

**Luke Samuel Sandoval**  
**Biology**  
**Innovation Fellows Program - University of Florida**  
**Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering/Warrington College of Business**

Luke Samuel Sandoval is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduate researcher at the University of Florida. He is studying biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Luke has been conducting research for 2 years in Dr. Jain Piyush's laboratory located in the Cancer and Genetics Research Center. He works with novel CRISPR/Cas systems to develop more precise and cost effective diagnostics. He also characterizes novel Cas proteins to assist in gene editing in mammals and plants. So far, Luke has helped write 2 manuscripts, published as an author, and holds a provisional patent. He has presented at the annual CRISPR Conference 2022 held at MIT and at the UF Undergraduate Symposium.

To further understand the nature of innovation, Luke currently is an intern at UF Innovate, the technology licensing office of the university. At UF Innovate, Luke works alongside licensing officers to conduct prior art searches on technology invented by researchers at UF. His job is important for marketing and assessing the novelty of the technology in question. Luke also assists UF Ventures by characterizing investor interests to maintain partnerships and relations.

Outside of the laboratory and his internship, Luke is an avid player and fan of tennis, basketball, and mixed martial arts, and he loves to cook. Luke has been trained as a child life volunteer at UF Shands Children's Hospital where he assists and takes care of children in the pediatric hematology and oncology units. Luke has also volunteered at Aces in Motion which provided mentorship, tutoring, and free tennis lessons to the underserved population of Gainesville.

