so that the world community is enlightened and our youth is empowered to continue to work with pride for generations to come.

IF WE ARE NOT GOING TO DO THIS, THEN WHO WILL?
IF WE ARE NOT GOING TO DO IT NOW, THEN WHEN?

Yatha Zamyad, Yatha Afrinami

Homi D Gandhi

President, FEZANA
(201) 410-8963
National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates
New Approaches to Engineering Cells, Tissues, & Organs

Program Dates: June 1 – August 7, 2020

The University of Maryland’s Fischell Department of Bioengineering, with support from the National Science Foundation, is offering exciting research opportunities in bioengineering for undergraduates who are interested in exploring new approaches to engineering cells, tissues, and organs.

The deadline for students to apply to this 10-week Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program is Friday, February 14, 2020. Students are strongly encouraged to apply ahead of the deadline as admissions will be processed on a rolling basis.

Undergraduate students will be enlisted to investigate new engineering technologies for constructing and mimicking tissues and organs. Example projects include blood-brain-barrier-on-a-chip, preparing human brain phantoms with amyloid plaque models, 3D printing and microsystems for extracellular vesicle biomanufacturing, and molecular signaling in a gut-on-a-chip model.

Research projects will be hosted at University of Maryland or directly with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), making this REU unlike any other available in the country.

Participants in this Bioengineering REU site will receive a $5,000 stipend for the 10-week research program, room and board, and the opportunity to support one of 18 projects focused on engineering technologies for constructing and mimicking tissues and organs. Even more, participants will showcase their work in the FDA’s annual research fair, where they will present their research to other undergraduate researchers as well as FDA technical staff, non-FDA scientists, and even the FDA Commissioner.

Additional information is available online. Please contact REU program co-directors Dr. Ian White and Dr. Kimberly Stroka at bioe-reu@umd.edu with any questions.