Marlene Acero, fourth year Human Psychobiology major  
*Research Title:* Analysis of Synovial Fluid in Osteoarthritis of the Temporomandibular Joint  

*Quote:* I thoroughly enjoyed exploring a new country with different customs. This program gave me many memorable experiences and new perspectives.

Jierou Chen, MS in Atmospheric Chemistry  
*Research Title:* Compilation and Comparison of PM2.5 Long-term Observational Data In Los Angeles and Beijing  

*Quote:* This program allowed me to develop a skill in an area of work I’m interested in that I wouldn’t have taken the time to learn during grad school otherwise. I thought 3 months would be so long, but it was just enough time to explore, find some favorite food spots, learn the metro, and make good friends. It’s like how the Office ends, “No matter how you get there or where you end up, human beings have this miraculous gift to make that place home.”

Mercedes Cornelius, fourth year in Biophysics, Applied Mathematics, and Biochemistry  
*Research Title:* Screening active ligands from Rhubarb, a traditional Chinese medicine, to target mitochondrial protein  

*Quote:* I don’t think that I could understand China, the Chinese people, or how to emerge into either of the two without the social experience of the program in Shanghai or Beijing. And the scholarship I received to help me in China completely enriched my studies. It allowed me to be able to afford my dreams and enjoy/learn from the culture around me and I am immensely thankful.

Hetvi Doshi, fourth year Psychology major  
*Research Title:* Moderating Role of OXTR rs2254298 in the Influence of Family Cohesion on Future Orientation  

*Quote:* The JRI Summer Research Program is the best of two worlds: the exotic world it transports you to and the complete immersion into extensive research it provides. It combined my passion for travelling with an orientation towards my career and I highly recommend it to anyone looking for authentic exposure to a blend of work and leisure. The friends you make will last for a lifetime.
Jiyang Du, third year, Math of Computation major  
Research Title: Computing the normal derivative of bioluminescence tomography (BLT) problem using Finite Element Method (FEM)  
Quote: The UCLA/PKU JRI program provided me a great opportunity to gain new knowledge and work with great professor who conducts frontier research in the field. It was a unique and valuable experience that strengthened my academic skills, revealed the lifestyle in Beijing, and brought me a lot of fun.

Abigail Edwards, fourth year in Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Research Title: Examining the Photocatalytic and Adsorption Capabilities of Graphene Oxide  
Quote: To grow is to constantly step outside the boundaries of where you are comfortable. I stepped outside both culturally and academically this summer in Beijing. Without prior experience in the field, I worked in an environmental air pollution lab and was able to conduct a successful summer research project. I went from being in Beijing for the first time, to feeling comfortable traveling alone on public transit and asking for directions in Chinese. What I love most about travel is the further I go in miles, the more connected I feel to humanity as our similarities often outweighs our differences. Thank you PKU-UCLA JRI for this holistic opportunity to grow.

Francesca Genera, third year biology major  
Research Title: Analyzing Renal Cell Carcinoma, its Causes, Effects, and Treatments, and Other Urological Cancers such as Prostate Cancer  
Quote: My experience in China was more than I could have hoped for and I cannot wait to go back in the future! Not only did I get to see the rich culture the country has to offer, but I also got to work in a new and exciting research environment.

Richard Liang, fourth year Physiological Science major, Public Health minor  
Research Title: Social activities and depressive symptoms in Chinese middle-aged and elderly adults: Evidence from CHARLS  
Quote: The JRI Summer Research Program has been crucial in defining my future career path in population health research. Conducting research in China has helped me understand the importance of considering different social and cultural contexts in relation to health. I learned from amazing mentors, had a lot of fun with my fellow JRI cohort members, and gained a newfound appreciation for the Beijing Metro. I am so thankful for the inspiring people I had the privilege of meeting in Shanghai and Beijing and for the unforgettable experiences provided by JRI.

Justin Mak, fourth year Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology major  
Research Title: Characterization of Pannexin-3 Expression in Feline Retinas Following Optic Nerve Crash Injury  
Quote: I had always wanted to study abroad while at UCLA, but I never found the right program for me. But the JRI SRP exceeded my expectations, providing me with the opportunity to both conduct cutting-edge research and reconnect with my Chinese heritage. From visiting ancient monuments to making new friends, I will never forget my experience in China.
Alexander Soohoo, fourth year Chemical Engineering major
Research Title: Assay Development Towards Elucidation of ATP Synthase Mechanism and Regulation

Quote: This summer has been one of the best summers of my life! While rich in the benefits of any study abroad experience, such as learning about China’s rich history, political climate, and relationship to the Western world, JRI sets itself apart with its unique research experience. You not only get to do research at a top institution, but you also get to understand the dynamics of research in China and engage in cross cultural collaboration. It was an unforgettable, enriching summer that has made me a more well-rounded person, scholar, and researcher.

Vincent Tse, third year Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology major
Research Title: Distribution and Localization of AQP1 During Nuclear Swelling in Response to Glutamate in Primary Cultured Astrocytes and Human Neural Stem Cells

Quote: There is no doubt that scientific research is rigorous and demanding—it is like diving blindly into pitch black water with no sense of direction. However, there is also no doubt that the successes from research are extremely rewarding—it is like finally finding your way and swimming towards the light hitting the surface of the water.

Daniel Tsui, fourth year Neuroscience major
Research Title: Application of Nvidia’s OptiX ray generation engine to render a 3-D image

Quote: China is a cultural thrill ride that stimulates all the senses; from the delectable food that will tantalize your taste buds with exotic flavors to marveling at the beautiful scenery and advanced architecture that will broaden your world view.