



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Dear Honor Research Symposium Guest,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 1st Community College Honors Research Symposium at Stanford University. The student body at Stanford is characterized by its passion for learning and intense curiosity, qualities which fuel the creation of innovative ideas and groundbreaking research. The presentations in which you have invested countless hours of research reflect the scholarly work that Stanford celebrates and serve as the formative steps in your careers as future doctors, lawyers, scientists, humanists and engineers. It is your commitment to knowledge, truth and intellectual exchange that mark today as a moment to reflect on how we may improve our society, a forum in which we may freely express and appreciate the vast array of perspectives and experiences, and an opportunity to celebrate the cultivation and exchange of ideas.

While this research symposium serves as a platform to stimulate and engage ideas, it is also a time to celebrate the unique perspectives of community college students. The diverse backgrounds and life experiences of community college students add much needed richness to classroom conversations and the overall diversity of the Stanford community. Thus, no matter what path you take—in your education or life pursuits—our campus embraces the depth and breadth of your unique experiences.

I hope that you take away many lessons from today's program that will aid in your life endeavors, namely, the desire for intellectual exchange and open dialogue with people from various backgrounds, the ability to honestly and constructively address pertinent ideas and issues in a positive and supporting fashion, and a clear understanding of the value, in a broad and sensitive approach, to dealing with matters that require your utmost consideration. I commend you on your scholarly quest for knowledge, and wish you the very best in your academic, personal and professional endeavors.

With warm regards,

Richard H. Shaw
Dean of Admission and Financial Aid

