



## SAFER-SIM Excellence Award Undergraduate Winners

One student from each of the SAFER-SIM Institutes was awarded our Excellence Award, who have the following:

- Provided notable support to a SAFER-SIM project prior to receiving the award
- Completed with a grade of B or better at least 24 hours of Undergraduate course work and have an Undergraduate GPA in excess of 3.0 (out of 4.00).
- Displayed accomplishments in the 3 following areas:
  - Technical Merit and Research Capability
  - Academic Performance
  - Leadership

### Recipients:

#### **Jorge Ugan** – *University of Central Florida*

“Jorge is an excellent senior in Civil Engineering with a GPA of 3.844. He has completed with distinction all transportation courses including Highway Engineering and Transportation Systems. In Spring 2018 he started research with my group in Transportation. He worked on Data Collection for Alternative Intersections, his task was to locate specialized intersections and find multiple comparison intersections throughout the United States. The project estimated evaluated the safety benefits of alternative intersections” design. The end goal of this project was to see if the specialized intersections were beneficial. He has also researched Uber Movement data. He obtained data from Uber and developed a model to predict traffic

congested zones in Orlando. He wrote a very good paper that was submitted to the 2020 Annual meeting of TRB. Currently he is working on determining the conflict points at several intersections around the University of Central Florida by using aerial video footage at these intersections by using vehicle tracking.

Jorge has the intention to start his MS degree in Transportation after graduation next year. I strongly recommend Jorge for the award."

### **Hanxi Tang** – *University of Iowa*

"I have never before taken beginning freshman students as RAs in the lab, but we happened to be in a pinch for undergraduate RAs at the beginning of Fall Semester 2017.... Frankly, I've never seen an undergraduate research assistant perform so well in my 29 years at the UI.... Clearly, these are tasks that we would only trust our most competent and experienced undergraduate students to handle. In recognition of her important contributions to this project, Hanxi was a co-author on a conference poster that was presented in March at the 2019 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development."

### **Jaydeep Radadiya** – *University of Massachusetts-Amherst*

"He is a hardworking and dedicated student researcher with a natural intuition for research.... Mr. Radadiya has been an invaluable asset for my projects, especially the Safer-SIM project we are conducting jointly with the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. His contributions have been of the highest caliber and has helped move the project forward significantly.... He has achieved and surpassed my expectations of undergraduate research over the summer and continues to do so this fall. In addition to his integrity and efforts with his research, Mr. Radadiya is also a high-achieving student with excellent academic achievements and was on the Dean's list for two consecutive terms (his first two terms at UMass). He is also a recipient of the UMass Chancellor's award."

*Congratulations to our winners!*