

Jonathan Vandenburg

**Graduation Year:** Senior

**College:** Science

**Major(s):** Mathematics

**Minors(s):** N/A

**Scholar Group Membership:** Sorin Scholars

**Did you received other funding for this project?:** Mark Behrens

**Could you have completed this project without CUSE funding?** Yes

**Project Title:** Young Topologists' Meeting Conference Attendance

**Project Location:** Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

**ND Faculty Mentor:** Mark Behrens

**Project Type:** Conference - Attendance

**Why did you undertake this project/experience?** Deepen your knowledge of a topic or issue, Research/experience necessary for senior thesis or capstone project, Prepare for graduate school (MA or PhD), Prepare for national fellowships, Career discernment and/or preparation, Internationalize your Notre Dame experience

**Did your funded experience help you:**

**[Deepen your understanding of your coursework or field of study]:** Very Much

**[Discern your interests and post-bac goals]:** Yes

**[Become confident in your ability to set and achieve your goals]:** Yes

**[Gain a more nuanced view of local, national, or global communities]:** Very Much

**[Improve your written and verbal communications skills]:** A Little

**Tell us about your experience.**

I spent the conference attending lectures, including mini-courses by Emily Riehl and Gunnar Carlsson, and networking with people in my field. I was able to learn a lot from Emily Riehl's lectures about higher category theory, and I really benefited from having the opportunity to discuss her work with her directly. Her work will serve as the foundation for my senior thesis project, so this was truly a remarkable opportunity. I was also able to meet a number of other students at various stages in their mathematical career, which fostered great intellectual discussions that helped guide my understanding of the subject. It also offered me the opportunity to compare the US model of math education with that of other countries, which was invaluable as a future professor in the increasingly international world.

**Describe the impact this project had, both on you as a student-scholar and on the people you worked with.**

This project gave me access to information and ideas directly relevant to my senior year research project and to my senior thesis. It helped me learn a lot about how the mathematical research community is organized at the international level, and showed me how productive and exciting such an international intellectual community can be. This also gave me the opportunity

