

Dear Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Regional Honors Council Conference and Tampa, Florida!

Our goal in planning this year's conference was to offer attendees a schedule of quality academic and informative presentations while still embracing the fun spirit that has characterized the Southern regional conferences for the past 40 years.

Those who are attending the SRHC Conference for the first time are encouraged to attend sessions being offered for first-time attendees. Dr. John Zubizarreta of Columbia College will conduct the session for first time faculty/staff attendees, and our elected SRHC student representatives will conduct the session for first time student attendees. Both sessions will provide attendees with overviews of the conference and better understanding of the activities of this year's conference.

We hope you make the most of the conference and your stay in Tampa!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauren Furry". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Lauren Furry  
2012 Conference Chair  
Vice President



**Bob Buckhorn**  
Mayor

Greetings:

It is a pleasure to welcome all those attending the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Regional Honors Council conference held at the Hyatt Regency Tampa on March 30 – April 1, 2012. It is an honor to have been chosen to host this important conference with the theme “Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence in Honors,” and we appreciate the opportunity to showcase our city to each of you.

While you are here, I encourage you to experience our great city. A visit to our ever-growing downtown area, or the exciting Channelside and historic Ybor entertainment districts, will provide you with plenty to see and do. Whether it be relaxing at outdoor cafes, walking along the Riverwalk or taking a stroll along Bayshore Boulevard, it will be evident how much we have put into ensuring a safe and pleasurable environment for all. We encourage you to enjoy many of our attractions, including the Florida Aquarium, Busch Gardens and the Lowry Park Zoo. Of particular note are the new Tampa Bay History Center, Tampa Museum of Art, Glazer Children’s Museum, and Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park. These are state-of-the-art facilities honoring our community’s history and heritage – must sees for both visitors and residents.

Once again, welcome to our city and best wishes to each of you for a successful and memorable conference. We hope you have an enjoyable stay and return soon.

Sincerely,

Bob Buckhorn

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## Conference Sponsors

The 2012 Southern Regional Honors Council gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made by the following in support of our conference:



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# Conference at a Glance

## **Friday, March 30, 2012**

10:00am – 1:00pm	City as Text™
12:30pm – 9:00pm	Registration
12:30pm – 1:30pm	SRHC Executive Committee Meeting
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Student Moderator Meeting
2:00pm – 3:00pm	First-Time Student Attendees
2:00pm – 5:00pm	Consultants Center
2:00pm – 5:00pm	Expo
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Session A
3:15pm – 4:15pm	Session B
4:30pm – 5:30pm	Session C
4:30pm – 5:30pm	First-Time Faculty/Staff Attendees
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Welcome Reception
8:00pm – 10:00pm	Student Throwback Party

## **Saturday, March 31, 2012**

7:00am – 7:30am	Poster and Visual Art Exhibition Set up
7:30am – 8:30am	Breakfast and Poster Session and Visual Art Exhibition
7:30am – 3:30pm	Registration
8:30am – 9:30am	Session D
9:00am – 12:00pm	Consultants Center
9:00am – 12:00pm	Expo
9:45am – 10:45am	Session E
11:00am – 12:00pm	Session F
12:15pm – 1:45pm	Lunch and Keynote Speaker
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Consultants Center
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Expo
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Session G
3:15pm – 4:15pm	Session H
4:30pm – 5:30pm	SRHC Business Meeting
6:30pm – 8:30pm	Gala and Silent Auction at Glazers Children's Museum (Light Hors D'oeuvres & Cash Bar)

## **Sunday, April 1, 2012**

6:45am – 7:15am	Poster and Visual Art Exhibition Set up
7:15am – 8:15am	Breakfast and Poster and Visual Art Exhibition
8:15am – 12:00pm	Expo
8:15am – 9:15am	Session I
9:30am – 10:30am	Session J
10:45am – 11:45am	Session K
12:00pm – 1:30pm	SRHC Executive Committee Meeting

# General Information

## Registration

Conference packets for those who pre-registered are available at the Conference Registration Desk. The registration area will be open from 12:30pm to 9:00pm on Friday, March 30 and from 7:30am to 3:30pm on Saturday, March 31, 2012.

## Conference Badges

Conference attendees must wear their official conference badges to be admitted to all conference events, including scheduled meals, all sessions, the Welcome Reception, the Student Party, and the Saturday evening gala at the Glazers Children's Museum. Badges may not be transferred. Replacing badges will require an additional \$50 fee.

## Audio/Visual Equipment Policy

If you are making a presentation, we must ask you not to use any AV equipment without the conference chair's previously written authorization. We have provided the Hyatt Regency Tampa with a list of approved presentations and their AV needs. Please do not ask the Hyatt Regency staff to hook up or plug in any unauthorized AV equipment. Be aware that SRHC takes no responsibility for unauthorized or unapproved AV charges. SRHC will turn all such charges over to the presenters for full and prompt payments.

## New to Honors? New to the Conference?

You will find the conference program filled with practical and informative sessions, many of which are designed for, or merit the attention of, faculty, administrators, and students who are new to honors education and who may be first-time attendees to the SRHC Conference. In addition to the presentation sessions, we especially encourage you to attend the **Welcome Reception** on Friday from 6:00pm – 7:00pm. On Saturday, consider attending the **SRHC Annual Business Meeting** at 4:30pm. Throughout the day on Friday and Saturday, we invite you to take advantage of our **Consultants Center**, where experienced honors faculty and administrators are available for informal conversations on a wide variety of issues.

# Conference Features

## **City as Text™**

**(Professor Bobbie Harris and Dr. Kathy Lyon)**

Friday, March 30; 10:00pm – 1:00pm

City as Text™ is an active exploration of the conference city that introduces newcomers to multiple discussions of both exploration and the look and lore of a given city. Small groups armed with maps and assignments undertake a walkabout, a structured exploration of areas within the site that yields information and impressions to pursue further. The wrap-up session provides everyone with a complex collection of images pulled from the several destinations and encounters that will be reported to the entire group. City as Text™ serves well as a mixer and as a way to frame participants' experiences of the conference.

## **Consultants Center (Dr. Lydia Lyons)**

Friday, March 30; 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Saturday, March 31; 9:00am – 12:00pm and 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Always a conference favorite, the Consultants Center provides conference attendees the opportunity to speak with experienced honors deans, directors, and advisors in an informal setting. (See Appendix I for a complete schedule.)

## **Silent Auction (Dr. Valerie Burke)**

Saturday, March 31; 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Once again, SRHC will host a charity silent auction. All proceeds will be donated to the Africa International University ([www.aiufoundation.org](http://www.aiufoundation.org)) to support its initiatives of providing students with an exceptional education by accrediting the university's programs, through hiring exceptional teachers and staff, and by offering extracurricular activities and amenities that add value to the students' education experiences. Please deliver your auction items to Galleria B1 & 2, Friday, March 30; 12:30pm – 7:00pm.

## **SRHC Annual Business Meeting**

Saturday, March 31; 4:30pm – 5:30pm

## **Poster Sessions and Visual Art Exhibition**

Saturday, March 31; 7:30am – 8:30am and Sunday, April 1; 7:15am – 8:15am. Students, faculty, and professionals present and display original research in a visual format as well original art work. Exhibitors are from all academic disciplines and will be available to discuss their works and answer questions. (See Appendix II for a complete schedule.)

## **Gala at Glazers Children's Museum of Tampa**

Saturday, March 31; 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Plan to attend this event which will feature great food and live music from a six piece band. During the Gala, you will have the opportunity to view and bid on the Silent Auction.

## **Student Moderators (Dr. Jack Rhodes)**

Selected students will be moderating all General Sessions; See Appendix III for a complete list of the students and their colleges/universities.



**Welcome Reception**

Friday, March 30; 6:00pm – 7:00pm

The SRHC Executive Committee invites you to the opening reception.

**Please**



**Thank you!**

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Jullien Gordon**  
**CEO/PurposeFinder**



The son of two doctors, everyone expected Jullien Gordon to be some sort of super-doctor. Instead, he became a superhero who goes by the name of The PurposeFinder. As CEO of the Department of Motivated Vehicles, he spends his life helping individuals and organizations discover their purposes and create lifestyles and business models that allow them to make a living doing what they love. Some people call his work motivational speaking, life coaching or consulting, but Jullien says his life's work is helping people D.R.E.A.M. awake.

Jullien is also passionate about writing. He has published four books—*The 8 Cylinders of Success: How To Align your Personal and Professional Purpose*; *Good Excuse Goals: How to End Procrastination & Perfectionism Forever*; *The Innerview: Everything You Need To Know & Do Before Your Job Interview*; and *101 Things To Do Before You Graduate*. He blogs regularly at [www.JullienGordon.com](http://www.JullienGordon.com) on millennials, purpose, passions, and professional development.

In 2007, Jullien received two masters degrees from Stanford University—his MBA and Masters in Education—and in 2003, Jullien received his B.A. from UCLA in 3 years. Originally from Oakland, California, Jullien currently resides in Brooklyn, New York.

Jullien Gordon will be available for book signing during the expo on Saturday, March 31, 2012; 3:00pm-4:00pm.



# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## Friday, March 30, 2012; 10:00am – 2:00pm

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- 10:00am – 1:00pm      **City as Text™**  
Buccaneer A
- 12:30pm – 1:30pm      **SRHC Executive Committee Meeting**  
Ybor Room
- 12:30pm – 7:00pm**      **Silent Auction Drop Off**  
Galleria B1 & 2
- 12:30pm – 9:00pm**      **Conference Registration**  
Galleria B1 & 2
- 1:00pm – 2:00pm      **Student Moderator Meeting**  
Buccaneer A

## Friday, March 30, 2012; 2:00pm – 3:00pm

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### General Sessions A

- Garrison 2      **The Value of the Exit Interview**  
Exit interviews with graduating seniors can be a source of valuable information about Honors students and the Honors Program. I will describe some of what I've learned about my program: the good, the bad, and the ugly! I will also describe some of the valuable suggestions that have emerged from exit interviews.  
  
Presenter: Steven Elliott-Gower, Georgia College
- Garrison 2      **The Proof is in the Data: Research Shows Bright Students Benefit from Honors Programs**  
  
Is there any empirical evidence that Honors Programs actually provide a "better education" for bright students? Research-based studies on this subject are scarce, but they do exist. Biological and psychological studies such as those by McAllister, Stepanek, and Johnson have already told us that bright or gifted students' brains work differently from those of average students. In a normal classroom environment, the ability to grasp concepts more quickly often leaves gifted students bored, uninterested, and unmotivated; but more critically, these behaviors can lead to stagnation in learning and brain development. However, data-driven research demonstrates that honors programs not only promote intellectual growth, but also self-actualization and

psychosocial development by providing smaller, separate honors classes with like-minded peers, more challenging course materials, mentor programs that help to serve students' individual academic needs, research opportunities, leadership activities, and other methods of interdisciplinary learning.

Presenter: Kristina M. Kenny, The Citadel

Garrison 2      **Honors Program Students and Peer Tutoring: The Many Benefits**

The Academic Center for Excellence is a college tutoring facility that offers free, on-demand and group tutoring provided by students participating in the Chipola College's Honors Program. The Center provides a scholarly atmosphere where students can get assistance in courses ranging from basic algebra and writing to differential equations and humanities.

Presenter: Bonnie B. Smith, Chipola College

Buccaneer A      **Diabetes Type 1: Advances for the Artificial Pancreas**

I will examine how many advances medicine has made toward creating an artificial pancreas for Diabetes Type 1. Diabetes Type 1 is a lifelong chronic disease in which high levels of sugar are in the person's blood stream. In Type I Diabetics, the pancreas does not produce enough insulin to regulate the blood sugar level. The artificial pancreas project has almost hit its breakthrough that represents the first step of drastically improving the lives of millions of people with Type 1 Diabetes who would have an artificial pancreas: an automated system to disperse insulin based on real-time changes in blood sugar levels.

Presenter: Eric Scaglione,\* St. Petersburg College

Buccaneer A      **Primary Blade Plate Fusion for Unreconstructable Pilon Fractures: An Overview of Surgical Approaches**

I will review the research results of a series of primary blade plate fusion for unreconstructable pilon fracture procedures on patients at the Erlanger Health System. This retrospective cohort research involves interviewing patients, reviewing patients' histories and x-rays, and consulting peer-reviewed articles for comparison of methods and outcomes.

Presenter: Lauren Caradonna,\* Southern Adventist University

**Buccaneer A      Injury Prevention: Sport Specific Youth Workout Facilities**

My presentation is two-fold. First, I will summarize the existing knowledge about the needs of youth athletes. Emerging issues for youth athletes include sport-specific training and injury prevention. Second, I will explain how research is used as a framework for building the ideal youth-oriented personal training facility.

Presenter: Lisa Lubke,\* Radford University

**Buccaneer B      Reaching a Literary Climax: Writing a Good Sex Scene**

For my final Honors project, I wrote a novel, *Wrestling with God*. The novel explores one protagonist's struggle with religion and love as he becomes romantically involved with a Muslim paramour. As my main character is from the buckle of the Bible Belt, Haw River, North Carolina, he finds himself torn by a conflict of passion and culture—one that leads to his ultimate discovery of self. With all of the heavy religious, cultural, racial turmoil clearly present in the novel, why would I choose to focus on one measly sex scene? The answer is simple—the scene ain't measly. I will explore the importance of sex scenes in literature and differentiate literary sex from erotica. Secondly, I aim to give instructional advice on how to craft a sex scene of merit by observing the guidelines of Elizabeth Benedict's book *The Joy of Writing Sex*. Finally, by a short reading, I will demonstrate how I put many of these tenets into practice in my own novel.

Presenter: Spencer Bennington,\* Averett University

**Buccaneer B      Myth or Myth Understanding: the Evolution of Mathematical Topics Through Literature**

A body of literature has employed mathematical concepts since before the term "science fiction" was coined in the mid 19th century. Infinity, non-orientability, and sensitive dependence on initial conditions are three mathematical topics that have most frequently been used both significantly and

superficially in science fiction which raises the question as to just how accurate the employment of these subjects is. Literary publication timelines for each of the three topics help to understand better the relationship between the topics' mathematical evolution and their appearances in popular literature and other media. By inference, I will demonstrate that the growth of literature for a particular topic is influenced by historical events.

Presenter: Jessie Mayne,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer B

**Narcissism and the Strange Case for Homosexuality in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde***

*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* can serve as an allegory for homosexuality. Given the sexual dynamic between the two sides of one being, the relationship between Jekyll and Hyde can be interpreted as one fueled by narcissism, an ideology popular in the medical field of sexology. Narcissism, a desire of the self, was used at the time not only as a theory for, but as a defense of homosexual identity. Within this framework of attentive, medicolegal inquiry Stevenson's tragic work becomes an argument for the fair treatment of homosexual men in Victorian society.

Presenter: Colton Wilson,\* University of Louisville

Buccaneer D

**Muslim Feminine Political and Sexual Self-Discovery**

In recent times, much of what Americans see of the Middle East comes from one source: the media. Unfortunately, entire worldviews are created based on an acceptance or rejection of what is presented by the media. On the subject of Muslim femininity, this media view is especially brutal. Through literary research of the Muslim feminine political and sexual self-discovery, I will present an understanding of the Muslim woman based on the stories and the archetypes that are grounded through the course of the twentieth century and the ideals of Muslim femininity. My findings support a vast array of experiences that would greatly benefit the Western understanding of the Muslim woman and the Middle East in general.

Presenter: Brittany Edwardes,\* University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer D      **Conflict and Compromise: The Women’s Movement from Seneca Falls Convention to the Right to Vote**

In order to depict significant issues of the Women’s Movement beginning with the Seneca Falls Convention, I will adopt the personae of three women who have and continue to influence women’s roles in multiple facets of society.

Presenter: Katrina Kimble,\* University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer D      **Causes and Consequences of American Gender Stereotypes**

Gender stereotypes about traits and behaviors have created expectations for the roles of both sexes in the American workplace. These have, in particular, prevented the potential of women from being realized. However, the surprising fact is that although men and women are different biologically, there are really no gender differences!

Presenter: Monique Scroggins,\* Kentucky State University

Esplanade 2      **Counseling as a Resource in Honors Recruitment**

At Seminole State College of Florida, the Honors Institute has partnered with the counseling and advising department to identify potential honors students at a small satellite campus. We will lead an informal discussion, and we will highlight the benefits of interdepartmental collaboration and share successful recruitment strategies used at our two-year college.

Presenter: Debra Socci, Ph.D., Seminole State College  
Co-Presenter: Melissa Bork, Ed.M., Seminole State College

Esplanade 2      **Recruiting Through an Honors Scholarship Day**

Saint Leo University hosts an Honors Student Scholarship Day each spring. This day is sponsored by admissions and run by the Honors Program. Potential students compete in several categories, completing tasks assigned by faculty within those areas. The day concludes with a series of scholarships awarded on the spot. Join us for details on this event including examples of the competitions, the distribution, and acceptance of the scholarships from last year.

Presenter: Jacci White, Saint Leo University  
Co-Presenter: Patrick Crerand, Saint Leo University

Esplanade 3      **UV-Vis Analysis on the Mechanism of Sulfuric Acid-catalyzed Dehydration of 2-cyclohexen-1-ol**

I initially set out to analyze the kinetics of the acid-catalyzed dehydration of 2-cyclohexen-1-ol. This molecule, when undergoing an acid-catalyzed dehydration with 84.0% w/w sulfuric acid, was expected to follow a similar mechanism to that of the acid-catalyzed dehydration of cyclohexanol. Analysis using UV-Vis spectroscopy, however, showed that this was not necessarily the case. The key component in the UV-Vis spectrum of cyclohexanol, an allylic carbocation absorbing at about 300 nm, was not visible in the UV-Vis spectrum of 2-cyclohexen-1-ol. Instead, a strong absorbance at 380 nm indicated the immediate formation then decrease in concentration of a dienyllic carbocation, contradicting the proposed mechanism. The kinetics study then turned into a mechanism investigation. By varying the amounts of sulfuric acid and 2-cyclohexen-1-ol, further experiments lead to the proposal that the reaction was possibly working in a concerted E1 mechanism fashion, leading to the rapid formation of the dienyllic carbocation.

Presenter: Hans von Walter,\* Southern Adventist University

Esplanade 3      **Synthesis of Benzothiadiazine Sulfone Derivatives as Potential HHV-6 Inhibitors**

Human herpes virus 6 (HHV-6) can establish lifelong latency and become active again after initial infection in adults. HHV-6 is associated with the pathogenesis of multiple sclerosis, meningoencephalitis, progressive multifocal leukoencephalitis, and lymphocytic leukaemia; and in immunodeficient patients, HHV-6 can cause death. New drugs are needed that are active against HHV-6 and are not toxic if taken for long periods of time or in combination with other antivirals. In 2006, a report stated that certain arylsulfones inhibit HHV-6 in vitro. The benzothiadiazines that were created have very similar structure to the arylsulfones. The benzothiadiazines were produced by a multi-step synthesis route. Characterization of the compounds was carried out utilizing proton nuclear magnetic resonance, carbon magnetic resonance, and infrared spectroscopy, which all confirmed that the desired products were obtained. The benzothiadiazine derivatives that have been produced will be sent to our



collaborator for testing against HHV-6.

Presenter: Harry Reed,\* Augusta State University

Garrison 3      **Having the Courage to Climb Upon the Shoulders of Giants**

We will present the ways that reading great texts in the first course in the Program for Experienced Learners honors sequence History of Great Ideas builds student confidence leading to enhanced personal awareness. Some of the individual topics will be: establishing the wholeness of knowledge; engaging different ways of knowing; developing a confident personal ideology; achieving greater self-awareness; changing ideas through reading and discussing in a rigorous, but supportive environment.

Presenter: Catherine Griggs, Eckerd College

Co-Presenters: Heidi Decker,\* Janice Garren,  
Patricia Kane-Prescott,\* Karyn Leahy,\*  
Joelle Park,\* and Jennifer Shields,\*  
Eckerd College

Esplanade 1      **Addressing Math Anxiety**

Where does math anxiety come from? As a student, how can you reduce math anxiety? As an Instructor, how can I help my students feel more confident about math? I will introduce strategies for students and instructors that I have found help reduce math anxiety.

Presenter: Lauren McNamara,  
Hillsborough Community College

**Friday, March 30, 2012; 3:15pm – 4:15pm**

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**General Session B**

Buccaneer D      **Don't Just Occupy: Participate at the Local Level**

The Occupy Wall Street movement has spread both nationally and internationally. The Movement has been a powerful, critical force that has highlighted a number of fundamental problems in contemporary socioeconomic systems such as the widening gap between the bottom 99% and the top 1% in personal wealth in the United States. One of the interesting

aspects of the Occupy Movement is the lack of proposed legislative solutions. This lack has been spun both positively and negatively. On the one hand, Occupiers do not seem to have a solution to their problems; they just have a great deal of problems. On the other hand, Occupiers are remaining faithful to their claim that the wealthy control the legislators. I will examine the implications of this critical movement and provide a practical suggestion for making real, positive change starting at the local level. I will discuss the problems and solutions for practically introducing and organizing social reform.

Presenter: Edmund Semmes,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer D      **Watts Electrified: The Driving Forces Behind the 1965 Watts Riots**

The Watts riots of August 1965 had a devastating impact on the Los Angeles area, leaving thirty-four people dead, over a thousand people injured, and over \$40 million in damages. The riots were sparked because of mounting racial tensions between the police and Watts residents; however, these tensions were not the leading cause of the riots. Rather, the underlying causes were chiefly economic. Poor education systems, the lack of public transportation, limited health care facilities, and staggering unemployment rates were all driving forces behind the Watts eruption. The dilapidated living conditions of inner city Los Angeles particularly pushed people to their limits. My presentation is anchored in government documents such as the Kerner Report and the McCone Commission Report, as well as first-hand accounts of Los Angeles residents.

Presenter: Nathan Turner,\* Radford University

Buccaneer D      **Interpreting Rawls Second Principle of Justice**

In 1971, American political philosopher John Rawls published his magnum opus *a Theory of Justice*. On the heels of the Civil Rights Movement, reflective of their time, the principles Rawls proposal for his conception of a just society (specifically his second principle) are committed to the ideas of fairness, equality, and the benefit of those who are least advantaged, positions that are as politically relevant in 2012 as they were over forty years ago. I will examine Rawls' second principle of justice in detail, compare and contrast it to the ideas of Robert Nozick, a libertarian and Rawls' major ideological opponent,

and explain the relevance of these two theories of social justice to the concerns fueling the current political debates.

Presenter: Kyle Moore,\* Morehouse College

**Buccaneer A      Using LiveText to Assess Student Performance**

LiveText is web-based application designed to support student assessment for program improvement. Live Text provides students with performance-based assessments of their work for use both in school and after graduation. LiveText has been adopted by numerous universities including the University of Tampa for use in assessing student learning outcomes as required by SACS, AACSB and ABET accreditation agencies. The tool allows faculty, students and those assessing the students to view the students' work outcomes and measure the achievements of each programs' outcomes. I will discuss the use of LiveText in classes and focus on rubric creation to assess student work.

Presenter: Dr. Raymond Papp, University of Tampa

**Buccaneer A      Creative Curricula: Preparing Students for the Digital Age**

Rapid technological advancement in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has transformed the global workforce. Fierce, widespread competition requires highly skilled, creative thinkers who can adapt, innovate, problem solve, and produce. To promote creative thinking and best serve current students, educators across disciplines must re-design curricula.

Presenter: Dr. Stephen W. Lambert,  
Hillsborough Community College

**Buccaneer A      Improving Education in Hillsborough County, Florida**

Since Hillsborough County has received Race to the Top funding from the Gates Foundation, the district has been spinning its wheels to implement a plan for creating a community of more effective teachers. The district experienced a great start by identifying five ways to address challenges facing education today. I will analyze four of the five challenges: supportive leadership to teachers, innovative programs to reach today's students, measures for student performance, and national standards. I will establish a criteria for best practice; by process of elimination, I will determine the best plan of action.

Presenter: Faith Olinger,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 2      **A Test Between Two Self Theories of Cognitive Dissonance**

Versions of cognitive dissonance theory proposed by Elliot Aronson and Claude Steele make conflicting predictions when considering self-esteem. We asked participants varying in self-esteem to read a scenario in which a platonic friend (Chris) stood them up for a dinner date. To manipulate dissonance, Chris provided either sufficient justification for not showing up for the dinner (had a minor car accident) or insufficient justification (went out with a different friend). Consistent with the previous research, insufficient participants rated Chris significantly lower as a friend than sufficient participants. More importantly, contrary to Aronson's theory but in support of Steele's theory, lower self-esteem participants gave Chris significantly lower friend ratings than higher self-esteem participants. The data support Steele's theory that dissonance is provoked if and only if one's self-concept or self-image is threatened.

Presenter: Emily Trower,\* University of Central Arkansas  
Co-Presenter: Laralyn Thomas,\* University of Central Arkansas

Esplanade 2      **Addressing Mental Health Concerns in Honors**

Regardless of how academically talented honors students may be, they are still college students with all the same concerns as other college students. To address the alarmingly growing trend of college students with mental health concerns, I have developed and used several strategies for our honors students that I will share during my presentation.

Presenter: Angela Mick, Hillsborough Community College

Esplanade 3      **Our Annual Trip to Harvard**

University of Tampa students who, just over a month ago, were delegates representing the nation of Nicaragua at the fifty-eighth annual Harvard National Model United Nations will share the insights and experiences they have so recently gained. HNMUN brings together 3,000 university students from over 35 nations throughout the world in order to debate the most pressing issues that face the international community. As delegates we organized, researched, strategized, and honed our diplomatic and oratorical skills to represent successfully

our assigned country. We'll tell you how we did.

Presenter: Kaushal B. Vaddiraj,\* University of Tampa

Co-Presenters: Andrea Morris,\* Kristine Zambito,\*

Chanelle Cox,\* Dorothy Estrada,\*

Abraham Rahmanizadeh,\* University of Tampa

Buccaneer B

**Competing in a Global Economy: How Conflicting Accounting Standards Influence Profits and Progress**

Technical innovations allow for businesses from many nations to compete against one another not only for market share, but also for access to financing from creditors and investors. Accounting standards attempt to bring evaluators reliable, relevant, understandable, and comparable financial information so that informed investment decisions can be made. However, the existence of two prevalent yet opposing accounting standards inhibits information comparison on the global level. The United States' Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) clashes with the more widely spread International Financial Regulatory Standards (IFRS). Creating several inherent advantages and disadvantages depending on the implemented system, I will compare and contrast GAAP and IFRS in critical areas including inventory valuations, the expensing of research and development costs, and asset revaluations. Emphasis will be placed on the macroeconomic results of the United States' inevitable adoption of IFRS as well as the microeconomic consequences individual corporations face.

Presenter: Payton McVey,\* The Citadel

Buccaneer B

**Retaining Benefits from the Storms: Healing the Environment and Healing the Economy**

Defeating natural disasters that result in thousands of deaths and injuries, billions of dollars in property loss and damages, as well as causing untold damages to our fragile ecological system is an immediate imperative. In the last decade alone, hurricanes have devastated populations with more frequency and more raw power than ever before. Major floods are now an annual occurrence. A decade of insured losses from hurricanes and floods amounted to over \$750,000,000,000. The total of uninsured losses amounted to over \$1,000,000,000,000. Over 10,000 people lost their lives. Over 1,000,000 people suffered from related chronic injuries and illnesses. Nevertheless, the cost of damage to the environment

is incalculable. However, we can defeat these natural calamities. We can turn these forces of destruction into beneficial boons. I will report on research that will provide such proofs to educate, enlighten, and inspire action.

Presenter: Eric Bank,\* St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 1

**The Development of Women’s Culture and Media in Japan**

I will examine the dynamic gender roles attributed to women in Japan from the Meiji Period to the present day. In a matter of decades-especially beginning in the Meiji period-the roles of women have shifted from mother and wife to protestor to consumer. The new male roles of long working-hours and dedication to developing Japan after the war, forced the Japanese women into parallel development with men—defining their new roles in order to stay feminine as individuals in the new environment, with new expectations. The majority of these shifts in a Japanese woman’s status can be attributed to a combination of significant historical events and the rise of various cultures including: shojo culture, kawaii, culture, and consumer culture.

Presenter: Adria Schwarber,\* University of Louisville

Esplanade 1

**The Elegance of Refusal: The Role of “Coco” Chanel in the Rise of *La Femme Moderne***

In the early twentieth century, French society experienced an array of social and political changes. With the arrival of World War I, women became primary participants in French society. In this age of social and cultural upheaval, the issue of shifting gender roles became the preferred political weapon of feminists and fashion designers alike. Though many of these influential women participated in a variety of political and social arenas, none had the ability to unite the French female population as the famous fashion designer, Gabrielle “Coco” Chanel. She disregarded what society deemed proper for women and helped rebuild and rejuvenate the feminine image through fashion. She has been credited with designing some of the most influential, and sometimes controversial, fashions of her era and is widely recognized as one of the first female couturiers who influenced the rise of *la femme moderne*.

Presenter: Claire E. Burns,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Esplanade 1      **Daily Life in the Cloister**

My research focused on medieval, female monastics and the common elements that influenced their daily lifestyles. Nuns were not a static group; their lifestyles would vary depending on—for example—the social, political, and physical climates. I have identified the factors that remained most constant, which were generally influenced by the vows nuns took. Ultimately, nuns remained cloistered, spending time in prayer, work, and study, and honored the vow of poverty that was meant to determine their daily routines. However, due to the limited sources that lend insight into how the female religious lived, mainly two types of nuns are represented in the historical record: those who upheld their vows consistently and those who rebelled against those vows.

Presenter: Emily Calkins,\* Augusta State University

Buccaneer C      **Ideas for Honors Student Engagement**

Active student engagement is an essential ingredient for any successful honors program. The Honors Institute at Hillsborough Community College provides endless opportunities to encourage students to take initiative and ownership in their own honors experience. Our presentation will focus on the various ways to strengthen community among honors students. Join us for a discussion of what we have tried successfully—and sometimes not so successfully—to create that special Honors commitment.

Presenter: Sundus Alsharif,\*

Hillsborough Community College

Co-Presenters: Olivia Montefu,\* Brittany Connolly,\*

Hillsborough Community College

Buccaneer C      **NCHC Amazon Winterim Experience**

I will discuss my experience in the Amazon Winterim to Peru, which was sponsored by the National Collegiate Honors Council. The first half of the Winterim was based in the city of Iquitos, which is the largest urban center in the western Amazon. The remainder of the course was spent on the Amazon River and at the Madre Selva Biological Station, followed by a day and a half of wrap-up activities and project presentations in Iquitos. Our group studied the interaction between humans and the environment in this neo-tropical rainforest: we were able to conduct primary research on topics of our choice. My areas of interest included the trade of

herpetofauna and a comparison of soil composition and topsoil depths based on land use history.

Presenter: Derek Breakfield,\* Gardner-Webb University

Garrison 2

### **Dysautonomia – Exposing a Quiet Disease**

In the 19th century, people who experienced strange pains, weakness, dizziness, and fainting were considered to have rare conditions. At the time, physicians could not explain the origin of these symptoms and simply credited them to a weak nervous system or “neurasthenia.” Since then, scientists and biologists have been studying imbalances in the autonomic nervous system and have renamed this condition dysautonomia. I will discuss yesterday’s neurasthenia and today’s dysautonomia, the 21st century’s quiet disease.

Presenter: Amanda Vaughn,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: James Gardener,\*

Katrina Ward,\* Miles College

Garrison 2

### **“Mama - the Burger is Too Big” - The Effects of Hormones in Food Processing of Beef**

As the scientist and mathematician, Thomas Robert Malthus hypothesized, the exponential increase in human population would strain the environment by forcing it to feed more people. However, scientists later discovered hormones and their ability to mature items faster; especially in beef products. Driven by the need to feed the human population, today’s scientists use hormones to quickly mature cows so that they are meatier and larger than normal cows. In an effort to solve the problem of feeding the larger population, adding hormones to cows inadvertently creates a greater problem. Humans are consuming the hormone- filled beef and, as a result, are subject to the same effects as the cows. Children, most specifically, are of huge concern because they have very low levels of natural sex hormones; therefore, the slightest increase of growth hormones could potentially cause drastic outcomes such as early puberty for both boys and girls. Essentially, we as a population must monitor what hormones we consume and evaluate their effectiveness as well as their potential to cause harm.

Presenter: Talisa Cummings,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Tameron Edwards,\*

Aaron Ledet,\* Miles College



Garrison 2      **Lung Adenocarcinoma: The Effect of Smoke on Never Smokers**

Worldwide, lung cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer; the most common cause of lung cancer is cigarette smoke. Cigarette smoking accounts for roughly 90% of lung cancers in the United States; cigarettes contain more than 30 carcinogens. The risk of lung cancer increases by 30% when an individual is surrounded by second-hand smoke.

Adenocarcinoma is the most prevalent form of lung cancer in young males, women, never smokers, and former smokers. This subtype of lung cancer is located peripherally, usually less than 4 cm in size and will display puckering on a radiographic image. The correlation between lung adenocarcinoma in non-smokers and cigarette smoke is severe and present. A brief demonstration of statistics will be given during my presentation.

Presenter: Ashley Brickner,\* Armstrong Atlantic State University

Garrison 3      **The Honor of Professional Independence – What It Means, Why It is Important, and How to Achieve It**

Besides having the knowledge and expertise in the respective field, a professional worker needs to honor the code of ethics in the working environment. As one important aspect of professional ethics, independence is a valuable asset to all professionals in any field, especially for professions such as accounting, legal practice, medical practice, and public affairs. I will address the importance of independence in a professional setting by illustrating various examples, define professional independence by quoting regulatory professional standards, identify some of the threats to professional independence, and provide plausible solutions and advice on how to avoid compromising professional independence and integrity.

Presenter: Jingyang Yi,\* Wesleyan College

Garrison 3      **The Effectiveness of Multitasking**

I will examine the limitations of multitasking in various contexts. One theory is that executive control processes that supervise the execution of tasks are taxed to varying degrees during multitasking depending on the type of tasks and the person multitasking. One's working memory has been found to be the best predictor of successful multitasking. The more input required of the individual processing from working

memory and executive control, the less attention that can be dedicated to each task. In certain circumstances, multitasking has been shown to decrease productivity and increase probability of error. Ultimately, determining if multitasking is appropriate for given tasks depends on multiple, interacting variables.

Presenter: Jessie Stanion,\* Greenville Technical College

Garrison 3

**The Requirements for ‘Getting in the Zone’ and Experiencing Flow**

All of us experience what Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi calls flow, that sensation of everything just falling together at some point in our lives. When in this mindset, teams beat records and painters compose masterpieces. Csikszentmihalyi claims that for flow to occur certain factors must come together: clear goals, immediate feedback, challenge and skills in balance, action and awareness merge, the exclusion of distractions from consciousness, and the absence of worry of failure. When self-consciousness disappears, the sense of time is distorted; then, the activity becomes autotelic. However, I argue that two additional factors should be included: the need for outside support and the knowledge of the basics in the domain in which one is working.

Presenter: Kaitlyn (Katie) Green,\* Birmingham-Southern College

**General Sessions C**

Buccaneer B

**Enchanted Forest – Community Environmental Education and Service Learning**

The Enchanted Forest was a service learning project that was completed by students in Gardner-Webb honors course. The purpose of the project was to teach local elementary students about the animal inhabitants at the Broad River Greenway in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. The Enchanted Forest gave honors students the opportunity to change the way young, elementary school children think about nature and increase their knowledge of nocturnal animals in a creative and entertaining way.

Presenter: Alex Briggs,\* Gardner-Webb University

Co-Presenter: Amy Schmitt,\* Gardner-Webb University

**Buccaneer B      A Student’s Perspective to International Wilderness Used as a Classroom**

Experiential learning enriches the academic experience in numerous ways. I will explore David Kolb’s Experiential Learning Theory in the context of an international outdoor leadership course. The experiential learning cycle will be discussed within the framework of challenges faced when students are engaged in international study abroad experiences. The foundation of my presentation is based from my personal experience during a month long mountaineering course that was taught in the Highlands of the South American Andes. Specific outcomes of leadership development and cultural awareness were achieved through this experiential adventure.

Presenter: Quinn Roberts,\* Radford University

**Buccaneer B      The Case for Green Building and the Use of Sustainable Material in the United States**

I will look at matters arising from concerns for energy efficiency and “green building” in its many forms in the United States. Topics will include the rise of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) energy certification program, including its benefits and shortcomings; the EPA Energy Star program, geothermal technology, and financial advantages to photovoltaic cells and non-volatile organic compound (VOC) building materials. I will reference my recently published research paper “It’s Not Easy Bein’ Green: The Case for Sustainable Building in the United States,” in the University of Tampa’s Honors Program journal, *Respondez!*.

Presenter: Dorothy H. Estrada,\* University of Tampa

**Buccaneer A      Native American Astronomy at the Point Remove Mound Complex**

Artificial solstice markers are a common thread across many early civilizations. With the beginnings of early agriculture, the need to be able to predict the changes in season became an issue of utmost importance. Many Native American groups used artificial mounds to mark different astronomical events. Located southeast of Little Rock, Arizona, Toltec Mounds is a complex set of structures left by the area’s native people. Known to numerous astronomical alignments, The Point Remove mound complex (located outside Morrilton, Arkansas, also known as site 3CN4) is an archeological site that has been neglected over the years. The purpose of my

presentation is to report the result of my study of the Point Remove Mound site with emphasis on the features of astronomical significance. In addition to studying alignments within the site, the location of the mound complex will be studied with respect to other known complexes such as Toltec Mounds and Spiro Mounds in Oklahoma.

Presenter: Matthew Hankins,\* University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer A

**The Inner Light: A Comparison of George Fox and Margaret Fell's Views on Women's Equality**

To understand the underlying nature of gender equality, I will explore the comparison of Quaker founder George Fox and prominent early member, Margaret Fell-Fox. By examining historical contexts, theological dispositions, and social hierarchies, I will discern if the egalitarianism offered by the Quakers truly affirmed women in their unique gendered states. To accomplish my goal, I will give an historical overview of both figures and their hermeneutic principles. Authority expressed in psychosomatic unity is the key factor for ontological equality in the early development of Quaker spirituality.

Presenter: Hillary Leonard,\* Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer A

**Wine War Strategy: Cultural Identity and Military Movements in Relation to French Wine**

I will focus on the way that wine effects French culture, specifically the French's position during major international conflicts. First, I will explore the cultural importance of wine as explained through French culture. Second, I will look at major conflicts fought in France since the Revolution of 1789 and how wine played an important part in the strategy of the French and the other nations involved in that Revolution, the Franco-Prussian War, and World Wars I and II.

Presenter: Jay Prosser,\* Valdosta State University

Esplanade 3

**Collaborative Teaching Across the Disciplines**

Few tasks are more likely to rekindle dormant embers of enthusiasm, challenge the intellect, and heighten one's standards, than co-teaching a class with a colleague who specializes in a field quite different from one's own. Combining elements of one's own expertise with those of a colleague, often brings out the best in both the professors and

the students. Tales in academia are legion for the proposition that collaborative teaching across the disciplines yields myriad benefits which makes collaborative teaching worth the effort. We will describe our experiences co-teaching the psychology and the law courses. We will discuss the challenges which cross-disciplinary co-teaching presented for us, the strategies we employed, and the benefits we reaped. We will conclude that collaborative teaching across the disciplines is among the most rewarding of opportunities available in the teaching community.

Presenter: Dr. Jordan Camenker, Seminole State College

Co-Presenter: Prof. Doreen Collins-McHugh, Seminole State College

Esplanade 3

### **Discovering Birmingham: A City as Text™ Experience**

Using City as Text™, a pedagogy developed by Dr. Bernice Braid for the National Collegiate Honors Council, students explored 23 different neighborhoods of Birmingham, Alabama. This experiential learning assignment was integrated into an interdisciplinary course, “Knowledge and Ways of Knowing” that encouraged students to discover disparities between their preconceptions and reality. Through our presentation, we intend to convey the impact this activity had on the students’ outlooks on Birmingham as well as encourage other honors programs to implement similar activities into their curriculum in order to gain more holistic views of their surrounding communities.

Presenter: Deepa Etikala,\*

University of Alabama Birmingham

Co-Presenters: Morgan Fancher,\* Kevin Franks,\*

Aditi Jani,\* Kevin Shrestha,\*

University of Alabama, Birmingham

Esplanade 1

### **Honors Explorations—The World Beyond the Classroom**

Honors classes are known for the experiential learning component they often include. Whether it is a weekend, a week, a month, or a semester, incorporating a learning trip can add significant value to an honors seminar class. Our panel will discuss four different approaches to adding a travel exploration that takes learning beyond the classroom. We will describe the logistics, student learning outcomes, and the impact of honors seminar travel.

Presenter: Dr. Kate Bruce,  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
Co-Presenters: Dr. Bill Atwill, Kelsey Burnsed,\* Sterling  
Dallas,\* Lauren Posey,\* Abigail Shurtleff,\*  
University of North Carolina Wilmington

Esplanade 1      **Honors Student Association Opens Doors to International Studies**

As members of Gardner-Webb University Honors Student Association, we are provided countless opportunities for study abroad, international travel, and unique cultural experiences. In our presentation, we will explore a few of the most recent experiences that our honors students have encountered in Perugia, Paris, and numerous TSD's (Try Something Different) dinners.

Presenter: Tara Nichole Workman,\* Gardner-Webb University  
Co-Presenter: Elizabeth Covington,\* Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer C      **Pain, Pills, and Poems: What Literature Reveals About the Doctor's Role in Patient's Suffering**

Some people read texts; others read bodies, and only the best can effectively read people. To heal pain, one must interpret that pain; but interpretation by its very nature is intrusive. The reader dissects his subject, entering, exploring, and prodding for answers. I will delve into the function of suffering in the interpretive practice and the ways in which interpretation itself can be either a soothing or aggravating process for a patient. I will examine the doctor's entry into a patient's world as well as the differences between reading a disease and a person.

Presenter: Kristin (KiKi) Meyer,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer C      **Appropriate Therapies for Speech-Language Pathologists Treating Persons with Dementia Who Are Experiencing Grief**

I will examine proper therapeutic strategies that Speech-Language Pathologists can implement to treat patients with Dementia during the grieving process. Each of the five stages of grief developed by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross is unique and requires varied approaches. When receiving a diagnosis as severe as Dementia, or more specifically Alzheimer's disease, the clients and their family may experience grievance. Education about the five stages of grief and current, evidence-based methods of treatment for Dementia are necessary for Speech-Language Pathologists to be successful in therapy. Finally,

knowledge about the disease's etiology is also imperative for the patient, family, and speech therapist for positive outcomes.

Presenter: Annamarie Decker,\* Valdosta State University

Buccaneer C

### **Women's Awareness of Birthing Options**

Reducing maternal trauma is a goal of many interventions during labor and delivery and has been addressed in various studies. There is increasing evidence against the routine use of episiotomy in order to reduce maternal trauma. However, routine episiotomies are still being performed at alarmingly high rates. In contrast, nonpharmacological interventions of changing positions and perineal massages have shown positive impacts on reducing maternal trauma. Many physicians will not address these options with women unless they are asked directly, yet many women are never made aware of these options. I will answer the following question: Will women on college campuses have increased awareness regarding episiotomy, birthing positions, and perineal massage, as well as increased confidence to communicate with their healthcare providers about these birthing options after being provided with brief flyers by nursing students?

Presenter: AmberKay Palmer,\* Armstrong Atlantic State University

Esplanade 2

### **Cult or Classic?**

I will examine research conducted throughout the past year on cults and their effect on today's population, with a focus on Scientology and its influence on university campuses. Using a synthesized definition of destructive cults and their influence on young adults through mind control will be considered. Destructive cults and their strategies for avoiding the influence of cultic groups on college campuses will be exemplified in some examples of Scientology. My presentation is important for Honors students whose pursuit for excellence may lead many to join potentially destructive groups.

Presenter: Rebecca Vaclav,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 2

### **Guns on College Campuses in Georgia**

Members of the Georgia Assembly, along with House and Senate representatives in eighteen states, are expected to re-introduce legislation in 2012 that would allow students and

professors to carry guns onto the campuses of public universities and community colleges. Following the university systems of Wisconsin, Mississippi, Utah, and Oregon, the University System of Georgia may soon be forced to adopt policies that allow handguns in classrooms. I will analyze roll call votes on gun legislation in the Georgia Assembly from 2009 – 2011 and contributions members received from special interest groups. I will explain the investigation of the demographic and political predictors of legislative support for gun legislation.

Presenter: S. Kathryn Grant,\* Valdosta State University

**Buccaneer D      Honors Identity and the Wider Community**

Our presentation explores how we were able to develop a stronger honors identity among the students in our young program and how we created a project that contributed to enhance the cultural life of our small college, while affirming the Honors Program's visibility on campus.

Presenter: Ericka Hincke,\* Mars Hill College  
Co-Presenters: Drew Rohskopf,\* Mars Hill College  
Leah Taylor,\* Mars Hill College

**Buccaneer D      Student to Student: Community Building in Honors**

Student organizations within Honors Programs can benefit the students in the programs by helping to create a sense of community and to encourage participation and retention. We will share ideas that we have used and that have added to the success of the Honors Institute at Hillsborough Community College.

Presenter: Shawn Kelley,\* Hillsborough Community College  
Co-Presenter: Analise Griffith,\* Fatema Rahman,\*  
James Streeter,\*  
Hillsborough Community College

**Buccaneer D      HCC: Leadership Training**

At Hillsborough Community College, all Honors students must complete the Honors Leadership Course. The course focuses on the various elements of leadership, as well as on the exploration of personality and values, etiquette, professional business skills, creativity, and critical thinking. A major component of this course is the service



learning project created, organized, and carried out by small groups of students working together. Throughout the course, an emphasis is on ethics and responsibility.

Presenter: Karen Linsky, Hillsborough Community College  
Co-Presenter: Dustin Lemke, Hillsborough Community College

Garrison 2

**Reading between the Lines: Advantages and Difficulties of Managing a Student Publication**

As editors of publications both created and read by our own peers, we have discovered some advantages and difficulties surrounding college publications both in print and online. Our panel will consist of representatives from four diverse undergraduate publications – *The Criterion*, *Sanctuary*, *Inquiro*, and *The Post Script* – at two institutions of different sizes and demographic populations: Columbia College and University of Alabama at Birmingham. Our panel will discuss the benefits and hardships of maintaining college publications such as literary magazines, online newspapers, and scientific journals.

Presenter: Keelan Fagan,\* Columbia College  
Co-Presenter: Chantel Lucas,\* Ashley Jones,\*  
Michelle Chang,\* Rachael Rosales,\*  
Miranda Collier,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

**Saturday, March 31, 2012; 8:30am – 9:30am**

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**General Sessions D**

Buccaneer D

**The Economic Impact of 911 on the US Economy: A Decade Reflection**

Over ten years have passed since the al-Qaida attacks of 9/11 on American soil. Although a decade is an unsatisfactory period for most historians comfortably to draw firm conclusions about anything: domestically, we have seen major changes in our lives. To the color-coded terrorist warning system, our current airport controls, and other paranoia, terrorism is not designed to overwhelm but to weaken. In that context, whatever terrorism does to cause or initiate anxiety in targeted populations and governments, it relies on the reaction of those populations and governments equally to achieve the terrorists' final goals. We will specifically examine several facets of the US economy, noting the impacts that the attacks

may or may not have had on our economy. We will highlight the US economy's resilience despite the disastrous terrorists' attacks.

Presenter: Naura Guillaume,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Kieth Caudle,\*

Shanice Butts,\* Miles College

Buccaneer D

### **China's Impact in Sub-Saharan Africa**

China's economic ascendance over the past two decades has generated ripple effects in the world's economy. Its consistent search for natural resources to satisfy the demands of industrialization has led China's leaders to Sub-Saharan Africa. Trade between China and Africa in 2006 totaled more than \$50 billion, with Chinese companies importing oil from Angola and Sudan, timber from Central Africa, and copper from Zambia. China's demand contributed an upward swing in price in oil and metal from the Sub-Sahara. China's aid and investment in the Sub-Saharan Africa's infrastructure has brought much needed help to that part of the continent desperately in need of capital. China presents both an opportunity for Africa to reduce its marginalization from the global economy and a challenge for it to harness effectively the influx of resources to promote economic development at home.

Presenter: Quintin Land,\* Miles College

Co-Presenter: Rashad Rivers,\* Miles College

Buccaneer D

### **The International Marriage Market**

While "mail-order marriages" are often mistaken for fraud and abuse, mail-order marriages could also be a search of respect for both the women and men. However, values of respect are manifested in egalitarian for women and patriarchy for men. This exploiter/exploited conflict occurs in global capitalism as well. I posit that the patriarchy in international marriages mirrors global capitalism. Filipina women who in part marry American men to increase their financial stability and transform their status often realize that the Philippines support international migration in order to receive remittances from their Filipino wives and workers to support their economy. The underdevelopment of the Philippines, which is caused by power inequalities and the global economy, also fuels power inequalities between the sexes. Thus, the international marriage market is responding to state and gender stratification.

Presenter: Kathy Hill,\* University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer A      **Oviposition Preference for *Danaus Plexippus***

The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) is under threat, in part because the habitat for spring migratory monarchs on which to lay their eggs, the milkweed family is disappearing. The knowledge of which species of milkweed monarch butterfly prefers, and consequently the introduction of those specific species into milkweed-depleted areas, could drastically increase monarch butterfly populations. I will report my study of the ovipositioning behavior of female monarchs to determine milkweed species preference when a monarch is presented with a mixed stand of four milkweed species, two native and two non-natives to the Georgia Piedmont Region..

Presenter: Rebecca Holcomb,\* Macon State College

Buccaneer A      **Stress Levels in Eastern Screech Owls Kept in Various Captive Situations**

Stress causes similar hormone-mediated reactions in vertebrates. Hormone assays, especially for birds and mammals, are now available and have been used to detect acute stress in both the field and in captive situations. Particularly for birds, human handling has been shown to induce acute stress, especially in recently acquired birds. Chronic stress can be caused by frustration from inability to exhibit migration and mating behaviors in captive situations because the birds cannot participate in activities normal for their species' life history. Testing for stress was previously a difficult task due to the quick response of the animal's body when handled for drawing blood. I will explain a noninvasive process developed for monitoring stress that could allow better care of animals by institutions, hobbyists, and others especially if it were made commercially available. The process uses corticosterone levels retrieved from feces and analyzed using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). I will report the testing of the Eastern Screech Owls, *Otis asio*, in various captive situations on a seasonal basis over the course of a full year to assess their stress levels.

Presenter: Ashley Bateman,\* Winthrop University

Buccaneer A      **Don't Eat Your Friends**

I will discuss shark finning and the various harmful side effects that are part of the process. I will analyze the process,

legislation and education concerning shark finning and will provide a more complete understanding of a relatively underrepresented problem affecting shark life. I will provide insight supporting views against the act of shark finning globally.

Presenter: Tawsha Creason,\* University of Tampa

**Buccaneer B      **Honors in Yellowstone: Bears, Wolves, Bison, and Beyond****

According to Mardy Murie, “Wilderness itself is the basis of all our civilization.” The wilds, natural wonders, and quaint towns in and around Yellowstone National Park set the backdrop for an inspirational, interdisciplinary honors course. Our presentation will focus on the key components of the course and development of the honors student.

Presenter: Catherine Daniels,\* Longwood University  
Co-Presenter: Amber Hare,\* Longwood University

**Buccaneer B      **Academic Adventure and Exploration in Our National Parks****

Partners in the Parks (PITP) is a cooperative academic adventure program between the National Park Service and the National Collegiate Honors Council where students from many different colleges and universities spend a week camping and exploring a National Park. I will discuss student immersion, student research, and the management strategies the National Park Service use to preserve the integrity of our precious natural and cultural resources. I will share through video and photography, students’ perceptions of the National Parks as well as the benefits of interdisciplinary field study.

Presenter: Dr. Bill Atwill,  
University of North Carolina Wilmington

**Esplanade 3      **It Takes a Village: Fostering Community and Identity Among First-year Honors Students****

From a three-day retreat to a living-learning residence hall, the Cormier Honors College at Longwood University has developed a successful first-year experience. We will explore our model as a case study for developing citizen leadership, responsibility and, most importantly, a tight-knit community among first-year Honors students.

Presenter: Catherine Daniels,\* Longwood University  
Co-Presenter: John Blalock,\* Longwood University

Esplanade 3

### **Getting Your Geek On**

As summer orientation leaders for Honors students, we have recognized that new students bring their own unique sets of anxieties and apprehensions about college. Through our experience, we have learned just how to have them break out of their shells and help them attain confidence about their upcoming academic and social lives. Come learn how to help your honors students let go of their concerns and gain excitement about jumping into college life. We will review common anxieties and concerns of first-year honors students, and then explain how to help them overcome their fears to better their overall college experience.

Presenter: Shelby Lawson,\* University of Louisville  
Co-Presenter: Evan Shepherd,\* Abby Head, University of Louisville

Garrison 2

### **Framing the Drama: The Narrator in Thornton Wilder's *Our Town***

I will give a brief summary of the American classic drama *Our Town* and explain its importance as a theatrical production. A discussion and analysis of the meaning of the play will follow. To give a sense of the play's meaning, I will perform the opening monologue of the third act in the character of the Stage Manager. This play, perhaps more than others, connects the theatre and the arts to everyday life.

Presenter: Tim Bourn,\* University of Tampa

Garrison 2

### **Ballet Lives: How Society Relates to *The Firebird***

Folklore is performative rather than textual. When compared to authors' relationships to the readers who silently buy and read their works, mythology in its original oral context is much more interactive. Even though dance, especially ballet, has grown more popular through time; its original connection to folklore has not diminished. Indeed, even while abstract ballets have grown popular, folkloric ballets continue to supply cultures worldwide with unconscious insights into the world of dreams and fairy tales. I will apply Jungian analysis to Stravinsky and Balanchine's *The Firebird*, as well as the Russian folk tale on which it is based, *King Ivan and the Grey Wolf*, in order to

demonstrate that ballet, like dreams and fairy tales, can provide a primal conduit to the collective unconsciousness.

Presenter: Eliene Epperson,\* Macon State College

Garrison 2

**Literature Permutations: Traditional Literary Forms as Digital Narratives**

I will argue that video games should be recognized as an artistic medium with merit equal to that of painting, writing, or performing arts. The argument is segmented into two parts, the first part being an examination of the multifaceted nature of the medium, locating the “intertextual” influences by other artists, and realizing the cultural and communal impacts of the medium. The second part serves to highlight the difference between “medium” of art and the form itself, a medium being the means of communication; while literature, graphic, performance art is what is being. I argue that video games, while their own unique artistic medium, should be included in the artistic category of literature. To explain further, Alexander Dumas’ *The Three Musketeers* remains literature whether it is in print or an audio book. The medium changes; the genre does not.

Presenter: Edward A. Szeman,\* Winthrop University

Esplanade 2

**Varied, Manifold, and Inconsistent Beings: The Philosophy of Giovanni Pico della Mirandola**

My analysis will cover the philosophical evolution of early Renaissance philosopher Giovanni Pico’s Humanist ideas over his short life. Though largely unknown, especially when compared to the heights of fame reached by Erasmus or Sir Thomas More, Giovanni Pico, nevertheless, played a vital role in the development of the early Renaissance Humanist philosophy.

Presenter: Michael Page,\* Armstrong Atlantic State University

Esplanade 2

**Collapse of the Chacoan Empire: Factors of Complexity and Their Modern-Day Implications**

Existing from about 600 A.D. to 1150 A.D., the Anasazi civilization in the Chaco Canyon area in what is now northwestern New Mexico was remarkable in terms of its scope and organization. Utilizing political-agrarian hierarchies

and advanced water gathering techniques, the citizens were able to grow and sustain an incredible people and unique culture in the middle of the harsh deserts of the American Southwest. I will discuss the techniques used by these people in order to allow their civilization to prosper, the growing factors of societal complexity that eventually led to the empire's collapse, and the modern day implications this case-study might generate when looking at the systems that support our own society and the high standard of living that the twenty-first century world has constructed and consistently reinforced.

Presenter: Andrew Lloyd Wisecarver,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Esplanade 2

### **A Document Analysis on St. Benedict's Rule**

In the 6th century, the ideals of Western Civilization were on the verge of obsolescence. Only one institution remained after the Fall of Rome: the Roman Catholic Church. The survival of Western culture was in the hands of the Catholic Church, which itself needed better unity and standardization. These ideas were realized in part by St. Benedict who wrote a code of rules for monastic Catholicism. St. Benedict's Rule not only was widely recognized as a standard for medieval monasteries, but also inspired the Roman Catholic Church as a whole. I will examine and stress the importance of St. Benedict's Rule for the continuation of Western culture during the Medieval Era and its impact on the world today.

Presenter: Delton Barnes,\* Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer C

### **The Mathematics of Poetry**

People tend to think of language arts and mathematics as being opposites, but this distinction is misleading. I will describe ways in which words and numbers act similarly. The overlap is most clear in poetry because it is a form of literature that relies upon patterns. These patterns exist not only in defining the meter and form of the poem, but also in the use of imagery and metaphors. I will discuss examples showing that poetry, particularly Renaissance era metaphysical poetry, follows logical rules in much the same way that mathematics do. I argue that to divide mathematical and logical thought from creative and literary method is to decrease the range and potential of both.

Presenter: Magdalena J. Teske,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer C      **Finding Closure in Two of Shakespeare’s and Milton’s Sonnets**

John Milton’s “On the Late Massacre in Piedmont” and William Shakespeare’s “Sonnet XII” share the theme of finding closure or solution to an event or problem that has caused passionate unhappiness or resentment. I will explore how the two sonnets with thoroughly different subject matter can achieve the same reaction from their audience. Although these sonnets share a common finality, they vary in concept, form, and the use of symbolism and imagery. Accordingly, these dissimilarities cause the sonnets to reach their respective closure or solution in strikingly different ways.

Presenter: Brian Kaylor,\* Limestone College

Buccaneer C      **Women as Partners in *The Odyssey* and *The Aeneid***

Women, whether mortal or immortal, serve as many types of partners in *The Odyssey* and *The Aeneid*: some playing positive roles and others negative ones. Each partnership between the heroes and the women form the majority of the epics. I will discuss women whose actions are vital in shaping the journeys of Odysseus and Aeneas. Every partnership between the heroes and the women they meet is central to the development of each story, and each partnership also gives the reader insight to the heroes.

Presenter: Erica Garcia,\* Valdosta State University

Esplanade 1      **Honors Development: Prospecting for Gifts through Strategic Planning**

An Honors College Dean and Foundation Development Officer will share their perspectives on Honors development. Issues that will be discussed include our annual giving campaign and our development efforts with regard to the identification, cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of donors.

Presenter: Dr. Alvin Wang, University of Central Florida  
Co-Presenter: Bridget Holt, University of Central Florida



**General Sessions E**

**Garrison 2      Selected Topics Course in Honors**

Selected topics courses can be an important part of an honors curriculum. These courses allow students to explore particular topics, provide seminar-type environments, and form a bridge to upper division courses. We will discuss designing and teaching selected topics courses using examples from sociology and history courses at the Honors Institute of Hillsborough Community College.

Presenter: Dr. John Ball, Hillsborough Community College

Co-Presenter: Dr. Susan Hoerbelt,  
Hillsborough Community College

**Buccaneer C      A Game of Stags: Mathematics, Ethics, and Game Theory Applied to Economics**

My presentation is an interdisciplinary venture into the world of economics. Drawing from aspects of both ethics and game theory, I will explore a new paradigm regarding consumer activities. These activities can be described using the classic “stag hunt” analogy, whose various solutions can be universalized with rule consequentialism to model both the current economic downturn and possible solutions to the global recession. Proposed solutions will focus on bringing the currently unbalanced dichotomy of “stag vs. hare” choices into a new dynamic equilibrium that accounts for changes in both supply and demand.

Presenter: Matthew Hankins,\* University of Central Arkansas

**Buccaneer C      Deforestation in the Ecuadorian Amazon: a Cost-Benefit Analysis**

Ecuador loses nearly 2% of its natural forest cover to deforestation each year, a total reaching 198,000 hectares lost from 2005 to 2010. This deforestation is of concern because the Amazon region is the most biodiverse place on Earth. Various programs at the national and community level have attempted to slow the process or reforest, but the question remains: why do people cut down trees? What are the economic incentives that drive deforestation in Ecuador’s Amazon? A cost-benefit analysis will attempt to answer these

questions from an economic perspective.

Presenter: Katelin Adams,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer D      **The Pastel Study: Communicating Sexuality and Promiscuity in Late Nineteenth-Century Paris**

The eminent presence of prostitution and consequential iconography of female sexuality in late nineteenth-century Paris defined the world of French Bohemia and seeped into the artistic exchange of the era. Although holding a traditionally subsidiary position to oil painting, the pastel medium prevailed in communicating the sexuality, sensuality, and promiscuity of the sinful female in Paris at the close of the nineteenth-century. Prominent artists in the nightlife milieu such as Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Edgar Degas and their pastel works revolving around the theme of prostitution serve as key illustrations of the distinctive ability of the ephemeral medium to capture the mood and personality and, therefore, the sensual quintessence of its subject.

Presenter: Adele Benartzy,\* University of Central Florida

Buccaneer D      **Walking in the Artist's Shoes: Teaching Myself How to Paint Like an Impressionist**

Impressionism is one of the most influential and radical artistic movements to appear since the Renaissance. Today, Impressionist artists are revered for their works; however, during the height of Impressionism, many in society saw this artistic style as repulsive. Many new painting techniques developed throughout the movement. I explored this artistic revolution by teaching myself the same techniques the Impressionists used and incorporating them in my own works of art. I will explain how I painted each work and which techniques I used. I will, then, draw comparisons from my paintings to particular artists within the Impressionism and Post-Impressionist movements.

Presenter: Ryan DeMarco,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer D      **Your Brain on Design: A Look into the Psychological Power of Design**

We will explore the field of environmental design specifically focusing on the psychological aspects of interior and graphic design. We will examine aspects of visual perception and brain information processing to explain the effects of

particular design features have on us at a psychological level. We will also examine design aspects of the re-emergent feng shui. By considering the subconscious power of design, we will investigate the reasons why certain design elements appeal to people and also analyze how these features affect behavior.

Presenter: Sarita Wagle,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenter: Greg Gabbert,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer B

**Risk and Resilience in Louisville: Resilient Families Project at Wayside Christian Mission**

Pioneered by Dr. Lora Haynes and Dr. Barbara Burns of the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville, Resilient Families Project (RFP) integrates critical thinking skills while supporting at-risk families in Louisville, Kentucky. The RFP, provides educational experiences and a sense of community/caring for families residing at Wayside Christian Mission's Hotel Louisville and homeless shelters. RFP involves a three-part weekly program serving approximately 100 family members. The one-hour parent-child learning session provides a structured learning forum for families to strengthen reading and engage in shared learning activities. The two-hour child/adolescent learning/enrichment session involves art, reading, homework/tutoring, and music/dancing which are all aimed at promoting school-readiness and social/emotional development for the participants. The two-hour parenting session, an evidence-based program developed for high-risk families, which involves an educational component to strengthen parenting, improve stress/anger management, promote healthy discipline strategies, and support goal-setting and self-esteem.

Presenter: Morgan Blair,\* University of Louisville

Buccaneer B

**Canoeing for a Cause**

The Gardner-Webb University Honors Student Association has made it a tradition to travel to the New River in North Carolina for the annual Big Sweep. Our group was assigned two, 4-6 mile stretches of the river which we divided among ourselves. As we canoed, the members of the GWU HSA picked various pieces of trash and debris out of the river and off the river bank. This debris included numerous old tires, particles of plastic, many metal items, and random items such

as an old computer and a “shake and bake meth lab.” All the while, we had the opportunity to bond as a group for the first time since the new school year began. Not only did the group pick up valuable knowledge about camping and the outdoors, but we were also able to have a meaningful and lasting impact on the environment and the community surrounding the New River.

Presenter: Ellen Huneycutt,\* Gardner-Webb University  
Co-Presenters: Sarah Venn,\* Samantha Allen,\*  
Gardner-Webb University

Esplanade 3

**Minister of Movies: Goebbels and the Nazi Film Industry, 1933-1945**

Since his death in 1945, Dr. Joseph Goebbels’ control over the German film industry has been the subject of academic and popular media debate. An avid film aficionado, the Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda believed the new and developing medium was the ideal tool to spread the Party’s message. Through exploring Goebbels’s involvement in the Nazi film industry, independent analysis of the films themselves along with a study of original material including a translation of Goebbels’ diaries assisted in identification of the Reich Minister’s lingering influence. While the Goebbels, touch is more covert in the popular media films examined than it is in the more famous Nazi documentaries, his ideological messages are cleverly interwoven into the themes, plots, dialogue, and imagery. So deeply were these techniques ingrained in the films of the era that they resulted in a cinematic style, which continues into modern German filmmaking.

Presenter: Allison Raper,\* Winthrop University

Esplanade 3

**Suffering and Salvation in the Isenheim Altarpiece**

In 1515, Mathias Grünewald unveiled an uncommonly powerful altarpiece for the monks of the Monastery of Saint Anthony, in Isenheim. Created in a region beset with the plague, the Isenheim Altarpiece depicted scenes of brutal torture, pain, and grief coupled with images of sweetness, grace, and tenderness. The Antonite Monks devoted themselves to patients suffering from debilitating diseases like ergotism. My research explored image juxtaposition and sixteenth century mysticism combined in a work of paint on wood that uniquely connected with people of the age. Grünewald drew heavily from popular personal devotions

such as the andachtsbilder and writings of Saint Bridget of Sweden. By intentionally including images of exquisite salvation juxtaposed to those of inexplicable suffering, the Isenheim Altarpiece promised the patients ultimate release from their afflictions. Largely forgotten for an age, this against the norm artifact is now regarded by many as the masterwork of German religious painting.

Presenter: Allison Raper,\* Winthrop University

Esplanade 3

**Fiery Maid, Broken Land: Dreyer's Passion of Joan of Arc**

In the midst of the Roaring Twenties, France still felt the scars of the First World War. The conflict had brought the deaths of over a million men in combat. The French countryside lay wasted. In 1927, the *Société Général des Films* commissioned innovative Dane director Carl Theodor Dreyer to make a film about a French nationalist heroine. Instead of the epic costumed drama the *Société* expected, Dreyer created *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, an intimate portrayal of a persecuted young woman's final days. My research examined how Dreyer drew from the atmosphere of suffering that dominated Europe during the 1920s in his depiction of Joan's trial and execution. Breaking away from the image of a girl in shining armor, Dreyer's brutally realistic masterpiece captured the mood not only of Joan's final days but also of a nation still reeling from the horrors of the Great War.

Presenter: Allison Raper,\* Winthrop University

Buccaneer A

**Preserving American Democracy: A Study of Voter Participation in St. Petersburg, Florida**

Voter participation across the entire United States has decreased over the past decades, but why? More importantly, how can we reverse this trend? My study will look at this issue from a local perspective by evaluating eligible voters in St. Petersburg, Florida and the St. Petersburg College community. I considered the factors: statistical data about St. Petersburg voters, qualified interviews, and surveys that detail voter motives. My study offers at least one viable way to improve voter participation in the St. Petersburg, Florida and the St. Petersburg College community.

Presenter: Shaneka Langhorne,\* St. Petersburg College

Buccaneer A     **Honors and the Presidency: Experiencing the National Political Conventions**

I will focus on how honors students can be part of either the Democratic or Republican national conventions through study and fieldwork in unique two-week programs in Charlotte, North Carolina or Tampa, Florida. My discussion will include potential speakers, activities, and volunteer positions that will occur. Come and learn how to be part of history in the making.

Presenter:     Tony Cerise, The Washington Center for  
                         Interships and Academic Seminars

Buccaneer A     **Brick by Brick: How to Make a Functioning Foundation for Your Honors Council**

We will focus on specific ways to develop a functioning structure for honors council, both within meetings as well as the individual responsibilities of the members. We will give an overview of the structural evolution of our council in the recent past and the benefits that are coming from this restructuring. These benefits include effective time management and flow of meetings that have helped to enhance the honors experience by the creation of more student events. These events include activities that are based on service, fundraising, and socials. In order to accomplish such events, we have begun to place more responsibility on individuals in the council with the committee to be there for support and brainstorming. We hope that through our presentation, students will be able to walk away with new ideas to help their council expand their reach to more members of their program.

Presenter:     Jini Curry,\* University of West Florida  
Co-Presenter: Elizabeth Lirette,\* University of West Florida

Esplanade 2     **African Americans in Football: a Journey Through History**

Over the years, African American football players have dominated the charts of those drafted for the National Football League; however, the journey to this distinction was not easy because football was one of the last sports to be integrated in the South. Viewing the film *Remember the Titans* helps us realize the contributions of football to integration. Although the movie is centered around a group of high school students, it impacted the community and ushered in integration that not only changed people's views on the sport, but also the dynamics of African Americans and Caucasians uniting as one. We will trace the long and difficult journey endured by

African American players before they could play on Sunday afternoon in the National Football League. We will argue that integration of football positively impacted the community relations in America. Lives have been made better through football.

Presenter: Joshlyn Green,\* Miles College

Co-Presenter: Tyea Johnson,\* Miles College

Esplanade 2

### **Why They Play**

My ethnographic study uses discourse analysis to examine a high school girls' basketball team located in a traditional southern community in order to understand better both shared and idiosyncratic cultural models held by players. While attempting to explain the ways in which they influence and inhibit players' actions, data will highlight the meanings attached to a number of domains including gender, race, and class. I will examine the backgrounds of various players in the hope of pinpointing the construction of particular understandings through the socialization process. My main aim is to depict accurately ways in which players may understand themselves at any given moment according to their engagements with fellow players, coaches, and outside actors.

Presenter: T. Danielle Jordan,\* Valdosta State University

Garrison 3

### **Sensorpedia: The Ends and Outs**

Sensorpedia is a program that began at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Although it has the aspects of a person to person social network, Sensorpedia is primarily used to connect sensors with users and applications. Sensorpedia allows its users to publish, subscribe to, search for, connect to, and view all kinds of sensors and all types of sensor information. These attributes connect this program to Facebook and Twitter; in which, all of these websites allow people to share information in a social atmosphere. While *Wikipedia* allows users to post and edit general knowledge information, Sensorpedia is solely for sensor information. Sensorpedia is connected to approximately 5,000 sensors. It does not limit the amount or type of sensor within its connection. It is also able to connect to sensor databases. Like social networks, Sensorpedia has a wide range of users. Some people may update information about their sensor one time, while others may provide updates every five minutes.

Presenter: Ashley Dailey,\* Miles College  
Co-Presenter: Janeen Jones, Miles College

Garrison 3      **Metacognition - Elevating the Concept of Thinking about  
“Thinking”**

A simplistic definition of metacognition is thinking about the methodology of thinking. Metacognition involves taking the time to analyze and delve into the various ways the mind is receiving and retaining information. It is not a new concept, but metacognition is evolving as a new word for successful learners. The concept of metacognition is stimulating much conversation and buzz in academia as educators strive to enhance learning skills. We will dissect the concept of metacognition and argue that it could be the new “best” concept in the field of thinking and learning.

Presenter: Bianca Moore,\* Miles College  
Co-Presenter: Monquelle Wigfall, Miles College

Buccaneer C      **The Affection Connection: Critique of the YouTube  
Phenomenon “Simon’s Cat”**

“Simon’s Cat” is series of 2-dimensional black and white cartoon videos chronicling the life of a hungry cat and his beleaguered, but affectionate owner. For my analysis of this popular YouTube series, I will employ the methods of reader-oriented literary critique to investigate the audience and its connection to the animated videos, exploring a potential explanation for the series’ popularity.

Presenter: Amy Snyder, Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer C      **The Roles of Memory in *Waiting for Godot* and *Six  
Characters in Search of an Author***

Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* and Luigi Pirandello’s *Six Characters in Search of an Author* are two of the defining literary works of twentieth century drama, partially because both are unconventional, cerebral examinations of reality and existence. I will discuss how both plays flirt extensively with what it means to be real and sane, primarily through the role of memory. Beckett’s characteristic fragmented and repeated scenes reveal a tortured lack of memory in his characters, which dooms them to continue their cycle of moments infinitely. Pirandello’s six characters exist only in their own memories and those of the author who never put them to page, leaving



their existence in constant danger. Both sets of characters are obsessed with memory – either creating it or avoiding it – and, in their desperation, inevitably sabotage themselves.

Presenter: Mirielle Smith,\* Winthrop University

Buccaneer C

**The Thirty-Seven Years of Mary Lackluster**

In my short story, “The Thirty-Seven Years of Mary Lackluster,” I attempt to employ some of Catherine Ann Porter’s techniques, chief among them being free indirect discourse and stream-of-consciousness. Porter’s use of these techniques can be seen in her short story “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall.” Each short story attempts to elicit emotion and prompt questions from the reader regarding death’s inevitability and the dangers of living life without passion. Certain parallels can be drawn between the two stories, including plot and literary techniques; but each short story uses decisively unlike protagonists, both possessing detrimental character flaws. Although both short stories are analyzing death, they beg the reader to analyze life and what it means to live.

Presenter: Ashley Dailey,\* Valdosta State University

Esplanade 1

**Country Hit Singles—Not so Singular After All: Patterns in Popular Country Music**

The popular music industry is thriving. The Nielsen Company reports the sale of an album, single, or music video as one unit; and in 2011, sales increased almost 7 percent, exceeding 1.6 billion units. The sheer numbers of popular music sales are astonishing; somehow, sales continue to increase year after year. Country music has had near exponential growth in recent years and is now one of the highest selling genres in the music industry. Interestingly, most country track sales belong to just a few songwriters each year, whose songs find their way onto Billboard’s list of top 100 Country songs. I will posit that what makes these top-selling country songs so popular is striking lyrical and musical patterns which exist in the most popular country music. However, subtle differences do exist, which helps explain the continued growth of this truly American genre.

Presenter: McGinty Chilcutt,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Esplanade 1      **Two-Finger Banjo Project**

Two-finger banjo is an Appalachian performance style dating back many generations, but in the 21st century it has nearly become a lost art. I will feature a representative collection of two-finger style banjo tunes. I will provide background information on the recording project, including the performance style and an explanation of the musician-selection process; photographs of the interviewees and recording session activity; and a CD of tracks fully edited and mixed for the audience to hear.

Presenter: Jeff Elkins,\* East Tennessee State University

Esplanade 1      **Math Themes and Musical Parallels: Hidden Transformations from Pop Songs to Folk Ballads**

Mathematics and music are undeniably unified by the concepts of rhythm and structure; however, more illuminating parallels cause these disciplines to coalesce. A deeper analysis shows that both subjects are modes of perception and communication that require a sense of creativity, pattern recognition, and symbolic expression in order to convey a message. I will explore explicit and implicit connections and attempt to create a framework in which to appreciate the bond between mathematics and music in a true interdisciplinary fashion. Inspired by Edward Rothstein's *Emblems of Mind*, emphasis will be placed on the use of Mathematical Group Theory, specifically Transformation Groups. I will demonstrate how these transformations discretely and efficiently preserve relationships among pitches and rhythms.

Presenter: Timothy Fernandez,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenter: Tooba Anwer,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

**Saturday, March 31, 2012; 11:00am – 12:00pm**

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**General Sessions F**

Buccaneer A      **The Evolution of Romanitas and the Expansion of Roman Citizenship**

I will examine the changes in Romanitas—the concept of “being Roman”—throughout Roman history. I argue that the

idea of Romanitas changed drastically as the Roman citizenry grew, from the late Republic through the early and late Imperial ages. Using literary and artistic sources, I will focus on the five cultural identifiers through these time periods. I will construct an idea of how Romanitas evolved to accommodate Romans with varying cultural backgrounds.

Presenter: Nathan Robbins,\* University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer A

**Mosaic Templar's: Celebrating a Forgotten Thriving Black Community**

In 1870, on 9th Street in downtown Little Rock, Arkansas, a thriving African American community with positive characteristics of African American culture enlightened the city. From black entrepreneurs and economic development, including the artistic, literary, and musical traditions, ethnically distinct patterns of communication and expression were part of the thriving community. Effective survival skills, including networks of mutual assistance; an ethic of generosity; alternate or parallel institutions, such as churches and clubs; adaptable household and kinship forms; and strong spiritual beliefs were important to the community. Bringing these experiences to the visitors will leave no doubt in their minds of the existence of a vibrant culture. Something happened that led to the death of a way of life for African Americans in Little Rock and Central Arkansas. Something happened when 9th Street was cleared of its businesses and residents. We will explore the events that led to the demise of 9th Street and the preservation of this history by the Mosaic Templars.

Presenter: Tamela White,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Shaugnassy Moeses,\* Lindsay George,\*  
Miles College

Buccaneer A

**“*Je me souviens*”: The Quest for Québécois Identity**

*Je me souviens*, the official motto of the province of Québec, French for “I remember” sums up the complex emotions and the uniquely Québécois concept of Canadian patriotism. The geopolitical struggles between France and England plunged the population of Canada into a more than two-centuries quest for identity. The Quiet Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s drove the francophone to dramatic anti-English policies. The rise of Québécois nationalism followed decades of balancing

loyalty to the Crown and to an old French way of life. Throughout Canadian history, language has served as the symbol of social, cultural, and religious differences between two “races” with different visions for this identity. The fallout of French and British imperialism is still felt in the modern sociopolitical landscape.

Presenter: Will Jackson,\* Birmingham-Southern College

Buccaneer D

**Will the World Be Able to Feed Itself in the Foreseeable Future?**

Tonight, one in seven people will go to bed hungry. After an intense economic recession, global food crises do not seem as far-fetched as previously thought; in fact, countries in Africa and Asia balance precariously on the edge of a full-scale catastrophe. Severe weather, global warming, and misuse of environmental resources all play a role in decreasing the food productivity of a country. Coupled with the pressure to produce biofuels and protect domestic markets in the richer industrialized countries, these factors can reduce a developing nation to rely globally on food aid. In relation to the global food crisis question, I will examine the causes such as ethanol production, environmental concerns, economic policies, and global consumption trends.

Presenter: Jennifer Stakich,\* Valdosta State University

Buccaneer D

**Honors and Horticulture: The Effect of Community Gardens on Inner Cities**

In the midst of many concrete jungles, food deserts have become a serious issue. Community gardens are a way to combat this issue. We will examine the varying impacts and benefits that community gardens have played in inner cities, specifically in the Birmingham, Alabama area. We will offer ideas of how honors programs can get involved in their cities. We will discuss the nutritional, social, and educational aspects of community gardens. Some ideas associated with nutritional programs include: physical and mental impacts on child development, reduced amounts of chemical intake, and food literacy. Our aim is to identify how honors students can serve as catalysts for creating a framework for a healthier community.

Presenter: Rebecca Graber,\*

University of Alabama, Birmingham

Co-Presenters: Naveed Farrukh,\* Sharmin Anwer,

Brian Rice,\*

University of Alabama, Birmingham

**Buccaneer B      Using the Learning Portfolio for Honors Learning and Program Assessment**

Interested in discovering an alternative approach to improving and assessing honors learning? Come discover the benefits and challenges of learning portfolios, the value of reflective practice, and the diverse applications of portfolios in honors. Bring your experiences and varied models to this interactive session, which offers both a foundation for the value of reflective practice and a variety of practical applications of print and electronic learning portfolios used for assessment. Portfolios engage students not just in collecting samples of their work but in addressing critical questions such as what one has learned; how was it learned; when was it learned best; how does it fit into a continual plan for learning; and why was it valuable to learn at all. Underlying such questions is the core issue of how and why honors makes a difference in students' learning.

Presenter: Dr. John Zubizarreta, Columbia College

**Garrison 3      Nietzsche, Socrates, and Naked Old Women: A Discussion/Dialog**

Plato wrote no prose treatises – only dialogues, presumably because he saw them as superior to treatises for engaging students. Fairly recently, we've found that dialogues, long ago mostly abandoned by philosophers, can enhance understanding of challenging ideas, especially if students write them! We will present our brief dialogues. One is a conversation between Socrates and Nietzsche concerning Platonic forms. The other, inspired by one of the rare recent dialogues written by a Plato scholar, is a dialogue between Lasthenia of Mantinea, one of the two female students in Plato's Academy, and the feminist ethicist Nel Noddings, as they discuss the role of women in the U.S. Civil War.

Presenter: Emily Bohn,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenters: Frank Williams, Cassie Whitt,\*  
Eastern Kentucky University

**Garrison 3      Magic and Witchcraft in Apuleius's *The Golden Ass***

In Apuleius' *The Golden Ass*, the differentiations between men and women and their respective relationships with the magical craft are astounding. While men seem always to be the innocent bystanders, or victims of, ill-intended

enchantment, women are the malevolent casters of magic. While men are killed, maimed, disfigured, and subjected to much mental anguish through enchantment, women are the ones who subject men to their sufferings by enchanting, transforming, or causing harm to them. Furthermore, the examples of men using witchcraft in *The Golden Ass* are treated quite differently than women employing witchcraft. I will examine the concepts of power and gender in *The Golden Ass*, paying attention to how witchcraft and witches are used to do so, and how this is a reflection of Roman culture.

Presenter: China Hepburn,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Esplanade 2      **So You Want to be a Leader?**

My presentation focuses on basic leadership and character traits. Leadership is learned, and much of it relates to basic character and “soft skills” that need to be considered and embodied to mold someone into an effective leader. My presentation will be an interactive session that will expose students to some helpful insights as they venture into leadership roles.

Presenter: Dr. Earl Paul, Hillsborough Community College

Esplanade 1      **Making it New: Modernism & the Interdisciplinary Honors Curriculum**

I will explore the role of modernism in the Interdisciplinary Honors Curriculum and discuss a new undergraduate interdisciplinary course focused on Western Modernism: Interdisciplinary Studies: The Modern World. This six credit-hour course introduces the evolution of modern (1880-1960) Western history, culture, and aesthetics via emphasis on texts written in the West since the turn of the twentieth century. The Modern World course explores the forces and patterns of change that made the twentieth century such a dynamic and complex century. The Modern World course also tracks avant-garde movements exploring ideological and aesthetic strategies as well as significant transformations.

Presenter: Julia Rawa, St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 1      **Lightening up the Dark Ages: Using Humor and Creativity in the Honors Medieval Culture Course**

I will address the twofold challenge of teaching a canonical Honors class, “The Age of Faith.” First, the professor must overcome the common misperception that the time period of The Middle Ages is one lacking in culture and enlightened behavior. Second, the professor discrediting the traditional belief that studying the Middle Ages entails being familiar with a dry wasteland of facts and dates completely irrelevant to modern life. I will propose that traditional teaching methods such as lecture and paper-writing can be as off-putting for honors students as uninteresting material, and examine how humor, myth-busting, intense interaction and creativity can stimulate and inspire this family of extraordinary students.

Presenter: Dr. Karen Taylor, Morehead State University

Esplanade 1      **Immersion Learning: A Model for Honors**

Students immersed in an environment – either intra- or extra-mural – gain new perceptions, overcome limitations and become active learners. How can immersion learning components augment traditional approaches in your discipline? How can Honors faculty find and create immersion learning experiences to augment existing courses or to create new courses? How can faculty go about constructing immersion learning activities that capture the best practices of experiential education? How is immersion learning assessed? These questions and more will be explored and, I hope, answered in my interactive presentation.

Presenter: Dr. Gary Luter, University of Tampa

Buccaneer C      **From Psalm To Song**

At times, for many people learning the Old Testament can become dry due to the multiple lists of kings, prophets, and wars. In order to prevent the class from becoming a boring history lesson, based solely on memorization, we used music to make Psalm 43 come alive for the students. Most of the Psalms were originally composed as lyrics in Biblical times; and being music majors ourselves, we decided to try to recreate what Psalm 43 would have sounded like during its time of composition. In order to attain this concept, we took some ideas from existing Jewish tunes and took our own spin off them. What resulted was the class grasping, in a fun and

different way, the culture and point of the Psalms; which was to praise God, pour out one's soul to Him and uplift the people listening to the Psalms.

Presenter: Merritt Huff,\* Gardner-Webb University

Co-Presenter: Matthew Wyatt,\* Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer C

**Liszt Concert Etude No. 3 Un Sospiro**

Piano solo performance of Liszt Concert Etude No. 3 Un Sospiro

Presenter: Heather Bowen,\* University of Tampa

Garrison 2

**A Vaccine Controversy: Morality, Ethics, Effectiveness or Safety**

Can the flu shot be declared unethical because of the long term effects that it has in the body? The flu vaccine was created to prevent influenza; however, the groups that appear to be the target of the flu shot are at the greatest risk for negative, long-term side effects. The long-term effects of the flu vaccine mainly impact the youth and the elderly because of their weak immune systems. Although there are common side effects caused by the flu vaccine, these negative reactions are "due to foreign proteins and toxic by-products that are unavoidably added in the cultivation process." There are claims that suggest that those who have taken the flu shot have increased their risk of getting Alzheimer's disease within a ten year period. If these claims are proven, then the flu shot would appear to do more harm than good and, therefore, would be proven to be unethical.

Presenter: I'kira Reed,\* Miles College

Co-Presenter: Krystina Kornegay,\* Miles College

Garrison 2

**Physician Assisted Suicide: Harmful or Humane?**

Physician assisted suicide is one of the most hotly debated bioethics issues of our time. I will explore the circumstances surrounding physician assisted suicide, and argue that physician assisted suicide should become a realistic medical option for people. I will also argue that current policies and attitudes against physician assisted suicide are illogical and should not stand. People who are against physician assisted suicide offer many reasons for their positions: the conflict with the Hippocratic Oath, the ending of a person's autonomy, and issues surrounding religion. However, under the right



circumstances and with the proper controls in place, physician assisted suicide, in theory, is actually a humane option that further empowers the individual. I will explain that physician assisted suicide should only be allowed by following the most stringent requirements. I will draw heavily on philosophical texts, experts in the field, and my own personal experiences with my grandfather's wishes when he had terminal cancer.

Presenter: Andrew Farley,\* Greenville Technical College

Garrison 2

### **Ethical Dilemmas Surrounding Bariatric Surgery**

Obesity in America has risen to epidemic proportions in recent years and currently represents a major problem in US health care. Compared to one state in 2007, currently twelve states have obesity rates above 30 percent. As medical innovation has developed, new solutions to combat obesity have emerged. While bariatric surgery (gastric banding, removal of a portion of the stomach, or re-secting the small intestines) is the fastest growing, easiest solution to the obesity epidemic, that surgery has triggered heated controversy. The ethical dilemmas that arise from bariatric surgery are convoluted; but when closely evaluated, clearly, for the majority of cases, bariatric surgery should no longer be considered a medical necessity.

Presenter: Leslie Williams,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

Co-Presenter: Abby Hackett,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

Esplanade 3

### **Examining Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Its Application to Borderline Personality Disorder**

I will present an overview of Dialectical Behavior Therapy as it applies to Borderline Personality Disorder. I will define Borderline Personality Disorder and describe the distress it causes an individual. Furthermore, I will explain the principles, the origins, and the purpose of Dialectical Behavior Therapy. I will briefly describe some of the skills that are taught in this therapy and some specific techniques that the client will use to manage Borderline Personality Disorder. I will also describe the importance of the attitude and behavior of the therapist and client relationship during therapy.

Presenter: Lana Harris,\* Macon State College

Esplanade 3      **Confidence and Gender: An Empirical Study**

The purpose of my empirical study was to find which gender has a higher confidence level about their future career goals. Randomly selected college students were surveyed about their career ambitions, and their confidence levels were appropriately measured. The questions reviewed for my study were: student's age, student's GPA, student's major, student's believed likelihood of graduating with the degree desired, student's believed preparedness for college, student's goals for after graduation, student's belief in the likelihood of his/her goals for after graduation being met, and student's confidence that college plans will help him/her reach his/her future goals. For years, males have generally achieved higher degrees, while females have focused more on their families. However, the results from my study showed that females are seeking higher degrees than males, have more set goals for their futures, and have higher confidence levels.

Presenter: Vitoria De Valentim Meira,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 3      **An Examination of the Themes of Death and Madness in *Big Sur* and *Hamlet***

In his novel *Big Sur*, Beat Generation author Jack Kerouac traces his decline into a mental breakdown as a result of the pressure of sudden and unanticipated fame coupled with increasing alcoholism. I will trace the development of the themes of death and madness in *Big Sur* and compare them to the expression of the same themes in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Both works present instances of individual experiences with death as well as a concept of universal death and decay that pervades the minds of the protagonists and results in their severe mental affliction.

Presenter: Sara Plummer,\* Gardner-Webb University

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**Saturday, March 31, 2012; 2:00pm – 3:00pm**

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**General Session G**

Garrison 3      ***Ruat Caelum: The Blasphemy of Justice***

*Fiat Iustitia Ruat Caelum*; let there be justice, though the heavens fall. This Latin proverb presents an image of commitment to morality in the

face of any situation, of even letting the very heavens fall. However, the arguments of Plato's *Euthyphro* and Eric Wielenberg's *God and Morality* set the stage for a situation with the most dire of consequences: an existent and immoral God. I will examine the arguments of the opponents of Divine Command Theory: if God is not necessarily connected to morality, then it is possible for a conflict to exist between doing the right thing and obeying the divine. I argue that when presented with this choice, people must choose the former; as to do otherwise is to abandon moral convictions when it is convenient defeating the purpose of an ethical theory.

Presenter: Taylor Sutton,\* University of Central Arkansas

Garrison 3

**The Phenomenology of Revelation: Fallacy in Anselm's Ontological Argument**

Ever since Gaunilo of Marmoutiers published *On Behalf of the Fool*, we have known that St. Anselm of Canterbury's famous "Ontological Argument" is invalid as Gaunilo provides the textbook argument for invalidity by counterexample. Philosophers throughout Western history offering differing views about the issue of where Anselm made his mistake are a matter of dispute. I will offer an explanation of Anselm's fallacy by analyzing first the assumptions and premises of Anselm's Ontological Argument, then Gaunilo's Lost Island argument, thereby demonstrating that the argument is unsatisfactory and fallacious due to the phenomenal nature of revelation, a key assumption in Anselm's thinking. By demonstrating that revelation can only give phenomenal knowledge of God, it can be shown that the Ontological Argument holds true only for the concept of God, unless by some unknown mechanism a form of noumenal revelation may be utilized instead.

Presenter: Taylor Sutton,\* University of Central Arkansas

Garrison 3

**Bad Romance: How the Interactions between the Cults of Yahweh and Asherah Shaped Jewish Attitudes Toward Women**

Despite their differing attitudes toward the value of goddess worship and patriarchy, the cults of Asherah and Yahweh were two of the most important religious institutions of the Pre-Exilic period of Israelite history in Canaan. Using Biblical narratives that focus on the character of Yahweh as father/king or Asherah as mother/queen as well as whore/consort, I examine how the conflict between their worshippers helped construct images of women in the ancient world and shaped attitudes towards women in general. In the Hebrew *Bible*, for instance, idolatry becomes equated with

adultery in the story of the Gentile Jezebel, while Gentile women such as Ruth are praised for leaving their former deities for Yahweh. The interactions between kings and their corresponding queen mothers reveal feminine power as revered by goddess-worshipping Solomon, but seen as a threat to the Yahwist reformer Asa.

Presenter: Matthew Rivera,\* Valdosta State University

Buccaneer C      **The Moral Journey of Sydney Carton from Dickens' *Tale of Two Cities***

Using philosophical ethics, I will analyze whether or not Sydney Carton from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* is a moral man according to utilitarian philosophy. My definition of utilitarian morality uses the principles outlined in John Stuart Mill's *Utilitarianism* and James Rachels' *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*. By using examples and quotations from *A Tale of Two Cities* as well as *The Elements of Moral Philosophy* and *Utilitarianism*, I will examine Carton's journey from an immoral man to a man who embodies the highest tenets of utilitarian morality.

Presenter: Leah Howard,\* Greenville Technical College

Buccaneer C      **The Religious Parallel and Memorial in Margaret Atwood's *The Blind Assassin***

I will explore the various Biblical parallels to the story of Belshazzar's feast in Margaret Atwood's *The Blind Assassin*. My examination will not only analyze the various allegorical characters employed by Atwood, but also explore the ways and possible reasons as to why the author employs the protagonist, Iris Chase, as a bodiless hand to extol the truth about her experiences with female objectification in early-to-mid twentieth century Canadian high society. I will also analyze Atwood's female objectification in concurrence with J. Brooks Bouson's views in "A Commemoration of Wounds Endured and Resented: Margaret Atwood's *The Blind Assassin* As Feminist Memoir." My analysis will explore the motif of memorial in the novel and seek to shed further light on these two central themes of Atwood's work.

Presenter: Nathaniel G. Madden, IV,\* The Citadel

Buccaneer B      **Florida's Purge: *The Johns Committee Witch-hunt***

The 30 minute film documentary will chronicle how the

Florida Legislative Investigation Committee (aka the Johns Committee) persecuted lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities throughout Florida in the 1950s and 60s, and how some of the effects of the committee's subversive activities are still felt today. The faculty and student presenters will discuss how this documentary film represents an Honors interdisciplinary effort of the highest order.

Presenter: Robert Cassanello,\* University of Central Florida  
Co-Presenters: Logan Kriete,\* Monica Monticello,  
Amy Simpson,\* University of Central Florida

**Buccaneer A      **Voices of Andersonville: In Their Own Words****

I will explore the human condition through the lens of prisoner of war accounts from varying world conflicts. Based largely on the accounts, diaries, and memoirs of prisoners of Fort Sumter located in Andersonville, Georgia from 1864 to 1865, I will explain the physical and psychological trauma experienced by those men to that of the experiences of all POWs since that time. I will discuss the impact of such experiences on one's loved ones as collateral damage. I will provide conclusions about what relevancy exists for a modern audience in the hopes of establishing the resiliency of the human spirit and more clearly defining the role of history as pedagogue.

Presenter: Megan Salter,\* Macon State College

**Buccaneer A      **The Start of the Sunrise: The Effects of James Yen's Mass Education Movement on Mao's Communism, 1922-1949****

James Yen, an American educated Chinese citizen, started the Mass Education Movement in the 1920s with the goal of teaching illiterate Chinese, who made up 80% of the population, to read. Yen's aim was to make China a modern, democratic nation by working with and educating the lowest classes of society. While the Mass Education Movement was fairly successful in China, I will argue that Mao, who worked with the Movement in its early years, took ideas from the Movement and used Yen's structure to build Mao's Communist Party in China.

Presenter: Jamie Booth, Murray State University

Buccaneer A      **Memory Erasure in Historic Sites**

My presentation will center mainly on memory erasure in historic sites, using the Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove in Nigeria, as a case-study. Issues relating to the causes of this erasure, as well as its implications for national identity, will be discussed.

Presenter: Divine-Favour Anene,\* University of Louisville

Esplanade 1      **Red Riding Hood: the Personal Myth of Growing Up for Young Women**

Carl Jung believed that people's dreams not only channel the peoples' individual lives and experiences, but also universal experiences of all humans. Jung spent much of his psychological career focusing on folklore, which he believed arose from common dreams of many people. By interpreting these fairytales, people can come to an understanding of their own dreams and deal with their personal lives more effectively. Jung's psychotherapy focuses on the personal myth and how it relates to the symbolic understanding of dreams. Red Riding Hood's story is the story of all females, showing the progression from girlhood to puberty, and from womanhood to old age. Because "Little Red Riding Hood" symbolically illustrates a time of life all females undergo, the story can help young girls transitioning into womanhood come to understanding better the processes and changes they are experiencing.

Presenter: Heather Ness,\* Macon State College

Esplanade 1      **Linguistics for the World-Builder: Using Linguistic Theory in Fiction**

Linguistics is a multi-faceted and theoretically dense science; but for the curious writer, there are several immediately useful concepts in socio- and psycholinguistics that can be used to develop complexity in fiction. I will examine and explain several key concepts in linguistics that may be of great utility to writers attempting to construct a believable, diverse, and complex world in their creative works, as well as provide frameworks for how those writers might employ them, using examples drawn from the speculative fiction field. The intertextual nature of writing fiction – drawing from science,

scholarship, and other fictional works to construct one's own – also plays a role in this crash-course in linguistics for writers.

Presenter: Brittany Bush,\* University of Louisville

Esplanade 1

**Niki: The Absurd Hero of the Dunes**

I will apply Albert Camus' brand of existentialism to the film *Woman in the Dunes*, directed by Hiroshi Teshigahara. Camus' notion of the absurd is the realization that though one longs for meaning, understanding, and eternity, this world is irreparably without meaning or understanding and life is limited. However, an absurd hero is one who, realizing the absurdity of existence, continues living with passion, despite knowledge of the meaningless world and the brevity of life. I will evaluate the central character of *Woman in the Dunes* and his plight, identifying moments that strongly portray the notion of the absurd, as well as showing in conclusion how he becomes an absurd hero.

Presenter: Aaron Newman,\* Augusta State University

Esplanade 3

**The Scattering of Israel: a Possibility in the Land of the Rising Sun**

It has long been thought that all cultures derived from one place. However, many people don't totally believe that two cultures could have anything in common, or share a common cultural ancestor. Since the time King Nebuchadnezzar, ancient Middle Eastern writers have written of the scattering of Israel. I will explore the connections among some of the possibilities of ancient Israelites' visitation to Japan.

Presenter: Kane Magnuson,\* St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 3

**The Environment of Civil War in Sudan**

Civil unrest has plagued the Sudan for decades; and though many people have attempted to explain it simply in religious and ethnic terms, evidence suggests that the contexts are much more complicated than that. Many of the issues that have resulted in the violent conflict are rooted in religious differences and cultural variations; however, the conflict has been transformed by other environmental aspects as well. Failed attempts at industrialization on the part of the British and the Egyptians during colonization paved the way for further exploitation of the Sudan's natural resources. Conflict is inevitable in an environment with a limited number of resources combined with the fact that the

people do not regulate consumption or attempt to minimize exploitation and do not implement necessary environmental policies. Civil war can be a logical response to environmental factors because a limited number of resources breeds competition for survival.

Presenter: Summer Leverett,\* Macon State College

**Buccaneer D      Building the Framework for Student Success**

We will present the Honors Institute's design of its mandatory, all-day orientation for first-time-to-college Honors students. The orientation includes useful presentations intermixed with outdoor activities. Our presentation will assist other Honors directors in developing similar orientations by providing the logistic details.

Presenter: Kelly Urbizu, Hillsborough Community College  
Co-Presenter: Justine Naylor,  
Hillsborough Community College

**Buccaneer D      Creating a Successful Honors Ambassador Program**

Any honors ambassador program should provide opportunities for the students to become active leaders in their Honors Programs, college communities, and communities at large. We will share the components of our successful Honors Ambassador Program; also, we will provide take-away materials for the audience. Our Honors Ambassadors go through a rigorous applications process starting with the written applications that include essays and ending with a day of training. After their selection, they assist the Honors Coordinator recruit in the high schools, assist in the design and implementation of the orientations, and communicate with the new students throughout the summer and their first semester. By assisting new students with their transitions into college and the Honors Institute, the Honors Ambassadors can take ownership of creating an active and supportive environment for new students.

Presenter: Janell Llanes,\* Hillsborough Community College  
Co-Presenters: Angel Leon,\* Karina Philaphandeth,\*  
Hillsborough Community College

**Garrison 2      Honoring Health Care: Honors Students in Health Care Majors**

Our panel of undergraduate students from East Tennessee



State University will discuss honors students' experiences with managing honors classes and health care majors, as well as how honors helps them prepare for health care jobs. A respiratory therapy major will discuss her experiences trying to coordinate schedules, classes, and the details involved with being part of the Cardiopulmonary Science Program and the University Honors Scholars Program, while trying to graduate on time. One pre-med student will provide general tips about being an honors student in the pre-med program and the application process for medical school. Another will relate how honors classes have widened her intellectual horizons and helped her realize what values are important to how she wants to practice medicine. A nursing student will discuss the difficulties in scheduling honors and nursing classes, as well as the importance of honors and research at the Magnet hospital level.

Presenter: Caitlyn Rookstool,\* East Tennessee State University  
Co-Presenters: Caitlin Carney,\* Hira Chaudhary,\*  
Jennie Tan,\* East Tennessee State University

Esplanade 2

### **Identity Politics: How Multi-Cultural/ Ethnic/ Racial Students Contribute to Honors Program Diversities**

The Honors Program at Eastern Kentucky University, like most honors programs, tries to admit a class that reflects the diversity of the world in which we live. How do we measure this diversity? Generally, the numbers are determined by a series of boxes students check to categorize their identities. Yet, a growing cohort of students in our program do not fit neatly into these socially-constructed boxes. Their unique positions as cultural navigators challenge conventional notions regarding national, racial, and/or ethnic identity. Our panelists will discuss the distinctive and valuable perspectives on identities that these students can bring to an honors community.

Presenter: Barbara Hussey, Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenters: Abbey Poffenberger,  
Jaime King,\* Hoai Robinette,\*  
Damir Siahkoohi,\* Eastern Kentucky University

**General Session H**

**Buccaneer B      Honors Students Internationally Studying Abroad**

My short film relays the educational, social, and cultural benefits of studying internationally. The film includes several short interviews with both foreign and American students about their positive experiences of interacting with other cultures in both their native language and English. Both video and photography footage of my own experiences in Africa, Dominican Republic, and South Korea display a variety of options for possible excursions. I hope to encourage honors students to realize the importance of experiencing other cultures and to seek out a destination for a future study abroad.

Presenter: Alyssa Franklin,\* Morehead State University

**Buccaneer B      Ocean Acidification: An Emerging Crisis**

Although a relatively new found area of concern, ocean acidification, the drop in pH of the earth's oceans, has already caused a myriad of ecological problems. Comprising two-thirds of the Earth's surface, the ocean's surface absorbs a large portion of the carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere. In the film, we address how the reduction of ocean acidification is of extreme importance and urgency. Because the oceans currently absorb half of the carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere, they play a crucial role in climate change. To put it simply, the issues with temperature change and other ecological problems would be far worse if it weren't for the oceans; and at the rate that they are absorbing carbon dioxide and becoming more acidic, their ability to assist with carbon emissions is drastically decreasing.

Presenter: Meghan Ange,\*

University of Alabama, Birmingham

Co-Presenters: Rebecca Marston,\* Cassandra Garbutt,\*

University of Alabama, Birmingham

**Buccaneer B      The Ripple Effect**

The short documentary explores the impact of Shepherd Bend mining company's proposal to expose yet another portion of Alabama's Black Warrior River to coal waste dumping. The new coal mine would pollute the soil and air of the people living along the river and would allow heavy metals and other contaminants to flow through tributaries that converge

dangerously close to the Birmingham Water Works intake, at the location where water is processed and pumped to over 200,000 people living in and around Birmingham, Alabama.

Presenter: Rebecca Marston,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer A      **Something from Nothing: Raising Money and Social Awareness with Your Honors Program**

Delgado Community College's Honors Program held a Night of Music event and a garage sale that raised money for the program while increasing social awareness of its students. Night of Music included local bands playing for free and proceeds were divided between the honors program and New Orleans Women's Shelter.

Presenter: Julia Li, Delgado Community College  
Co-Presenters: Ruby Rosa Brezinsky,  
Delgado Community College

Buccaneer A      **The Furry Side of Service-Learning: Future Leader Dogs and the University**

I will give a brief account of the process of getting a Future Leader Dog in training accepted at Gardner-Webb University. I will also explain the role and goals of the puppy raiser, including why the college campus is a prime training environment, as well as discuss how puppy raising is a form of service learning.

Presenter: Chelsea Usher,\* Gardner-Webb University

Buccaneer A      **Arcadia Community Center**

The Arcadia Community Center is a non-profit organization that works with immigrant and refugee groups from Africa to provide holistic services to aid in the adjustment to life in America. My presentation will serve to provide more specifics on the services of, affects on, and role of Arcadia in the Louisville community, as well as to give a background on refugees themselves: who they are, why they came here, how they are adjusting. Additionally, I will provide testimonials from refugees who attend the center and suggest ways to get involved either with Arcadia specifically or with helping refugees in general.

Presenter: Corey Long, University of Louisville

Esplanade 3      **Maritime Landscape on the Blackwater River**

My presentation evolved from my Honors thesis regarding the industrial growth and development of the maritime landscape of Milton, Florida and other towns along the Blackwater River. The maritime landscape can be defined as any human activities on or along the water. My main goal was to understand how and why certain industries developed and identify the impact they had on the local area. I will provide an overview of my research goals and findings, major conclusions, and photographs to help identify the area and possible locations of many archaeology sites in the area.

Presenter: Kevin Bender,\* University of West Florida

Esplanade 3      **Coconut Methyl Ester: Transesterification of Coconut Oil into Biodiesel**

Biodiesel – a biodegradable and renewable diesel fuel – is composed of monoalkyl esters of triglycerides such as vegetable oils or animal fats. The efficiency of the biodiesel is contingent on the degree of saturation of the triglyceride. A major component of coconut oil derived from *Cocos nucifera*, lauric acid is a 12 carbon molecule highly saturated with hydrogen. This physical property is ideal for use as an alternative energy source because each carbon-to-hydrogen bonding stores potential energy. In transesterification the triglyceride and coconut oil reacts with methanol to form coconut methyl ester commonly known as coconut biodiesel. I will analyze factors that affect the product yield of biodiesel.

Presenter: Mary Mendoza,\* St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 3      **Coffee with a Conscience?: An Historical Examination of Cafe Britt's Environmental Practices**

The company Cafe Britt, founded in 1985, specializes in gourmet chocolate and coffee from Costa Rica, Mexico, and Peru. The company has a reputation for making its products more sustainable in accordance with Costa Rica's environmental vision. As the business has grown to fill niche markets, it is essential to question if the company remains committed to sustainability.

Presenter: Stephanie Skipp,\* Longwood University

Esplanade 2      **Livestock Toxicosis Due to *Neotyphodium coenophialum* Found in *Festuca arundinacea***

I will give an overview of livestock toxicosis caused by a fungal endophyte (*Neotyphodium coenophialum*) present in tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*) In addition, I will examine the possible approaches to mitigating the problem. Tall fescue is one of the most important and most vigorous forage crops for agriculture in the southeastern United States; in part, due to the symbiotic relationship with the endophyte fungus that also causes the livestock toxicosis. As a result, endophyte induced fescue toxicosis is a significant issue in livestock agriculture today, and several techniques are being developed to address the problem.

Presenter: James Withrow,\* Gardner-Webb University

Esplanade 2      **Proximity Activated**

“Proximity Activated” smart nanoparticle for the site specific delivery of siRNA to metastatic tumor cells  
Permeability-glycoprotein (P-gp) over expression in breast cancer cells desensitizes the tumor to chemotherapeutics and can lead to the development of multiple drug resistance (MDR), significantly worsening patients’ chances at survival. The siRNA presents a powerful tool for silencing P-gp, but in vivo delivery barriers such as endosomal trafficking and off-target cytotoxicity must be overcome to make the treatment feasible. MMP-7 plays a significant role in tissue breakdown and cell migration, and its over expression is a hallmark of tumor progression into metastasis. In my study, an MMP-7 responsive peptide and polyethylene glycol (PEG) cloak were incorporated onto a previously designed smart polymeric nanoparticle (SPN) that contains a cationic corona for condensing siRNA and pH-responsive, endosomolytic core. The PEG cloak shields the positive surface charge of the SPNs until being cleaved in MMP-7 rich tumor environments, allowing “proximity activated” delivery of siRNA.

Presenter: Thomas Werfel, Murray State University

Esplanade 2      **Light and Waves Energy**

Waves in general and light waves in particular are defined to

be a transfer of energy without a transfer in matter. This definition and our present knowledge of waves and light currently do not help us much in obtaining energy from them or in tracing what their energy transforms into. Can we manipulate light to excite electrons to a different level and capture the energy when they fall back into their orbits? Or do we need a new way of looking at waves and light? I will examine these intriguing questions.

Presenter: Baochi Doan,\* University of Tampa

Buccaneer D

**Does Sex Matter? A Look at Middle and High School Science Classes**

Is there bias that exists in the science classroom? I will discuss students' attitudes toward science in the middle and high school classrooms. Vast amounts of research show that boys and girls process information and learn in different ways. I conducted research with the hope of finding whether or not teachers are biased towards either girls or boys in their science classrooms. I will discuss the results as well as any correlations between the students' attitudes toward science and how their teachers conduct their classes.

Presenter: Kaitlin Staverman, Eastern Kentucky University

Buccaneer D

**The Girls Scouts Quarter Century Overhaul**

“The best way to solve America’s leadership crisis is to put more women in top leadership roles. And the best way to grow tomorrow’s women leaders is to grow strong girl leaders today,” stated Kathy Cloninger, former CEO of Girl Scouts and author of *Tough Cookies*. Public policy, product design, and the science of happiness are some new badges that are just in time for the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts. Preteen girls in America are undergoing the biggest badge overhaul in the history of Girl Scouts. This two year overhaul communicates that Girl Scouts are not just cookie peddlers, but strong leaders who are tech-savvy and financially literate. The girl-led badge design embraces the theme that girls learn by doing, and the updated badges make programming relevant to the modern girl. We will explore the implications of the new badge program for Girl Scout USA.

Presenter: Brionna June,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Ar'Shundra Hampton,\* Allison Johnston,\*  
Miles College

Buccaneer C      **An Inside Approach to Alabama's Immigration Law**

The aim of our project was to analyze Alabama's recent immigration bill HB56 and its effect on the state. We will explain the overall shortcomings of Alabama's constitution and delve further into why the HB56 bill hurts the social structure, economy, and reputation of our state. We will also address the necessity of this bill, compare it to routes taken by other states, and suggest possible alternatives.

Presenter: Tooba Anwer,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenters: Sarita Wagle,\* Raam Venkatesh,\* Sharmin  
Anwer,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer C      **A Historiography on the Bill of Rights**

Historians have been affected by their experiences and the culture in which they live or have lived. I will explain my research on how various authors addressed the Bill of Rights. I will focus on how these different accounts treat the topics of original influences, the writing process, and the implementation of the American Bill of Rights. Most historians cite the *Magna Carta*, the English Bill of Rights, State Constitutions, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and George Mason as clear influences on the American Bill of Rights. The writing process includes the politics surrounding the need for a Bill of Rights, and the determination that a separate addition would be attached to the Constitution. The implementation of the document compares how the document has been used by the government and in court cases. Each document or person has a clear link to the Bill of Rights, but some historians emphasize certain parts of the list over others.

Presenters: Melody Chapman,\* Winthrop University

Garrison 2      ***A Moveable Feast for the Mind: Traveling Education Through Honors***

We will explain four trips abroad that have been facilitated through our Honors Program. Students traveled to Paris, Washington, D.C., Wales, or Guatemala. We will discuss our experiences in the locations, knowledge and experiences gained, and the benefits of studying with honors abroad.

Presenter: Shelley Whipple,\* Columbia College  
Co-Presenters: Allie Cochran,\* Chantel Lucas,\*  
Keelan Fagan,\* Desirae Gostlin,\*  
Columbia College

Esplanade 1      **School Resource Officers: A Growing Trend in the Fight on School Crime**

In today's world, school safety is a growing concern among parents, students, educators, and law enforcement personnel. Faced with the task of dealing with challenges like drug abuse and violence in our schools, many states are looking for new solutions, with most placing full time law enforcement officers in schools. The purpose of my research will be to examine the growing use of school resource officers, the roles they play as opposed to those of normal law enforcement officers or school administrators, and the effects such programs have on school crime and community relations.

Presenter: Tanner Hamrick,\* Limestone College

Esplanade 1      **Serial Killers and Post-Mortem Mutilation: Occurrence and Motive**

Post-mortem mutilation is a rare occurrence. When post-mortem mutilation is exhibited at a homicide crime scene, the type of post-mortem mutilation often yields clues as to the motive of the perpetrator. I will define the four main types and any subtypes of post-mortem mutilation and will connect the various types with their corresponding motives. Research found that certain types of post-mortem mutilation can often be signals to investigators that a sexual homicide has occurred; however, depending on the type of post-mortem mutilation exhibited, this may - or may not - be true. Also, the various types of post-mortem mutilation do not always have definitive motives; nor do crime scenes at which post-mortem mutilation is exhibited always reveal only one motive. The most common motive for post-mortem mutilation was to increase the ease of concealment.

Presenter: Boston D. Ross,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 1      **“In My Dreams, We’re Still Screaming”: Memory and Discontent in the Suburbs**

The suburbs have long held a place within the American



psyche as a place of retreat, yet they have also been represented as an oppressive force that keeps people from fully living their lives. In both Mike Nichols' film *The Graduate* and the Arcade Fire album *The Suburbs*, the protagonists attempt to escape from the suburbs using different means – love or art. Ultimately, though, both remain trapped in suburban discontent, unable to “move past the feeling.”

Presenter: Alex Clifton,\* University of Louisville

**Sunday, April 1, 2012; 8:15am – 9:15am**

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**General Session I**

Buccaneer D      **Joyce Ecstatic: Reexamining Joyce's Use of Epiphany and Ecstasy**  
Euphoria, loss of awareness, and similar themes will be used to reexamine selected passages from Joyce's works, particularly those dealing with epiphanies, with an eye towards the role of the ecstatic. Ecstasy is a state of being characterized by reduced awareness and total emersion in an emotional or physical experience. Generally, ecstasy originates from a hyper-stimulation of pleasurable experiences, though there is great potential variability regarding what constitutes a stimulus. Epiphany is a moment of realization of a previously unknown, often painful, truth; though not always unpleasant, epiphanies, particularly in the works of Joyce, tend toward realizations of unpleasant realities. I will discuss the distinctive roles these literary tropes play, particularly in Joyce's works and explore some passages as abnormal examples of how ecstasy and epiphany can function synergistically to produce in characters more intense emotional states.

Presenter: Joseph Jablonsky,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenter: Mohammad Abbasi,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer D      **Female Protagonists in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Zora Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God***  
I will evaluate the role of the female protagonists in African-American literature as a postmodern device by examining Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. In *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*, Jean-Francoise Lyotard develops his

idea of the meta-narrative, which he describes as a pervasive philosophy that guides a society's moral and political compass. However, he claims that the Enlightenment fostered a new generation of thinkers who dismantled the pervasiveness of meta-narratives by relying on individual perspectives, which he describes as sub-narrative that destabilizes the meta-narratives of patriarchy and capitalism, as does Toni Morrison in *Beloved*. Specifically, by employing female narratives, both authors establish a narrative perspective that allows them to challenge and critique the dominant meta-narratives.

Presenter: Terrel Champion,\* Morehouse College

Buccaneer D      **External Conflicts that Shaped the Inner Lives of Two Afghan Women**

Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is an engaging novel depicting two Afghan women facing the same struggles, such as the Soviet invasion and the Taliban. My presentation includes how Hosseini was influenced to write the novel, how he created such details, and how the historical events throughout the novel affected the content of the story. Most importantly, I will analyze the perspectives of these two Afghan women living in Kabul and their influence upon the lives of women in Afghanistan now.

Presenter: Karina Philaphandeth,\* Hillsborough Community College

Buccaneer A      **The Stigma of AIDS**

The stigma of AIDS exists worldwide throughout our cities, countries, schools, religious groups, and individuals. We will argue that not only was the government remiss in taking swift action to educate the public about AIDS, but also that same lack of action made the AIDS stigma spread like wildfire. The stigma makes it difficult for HIV/AIDS positive patients to manage their illness and furthers the difficulty to fight this epidemic on a national and worldwide level. For individual patients, every aspect of their lives are affected, from employment to health care and even travel. We will review different aspects of misconceptions and myths about AIDS and related obstacles in diagnosis and treatment.

Presenter: Marie Cram,\* St. Petersburg College  
Co-Presenter: Alistair Glover,\* St. Petersburg College

**Buccaneer A      Sex Therapy: The Who, What, and Why**

Sex therapy is the application of therapy skills specifically targeted toward problems with sexual functions of both individuals and couples. I will explain what sex therapy is and why this unique therapy is needed. In addition, I will elaborate on common reasons that individuals and couples seek professional help, how to find a sex therapist, and what a typical therapy session involves.

Presenter: Justine Naylon, MSW,  
Hillsborough Community College

**Esplanade 3      Oppression to Prominence: Japanese Immigration in Brazil from 1908 to 2012**

Escaping from an economic downturn in Japan, the Japanese first arrived in Brazil in 1908. After the emancipation of slaves and decrease in Italian immigration, Brazil was searching for a new work-force. Most of the Japanese who arrived in Brazil became laborers on coffee plantations and intended to work for a few years in Brazil, raise money, and then return home. Why were they forced to stay for the life time and settle in Brazil? How did these Japanese become leaders in industry, politics, arts, sports, and academics? Why does Japan want them to come back to Japan now? How has this immigration affected the cultures of Brazil and Japan?

Presenter: Paula Campos,\* St. Petersburg College

**Esplanade 3      The Wall That Divided a Family: My Berlin Story**

As World War II concluded, two superpowers – the USSR and the USA – were brought into the same arena: the communist against the capitalist. Then, the Cold War started and with it came some of the most horrible human deeds of all time. Apart from the wars which allowed these two super powers to “battle” each other, there was a profoundly troubling instance which shattered families and destroyed love, freedom and hope. My presentation is based on an account from my grandmother who was separated from her sister who was stuck on the wrong side of the Berlin Wall.

Presenter: Oscar J. Wahlstrom,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 2      **Let Contradictions Prevail! Let One Thing Contradict Another!**

*RESPONDEZ!* is a non-fiction literary journal published annually in the spring semester by Honors Program students at the University of Tampa to showcase excellent Honors research papers, critical analyses, personal essays, supported opinion pieces, or other non-fiction works. The title *Respondez!* comes from the Walt Whitman poem and is published in the front of every edition of the journal. This year's editor-in-chief and members of the editorial board will explain the process of creating this campus-wide, respected journal, continuously produced by Honors students since 1982.

Presenter: Chanelle Cox,\* University of Tampa

Co-Presenters: Kaushal B. Vaddiraj,\* Dorothy Estrada,\*  
University of Tampa

Esplanade 2      **Publishing in Honors**

As members of the NCHC Publication Board and the Editorial Board, we will explain the opportunities available to publish in Honors. Time will be devoted to questions and answers about publishing in the NCHC monographs, the *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, and *Honors in Practice*.

Presenter: Dr. Linda Frost, Eastern Kentucky University

Co-Presenter: Dr. Lydia Lyons, Hillsborough Community College

Garrison 2      **Cerium Dioxide: The Living and The Dead**

My project included preparation of cerium dioxide nano particles followed by determining their stability under environmental conditions. This was achieved by examining their long term integrity with varying amounts of sodium and potassium salts. The main objective of my research was to see how long the cerium dioxide nanoparticles would stay active while in solution by monitoring their optical properties. I will discuss my research results related to my hypothesis. My research was part of the Science and Technology Expansion Program, where students are accepted to spend the summer before their freshman year researching and getting to know the professors.

Presenter: Mark Tanner, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Garrison 2

**Characterizing the Substrate Binding Specificity of an Aldo-keto Reductase, YDL124W**

Optically active reduced carbonyl compounds are highly desirable as building blocks in pharmaceuticals. Enantiomeric and diastereomeric mixtures are, however, difficult and costly to achieve by chemical and industrial methods. Yeast reductases, specifically aldo-keto reductases (AKR), are known to be promiscuous and accept a wide range of  $\alpha$ - and  $\alpha^2$ -keto esters. Our work seeks to explore and characterize the stereoselectivity of a particular yeast reductase, YDL124W, focusing in on the Substrate Specificity Loop A (A Loop) region. Residues in the A Loop region have been systematically mutated using alanine-scanning mutagenesis, and crude lysates were obtained to test the mutant protein's ability to reduce a panel of  $\alpha$ - and  $\alpha^2$ -keto substrates. One of our mutants, S123A exhibited a delayed ability to convert 2-chloro-3-phenyl propionic acid ester into a reduced alcohol. We are currently designing a kinetics assay to further explore the affected activity of mutant S123A.

Presenter: Cassandra Connolly, Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Co-Presenter: Madelyn Roush, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Garrison 3

**Better Late Than Never: Delayed Entry into the Honors Program**

Honors programs are revered for enabling bright students to flourish in both the classroom and in the community. Our panel will provide a comparison of four students' stories of how they became involved in the Honors Program at Armstrong and how becoming involved changed their college experiences. Our analysis looks at various aspects of their time at college ranging from the challenges of joining the Honors Program during students' sophomore year in college versus the freshmen year as well as how being in the Honors Program has enhanced their time at the university.

Presenter: Austin Esch, Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Co-Presenters: Madelyn Roush, Sara Longaberger, Michael Page, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Garrison 3

**Connecting the Dots: Through Academic Advising**

Academic advising is a crucial component to the Honors experience. More than just the complicated practice of arranging college, major, and Honors requirements, academic advising should be a teaching tool – complete with curriculum and learning outcomes – for helping a student find the connections among education, community, and career.

Presenter: Kelly Urbizu, Hillsborough Community College

Buccaneer C

**Developing Student Learning Outcomes for an Honors Curriculum: A Case Study**

Using the University of Central Arkansas Honors College as a case study, we will present a step-by-step process for constructing a curriculum assessment plan centered on student learning outcomes. These steps begin with a contextual discussion of the driving forces for assessment, not only for the case being presented but also in general. We then will discuss how assessment domains were designed and identified, how student learning outcomes (and accompanying rubrics) for each domain were written, and how these student learning outcomes were subsequently mapped across the curriculum. We conclude by talking about the assignments to be used to evaluate proficiency level of the learning outcomes and how the resulting assessment data are to be generated, stored, and evaluated. Throughout our presentation, we will share lessons learned and provide advice to those who need to go through the process.

Presenter: Dr. Rick Scott, University of Central Arkansas  
Co-Presenter: Dr. Greg Lanier, University of West Florida

Esplanade 1

**Mississippi Takes Scotland: The Unique Experience**

Mississippi University for Women Residential Honors College members are required to participate in a study abroad program after their sophomore years. However, the program isn't exactly what one would expect. MUW teachers accompany students to teach two classes. For the past two years, students have gone to Edinburgh, Scotland, where they conducted research for two separate papers on history and literature. This different experience allows students to become more involved with the country and people they visit.

Presenter: Stefani Sloma,\* Mississippi University for Women

Co-Presenter: Madeleine Gardiner,\* Mississippi University for Women

Garrison 1      **Enhancing Honors Learning with Online Reflective Writing Forums**

As we search for evidence of significant learning in honors, we are challenged to design strategies for enhancing students' critical writing skills and habits of reflection as a way of achieving higher-level learning and developing a community of engaged honors learners. Students should have opportunities to practice such skills, and the students' use of regular posts on a collaborative online threaded discussion forum can be a powerful means of creating a safe, challenging environment for deep, reflective learning. Our interactive session explores various ideas of how to embrace online forums as a means of encouraging and building honors students' critical reflection skills. Come listen to honors students discuss their experiences with reflective writing in electronic threaded discussions.

Presenter: HaLeigh Small,\* Columbia College

Co-Presenters: Joanna Burch,\* Emma Condrey,\*  
Dr. John Zubizarreta, Columbia College

**Sunday, April 1, 2012; 9:30am – 10:30am**

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**General Session J**

Buccaneer B      **What Honors Website Visitors Want: A Case Study**

Site visitor analysis packages and surveys are powerful tools that allow for rich insights into your website traffic. The Honors site at Central Arkansas encompasses 54 publicly available pages arranged into five sections. Who visits? What do Honors website visitors want to know? What browsers and devices do they use to access the site, and how effectively does the site communicate information to different audiences?

Presenter: Philip Frana, University of Central Arkansas

Buccaneer B      **Trying to Control Parents!**

Each year, we conduct a four hour parents orientation. We will share our experiences and the logistics of our successful parents orientations which have become increasingly

necessary. We have the challenges of engaging the parents during the recruitment period; but once their children are accepted, we can no longer discuss their children.

Presenter: Kelly Urbizu, Hillsborough Community College  
Co-Presenter: Justine Naylor, Hillsborough Community College

Esplanade 3

### **Odissi: An East Indian Temple Dance of Devotion**

A divine dance of devotion, Odissi was originally designed as a dance to please the gods. The Devadasis or “Servants to God” were dancers of devotion who lived in the temples of East India and dedicated their lives to Lord Jagannath. Odissi, with its complex rhythms, expressive eye movements, precise hand and foot positions and unusually sensuous postures, was seen as too provocative for the ruling British. Therefore, Odissi was outlawed by the British: thereby, forcing many of the dancers out of the temples and into the streets. So what happened to this fascinating classical dance of devotion? We will explore Odissi’s underground existence, the journey of the dancer, the expressions of devotion, and their meanings in the dance as well as its renaissance after the fall of the British Raj, in 1947.

Presenter: Kimberly Connor,\* St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 3

### **This is Your Brain on Religion**

In recent years, a new field of neurotheology has emerged. The goal of neurotheology is to determine what is happening in the brain during a religious experience. Recent advances in cognitive neuroscience and brain-imaging technology have offered researchers a new look into the neurophysiology of religious experiences. Our presentation will examine extant research on brain function during meditation, prayer, speaking in tongues, and religious ecstasy and examine epistemic status and potential interpretation.

Presenter: Jayna Kehres,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenters: Grace Nix,\* Luke McClintock,\*  
Mike Sloane, University of Alabama, Birmingham



Buccaneer D      **Why Has Democracy Continued to be Weak in Pakistan?**

Pakistan is a fascinating country with a turbulent past and present. Though it achieved independence around the same time as its neighboring arch-rival, India, Pakistan lags far behind in terms of economic growth and development, as a democratic society with internal security. I will engage in an analysis of Pakistan's political, bureaucratic and military institutions while reviewing its checkered history to determine the reasons for the battered political and economic saga of Pakistan.

Presenter: Kaushal Vaddiraj,\* University of Tampa

Buccaneer D      **The Islamic Republic of Pakistan: A Model United Nations Experience**

Delegations, from participating schools, to the Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) annual convention are each assigned countries to represent. As a student in Greenville Technical College's International Relations course, I was assigned the task of preparing a geopolitical position paper as though I were representing the Pakistani delegation. Writing from the point of view of the Pakistani mission to the United Nations, my positions had to be on the specific issues relevant to that country. As required by SRMUN, the actual positions taken are based on the extensive research of both the situation within Pakistan and the Pakistani Government's past and present efforts towards improvement.

Presenter: Jonathan Bedell,\* Greenville Technical College

Buccaneer D      **The Curse of the Irish Republican Army: Proliferation of IED Tactics and Technology**

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were not originally developed by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in the 1970s, but a number of technical and tactical developments are credited to the IRA. The IRA has shown repeatedly over time that they will associate with any state or non-state actor who will support the IRA's goals. Evidence has shown that IRA tactics and technology have directly proliferated from Northern Ireland to places such as Columbia and indirectly proliferated to places such as Afghanistan and Iraq. The latest generation of Irish Republicans has ties to al-Qaeda and extremists in the former Yugoslav republics. I will identify those groups connected with the multiple generations of the

IRA and show the documented paths of proliferation of IED tactics and technology.

Presenter: Steven Crown,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Garrison 3      **Methods and Mayhem: New Curriculum, New Possibilities**

The current curriculum mandatory for all Eastern Kentucky University Honors students is in need of revision; our students have reported this through surveying opportunities administered throughout the year. Through tireless efforts, the Eastern Kentucky University Honors Program has created three new curriculum proposals that would combine the traditional liberal arts education with scientific and mathematical disciplines. Our presentation invites an open discussion with honors program representatives from across the region. Through collaborative efforts, Eastern Kentucky University will gain the knowledge of what changes will work, what will not, and other ideas to consider before initiating the new curriculum.

Presenter: Michael Deaton,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenter: Connor Smith,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Garrison 3      **The Synergistic Paradigm of Teaching**

It appears that educators generally have a tendency to restrict themselves to one model or theory, which arguably could limit their teaching quality. This apparent restriction can have a variety of sources: a lack of knowledge or grounding in different models or theories, a lack of confidence or skills to incorporate different theories and models during teaching, or complacency. We will survey a newly developed teaching paradigm entitled The Synergistic Paradigm, a paradigm that advocates modulating between the anticipated most effective educational models and/or theories and keeping the student central during the modulating or fluxing process. Utilizing this student-centered aspect of the Synergistic Paradigm, the Potential Accelerated Learning Zone could potentially speed-up the learning and teaching process and increase the educational effectiveness. A case study garnered from a mandatory field observation will be presented to illustrate this paradigm in action.

Presenter: Andrew Tatler-Burgess,\* Valdosta State University  
Co-Presenter: Dr. Jules Troyer, Valdosta State University

**Buccaneer A      The Nuclear Predicament: How To Rid the World of Nukes**

The presence of nuclear weapons makes the world an extremely dangerous place. Nuclear proliferation, or spread of nuclear capable countries, has made acquiring nuclear materials easier for terrorists. Accidents threaten citizens, and rogue nations seek to acquire weapons as well. The limitation of these destructive weapons would constrain the chance of human error and likelihood of theft, especially in Russia. The United States and Russia must lead the way in limiting their stock piles so that one day the last bomb will be destroyed. I will discuss the history of nuclear proliferation and touch on policies that address the problem. Also, I will discuss the current atmosphere and suggest humble solutions to the global problem.

Presenter: David Tatem,\* University of West Florida

**Buccaneer A      The Politicization of Nuclear Power**

On the “clean energy” battlefield, many types of power are being considered. Nuclear power provides by far the most efficient and vast form of energy known to man. Politicians across the globe have fostered a fear of nuclear power that has been taken up by some green energy groups, especially in the wake of the Fukushima incident. I will explore these political views of nuclear power today and provide unbiased, factual information on energy technology.

Presenter: Isaac Sheets,\* St. Petersburg College

**Buccaneer A      Nuclear Power is a Ticking Bomb**

For many years, nuclear power has been a controversial source of alternative energy. The record of devastating accidents, such as Chernobyl, and other dangers associated with a nuclear power plant outweigh any and all environmental advantages, making this alternative source of energy unreliable. Methods for transportation and storage of nuclear waste are still undetermined; no agency in any country has discovered a solution to this ongoing problem. To invest time, money, and lives into nuclear power is unreasonable and dangerous. Turning to nuclear power can add fuel to the controversial fire of nuclear weapons, endangering both the environment and life itself. This ticking bomb robs tranquility from our minds, leaving an overpowering fear as Americans

watch the United States hang by a weak, brittle thread caused by nuclear power.

Presenter: Joy Peebles,\* Seminole State College of Florida  
Co-Presenter: Maymoona Kahn,\* Seminole State College of Florida

Garrison 1

### **Standing on the Shoulders of Giants**

Our panel will feature the ways that reading great texts in the second course of the Program for Experienced Learners honors sequence empowers honors students to achieve excellence in the larger world. We will discuss some aspect of reading and discussion of texts that has enhanced our knowledge of how to live and engage others in society. Some of the individual topics will be: challenging one's own ideas and those of others; challenging cultural myths through greater awareness; affirming liberal arts study; thinking critically in positive ways, and appreciating differing points of view.

Presenter: Margret Skaftadottir, Eckerd College  
Co-Presenters: Connie Dexter,\* Sarah Jordan,\* Betcinda Kettells,\* Kristin Lohr,\* Troy Sessions,\* Eckerd College

Esplanade 2

### **How to Lead an Effective Honors Student Organization**

Officers from the Honors Congress, the official student organization of The Burnett Honors College at the University of Central Florida, will share their techniques for leading an effective honors student organization, as well as their insights on retaining membership, increasing turnout, and fostering a spirit of unity.

Presenter: Robert Gottfried,\* University of Central Florida  
Co-Presenters: Jessica Ortega,\* Jessica Gottsleben,\* Steven Holz,\* Courtney Furiosi,\* University of Central Florida

Buccaneer C

### **Constructing a Comprehensive Prestigious Awards Program**

Many honors colleges have the responsibility and privilege of

managing prestigious awards, including the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, and Goldwater scholarships, for their institutions because of the uniquely talented group of students who call our colleges and programs home. While the format and function of this role vary, the essential components for successful applicants remain the same: advisement and action. I will outline the construction of a comprehensive prestigious awards advisement program from identifying and recruiting a student “pipeline” to application submission. Discussion topics will include cultivating faculty, harnessing campus resources, planning for action, the writing process, and using outreach and publicity. I will examine the nuts and bolts of each of these functions and provide strategies for implementation as well as share the challenges of each. In addition, the role of the scholarship/fellowship advisor will be considered. Finally, other ideas will be solicited from conference participants.

Presenter: Nicole Gelfert, University of Central Florida

Garrison 2

### **Epigenetics: Altering the Human Blue Print**

Epigenetics is a revolutionary new science that reveals how gene expression can be affected and changed throughout an organism’s lifetime. The cause of such changes can stem from elements outside of the genome itself, including chemical influences, diet and lifestyle, and even mental stress. Initially, the epigenetic theory was not accepted by the scientific community because it was thought that genes could not be altered by environmental factors. However, a multitude of studies and experiments conducted in the past decade have proved this assumption to be quite incorrect. I will explain my examination of the field of epigenetics and how it can be applied to our understanding of inheritance and evolution, along with the development of new medical treatments for patients with genetic cancers and other disorders.

Presenter: Genevieve Sullivan,\* Greenville Technical College

Garrison 2

### **Proteomic Identification of Carbonylated Proteins in TBI Using a Dosage Dependent Response**

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are injuries to the brain that cause physical damage, permanent complications, or even death. TBI can be sustained through events that include vehicular accidents, or even mild and severe falls. Currently, there is no cure for this condition; however, pre-TBI and post-

TBI strategies are being investigated. The goal of my study is to identify accurately carbonylated proteins in brain tissue and determine if a therapeutic relationship between the administration of gamma-glutamyl cysteine ethyl ester, a glutathione mimetic, and a decrease in oxidative stress caused by traumatic brain injuries exists. Current literature suggests possible treatment strategies for those suffering from traumatic brain injury using various antioxidant compounds. We need a plausible course of treatment that will prevent secondary damage, injury that is sustained as an indirect result of the trauma, through oxidative stress.

Presenters: Seth VanZant,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Garrison 2

**Substrate Rigidity and Nanotopography as Physical Regulators of Adult Stem Cell Fate**

The extracellular matrix, a critical component of the adult stem cell microenvironment, provides cells with structure, as well as with some of the chemical and physical cues necessary to direct certain cellular processes. By combining materials, science and stem cell biology, researchers in the fields of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine have been able to create synthetic scaffolds and microenvironments to harness various cell-matrix interactions, and in turn, have been able to repair, regrow, and more recently, replace damaged tissues and simple organs. These advances are partly dependent on an understanding of the physical properties of matrices that can affect cellular processes, such as differentiation and division. I will explore two of these properties, nanotopography and elasticity, and provide examples of their potential to regulate and control adult stem cell fate in vitro.

Presenter: Jamal Bryant,\* St. Petersburg College

**General Session K**

Garrison 2

**The Differences in How Certain States Qualify Their Expert Witnesses**

I will examine six states of the United States and how they have chosen to qualify their expert witnesses involved in court cases. The three main types of tests are applied by the court system in determining whether people are “experts” in their fields and whether they should be allowed to testify in that

capacity—Daubert, Frye, and a hybrid of the two. California, New York, Texas, Michigan, Georgia, and Illinois were chosen not only to give an even sampling of the three types of tests, but also because of the circuit in which they are located. Of the thirteen circuits in the United States, the ones from these states are where the majority of the precedent laws come.

Presenters: Rachel Hepburn,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Garrison 2

### **The Use of Scientific Evidence in the United States Supreme Court**

Since its establishment in 1789, the Supreme Court has grown from a lowly institutional meeting in the Capitol's basement to being the foremost authority in keeping the Constitution alive. Yet many of us are unaware of the issues facing the establishment that has such an enormous impact on our way of life! Over the last few centuries, science has become more of a factor in the court. Cases involving issues such as technology and pharmaceuticals depend greatly on the use of scientific evidence. Scientific evidence has prompted reversals of past decisions such as finding the condemned innocent or closing long open cases. I will analyze the challenges that are presented when a constantly evolving field such as science must be used in a legal system that runs on history, precedent, and the interpretation of a document written 224 years ago.

Presenter: Sherwin Thomas,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Garrison 3

### **Playing Physician**

Physician's salaries are easily among the highest in America, but physicians also must pay for one of the most expensive educations and malpractice insurances. But with all expenses aside, doesn't the expertise required to be doctors deserve the compensation they receive? I will examine the intricacies of medicine in an evolving society, taking into account the perspectives of both the doctors and the patients. The future of medicine is a balancing act between keeping up with the rapid evolution of technology and trying to accommodate changes in the healthcare system. This balancing act may be the foundation for lucrative futures in medicine or be the beginning of clinical chaos.

Presenter: Audrey Dowis,\* Valdosta State University

Garrison 3

**The Prevalence of Asian Americans in Pre-Med Curricula**

In 21st century America, the practice of medicine offers lucrative careers that allow physicians to gain personal prestige, financial safety, and altruistic satisfaction. Additionally, the path to become a medical doctor for pre-med undergraduates is not only arduous, but also extremely competitive. Overtime, a stereotype has arisen depicting Asian Americans to select only pre-medical studies for their undergraduate careers under the assumption that nearly all Asian Americans wish to become physicians. While this stereotype may not be entirely true, without a doubt, a large percentage of Asian Americans are pre-med students and ultimately do become medical doctors. Therefore, our current study examines the potential explanations behind this phenomenon. Both the historical and political influences among Asian cultures will be investigated.

Presenter: Viet Huynh,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenters: Amiya Ahmed,\* Timothy Fernandez,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

Buccaneer D

**The Impact of Hate: Anti-Semitism in the United States and the Nazi Persecution of the Jews**

Since the horrors of the Holocaust became known to the world almost 70 years ago, people have wondered how the world could have stood by while such evil was perpetrated. I will examine the impact of the three most prolific anti-Semitic groups in the United States on public opinion, and by extension, the American government's response to the Nazi persecution of the Jews during the prewar period of 1933 to 1939.

Presenter: Emily Knight,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Buccaneer D

**The Herero and Namaqua Genocide: The Building Blocks for the Holocaust**

Carried out by the German Empire, the Herero and Namaqua genocide has been recognized by the United Nations as the first genocide of the 20th century. Characteristics of the Holocaust, such as the creation of concentration camps and the use of medical experimentation, are reminiscent of what occurred in South West Africa. By analyzing the Herero and Namaqua genocide, we can see that it provided the German bureaucracy with the experience necessary to carry out the



atrocities that occurred during the Holocaust.

Presenter: Leo Comerlato, Eastern Kentucky University

Buccaneer D      **Dystopian Loopholes: Religious Liberty and Social Inequality**

The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that religious organizations are exempt from the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause in *Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*. I will address the conflict among positive and negative liberty regarding religious freedom, separation of church and state, and individual rights. I will examine the implications of various court rulings to determine whether or not religious freedom is given priority over individual rights. Finally, I will compare various philosophical approaches to liberty and equality to put forth an argument on behalf of social equality.

Presenter: Angelique Witmer,\* Valdosta State University

Esplanade 2      **Teenage Suicides: A Prescription for Prevention**

I will detail both the reasons for teenage suicides being serious, as well as suggesting the ways we can reduce or prevent them altogether. Beginning with facts and figures, I will explain the history, causes and impacts of teenage suicides on our society and discuss possible solutions. By using specific criteria, I will recommend the most achievable solution for our generation.

Presenter: Amita RajGuru,\* University of Tampa

Esplanade 2      **Nature versus Technology: Nature-deficit Disorder in Children**

In 2005, Richard Louv published *Last Child in the Woods*. Louv attests that children are spending less time outdoors and more time interacting with technology, and thus, leading to a multitude of behavioral problems. Does this "condition," aptly named nature-deficit disorder, impact the behavior of children? How is this condition remedied? How can children be introduced to nature both in the curriculum and their home life? How much nature time is enough? To provide answers to these questions, I analyze technological trends in youth,

behavior problems attributed to nature-deficit disorder, as well as solutions to this ongoing issue.

Presenter: Katie Webber,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Esplanade 2

**Do Social Class and Peer Pressure Play a Role in Youth Delinquency?**

In criminology, the strain theory states that social structures within society may pressure citizens to commit crime. The strain theory suggests that individuals, such as youth growing up in lower income communities with negative environments are subject to commit more crimes than those living in affluent communities. I will report my literature search to explain whether or not there is a connection between social classes and peer pressure to delinquent behavior. This conceptual framework helps to understand how these two factors may or may not cause youth to commit violent and/or nonviolent crimes as they develop in society.

Presenter: Erika Dix,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Tenice Rivers,\* Marie Petitcar,\* Miles College

Buccaneer C

**The Future of NetFlix: Splitting the Core Competencies and the Qwikster Abandonment**

Can Netflix bounce back from its attempt to focus on core competencies, making rash business decisions without customer feedback? Netflix's co-founder and CEO Reed Hastings announced in a blog post that Netflix would be splitting up its DVD-by-mail and streaming services into separate businesses. Netflix would live on as a streaming-only service; and soon the DVD service would become Qwikster. Netflix subscribers were enraged, and a customer exodus threatened Netflix shares. We will explore rash business decisions and implications of some historic business decisions that underestimated the customers' loyalty to the brand.

Presenter: Michael Childress,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: Casey Webb,\* Elise Splunge,\* Miles College

Buccaneer C

**Apple – Benefits of Succession Management**

The former CEO of Apple Steve Jobs highlighted the benefits

for creating succession planning for the Apple Company. Various business owners avoid a progression of planning because that progression can perform as a vague reminder of their own deaths. However, taking time to launch a succession plan is important so that a business can remain unharmed by either estimated or unpredicted loss or retirement of a key leader. Succession planning for a business provides the owners' logical options when charting the course for the future so that the future leader can be systematic and prepared to lead the company to its next stage. A formal succession plan can also provide a structure that allows companies to create mentorship and training programs that offer upcoming business leaders the opportunity to learn about the traits and habits that have led to the company's success.

Presenter: Devin Jenkins,\* Miles College

Co-Presenters: John A'rdis,\* Shadrika Martin, Miles College

Buccaneer C

### **The Growing Demand for the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)**

Many believe that UAV technology will be predominant in the technology industry. Currently used in the military battlefield, its potentials and applications will be expanded to other industries in civil sector such as law enforcement, national park rescue, and scientific research. If the obstacles with certifying issues are resolved, the UAV will become a game changer in how not only warfare is fought, but also how lives can be saved. I will explore the history of the UAV, the technology of the different designs, the costs, and the future market demand of the UAV.

Presenter: Ryan Dejesus,\* St. Petersburg College

Esplanade 2

### **Honors Orientation Retreats: Ideas about How to Conduct Them and Why They are Important**

We will explain our Honors orientation retreat from two perspectives. First, the students will present a "nuts and bolts" portion about how our orientation session is completed, including relevant handouts about specific activities. Next, the Honors director will present three years of data showing how students who have attended the optional orientation retreat have had better outcomes than students who did not attend the retreat.

Presenter: Jonathan Roberts,  
Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Co-Presenters: Sara Longaberger,\* AmberKay Palmer,\*  
Michael Page,\* Armstrong Atlantic  
State University

Esplanade 1

**Philosophy Goes to the Movies: A Panel on Philosophical Arguments Made Through Film Interpretation**

Our panel will explore the use of film as a vehicle for discussing philosophical arguments. Austin Burke explores ethical issues through the movie *Crimes and Misdemeanors*. Jonathan Bedell examines the concept of personal identity through the film *Memento*. Kathleen Holden speaks to the problems of free will and the meaning of life through the films *Leaving Las Vegas* and *Minority Report*. The professor will conclude with comments about using film effectively as a tool to teach philosophy.

Presenter: Dr. Malcolm Munson, Greenville Technical College  
Co-Presenters: Austin Burke, Jonathan Bedell,\* Kathleen Holden,\* Greenville Technical College

Buccaneer A

**The Powers of Story Telling in Medical Education and Treatment**

The traditional pre-medical curriculum does not include a medical humanities component. However, the field of narrative medicine has burgeoned in recent years thanks to a growing acknowledgment of the therapeutic effects of writing. Doctors such as Abraham Verghese have revolutionized medical storytelling and pedagogy through their honest descriptions of their experiences. At UAB, students have further developed the power of storytelling through the creation of Healing Words: volunteers read to patients to provide them an escape from their suffering. By combining an understanding of the writing process and the power of storytelling, we believe that students can come to a better appreciation of medicine. We, three pre-medical students, will explore the benefits of creative writing and storytelling.

Presenter: Rachael Rosales,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Co-Presenters: Aditi Jani,\* Pooja Gajare,\*  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

**Buccaneer A      The Effect of Professional Dental Cleaning on Oral Microbiology**

The mouth has a rich population of indigenous organism accumulating on both the hard and soft oral tissues. These organisms prevent the colonization of several pathogens, but also play a crucial role in digestion. Teeth are continually bathed in saliva which contains calcium and other substances that help strengthen and protect the teeth. While the saliva is necessary, it also means that there is a tendency to have a buildup of calcium deposits on the teeth which provides several risk factors for the growth of pathogenic bacteria, which can cause dental caries. Therefore, it is important to minimize the buildup of these bacteria both through daily and professional cleaning. The purpose of this research was to compare the type and distribution of oral microbiology before and after the treatment by a dental professional who removes the plaque. The bacterial colonies were isolated and individual species identified.

Presenter: Mira Tissari,\* Averett University

**Esplanade 3      Walmart's Foray into Asian Markets: Is It Working?**

Walmart, an American corporation that runs chains of department stores and warehouse stores, expanded its markets overseas into several Asian countries. The expansion was successful in Japan and China, and Walmart discount superstores exist and thrive in these countries today. However, Walmart did not succeed with its operations in South Korea. The largest discount retailer in the world failed to appeal to South Koreans and was ultimately forced to cease its efforts in that country. We will discuss the reasons for Walmart's success in Japan and China, as well as the reasons for its failure in South Korea. Armed with this information, we will then explore the possibilities and limitations for Walmart's expansion into a market of massive potential—India.

Presenter: Yakov Kandathil,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenter: Ian Hopkins,\* Eastern Kentucky University

# Appendix I

## Consultants Center

### Garrison 1

#### Consultants Center: Friday, March 30, 2012

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2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Dr. Stuart Silverman**, University of South Florida  
Undergraduate Research  
Living/Learning Communities  
International Service Learning

**Dr. Tom Jones**, Gardner-Webb University  
Student Activities  
Student Organizations

**Dr. Valerie Burke**, Valencia State College  
From Community College to State College

3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Tony Cerise**, The Washington Center for Internships and  
Academic Seminars  
Academic Internships  
Experiential Education

**Dr. Richard Scott**, University of Central Arkansas  
Recruitment and Admissions  
Scholarships  
Alumni Affairs/Fundraising

**Dr. Charlotte Pressler**, South Florida Community College  
Directing Honors in a Two-Year College

4:00pm – 5:00pm

**Dr. Gary Luter**, University of Tampa  
Harvard Model United Nations  
Oxford Semesters

**Dr. Linda Frost**, Eastern Kentucky University  
Curriculum Development  
Honors Residence Hall  
Living/Learning Communities

**Dr. Lydia Lyons**, Hillsborough Community College  
Designing an Honors Program  
Student Organizations  
Developing Honors Courses

## Consultants Center: Saturday, March 31, 2012

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9:00am – 10:00am

**Dr. Greg Lanier**, University of West Florida  
Assessment  
Honors Leadership  
Beginning in Honors™

**Dr. John Richardson**, University of Louisville  
SRHC 2013 in Louisville  
Honors Programs/Colleges at Public Universities  
Major Scholarships/NAFA

**Kelly Urbizu**, Hillsborough Community College  
Advising  
Recruitment  
Retention

10:00am – 11:00am

**Kate Bruce**, University of North Carolina Wilmington  
Portz Awards and Grants  
International Studies on a Budget

**Dr. Jack Rhodes**, The Citadel  
Post-Graduate Scholarships Preparation  
Honors Tutorials  
Admissions Interviews

**Dr. Mark Goldman**, Tallahassee Community College  
Recruiting  
Strategic Planning  
Faculty Development

11:00am – 12:00pm

**Dr. Barry Falk**, James Madison University  
Curriculum  
External Relations  
Study Abroad

**Dr. Frank Provenzano**, Greenville Technical College  
Student Recruitment and Retention  
Designing Honors Classes in Two-Year Colleges

**Dr. Richard Scott**, University of Central Arkansas  
Recruitment and Admissions  
Scholarships  
Alumni Affairs/Fundraising

## Consultants Center: Saturday, March 31, 2012

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2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Dr. Mike Sloan**, University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Interdisciplinary Curriculum  
Budget/Staffing  
Working with Administration

**Dr. Kathy Lyon**, Winthrop University  
Service Learning  
Study Abroad  
Honors Housing

**Dr. Nadia Yevstigneyeva**, St. Petersburg College  
Recruitment/Admissions  
Growth and Development  
Teaching Strategies

3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Dr. Alvin Wang**, University of Central Florida  
Honors Fundraising  
Administration  
Recruitment Best Practices

**Dr. John Zubizarreta**, Columbia College  
Using Portfolio to Assess Student Learning  
Program Effectiveness

**Kelly Urbizu**, Hillsborough Community College  
Advising  
Recruitment  
Retention



# Appendix II

## POSTER SESSIONS AND VISUAL ART EXHIBITION

**Saturday, March 31; 7:30am – 8:30am**

### **A Flower Series**

A collection of paintings inspired by the talented Georgia O'Keefe was built over the span of a year when the artist began to explore the fundamentals of acrylic painting while trying to capture the beauty of a flower as O'Keefe could in her pieces. Each flower shown caught the artist's eye because of its beauty, intricacy, or flaws.

Presenter: Jasmine Bienvenue,\* University of Tampa

### **Improving Interview Skills of Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using a Mixed- Reality Environment**

The transition from high school to productive post secondary settings poses challenges for all students, but especially for students with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) who can struggle in social settings. Our study aimed to improve the interviewing skills of students with ID, as measured by their overt behaviors, verbal communication styles, and the content of their answers. In our study, five young adult students with ID each participated in live interviews with employees of the Office of Career Services, treatment interviews with a virtual avatar in the TLE TeachLive™ lab, live individualized coaching sessions, and follow-up live interviews with Career Services. Following treatment, students participated in live post-interviews to see if the improvements in the mixed-reality setting generalized to the live environment.

Presenter: Daniella Chavez,\* University of Central Florida  
Co-Presenter: Amirica Nicholson,\* University of Central Florida

### **An Interdisciplinary Study of Sustainable Agriculture Techniques In Developing Countries**

Looking at new technologies in sustainable agriculture, I have studied and observed the influences and efficiency of composting, complement farming, hydroponics and organoponics in the Caribbean island of St. Kitts and Nevis and in El Silencio, Costa Rica. My project looks at the access of materials, methods, and implementation of sustainable agriculture techniques in developing countries. My main focus is how these countries can become self-sufficient and also agriculturally competitive in the world market.

Presenter: Kristi Ray,\* University of Central Florida

### **Gender Issues and Equity in 21st Century Children’s Picture Books**

There has been an abundance of research in the past 50 years about gender bias and gender equity in the picture books that children read as they are developing. Research about children’s literature is significant because these books are being read to impressionable children who are at formative ages when they are developing their notions about what it means to be male and female in society. It is suggested that the stereotyping of story characters teaches young readers a lesson about the relative worth of boys and girls in American society: that “boys are more highly valued than girls” because historically male characters are featured more frequently than female characters. My research aimed to discover if gender bias still exists in today’s (2001-2011) award winning Caldecott award and honor books. Through the use of a specially designed survey instrument, a frequency analysis and a content analysis, I determined and will report whether or not male images and characters still dominate children’s picture books.

Presenter: Nicole Yello,\* University of Central Florida

### **China, Taiwan and the One China Principle**

Is Taiwan a part of China, or is Taiwan its own country? Recently, China has published a “one China principle” that basically states that the Taiwan government is an inalienable part of China. Some in Taiwan would disagree on this issue. Yet both sides have their own viewpoints as to why Taiwan is or isn’t a part of China. I will compare and contrast the reasons why Taiwan is or isn’t a part of China. My poster will report my exploration of the issue more in depth, as to both sides of the argument, and the history of the political breakup.

Presenter: Kane Magnuson,\* St. Petersburg College

### **The New Frontier of Biodegradable Plastics**

Displayed on my poster will be the differences between plastics made from petrochemicals and bio-plastics and the reasons researchers are looking for alternatives to traditional plastics. An outline of the various research groups and companies that are developing bio-plastics, how these companies are marketing them, and why they think there is an advantage to using environmentally safe plastics will be depicted. Included will be information on the impact of traditional plastics on the environment, and why some think Biodegradable plastics are a better alternative, but also will explain concerns about bio-plastics as well.

Presenter: Joy Temple-Link,\* St. Petersburg College

**“It is a Capital Mistake to Film Before One has Data:” Guy Ritchie’s Sherlock Holmes**

“The book is better than the movie.”Unfortunately, this is often said without giving the idea any real consideration. My poster will display the issues of literature to film adaptation. Using Guy Ritchie’s Sherlock Holmes films as a case study, I hope to demonstrate what is necessary for highly adapted texts, such as those by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, to be translated into cinema.

Presenter: Luke Grimes,\* Morehead State University

**The Ascent of the Red Dragon: The Dangers of China Becoming #1**

Despite the recent economic boom in China and its elevation in gross domestic product ranking, China’s rise to the number one largest economy may have some unseen consequences to countries in the world. The overall literature on China shows that it’s the place to invest. It’s the place that has the riches. It’s the place associated with prosperity. However, the unseen consequences of China becoming the largest economy in the world can affect us in the U.S. in more ways than one. These consequences range from the national level, to the governmental, to even the personal level. My poster will depict these unseen consequences and bring them to light.

Presenter: Kane Magnuson,\* St. Petersburg College

**An Investigation of Emotional Labor and Job Performance Rating**

My poster will focus on emotional exhaustion and the Big Five Personality traits. Each personality trait will be analyzed to determine its relationship with emotional exhaustion. Implications for emotional labor and performance ratings research will be displayed.

Presenter: Danielle Watson, Radford University

**Behavioral Response of Switching Dogs to Previously Occupied Kennels**

Dogs are social animals that form close bonds with humans and other animals. However, shelter dogs are placed in isolated kennels where they are not able to interact. In our study, we determined whether dogs can be enriched when switched to kennels that were previously occupied. Dogs were exposed to one of three kennel treatments after a five minute walk: previously occupied kennel treatment, unoccupied kennel treatment, and original kennel treatment. Observations were recorded via video cameras for 15 minutes per trial. The kennel switch design provides insight as to whether or not dogs are enriched socially shown by a change in behavioral response, such as the rate of investigation. Data suggested that dogs were more stimulated within previously occupied and unoccupied kennels. Our study provided techniques to improve the welfare of shelter animals through enrichment, while still following health protocol of the shelter.

Presenter: Monique Bessette,\* Florida Gulf Coast University  
Co-Presenter: Eileen Mesa,\* Florida Gulf Coast University

### **Benefits of Shiatsu**

Shiatsu is a form of Japanese body massage which utilizes meridians running throughout the body. Manipulation of these energy channels allows the masseuse to heal headaches, stomach ailments, menstruation pain, and other bodily problems that cause the person to weather serious pain. Shiatsu is a gentle way of helping people feel good and stay healthy and comfortable throughout their lives.

Presenter: Aliena Howard,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Breeding Status, Claw Type, and Lunar Cycle Affects on the Claw Closing Force in Fiddler Crabs**

The sand fiddler crab, *Uca Pugilator* is a keystone species found along the Atlantic Coast of the United States. Their singular enlarged claw is used in contests with other males for possession of breeding burrows and mates. Contests are increased at certain points of the lunar cycle when females are most actively attempting to breed. The claws are often shed as a defensive mechanism, and replacement claws are grown. The replacement claws are not less powerful. Males are split into two categories: breeders (who fight for mates) and feeders. In field testing, over 1,000 crabs were tested for strength. Males with original claws were stronger than those without original claws, breeding males were stronger at the new and full moons, and breeding males were shown to be stronger than feeding males. This information about the breeding behavior of these crabs can give understanding to environmental protection for whole ecosystems.

Presenter: Jordan Logue,\* Georgia Southern University

### **Building a Better Rollercoaster**

We were asked to design the first ascent and drop for a new rollercoaster. We decided to make the slope of the ascent 0.8 and the slope drop -1.6. At first, we connected these two straight stretches using part of a parabola. Our design looked smooth, but we decided to improve upon it to make it feel smooth. We still used a quadratic function, but connected it to the linear functions by means of two cubic functions assuring the piecewise defined function had a continuous second derivative throughout.

Presenter: Zachary Bryant,\* Santa Fe College

### **China - the New Superpower?**

China has claimed its well-deserved position among the very top of global political countries, especially following the global economic downturn of 2008. Many people find

themselves wondering if China will become the next superpower. If so, what impact would that have on the global economy? Would China, as a superpower, just replace the former Soviet Union and possibly increase tensions with the United States? The poster will reflect how China has experienced an unimaginable growth in such a short time and China's ability to become a superpower. China must face some serious problems, such as its huge and aging population, poverty rates, environmental pollution, and over-dependency on non-renewable resources. China can become a very different superpower than we have known before; therefore, my poster explains how we should respond to China's national and economic development.

Presenter: K. Chase Kelly,\* Valdosta State University

### **Community-Dwelling Older, Former Heavy Smokers: Increased Risk for Incident Heart Failure**

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, after 15 years of smoking abstinence, the cardiovascular risk of former smokers becomes similar to that of never-smokers. However, whether this health benefit varies by the number and duration of past smoking remains unknown. Data from the Cardiovascular Health Study were analyzed to examine the risk of incident heart failure (HF) among former smokers who quit smoking >15 years ago. Former smokers were categorized into quartiles of pack-years of prior smoking, the highest being heavy smokers. Cox regression models were used to determine the comparative risk of incident HF. Results indicate that adults in the highest quartile who smoked > 32 pack-years had a significantly increased risk of incident HF. In conclusion, after over 15 years of abstinence, the risk of incident HF among most former, older smokers becomes similar to that of never-smokers. However, this health benefit may not extend to former heavy smokers.

Presenter: Amiya Ahmed,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

### **Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery “Simplified”**

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in America affecting over 81 million people. I describe on my poster the medical remedy of Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery. The operation is defined by the Cleveland Clinic to be a surgical procedure in which one or more blocked coronary arteries are bypassed with (a) blood vessel graft(s) to restore normal blood flow to the heart. The surgical procedure was observed at the Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Hospital and further researched to elucidate the modus operandi. For simplification purposes, this analysis primarily focuses on the distinct role of the surgeon. An incredible accomplishment of science and medicine are thus revealed to the public.

Presenter: Kaia Hampton,\* University of Tampa

### **Dental Health Among the Kentucky Adena**

Anthropologists have recognized that early agriculturalists experienced dietary and health issues as they transitioned from being hunter-gathering. Yet many critical aspects of human health during this transition are not clearly understood. About 2500-1800 years ago, the Adena lived in the Ohio Valley at a time when Native Americans began to transition from hunter-gathering to agriculture. I will focus on the dental health observed in 34 Adena skulls housed at the University of Kentucky. Specifically, compared with hunter-gatherer societies, increases in dental caries, calculus, abscesses, alveolar resorption, and enamel hypoplasias were expected. Although the Adena showed substantial tooth wear, the individuals typically had few hypoplasias, caries, or abscesses, but had moderate calculus. The increase in tooth wear may be linked to the Adena food processing techniques. Otherwise, the Adena dentition lacks the scope of dental problems observed in early Native American agriculturalists.

Presenter: Bernadette Johnson,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Determining the Least Stressful Environment for the Domestic Cat through Analysis of Cortisol Levels in Indoor versus Outdoor Cats**

Many people own domestic cats, that usually live in one of three different environments. They are normally kept inside, outside, or let in and out of the home. The purpose of my experiment was to determine which environment is least stressful for the domestic cat. Three different groups of cats were analyzed: an indoor group, an outdoor group, and an indoor/outdoor group. Cat hair samples were collected during three different times and analyzed for the hormone cortisol. The cortisol levels of the three groups were compared to determine whether there was any significant difference in the stress levels of the three different groups of cats. My hypothesis was that the outdoor group would have the highest levels of cortisol, the indoor/outdoor group would have the next highest levels of cortisol, and the indoor group would have the lowest levels of cortisol, indicating the least amount of stress.

Presenter: Brittany Fournet,\* Winthrop University

### **Discovery and Genomic Analysis of Mycobacteriophages: The Scientific Journey and Contribution of an Honors Course**

Bacteriophages, or phages, are viruses known to infect specific bacteria and have been most useful historically in the understanding of genetic, evolutionary, and biochemical processes and are useful in numerous medical and industrial applications. During a two-semester honors course, phages of common soil bacteria *Mycobacterium smegmatis* and *Bacillus pumilus*, relatives of the well-known pathogens *M. tuberculosis* and *B. anthracis*, respectively, were isolated and utilized for genomic analysis. The complex year-long process involved the purification, classification based on physical observation, and genomic and proteomic analysis of approximately forty unique bacteriophages utilizing modern-day technology, such as electron microscopy, Polymerase Chain Reaction and

gene prediction software. Exposed early in their undergraduate careers to the independent research setting, students have contributed to the understanding of bacteriophages and their specific hosts and published their results in an online database.

Presenter: Brittany Rife,\* James Madison University

### **Effect of Genistein After Spinal Cord Injury in Male Rats**

The administration of estrogen post-SCI (spinal cord injury) reduced neuronal cell loss, reduced inflammation, reduced apoptosis, and improved the functional recovery due to the activation of estrogen receptors alpha and beta in a rat model. Genistein, a phytoestrogen derived from plants such as kudzu root and soy, activates the non-feminizing estrogen receptor beta because of structural similarities to estrogen. Estrogen receptor beta is also found widely throughout the adult spinal cord. Therefore, the protective potential of genistein in male rats was evaluated. Post-SCI administration of genistein caused an increase in skilled and unskilled forepaw use as compared to vehicle control. These data indicate that genistein causes an increased functional recovery. Therefore, genistein is protective when administered after SCI in male rats.

Presenter: Roxanne Lockhart,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

### **The Effects of Land-Use Patterns on Water Quality in Alamuchee Creek**

Biomonitoring is the process of collecting organisms (such as fish, insects, or bivalves) to determine water quality in an aquatic environment. In my study, aquatic insects were employed as the biomonitoring organisms. Alamuchee Creek flows through Lauderdale County, Mississippi to Sumter County, Alabama and drains approximately 146.07km<sup>2</sup> of land in the two counties. Four sampling areas were selected along the length of the stream from Kewanee, Mississippi to Livingston, Alabama. Representative subsamples of 100 specimens were collected in various habitats of the sample area from each site and were used in a multimetric approach to water quality assessment. Species richness, EPT richness, EPT to chironomid ratio, species diversity, percent EPT, and family biotic-index metrics were included in the study. Environmental parameters including water temperature, conductivity, and dissolved oxygen content were taken along with insect collections.

Presenter: Sarah J. McDill,\* The University of West Alabama

### **Emerging from the Cave: Women and the Civil War**

In the absence of men during the American Civil War, Southern and Northern women assumed contrasting roles throughout their initial introduction to the public sphere. Our research reveals that these women can directly be compared to the prisoners and their reactions to the outside world in Plato's Cave Allegory. Northern women essentially used the Civil War as stepping stones for securing permanent places for themselves in the

professional world, while Southern elite women simply refused to pursue lives outside of the domestic spheres. When comparing Plato's Cave and the varying roles that both Southern and Northern women assumed during the Civil War Era, we can directly define women as the prisoners of a domestic lifestyle, categorize active middle-class Northern women such as Clara Barton and Dorothea Dix as prisoners who viewed the Civil War as gateways to escape the cave; and finally, characterize elite Southern women such as Sarah Morgan and the wife of Basil Jewell as prisoners who were dragged out of the cave, only to demonstrate the desire to return to their submissive lifestyles.

Presenter: Emily Coleman,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenter: Haley Mullins,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **The Environmental History of South Georgia's Banks Lake**

Banks Lake is a shallow, macrophyte-dominated lake located in south Georgia that originated in the mid-1800's as a dammed wetland. Other shallow lakes in the southeastern US have been shown to exist as either macrophyte-dominated or algal-dominated systems. Changing between the two states can occur rapidly and is typically caused by environmental factors such as nutrients and water level. In order to determine where Banks Lake lies on this continuum between the alternative ecosystem states, a sediment core was collected prior to the most recent drainage period. We analyzed organic matter, nutrients, stable isotopes, and photosynthetic pigments on lake sediments to reconstruct the environmental history of the lake. Results show an increase during recent periods of management in organic material and nutrients as well as changes in isotopic and pigment signatures. These stratigraphies will be used to assess better the effectiveness of the current management practices.

Presenter: M. Shannon Clark,\* Valdosta State University  
Co-Presenter: Kimberly Edwards,\* Valdosta State University

### **Evolution in the States: Teaching Through the Controversy**

The battle between evolutionists and creationists has made its way into America's public schools. Not all students receive the same knowledge before graduation. To investigate this rift in education, my poster will show the difference between the two ideas in terms of their appropriateness in a science classroom. I will utilize a study conducted in 2000 that evaluated how well the theory of evolution was taught in each state. In order to calculate the potential influence of politics and religion on this controversy, my poster will display the religion concentration maps and political party preference by state from the 2000 presidential election. I found that of the states with failing scores, 52% were Republicans while only 16% were Democrats. Similarly, only 6% were predominantly Catholic compared to 37% Baptist. I repeated this process with data from 2008 to study the changes over time. To conclude, I will distinguish the proper and incorrect methods of teaching evolution.



Presenter: Chelsie Norton,\* Valdosta State University

**An Examination of the Components and Mathematics of the Enigma Electromechanical Rotor Ciphers**

My poster has the description of the mathematics of the Enigma electromechanical rotor ciphers used by Germany during WWII. Included is my calculation of the strength of encryption granted by each component for the three-rotor configuration of the Wehrmacht Enigma variant used by the German Army, in 1932. My poster will explain the examinations of the mathematical solutions of Marian Rejewski in order to show the significance of contributions from the Polish Cipher Bureau prior to the beginning of World War II.

Presenter: Kristi Short,\* Santa Fe College

**The Expression of Prostate Specific Antigen in Both Prepubescent and Post Pubescent Males Under the Age of Eighteen**

My study addressed specifically how the protein prostate specific antigen (PSA) is expressed in males of various ages. PSA is used as a diagnostic marker for prostate cancer in males over the age of 18 and is known to function normally as an enzyme that liquefies semen in these men. My study tests if and when PSA is expressed in prepubescent and post pubescent adolescents, using immunohistochemistry to compare PSA expression between the two adolescent groups and males who have undergone radical prostatectomy. PSA is expressed by the epithelial cells of the tubuloacinar glands in both adolescents and adult males. I, therefore, report on my poster for the first time that PSA is expressed in males under eighteen years old.

Presenter: Ashley Bateman,\* Winthrop University

**Facebook: Social Network or Social Illusion?**

Philosophy teaches the importance of an examined life. In the spirit of this maxim, the examined life should be applied to the emerging tools of technology and the questions that arise from these new technologies. The 21st century bares witness to the rise of social networks. These social networks are becoming the primary way of communication among individuals. For example, a 2011 Nielsen report “Social Media Report: Q3 2011” states that Facebook is the most popular online platform for social networks and has become the site on which Americans spend most of their time. Furthermore, many different claims and opinions describe the usefulness and effects of Facebook on individuals and society. These claims underscore the necessity of asking questions; for instance, why is it important to examine the social network and its impact on individuals and society? In addition, Facebook claims that its platform allows for greater

freedom to communicate. Therefore, it is necessary to determine if this statement holds true; or if in fact, the very nature of Facebook's platform limits and influences the content.

Presenter: Phillip Pitts,\* Santa Fe College

### **Fitness and the Workplace**

The relationships of physical fitness and acute exercise on executive control process and attention in working age adults was examined using 41 participants, both male and female. Various fitness measures were taken, and participants performed two cognitive tasks pre and post the step test that simulated exercise. Results demonstrated that alerting, reaction time, and accuracy all improved between pre and post step tests for the attention task for males and females combined. The working memory task also improved pre and post step test for males and females combined. Females showed more significant improvement than males in all tasks, demonstrating differences in cognitive effects across genders. These results may lead to the implementation of fitness interventions in the workplace to decrease employee accident and injury and increase worker productivity.

Presenter: Milissa Rydzik,\* Limestone College

### **Harry Potter to Harry Potter: The Hopeful Journey from Literature to Literature**

Harry Potter is a children's book series which is the highest grossing franchise of our generation and also can be considered a lifestyle. Within twelve years, one woman has completely changed the face of reading in multiple generations. The books not only draw the readers into worlds unknown yet familiar, they also give us hope, make us cry, and allow us to see the importance of love and friendship. What does it mean to be canonized? It is it possible that a mere children's book could breach the boundaries of literature and hoist itself upon the same pedestal as the classics, and nestle itself there? Can a pop culture sensation and a lifestyle of millions force itself to canonization?

Presenter: Nicholas Wade,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Co-Presenter: Aaron Ash,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **From Many, There is One**

The symbolism of the strong graphic beauty and emotional connection people have with the American flag often compels me to use it in my paintings. There is something very gripping, romantic and empowering about the symbol. The symbol is easily readable and, I believe, very personal because it brings different

meanings and emotions in every one of us. For me, it is a symbol of my independence, a symbol of my hunger for fast life full of opportunity, creation and growth. My specific art exhibit explores the symbolism of American flag.

Presenter: Agnes Black,\* University of Tampa

### **Holiday Season Health Behaviors: Relations Among Mindfulness, Rumination and Compensatory Health Beliefs**

The current research investigates the relationship among three cognitive variables—mindfulness, rumination and self-compassion—and Compensatory Health Beliefs (CHBs). CHBs are beliefs that unhealthy behaviors can be balanced out by healthy behaviors, such as, “I can drink a milkshake tonight because I will exercise tomorrow.” The research further examines how CHBs and cognitive variables relate to health choices made during the 2011 holiday season and subsequent New Year’s resolutions. Data collected through an online survey consisted of the Mindfulness Attention Awareness Scale, Rumination-Reflection Questionnaire, Compensatory Health Beliefs Scale, a modified version of the Self-Compassion Scale, demographic questions, and questions about holiday health choices and New Year’s resolutions. From the data collected, I examined relations among the cognitive variables, health choices, and demographic variables using correlations. T-test and ANOVAs were used to examine gender and race.

Presenter: Elise Howell,\* Winthrop University

### **Horse Power: The Benefits of Equine Therapy for Disabled Children**

Throughout the centuries, horses have taken on countless responsibilities: from leading armies into wars to chasing down Olympic dreams; the horse has always been there to help mankind when needed. Indeed, it could be said that the horse has done more to change history than any other animal on Earth. However, horses may be able to do more for some people than jump over fences and gallop around race tracks. Recently, horse riding has become a popular form of therapy for children with a variety of disabilities and illnesses. Research shows that being around equines has many physiological and psychological benefits for the children. My poster will show those benefits and ask the question, should alternative methods, such as equine therapy, be used more frequently to help disabled children?

Presenter: Kirsty Wright,\* St. Petersburg College

**Woodworking: A Progressive Exhibit**

The original pieces from the humble tank beginnings, to the Gibson Les Paul Custom '59 (with modifications) as well as sample woodworking plans and some “tools of the trade” will be displayed in this woodworking exhibit.

Presenter: Nathaniel Dionne,\* St. Petersburg College

**Sunday, April 1; 7:15am – 8:15am**

**If It Is Broken, Fix It**

Though it has long been a homespun truism in the southern United States, the phrase “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” should be reexamined. If it is broken, we must fix it. In response to historically high child and adult obesity rates, rising healthcare costs, and a shortsighted focus on treatment rather than prevention, our research project explored three possible “fixes” for health indicators that are indicative of “broken” lifestyles. First, we examined the impact of advertising on obesity. With more than \$4 billion invested in advertising by the fast food industry in one year, we addressed the question: can these same advertising tactics be used to reverse obesity trends and promote better nutrition? Second, we considered the role of exercise from early childhood through adolescence. We evaluated the psychological and physiological effects of involvement in one sport, gymnastics, relative to physical, social, and character development. Third, we investigated and compared the homeopathic and alternative medicine to traditional models of healthcare. We will present our conclusions as to cost-effective measures to promote wellness in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Presenter: Katherine Redmond,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenters: Shelby Holzknecht,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Kristen Hogan,\* Eastern Kentucky University

**If the Glass Shoe Fits: The Princess Paradox**

I investigated the correlation between internalized princess ideal and later career path, feminine ideal, and overall life satisfaction. The princess ideal includes physical traits (young, very thin, and beautiful) and personality traits (goodness, kindness, and a caring nature). Previous research investigated children, but my study explored whether the effect of the princess media persists into young adulthood. Participants were women currently pursuing undergraduate degrees. The data were collected using a survey measuring endorsement of princess ideals, career selection, and current feminine ideal. Correlations were computed between princess ideal, feminine ideal, and life satisfaction. Differences in the princess ideal between relational and non-relational occupations were compared using a t-test. The results demonstrated that the more internalized the idea of “princessness” is, the more likely the participant will demonstrate conformity to

the feminine norms and pursue a relational career.

Presenter: Meagan Hogarth,\* Winthrop University

### **Inflammatory Mediators Decrease Myelin Basic Protein Expression**

Newly generated oligodendrocytes are detected in brain lesions associated with cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis providing a potential mechanism for brain repair, but fail to myelinate axons suggesting a disruption in maturation or inability to make functional contacts with axons. A common pathogenesis in both of these diseases is inflammation characterized by infiltration of immune cells into the brain and/or spinal cord, astrocytosis, microgliosis, and production of cytokines. Using a co-culture system of immune cells and oligodendrocytes, we have evidence that inflammatory mediators associated with cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis decrease expression of myelin basic protein (MBP), an integral component of the myelin sheath. Our data also show that inflammatory mediators increase activation of c-Jun, a transcription factor that has been demonstrated to downregulate MBP promoter activity. Furthermore, our data demonstrate that inflammatory mediators increase activation of c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK), a mitogen activated protein kinase that activates the transcription factor c-Jun. Taken together, these data suggest that inflammatory activation of JNK causes transcriptional repression of MBP by activating c-Jun.

Presenter: Kantidara Tjiang,\* University of Alabama at Birmingham

### **Instrument Development in Atomic Emission Spectroscopy**

An atomic emission spectrometer with aluminum atomization and tungsten coil emission light source will be described. The light source is prepared by pipetting 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of a slightly concentrated metal solution onto a tungsten coil. Experimental parameters have been optimized for five test elements to give limits of detection obtained with this system that are, in most cases, as good as those obtained through traditional inductively coupled plasma source. This system offers an inexpensive emission source with the ability to determine most metals.

Presenter: Jamaal Cox,\* Winthrop University

### **It's a Bird! It's a Plane! It's...Socrates? Superheroes and Socratic Justice**

The superheroes we know and love have become more than just two dimensional figures scattered across colorful comic book pages; they are role models and theoretical friends to our troubled society. The characteristics these heroes display and the values they defend are a manifestation of Socratic justice. Superheroes became popular during a time of economic downturn and national despair, so they were infused with extraordinary character in order to boost

morale in the struggling nation. Today, they serve the same purpose; to inspire faith and promote the pursuit of justice.

Presenter: Makenna Jennings,\* Eastern Kentucky University

Co-Presenter: Alex Anderson,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Jellyfish Phylogenetics**

Phylogenetics is a branch of science that is poorly understood by the public but essential to the creation and utility of all biological discoveries. Understanding the evolutionary relationships between different organisms creates a foundation for study that allows us to understand holistically the function and biological context in which each organism resides. My project, through the study of jellyfish nematocysts (stinging cells), allows us to distinguish between Pacific and Atlantic specimens and to understand how the cnidome (array of stinging cells found in each jellyfish) changes in relation to geography and time. Misidentifying jellyfish species and stings has serious implications due to the

danger posed by the jellyfish's toxic sting. Toxicology studies in Australia and Hawaii have been hampered by a lack of phylogenetic studies that would correlate the type of stings observed and the jellyfish that deliver them.

Presenter: Daniel Keil,\* University of Central Arkansas

### **Maintaining and Modernizing *Sanctuary*: Methods of Constructing SRHC's Official Literary Journal**

*Sanctuary*, the official literary arts journal for the Southern Regional Honors Council, serves annually as a creative outlet for over eighty institutions. The publication accepts a variety of works including poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, foreign language pieces, visual art, photography, and digital art. This year, we sought to increase the participation of SRHC institutions by opening Editorial Board positions to all schools. Furthermore, we worked to make *Sanctuary* more interactive by celebrating the release of the 2011 edition at UAB's Spencer Honors House, filming students as they read and discussed their accepted pieces, and creating a Facebook group. In doing so, we hoped to enhance students' interest in the journal. For the 2012 edition, we have received over 60 submissions from 28 authors of participating institutions. In February and March, the Editorial Board used a blind review process through *Sanctuary*'s Wordpress blog to select submissions.

Presenter: Ashley Jones,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

Co-Presenter: Michelle Chang,\* University of Alabama, Birmingham

### **Method Validation of Caffeine ELISA for Raw Waters**

With cancer and heart disease rates on the rise it's no wonder that an ever increasing number of pharmaceuticals are circulating in our environment. Unused prescriptions are often flushed down toilets, and other trace amounts of unchanged drugs are excreted

through urination; therefore, the presence of pharmaceuticals are being detected in our raw water sources and have begun to affect our environment negatively. The current method for pharmaceutical detection and quantification is Liquid Chromatography Mass Spec/Mass Spec (LC-MS/MS). This instrument, however, is very expensive and requires an analyst to be very well trained in order to complete the method accurately and precisely. For my project, I tested and validated an alternative method: Caffeine ELISA. This method does not require extensive training and can be used for only a fraction of the cost of LC-MS/MS. Through my experiment, I wished to either validate, or eliminate, Caffeine ELISA as a viable method for drug detection in raw waters.

Presenter: Julie Hickerson,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Microglia Enhance Myelin Basic Protein Expression**

Oligodendrocytes (OLs) are myelin producing cells in the central nervous system (CNS) that provide the insulation around axons to promote proper signal conduction of nerve impulses. Mature OLs are recognized by their expression of myelin basic protein (MBP), an integral component of the myelin sheath. Understanding how the myelin forms is important for designing therapeutic targets to promote remyelination in inflammatory white matter diseases such as multiple sclerosis. During pathological conditions, microglia can become activated and release harmful toxins. However, microglia can also release trophic factors important for cell function. Our imaging studies using cultured rat cells demonstrated that OLs have increased branching in the presence of microglia as well as an increase in the length of actin filaments determined by phalloidin staining. These results were confirmed by an increase in protein expression of MBP and actin in OLs. Furthermore, while microglia conditioned media increased expression of MBP in OLs compared to control, co-culturing microglia with OLs further potentiated an increase in MBP. These data suggest that contact dependence as well as diffusible factors released from microglia are important for myelination.

Presenter: Beum Su Kim,\* University of Alabama at Birmingham

### **Music and the Savage Beast**

In Sarajevo, cellist Vedran Smailovi's music inspired life in defiance of death-dealing snipers' bullets. Szpilman's sonorous piano aided his rescue and survival of the Holocaust. Gustav Mahler's niece, violinist Alma Rosé conducted an orchestra of prisoners at Auschwitz-Birkenau, reportedly staying the evil of the likes of Josef Mengele — if only for a short time. In contrast to these images of music soothing the savage beast, Simon Bikindi purposefully used musical lyrics to incite massacres during the Rwandan genocide. Crimes against humanity are known to have been committed against a backdrop of rock music punctuating the violence. Considering the role of music both in soothing and inciting the savage, our project examined the life and role of music and musicians in politicides, genocides, and war. Our cross-cultural and

historical research examines the nature of music both in preventing and inciting violence.

Presenter: Damir S. Siahkoochi,\* Eastern Kentucky University  
Co-Presenter: Gabriel O. Fernandes,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) Polymer Surface Attachment**

My research focused on polymer surface modification. Previous research has indicated that it is possible to convert the methyl groups on a PDMS polymer surface to carboxylic acid groups through irradiation at 254 nm UV light in an oxygen rich environment. The formation of carboxylic groups on the polymer surface opens a number of frontiers that may be explored. These areas include protein and cellular attachment and metallization which may prevent the attachment of biological entities to specific areas of the surface. In this instance, I was interested in attaching silver from AgNO<sub>3</sub> solution onto the negatively charged carboxylic acid groups. The surface modification is characterized through infrared spectroscopy and contact angle measurement. The PDMS attachment of silver would allow for further advancement in surface chemistry research, especially for preventing the attachment of biological molecules like proteins.

Presenter: JungHyun (Christina) Lee,\* University of Alabama in Huntsville

### **Peanut Seed Assay**

Organically grown peanuts are in high demand, but in low supply. Peanuts are extremely susceptible to soil-inhabiting pathogens, making it important to find acceptable methods to protect the seed and its early stages of growth in organic systems. A peanut assay was conducted at Valdosta State University in 2011 to determine the efficacy of organic seed treatments for control of *Rhizopus* sp. and *Aspergillus* sp., two common soil inhabiting pathogens. Eight different treatments, including wet and dry preparations of Nordox, Copper Sulfate, Kodiak, and Actinogrow, were compared against a negative control (untreated seed) and a positive control (Dynasty seed treatment). Copper sulfate wet, and two preparations of Kodiak significantly suppressed *Aspergillus* sp. growth better than untreated seed ( $p < 0.05$ ). The Kodiak treatments provided as much control as Dynasty. Disease pressure of *Rhizopus* was too low for statistical analysis. More research is needed to evaluate these seed treatments under field conditions.

Presenter: Haley Franklin,\* Valdosta State University

### **Planet at Risk: An In-depth Look at Global Climate Change**

Throughout its existence, the Earth's temperature has been fluctuating between ice ages and glacial retreat. Although this fluctuation is a substantial variation, the temperature has stayed within the same highs and lows for over 650,000 years. This temperature fluctuation can be directly linked with the amount of carbon dioxide, and other gasses,



found in the Earth's atmosphere. In the 1700's, the atmosphere's CO<sub>2</sub> intake started increasing rapidly and has now exceeded the largest amount the Earth has ever experienced. The Earth's ocean, plants, human life, and overall structure have all felt an impact from these atmospheric changes. My poster will display some of the predictions for the future regarding issues of sustainability.

Presenter: Mecca Bellmore,\* St. Petersburg College

### **Predictors of FY2010 Federal Spending in the United States**

Reported on my poster will be the quantitative study investigation of total federal spending per capita and the various major categories of federal spending across the American states for fiscal year 2010. The demographic, economic, and political predictors of per capita federal spending across the states are explored through multivariate regression analysis. The independent variables in this study are population density, poverty rate, percentage 65 and older, bureaucrats per capita, tax capacity, a state's congressional seniority, and the percentage of the vote for Obama. Total federal spending per capita and the major categories of federal spending for fiscal year 2010 across the 50 states serve as the dependent variables in this analysis. Furthermore, this study utilizes ANOVA to test if theregion has played a declining role in the distribution of federal spending over the past twenty years. The findings of this study offer important insights into federalism and intergovernmental relations.

Presenter: Kathryn Wagnon,\* Valdosta State University

### **Predictors of Pulmonary Function Test Quality**

The purpose of my study was to examine predictors of pulmonary function test (PFT) quality. I analyzed 26,726 unique PFT records. The majority of the test subjects were white (75%), female (58%), with a mean age of 57 years. The majority of PFTs performed were of "good" quality. Patient demographics, underlying lung disease (restrictive, mixed) and testing location (inpatient vs. outpatient) are associated with PFT quality and, thus, may have impacted the interpretability and findings.

Presenter: Wilson M. Alobuia,\* University of Central Arkansas

### **The Prescription Drug Epidemic & Examples of Alternative Treatments**

Today, we are living in a world where laboratory created drugs are the standard treatment for most ailments. Our reliance on these prescription medications has given way to our now national problem of prescription drug abuse. My poster is to educate others on the prescription drug abuse epidemic in our country. My poster will also show examples of alternative treatments which can be used effectively against the ailments which are most considerably contributing to our

prescription drug abuse problem; such as chronic pain and anxiety.

Presenter: Jessica Drye,\* St. Petersburg College

### **Quantifying Arsenate Reductase Gene Expression in Environmental Bacteria**

Arsenic can have deleterious effects on organisms within ecosystems. We have analyzed bacteria isolated from an abandoned arsenic mine. Our study focuses on the arsenic resistance gene *arsC* that converts arsenate to arsenite. This reduction reaction provides the cell with metabolic advantages. We examined the expression of this arsenic resistance gene using PCR for qualitative data and Real-Time PCR to obtain quantitative data. Preliminary results using Real-Time PCR indicate that in cultures raised without arsenate, there is no *arsC* expression. In cultures raised in the presence of arsenate, we saw high levels of *arsC* expression relative to other housekeeping genes.

Presenter: Jasmine Jackson,\* Radford University

Co-Presenter: Erin Fowler,\* Radford University

### **Rheological Study of Poly(N)vinylcaprolactam-graft-hyaluronic Interpenetrating Networks**

This presentation will focus on Poly(N-vinylcaprolactam), or PVCL, a biocompatible temperature responsive material that changes its configuration in response to temperature. When chemically grafted to Hyaluronic acid, the resulting PVCL-g-HA is reversible around 32 degrees celsius-40 degrees celsius, meaning that it can change its configuration between solid and liquid states. This is important because the polymer can potentially be used in the body and remain stable when subjected to varying internal temperatures. The ultimate goal is to use PVCL-g-HA as a replacement for decaying human cartilage in joints such as knees and ankles. Before this material can be used in the body, different mechanical properties, like stress, strain, and temperature responsiveness, have to be measured. In total, seven variations of both PVCL and PVCL-g-HA were tested, and the copolymer PVCL-g-HA 1 proved to be the most suitable for use in the human body.

Presenter: Kristopher Crawford,\* Morehouse College

### **Ribosomal Biogenesis and Neurite Outgrowth**

In the developing nervous system, dendrite outgrowth is essential and becomes the largest energy expenditure of neurons. While the molecular details of neurotrophic signaling have been studied, it is not known how this leads to neurite outgrowth. To gain insight into this important question, I measured the morphogenic response to BDNF or a constitutively active mutant form of TIF1A

under conditions of inhibited ribosomal biogenesis with shRNAs targeting ribosomal proteins RPS6, RPS14, and RPL4. I observed that knockdowns of those proteins attenuated neuritic morphogenesis without interfering with the structural integrity of the nucleolus. Therefore, making new ribosomes is necessary for neurite outgrowth.

Presenter: James Jones,\* University of Louisville

### **Role of KifC1-Mitotic Kinesin-in Tumor Cell Growth and Invasion**

Metastasis, the main cause of breast and ovarian cancer-related deaths, is the progression of the tumor to a secondary organ involving tumor cell migration and invasion. Cancers with increased cell motility – a contributor to this invasiveness – have shown to be genetically unstable, often through centrosome amplification (CA). For example, 80% of invasive breast tumors exhibit CA. One mitotic kinesin, KifC1 plays a critical role in the proliferation of cancers with a high level of CA. This protein has shown to be essential in division of cancer cells with CA. This study investigates the role of KifC1 in tumor cell invasion, survival and response to DNA damage following overexpression and inhibition of KifC1. A better understanding of the role of KifC1 in cell growth and invasiveness contributes to the study of KifC1 as a potential chemotherapeutic target and an overall understanding of the mechanisms of chromosome instability and resolution of aberrant mitosis.

Presenter: Amy Sessions,\* Birmingham-Southern College

### **Tennis: The New Mind Game**

The word tennis conjures up thoughts of Venus Williams, Maria Sharapova, Rafael Nadal, and Roger Federer, but there is so much more behind the word. The evolution of tennis involves changes not only in the equipment but also in the mental and physical conditioning of the players. For modern tennis players, a significant part of their training involves not only their strokes and ground moves but also diet and mental readiness. As one looks at the changes in tennis, it becomes clear that what started out as a form of relaxation is now a competitive sport. I will offer a critical examination of the changes in the evolution of tennis.

Presenter: Ashleigh Collis,\* St. Petersburg College

### **Throwing Out the Trash**

America grew up on the back of a horse. Equine animals plowed fields, dragged carts, and transported people where they needed to be. Horses have done everything humans have ever asked of them willingly and happily, but now that people have cars to take them where they need to go and tractors to plow their

fields, horses have become disposable. Americans are breeding horses for income and throwing them away when they are no longer useful, and companies are willing to make a profit from their wastefulness. President Obama recently signed a bill which lifted a five year ban on horse slaughter in the U.S. The President signed this bill to reduce costs for the American government; however, legalizing horse slaughter benefits no one but the companies who make a profit from the meat. My poster will display the reasons why U.S. horse slaughter is inhumane and potentially dangerous for the consumer, and will argue that the prohibition should be reinstated immediately.

Presenter:           Kirsty Wright,\* St. Petersburg College

### **The Unique Perspectives of Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps Veterans**

My poster will display excerpts, key ideas, photos, diagrams, maps and statements from the oral histories that I collected in order to showcase the unique perspectives of each individual I interviewed and the military branch each represents. I hope to convey the value that is inherent in collecting and preserving oral histories.

Presenter:           Ashley Goethe,\* University of West Florida

### **What Factors Motivate College Student's Leisure and Recreation Choices?**

Recreation and leisure activities are recognized by both college students and higher education professionals as an important form of respite from the daily challenges, stressors, and demands of normal college life. Yet, little empirical research has been conducted on the motivating factors that impact student's choice of specific leisure and recreation activities. In the present study, a new measure of motivation for leisure and recreation activity engagement among college students was developed and tested (factor-analyzed) with sample of college students (N > 500). Findings will be discussed in terms principle components analysis results; and the relative impact of the measure's ability to reduce stress and heighten well-being associated with the college life experience.

Presenter:           Andrew Tatler-Burgess,\* Valdosta State University  
Co-Presenter:       Savannah Spivey,\* Valdosta State University

### **Whatever Happened to Aristotle's Tragedy? A Comparison of Ancient and Modern Theatre**

Aristotle's interest in the formation and experience of dramatic presentation, as explained in his Poetics, crystallized characteristics of dramatic production that had been evolving for several centuries and gave creators and observers alike the

tools that would shape theatre for the future. My poster graphically highlights essential differences between ancient Greek theatre and modern theatre of the western world and invites inquiry into the implications of those differences for understanding the aesthetics, culture, and history of each time period.

Presenter:           Dominique Norris,\* Eastern Kentucky University

### **Where Should a Pilot Start Descent?**

An approach path for an aircraft landing satisfies the following conditions: (1) The cruising altitude is  $h$  when descent starts at a horizontal distance  $l$  from touchdown at the origin. (2) The pilot must maintain a constant horizontal speed  $v$  throughout the descent. (3) The absolute value of the vertical acceleration should not exceed a constant  $k$  (which is much less than the acceleration due to gravity). We found a cubic polynomial to model the approach path for an aircraft landing and determined how far away from the airport the pilot should start descent under certain given conditions.

Presenter:           Derek Hunt,\* Santa Fe College

### **The Forest Through the Trees**

This painting is an exploration of American Abstract Expressionism. It synthesizes Jackson Pollock's splatter technique and Lee Krasner's use of bold colors and lines, most specifically seen in their works *Number 8* and *Polar Stampede*. It is four feet by eight feet and separated into three parts. Each part is to be viewed individually then seen as a whole to emphasize the splatter and bold lines individually as "trees," then demonstrate how the two function together to form the entire "forest."

Presenter:           Kristen Brown,\* St. Petersburg College

### **The Legends of King Arthur: Photographs**

The four photographs on display are part of a series that is based on the legends of King Arthur and were all taken with a plastic Holga camera. In lieu of English names, I have decided to use the Celtic and Welsh variations of the people and events found in Arthuriana, as well as on occasion, more common names of Arthur and Excalibur (which would be "Artur," and "Caledfwlch," respectively in Celtic and Welsh), so people could be able to relate to and recognize some of the pieces' content a bit more easily. My goal is to capture some of the key parts of the legends, such as Arthur retrieving the sword from the stone and later meeting Myrddin, the Merlin; as well as Nimue, the Lady of the Lake. I also want to portray some historical events, or more specifically battles, that are linked to Arthurian legend.

Presenter: Christian Carter,\* Valdosta State University

### **Art Quilt Remember**

The story of St. Augustine is one of courage and sorrow, tragedy and triumph. The Timucuan Indians inhabited Florida for almost 3000 years before Ponce de Leon claimed the continent for Spain. When Pedro Menendez de Aviles, a Conquistador, came to secure the land for Spain in 1565, St. Augustine was born, and the land was changed forever. The layered images of St. Augustine refer to the passing of time as well as the irony of the Fountain of Youth as a tourist destination rather than an explorer's dream. Red stitching recalls the courage of men sailing to a new world and the blood of the vanquished while beading highlights the modern tourist attraction, Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park.

Presenter: Amy Koester,\* Santa Fe College

### **Roses for Peggy**

My piece was inspired by the fight that my grandmother Peggy went through. When she passed away, she was a sprightly little Italian woman; and I was three years old. She was diagnosed with breast cancer and, about a year later, was diagnosed with heart disease. The pink rose supports breast cancer. The red rose supports heart disease. Through hard work and artistic ability, I now have a piece that can remind me of the woman who would have meant so much to me.

Presenter: Ashley Brickner,\* Armstrong Atlantic State University

### **Scenes from the Revolution: Occupy Tampa Bay**

The unrest and discord that compels Occupy Wall Street have been recognized and harnessed throughout the United States and across the world. It is this sweeping outrage, independent of race, gender, religion, party, and age – inspired by the financial system and American political construct – that has united thousands in protest that demands to be heard, seen, and understood. The Occupy Movement is the apex of activist and grassroots political culture in the United States and subsequently destined to become an essential component in the human experience as it relates to dissent and democracy. Through the lens and written word, my presentation explores the individuals and sentiments that have driven and made a movement in coastal Florida and abroad.

Presenter: Zachary Tomlinson,\* St. Petersburg College

# Appendix III

## Student Moderators

1. Aaron Adderley, Florida Memorial University
2. Sundus Alsharif, Hillsborough Community College
3. Megan Ange, University of Alabama, Birmingham
4. Angela Bardwell-Owens, Valencia College
5. Ashley Bateman, Winthrop University
6. Regis Bigness, The Citadel
7. Kristen Brown, St. Petersburg College
8. Wilhelm Bunjor, The Citadel
9. Ricardo Caporale, The Citadel
10. Terrel Champion, Morehouse College
11. Michelle Chang, University of Alabama, Birmingham
12. Brittany Connolly, Hillsborough Community College
13. Marie Cram, St. Petersburg College
14. Sterling Dallas, University of North Carolina, Wilmington
15. Betsy Del Aguila, Southern Adventist University
16. Nathaniel Dionne, St. Petersburg College
17. Ann Dowdell, Valencia College
18. Jessica Drye, St. Petersburg College
19. Naveed Farrukh, University of Alabama, Birmingham
20. Pooja Gajare, University of Alabama, Birmingham
21. Cassandra Camille Garbutt, University of Alabama, Birmingham
22. Angel Troncoso Garcia, Valencia College
23. Evelande Gedeon, Florida Memorial University
24. Taya Green, Hillsborough Community College
25. Analise Marie Griffith, Hillsborough Community College
26. Ashley Gross, Florida Memorial University
27. Jerwaine Hall, Florida Memorial University
28. Preston Hipps, The Citadel
29. Aliena Howard, Eastern Kentucky University
30. Sherika Hyacinth, Florida Memorial University
31. Ashley Michelle Jones, University of Alabama, Birmingham
32. Nikki Jones, Florida Memorial University
33. Jayna Kehres, University of Alabama, Birmingham
34. Shawn Kelley, Hillsborough Community College
35. Angel Leon, Hillsborough Community College
36. Janell Llanes, Hillsborough Community College
37. Nathan Madden, The Citadel
38. Kane Magnuson, St. Petersburg College
39. Payton McVey, The Citadel
40. Olivia Montefu, Hillsborough Community College
41. Oyinlola Oyegunle, Florida Memorial University
42. Christopher Orr, Florida Memorial University
43. Catalina Perez, Valencia College
44. Bonny Pruitt, Valencia College
45. David Rosado, Valencia College

## **Student Moderators continued**

46. Rachael Rosales, University of Alabama, Birmingham
47. Edmund Semmes, University of Alabama, Birmingham
48. Isaac Sheets, St. Petersburg College
49. Kevin Shrestha, University of Alabama, Birmingham
50. Sasha Sierra, Hillsborough Community College
51. Joy Temple-Link, St. Petersburg College
52. Sherwin Thomas, University of Alabama, Birmingham
53. Raam Venkatesh, University of Alabama, Birmingham
54. Abigail White, Southern Adventist University
55. Leslie Williams, University of Alabama, Birmingham



# Appendix IV

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011-2012

### Officers

Nadia Yevstigneyeva, President, St. Petersburg College  
Lauren Furry, Vice President, Hillsborough Community College  
Phillip Frana, Secretary-Treasurer, University of Central Arkansas  
Frank Provenzano, Immediate Past President, Greenville Technical College  
Matthew Hankins, Student Vice President, University of Central Arkansas

### At-Large Representatives

#### Faculty

John Richardson, University of Louisville  
Emmanuel Chekwa, Miles College  
Linda Frost, Eastern Kentucky University

#### Student

Nicholas Wade, Eastern Kentucky University  
Brionna June, Miles College  
Chelsea Usher, Gardner-Webb University

# Appendix V

## Special Appreciation

My sincerest gratitude goes to Dr. Lydia Lyons for the countless hours she spent editing the printed program, as well as her unfailing support and guidance throughout the conference planning process.

**To all of the HCC Honors Institute professors, students, administrators, and staff who diligently worked to make this conference successful**

Sundus Alsharif\*  
Dr. John Ball  
Dr. Mary Bendickson  
Brittany Connolly\*  
Darren Dorrado\*  
Lauren Ficarrotta\*  
Distefano Garcia\*  
Taya Green\*  
Analise Griffith\*  
Professor Bobbie Harris  
Dr. Susan Hoerbelt  
Professor Steve Johns  
Shawn Kelley\*  
Joshua Klay\*  
Craig Johnson  
Dr. Stephen Lambert  
Professor Dustin Lemke  
Angel Leon\*  
Professor Karen Linsky  
Janell Llanes\*  
Dr. Lydia Lyons  
Professor Roxanna Marcus  
Professor Lauren McNamara  
Angela Mick  
Dr. Maribeth Mobley  
Olivia Montefu\*  
Justine Naylon  
Thaonguyen Nguyen\*  
Dr. Earl Paul  
Karina Philaphandeth\*  
Fatema Rahman\*  
Professor Valerie Saad  
Calvin Shen\*  
Sasha Sierra\*  
James Streeter\*  
Kelly Urbizu

# Appendix VI

## Past SRHC Conference Dates and Sites

- 1973: Atlanta, GA  
1974: Nashville, TN  
1975: Starkville, MS – Campus Concerns and Career Opportunities  
1976: Rock Hill, SC – Honors Programs: Unity in Diversity  
1977: Tuscaloosa, AL  
1978: Boone, NC  
1979: Hattisburg, MS  
1980: Memphis, TN  
1981: Athens, GA – Honors Delight and Wisdom  
1982: New Orleans, LA – Freedom and Responsibility  
1983: Nashville, TN  
1984: Charleston, SC  
1985: Jackson, MS  
1986: Clemson, SC  
1987: Tallahassee, FL  
1988: New Orleans, LA  
1989: Birmingham, AL  
1990: Memphis, TN  
1991: Atlanta, GA  
1992: Roanoke, VA  
1993: Nashville, TN  
1994: Louisville, KY  
1995: Charleston, SC  
1996: Norfolk, VA – Scholarship and Citizenship: Preparing Ourselves and Enriching  
Our World  
1997: Baton Rouge, LA  
1998: Savannah, GA  
1999: Little Rock, AR – Bridges to a New Millennium  
2000: Tampa, FL – Honors at the Center  
2001: Nashville, TN – 2001: An Honors Odyssey  
2002: Atlanta, GA – Squaring the Circle: Tradition, Change, Development, & Honors  
2003: Greensboro, NC – Integration and Inspiration: Honors at Risk  
2004: Wilmington, NC – Honors as a River: The Flow of Ideas  
2005: Baton Rouge, LA – Red Alert: Honors at Light Speed  
2006: Orlando, FL – Honors, the Natural and the Man-Made: Conflict or Accord?  
2007: Charlotte, NC – Curiosity: The Spirit of Honors Inquiry  
2008: Birmingham, AL – Metamorphosis: Honors as Agent of Change  
2009: St. Petersburg, FL – Global Solutions Through Honors  
2010: Greenville, SC – Enduring...Prevailing: Honors as a Prism of the Human Spirit  
2011: Little Rock, AR – Bridging Scholarship and Citizenship: Making Honors Count  
2012: Tampa, FL – Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence in Honors

# Appendix VII

## Basic Characteristics of a Fully Developed Honors Program

No one model of an Honors program can be superimposed on all types of institutions. However, there are characteristics that are common to successful, fully developed Honors programs. Listed below are those characteristics, although not all characteristics are necessary for an Honors program to be considered a successful and/or fully developed Honors program.

- A fully developed Honors program should be carefully set up to accommodate the special needs and abilities of the undergraduate students it is designed to serve. This entails identifying the targeted student population by some clearly articulated set of criteria (e.g., GPA, SAT score, a written essay). A program with open admission needs to spell out expectations for retention in the program and for satisfactory completion of program requirements.
- The program should have a clear mandate from the institutional administration ideally in the form of a mission statement clearly stating the objectives and responsibilities of the program and defining its place in both the administrative and academic structure of the institution. This mandate or mission statement should be such as to assure the permanence and stability of the program by guaranteeing an adequate budget and by avoiding any tendency to force the program to depend on temporary or spasmodic dedication of particular faculty members or administrators. In other words, the program should be fully institutionalized so as to build thereby a genuine tradition of excellence.
- The Honors director should report to the chief academic officer of the institution.
- There should be an Honors curriculum featuring special courses, seminars, colloquia, and independent study established in harmony with the mission statement and in response to the needs of the program.
- The program requirements themselves should include a substantial portion of the participants' undergraduate work, usually in the vicinity of 20% to 25% of their total course work and certainly no less than 15%.
- The program should be so formulated that it relates effectively both to all the college work for the degree (e.g., by satisfying general education requirements) and to the area of concentration, departmental specialization, pre-professional or professional training.
- The program should be both visible and highly reputed throughout the institution so that it is perceived as providing standards and models of excellence for students and faculty across the campus.
- Faculty participating in the program should be fully identified with the aims of the program. They should be carefully selected on the basis of exceptional

teaching skills and the ability to provide intellectual leadership to able students.

- The program should occupy suitable quarters constituting an Honors center with such facilities as an Honors library, lounge, reading rooms, personal computers and other appropriate decor.
- The director or other administrative officer charged with administering the program should work in close collaboration with a committee or council of faculty members representing the colleges and/or departments served by the program.
- The program should have in place a committee of Honors students to serve as liaison with the Honors faculty committee or council who must keep them fully informed on the program and elicit their cooperation in evaluation and development. This student group should enjoy as much autonomy as possible conducting the business of the committee in representing the needs and concerns of all Honors students to the administration, and it should also be included in governance, serving on the advisory/policy committee as well as constituting the group that governs the student association.
- There should be provisions for special academic counseling of Honors students by uniquely qualified faculty and/or staff personnel.
- The Honors program, in distinguishing itself from the rest of the institution, serves as a kind of laboratory within which faculty can try things they have always wanted to try but for which they could find no suitable outlet. When such efforts are demonstrated to be successful, they may well become institutionalized thereby raising the general level of education within the college or university for all students. In this connection, the Honors curriculum should serve as a prototype for things that can work campus-wide in the future.
- The fully developed Honors program must be open to continuous and critical review and be prepared to change in order to maintain its distinctive position of offering distinguished education to the best students in the institution.
- A fully developed program will emphasize the participatory nature of the Honors educational process by adopting such measures as offering opportunities for students to participate in regional and national conferences, Honors semesters, international programs, community service, and other types of experiential education.
- Fully developed two-year and four-year Honors programs will have articulation agreements by which Honors graduates from two-year colleges are accepted into four-year Honors programs when they meet previously agreed-upon requirements.
- A fully developed program will provide priority enrollment for honors students who are active in the program in recognition of their unique class scheduling needs.

## Appendix VIII

### Basic Characteristics of a Fully Developed Honors College

An Honors educational experience can occur in a wide variety of institutional settings. When institutions establish an Honors college or embark upon a transition from an Honors program to an Honors college, they face a transformational moment. No one model defines this transformation. Although not all of the following characteristics are necessary to be considered a successful or fully developed Honors college, the National Collegiate Honors Council recognizes these as representative:

- A fully developed Honors college should incorporate the relevant characteristics of a fully developed Honors program.
- A fully developed Honors college should exist as an equal collegiate unit within a multi-collegiate university structure.
- The head of a fully developed Honors college should be a dean reporting directly to the chief academic officer of the institution and serving as a full member of the Council of Deans, if one exists. The dean should be a full-time, 12-month appointment.
- The operational and staff budgets of fully developed Honors colleges should provide resources at least comparable to other collegiate units of equivalent size.
- The fully developed honors college should exercise increased coordination and control of departmental honors where the college has emerged out of such a decentralized system.
- A fully developed Honors college should exercise considerable control over Honors recruitment and admissions, including the appropriate size of the incoming class. Admission to the Honors college should be by separate application.
- An Honors college should exercise considerable control over its policies, curriculum, and selection of faculty.
- The curriculum of a fully developed Honors college should offer significant course opportunities across all four years of study.
- The curriculum of the fully developed Honors college should constitute at least 20% of a student's degree program. An Honors thesis or project should be required.
- Where the home university has a significant residential component, the fully developed Honors college should offer substantial Honors residential opportunities.
- The distinction awarded by a fully developed Honors college should be announced at commencement, noted on the diploma, and featured on the student's final transcript.
- Like other colleges within the university, a fully developed Honors college should be involved in alumni affairs and development and should have an external advisory board.