

Session 1: Career Panel

- **Overview.**
 - [LINK](#) to event outline
 - [LINK](#) to event slides
 - Representing the diverse educational paths, career stages, and specializations (experimentalists, computationalists, medical doctors) in the lab, 14 lab members participated (3 undergrads, 2 MD/PhD students, 2 PhD students, 4 postdocs, 2 staff members, 1 faculty member)
 - In preparation, the students filled out a survey ([LINK](#)) about their career aspirations, questions for the panelists, and their breakout room preference. Based on this, we distributed breakout room participation and prepared panel questions.
 - The session consisted of:
 - an ice breaker (a guessing game about the participants using 'Kahoot') ([LINK](#)) and a brief introduction by the lab members,
 - The lab members provided one fun fact about themselves in advance ([LINK](#) to examples). Based on this, the students would guess which one fun fact connected to which one of four lab members (based on their pictures). Following each guessing round, the four lab members shown on the slide would briefly present themselves (<1 min) and share their fun fact, if it wasn't the one mentioned in the game.
 - a student reflection and share-out on their career dreams,
 - informational slides on educational paths in science and diverse careers possible with a science education,
 - a panel discussion with the entire class with student questions (both spontaneous and presented by moderator based on student survey ([LINK](#))),
 - Breakout rooms with 2-5 lab members and 4-6 students based on STEM disciplines, with students freely asking questions about education and career.
 - Biology/Life Sciences
 - Math/Computer Science
 - Engineering/Physics
 - Medicine/Health Sciences
- **Our Conclusions.**
 - Many students were interested, interacted, asked questions, and seemed to appreciate the session; some were not so interactive.
 - It was very valuable to have the undergrad researchers participate, since many of the students' questions referred to applying to and attending college/UCLA.
 - Attending USC seemed to be a common aspiration ☐ potentially collaborate with students/researchers from there next time?