

National Science Foundation excellence prize awarded to biology student, Amara Siva

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Media Contact: Warren R. Froelich

NSF EXCELLENCE PRIZE AWARDED TO UCSD BIOLOGY STUDENT

An 18-year old American Indian biology student at the University of California, San Diego has been awarded an Incentive for Excellence Prize from the National Science Foundation.

Amara Siva, a resident of Palm Springs, Calif., was presented with the \$1,000 award by Immo Scheffler, professor and chair of the biology department, during a reception last night at the International Center on the UCSD campus.

Awards have been presented each year since 1987 to the undergraduate department of each NSF Minority Graduate Fellowship awardee with the goal of increasing "the opportunities for outstanding underrepresented minority students to pursue advanced studies in the sciences, mathematics and engineering."

Underrepresented minorities include: American Indian, Black, Hispanic, Native Alaskan (Eskimo or Aleut), or Native Pacific Islander (Polynesian or Micronesian).

Siva, who took several advanced placement courses for college credit, will have enough credits for junior standing after the end of the fall quarter. At that time, she will major in biochemistry/cell biology, with a tentative goal of becoming a marine biologist.

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