

UNDERGRADUATE VOICES:

A SNAPSHOT OF RESEARCH PERCEPTIONS AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES ON PARTICIPATION

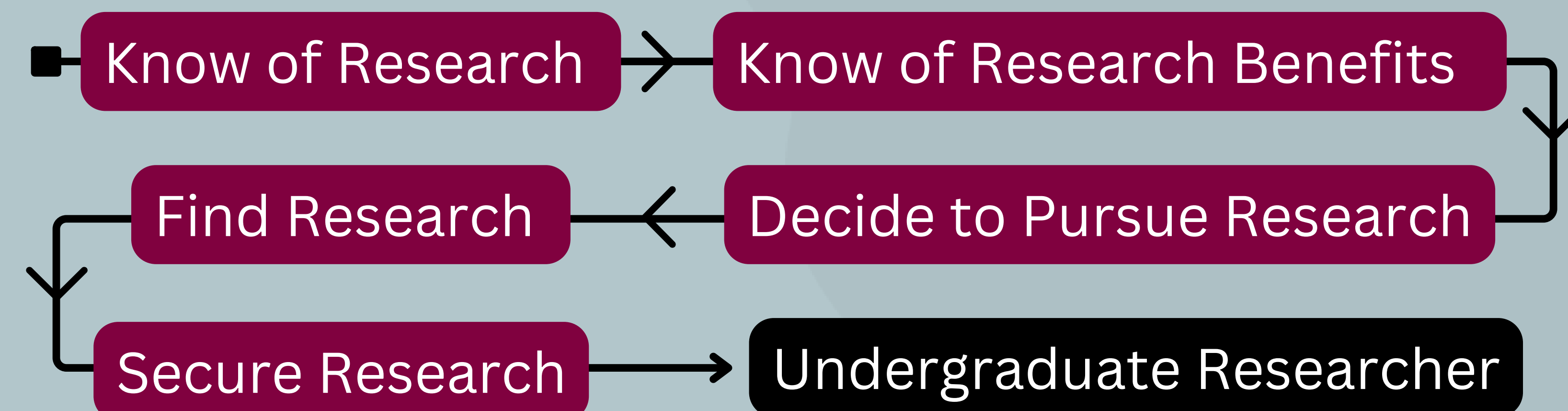
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INTRODUCTION

- Participation in undergraduate research influences underrepresented students to seek higher education degrees (Strayhorn, 2010)
- First-generation & Latinos were more aware of undergraduate research activities than expected (Rodriguez Amaya et al., 2018)
- High impact undergraduate research experiences are crucial to eliminate misconceptions (Rodriguez Amaya et al., 2018)

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

- "The path to becoming an undergraduate researcher"

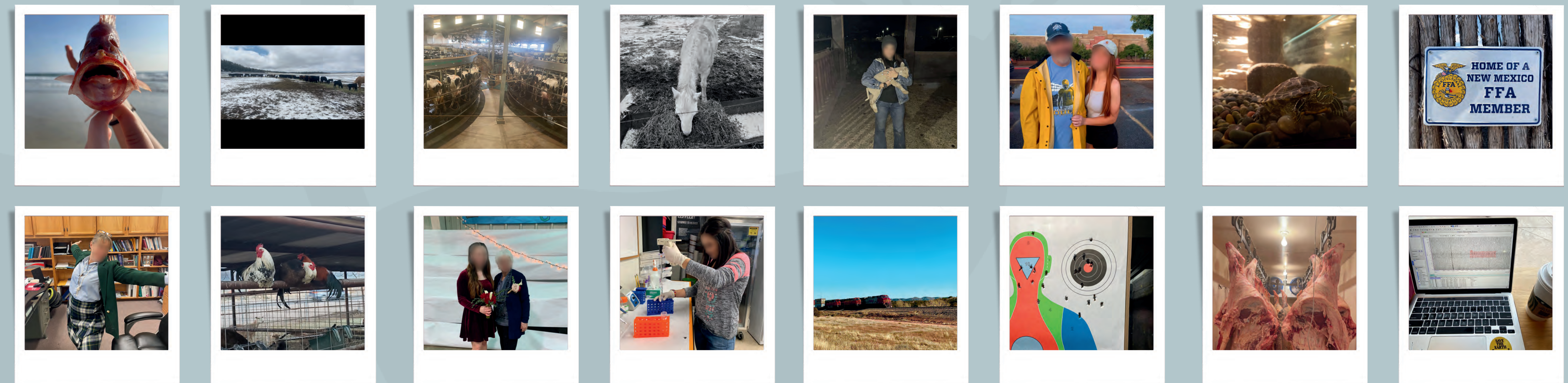


METHODS

- Photovoice with semi-structured interviews
- **Eight participants in underrepresented populations** completing research in AFNR
- Provided Prompts
 - **What inspired you to want to do research?**
 - **Why or how do you see yourself as a researcher?**
- Five photos per participant
- 40 images total
- In Vivo Coding

RESULTS

- 5 overall themes
- Perspectives of **research**
 - Foundational Moments
 - Systematic
 - Specific
- Perspectives of **cultural influences**
 - Family
 - Desire for exploration



*Faces and identifying portions removed for participant anonymity.

RESEARCH PARTICIPATION IS INFLUENCED BY COMPLEX FACTORS INCLUDING FAMILIAL SUPPORT AND PRIOR EXPOSURE.

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CONCLUSIONS

- Students have foundational moments that spur them towards a specific interest in research
- **Students are keeping a positive outlook on research and are interested in continuing research due to having a specific topic**
- Cultural influences such as family support and a desire to learn impact interest and participation

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Consider cultural influences and a student's path to research**
- Consider future research specific to ethnicity and race to develop personalized recruitment efforts

