

# MEKAYLA DEPAOLIS

Phone: (913) 240-4768

mekayla@utexas.edu

## EDUCATION

---

<b>BS</b>	University of Kansas, Lawrence KS Chemical Engineering, Honors Program Graduate GPA: 3.95/4.00	August 2016 – May 2020
<b>MS</b>	University of Texas, Austin TX Environmental Engineering	August 2016 – May 2020

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

**Kumar Research Group, University of Texas at Austin**      September 2020 – Present  
Advisor: Dr. Manish Kumar

**Shiflett Research Group, University of Kansas**      March 2018 – September 2019  
Advisor: Dr. Mark Shiflett

- Performed colorimetry, prepared ion chromatography samples, and analyzed results for over 100 wine samples using various materials
- Compiled and presented results within “Removal of Sulfites in Wine” (Poster) at the 2019 American Institute of Chemical Engineering Regional Conference at Missouri S&T poster competition
- People’s Choice Award for Poster Competition – University of Kansas School of Engineering Research Showcase, Spring 2019

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

**University of Kansas Chemistry Department**      January 2020 – May 2020  
Teaching Assistant, *General Chemistry II Lab*

**University of Kansas Math Department**      August 2019 – December 2019  
Teaching Assistant, *Calculus II*

**Lubrizol, Houston TX**      May 2019 – July 2019  
**Chemical Engineering Co-op**

- Designed a Management of Change report to reroute steam traps throughout a process unit in order to minimize safety and environmental risks and decrease annual cost by \$11,000
- Edited 30+ Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams with suggested improvements

## LEADERSHIP

---

### **University of Kansas Honors Program**

#### **Honors Peer Advisor**

2018 – 2020

- Identifies campus resources for first year students and aids in the acclimation to a new environment

### **Tau Beta Pi – Kansas Alpha Chapter**

#### **Secretary**

2018 – 2020

- Regularly participates in volunteer tutoring, fundraising events, and regional conferences to promote service, leadership, and knowledge

### **Alternative Breaks Service Organization**

#### **Site Leader**

January 2019

- Led a service trip to the Denver Rescue Mission, a non-profit that provides meals, shelter, and long term solutions for the surrounding homeless community
- Contacted volunteer coordinator and planned logistics in preparation for trip

### **oSTEM at the University of Kansas**

#### **Former Vice President**

January 2017 - 2020

- Organized for QueerXTalks, an event that provides a platform for queer students and teachers to share their experiences in academia and showcase marginalized voices
- Increased representation on campus through securing funding, scheduling venues, and scheduling speakers for oSTEM events

### **IHAWKe – Engineering Diversity Program**

#### **Member**

January 2017 - 2020

- Participated in the 2017 IHAWKe-a-thon, a team event competition to design a product prototype for hurricane victims in under 24 hours and present the resulting project to faculty and sponsors
- Provides tours for KUEST visits with the goal of promoting the pursuit of engineering to marginalized youth in the Kansas City area

## HONORS & INVOLVEMENT

---

University of Kansas Dean's List

2016 – 2019

IHAWKe Exceptional Scholar

April 2019

Elizabeth M. Watkins Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Spring 2019

Society of Women Engineers

2016 – Present

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

2017 – Present

School of Engineering Ambassador

2019 – 2020