UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

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2 UCSB Scientists Receive National Science Foundation CAREER Awards

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Santa Barbara, Calif. — Two assistant professors at UC Santa Barbara have been awarded National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER awards.

The Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) offers the NSF's most prestigious awards in support of the early career development activities of those teacher-scholars who are most likely to become the academic leaders of the 21st century. The awards provide a financial stipend to support research activity for a period of five years.

The UCSB recipients are:

Xifeng Yan, computer science, for research on graph information systems: deciphering complex networks.

Paul Atzberger, mathematics, for research on emergent biological mechanics of cellular microstructures.

They join five other assistant professors from UCSB who were announced as CAREER award recipients earlier this year. They are Christopher Kruegel, computer science; M. Scott Shell, chemical engineering; Liming Zhang, chemistry; Michael Gordon, chemical engineering; and Baron Peters, chemical engineering.

"One of the best ways to guarantee that outstanding research will be done here in 2020 is to attract the best assistant professors to UCSB," said Michael Witherell, vice chancellor for research. "We continue to be among the top few universities in the country in landing CAREER awards from the National Science Foundation. That is very encouraging."

NSF explains that CAREER awardees are selected on the basis of creative proposals that effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization. The plans are expected to build a firm foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education.

The NSF promotes and advances scientific progress in the United States by competitively awarding grants and cooperative agreements for research and education in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

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