11th Annual Undergraduate
RESEARCH and CREATIVITY
CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 17, 2010

Sponsored by the Higher Education Council of Berks County:
Albright College, Alvernia University, Kutztown University, Penn State Berks,
Reading Area Community College. Hosted by Albright College.
WELCOME

A warm welcome to Albright College!

We are delighted to host the 11th Annual Conference on Undergraduate Research and Creativity.

This conference has become a hallmark event for the Higher Education Council of Berks County, made up of Albright College, Alvernia University, Kutztown University, Penn State Berks and Reading Area Community College.

Why undergraduate research? Undergraduate research and creative projects are among the best ways to engage students in active learning. Students’ close collaboration with talented faculty on innovative projects adds another dimension to their educational experience.

Beyond that, the innovative work produced by students advances scholarship in their disciplines, provides the foundation for further research and learning, and often has meaningful applications beyond academe. Students and faculty have presented at professional conferences and even published their research.

Congratulations and best wishes to all of the student presenters and their faculty collaborators for their excellent work! And congratulations to everyone at the five institutions who helped make this event possible, in particular, Albright’s provost, Andrea Chapdelaine, Ph.D., Kim Justeson, director of experiential learning, and all the chief academic officers of our fellow colleges.

Sincerely,

Lex O. McMillan III, Ph.D.
President, Albright College
# Conference Schedule

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<td>Paper Session 4, Performances</td>
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Brent Hurley was a founding member of YouTube and served in a variety of roles during his tenure, most notably as director of finance and operations. After the company was acquired by Google in October 2006, Hurley led YouTube’s syndication efforts with consumer electronics companies as a manager on the Strategic Partner Development team. He focused primarily on partnerships that enabled off-web interactions such as video viewing and video uploading on a wide range of networked devices, including cameras, IP connected TVs and game consoles.

Before YouTube, Hurley worked as a head securities trader at Fisher Investments, a multi-billion-dollar asset management firm. His startup roots trace back to early work at PayPal.

Hurley graduated in 2001 from Albright College with a dual degree in finance and philosophy. He is currently an MBA candidate at Harvard Business School, class of 2011.
This is done by placing “bones” corresponding to the multiplier on the left side and the bones corresponding to the digits of the multiplicand next to it to the right. Then the product can be read by performing simple addition of the pairs of numbers. John Napier is also associated with logarithms. Logarithms are the opposite of exponentials or you could say that they undo exponentials. It will be shown how Napier’s bones and logarithms are related to each other and how they each work individually. 

Faculty Sponsor: John Rochowicz

PAPER SESSION 1
Masters Hall 207, 9 – 10 a.m.

Susan Adams, Kutztown University

COMING OUT IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Even with the increasing awareness that has nurtured a growth in GLBTQ resources for young adults, the GLBtQ community often remains poorly represented in the public library setting. I have done research concerning the librarian’s responsibility to provide quality service with a collection that reflects the diversity of their community. There is a need for the public library to fill the gaps in this information network by providing adequate resources, people, and places that demonstrate accurate and supportive information that will empower and enable GLBtQ young adults to experience understanding of their identity and social acceptance. 

Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Gardner

Ashley Darzinikas, Kutztown University

WORLD WAR I POETS: THE MYTH AND REALITY OF WAR COLLIDE

Prior to enlisting or being drafted into The Great War, World War I soldiers were smothered by rhetoric calling them to duty. This rhetoric, or propaganda, took several forms including popular music, glory stories and messages relayed by family members, and most predominantly recruitment posters. The most common images and ideas relayed to young men were that of duty, glory, honor, bravery, and maturation. This propaganda created a romantic sense of war: a war that was purely black and white, good and bad. The rhetoric was void of the physical pain and mental anguish that accompanies the decisions made during and the experiences of war. The result of this propaganda was that a mythic sense of war and duty was infused into the soldiers’ minds as they entered the battlefield. Once there, these myths were shattered as the poets struggled to make sense of their present reality. Though the myths were shattered, the words and images of these myths lingered and taunted the men. Engagement with the messages of the mythic rhetoric, as well as the struggle to cope with the actual reality of war, is directly reflected in the war poets’ writings. 

Faculty Sponsor: Heather Thomas

Anita Matson, Reading Area Community College

BARBARA ASCHER’S “THE BOX MAN” A STUDY IN RECTANGULAR PHILOSOPHY

In “The Box Man”, Barbara Lazear Ascher explores the extent of human feelings for each other, only to find them depressingly lacking. In this compelling essay, she uses carefully selected characters and scenery to argue that humans are inescapably alone and must accept their loneliness. The essay opens at dusk with the titular character, a homeless man, struggling to survive on the streets of New York City. Ascher would seemingly focus on the main character’s struggle for survival. Yet she breaks with reality and digresses into her past, thereby turning the reader’s attention to a child’s serial novel, Thereau’s Walden and a group of literary women who suffer at loves hands. In comparison to her earlier works, “The Box Man” is a dark, humorless, poorly transitioned essay. It’s digression into Ascher’s former literary passions suggests that something has happened to change Acher’s attitude towards relationships, therefore affecting her writing style. In the aforementioned publications, Ascher focused on compassion. In “The Box Man,” she turns to her own solitude and disconnectedness, and these she has superimposed onto her characters, both actual and literary. The detailed accounts of her characters’ thoughts and feelings, with regard to loneliness and death, make the reader painfully aware that Ascher has failed to accept the solitude that she urges others to welcome as a companion. 

Faculty Sponsor: Chris Costello

Meredith Patrick, Albright College

MODERN FRENCH ANTISEMITISM

This paper offers to document a new wave of French antisemitism that began in the 1980s and continues to the present day. Examples include an attack on a Jewish restaurant in 1982, the profanation of a Jewish cemetery in 1990, and the torture and murder of Ilan Halimi, a Jewish salesman, in 2006. In so doing, I show that rises in antisemitism in modern France have been linked to the escalating Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Indeed, the number of recorded antisemitic acts correlate with the intensity of the conflict, as seen in the Israeli offensive on Gaza in 2009. Education about the crimes of WWII is insufficient in the face of the political realignment (especially among youth) that has occurred in France in the past decade. 

Faculty Sponsor: Guillaume de Syon

PAPER SESSION 1
Masters Hall 210, 9 – 10 a.m.

Iris Hertzog, Reading Area Community College

CELIAC DISEASE: AN OVERVIEW OF THE DISEASE, SYMPTOMS AND CORELATED IMMUNE PROCESS

Even though celiac disease is the most common immune mediated disease it is under diagnosed and often misdiagnosed. This research project investigated the etiology of celiac disease and the immunological process that takes place in patients with celiac disease. Most people know that gluten, a protein found in wheat, rye and related grains, is only partially digested; but many are not familiar with the complexity of the immune-mediated toxic reaction that is taking place in the patient with celiac disease. Research shows that one portion of the undigested protein combines with antigen presenting cells in the lamina propria to cause an autoimmune response in genetically predisposed individuals. The individual develops antibodies to tissue transglutaminase (tTG). CD4 T cells produce several proinflammatory cytokines which cause increased cytotoxicity against enterocytes which in turn causes the destruction of the villi of the
small intestine. The villi destruction is the agent that causes the symptoms associated with celiac disease. The only treatment for the disease at this time is a gluten free diet. Faculty Sponsor: Alayne Fessler

Scott Higgins, Reading Area Community College

LITERATURE RESEARCH ON ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME

Acute respiratory distress syndrome is a serious reaction to lung injuries. As the name implies, there is a rapid onset of a collection of symptoms, which result in a severe oxygenation defect. This paper addresses its etiology, pathogenesis and various treatment options. Acute respiratory distress syndrome typically occurs within 24 to 48 hours of an injury or acute illness. If not recognized and treated quickly, the condition is often fatal. Even when all treatment modalities are administered promptly, the mortality rate can be very high. Mechanical ventilation is an essential part of the treatment. As the disease (and loss of aeration) progresses, the work of breathing becomes too hard and the respiratory muscles fail. Mechanical ventilation is also one of the challenges; it is a risk factor for developing the illness. Faculty Sponsor: Maria Jacoby

Brian Leung, Neeraj Sebastian, Drexel University

PUTATIVE QUADRUPLEX SEQUENCE IN THE 3’UTR SEQUENCE OF APP

Alzheimer’s Disease, a neurodegenerative disease, characterized by the deposition of amyloid β (Aβ) and neurofibrillary tangles. Aβ is formed through a proteolytic cleavage of a transmembrane protein, Amyloid Precursor Protein (APP), creating oligomers that aggregate to form plaques that lead to neurodegeneration. Increased APP levels can lead to development of AD, presumably due to increased Aβ levels. We have demonstrated that APP levels can be negatively regulated by microRNAs. MicroRNAs bind to the APP 3’ untranslated region (UTR) to effect down regulation of APP. Interestingly, we have identified a putative quadruplex sequence (POS), which overlaps with miR-106a target site in the APP 3’UTR. This POS contains multiple guanine base pairs that may form a hairpin upon itself to form a secondary structure that could impede the binding of miR-106a. We hypothesize that this POS might modulate the ability of miR-106a to negatively regulate APP levels. To test this hypothesis we disrupted the POS using mutagenesis and determined if this altered miR-106a altered expression compared to the intact POS. We found that disruption of the POS had no effect on expression regulation. Faculty Sponsor: Aleister Saunders

Marcia Stoudt, Reading Area Community College

WHAT IS RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Research was conducted on the field of respiratory therapy. The purpose of this research was to provide relevant information for anyone interested in pursuing a career in respiratory therapy. The results will include the necessary education, minimal certification and licensure requirements and a brief job overview for anyone whose interest is to work in the healthcare setting. Most importantly the results will reveal a future outlook that includes employment and salary expectations for national and local areas. This field provides opportunity to relate with people, challenge your mind with high tech patient care, variety on the job, lots of places to work, and advancement possibilities-it looks like respiratory care really does have it all. Faculty Sponsor: Wendy Dunlop

Paper Session 1

Masters Hall 309, 9 – 10 a.m.

Austin Benner, Penn State Berks

PANIC OF 2008 VS. PANIC OF 1929: HAVE WE LEARNED FROM OUR MISTAKES?

The land of prosperity has experienced two great economic crises in the past century. This study will compare and contrast the Panic of 2008 to the Panic of 1929 - the panic that led to the Great Depression. In both periods, the American people had a lot of trust in the market, but it was built on false promises and had risks that were hidden. Though similar, both panics brought different problems to the nation and around the world. The panic of 1929 began because of false prosperity and the uneven distribution of wealth. In 2008, however, people took out loans with bad credit and investors put money in securities that didn’t exist. Through research, this study will determine what America has learned from both recessions and ultimately determine ways that another crisis can be prevented. Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Brian Cavaliere, Justin Miller, Jason Gross, Kutztown University

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CREDIT QUALITY AND COMMON STOCK BETA

The purpose of this research is to determine the effects of a change in a company’s credit rating and how it affects the beta. A company’s credit rating determines the risk premium investors can expect to earn on their debt securities and the beta determines the risk premium investors can expect on common stock. Both provide a measure of an estimated risk premium, therefore it is expected that they are negatively correlated. Our analysis will show how a stock’s beta is effected by a change in its credit quality. Our hypothesis is that bond rating increases will have little effect on the company’s beta but bond rating decreases will affect the beta. Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta

Serpil Ertop, Thi Thi Han, Abu Kebbay, Kutztown University

ASSET GROWTH AND THE CROSS-SECTION OF STOCK RETURNS

The firm asset growth rate serves an economically and statistically important purpose in its ability to forecast returns in both large capitalization and small capitalization stocks. Also, asset growth rate predicts stock returns more accurately than other indicators such as market ratio, firm capitalization and other growth measures. Some research indicates that a corporation with asset contraction such as share repurchases, debt prepayments, and dividend initiations is likely to have abnormally high returns, while a corporation with asset expansion such as acquisition, public equity offerings, and public debt offerings is likely to have abnormally low returns. As a result, in this paper we investigate if a firm’s annual asset growth rate is a statistically significant predictor of stock returns. We use the market returns from the S&P 500 with 25 portfolios of 20 assets each. Market return serves as the as dependent variable, and asset firm growth, earnings to price ratio (EP), return on asset (ROA), and return on equity (ROE) all are independent variables. We will build a regression model and find the correlation among variables, test their robustness as well show whether the statistical significance of our analysis validates our assumptions. Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta
Jose Andres Mayora, Penn State Berks

INCENTIVE, GOVERNMENT AND CAPITALISM
My research paper’s major point will be about the importance of incentives to want to invest. I will talk about how the protection of property rights helps create these incentives and to do that I will explain where we can find more property rights. For that I will need to compare the different forms of government (common law and civil law) and to talk about capitalism. I will include the effects on society, poverty and on the economy of these incentives. To convey my point of view I will compare countries that have similar backgrounds but separated along the way. For example, Taiwan and China, North and South Korea, West and East Germany during the cold war etc. 

Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Paper Session 1
Campus Center Classroom 1, 9 – 10 A.M.
Hunter Ducheine, Penn State Berks

DRACULA
The aim of the research is to describe the horror film genre and conduct a comparative analysis of the “classical” version of the film “Dracula” (1931) and the modern production of 1992. The horror film genre for a long time has been in the focus of scientific scrutiny. Most scholars say the purpose of horror films is to cause dread and panic and remind the viewer about fears of death, pain, loss of identity, sexuality, and alienation. Motion pictures of the specified genre are normally set in a way that allows the intensification of the “bad premonition” mood, because the film genre was originally intended to provide “visualized” versions of Gothic novels. Both of the “Dracula” films reflect the conflict between humans and folklore monsters, or vampires. Film analysis also suggests the principal difference between the protagonists. In the older version, Dracula represents the strange and foreign Other which is more repulsive than attractive. Coppola’s Dracula is only slightly different from American and English gentlemen depicted in the film and appears to be attractive to Mina. 

Faculty Sponsor: Michele Ramsey

Amanda Friedberg, Penn State Berks

“NO ROOM LEFT IN HELL” - ZOMBIE FILMS AND AMERICAN CULTURE
The zombie film genre has long been a collection of gruesome monsters and fanatical flesh eating. Horror films, zombie films included, have often been ignored by academic discussion. This essay explores the deeper political and social subtexts present in George A. Romero’s classic film, “Dawn of the Dead,” as well as Danny Boyle’s modern “28 Days Later.”

Faculty Sponsor: Michelle Ramsey

Carlly Glasmyre, Aida Garman, Rebecca Wisniewski, Jessica Slavin, Heather Kissinger, Rebecca Wasser, Alvernia University

SUCKED IN: HOT CONFessions OF NOT SO COLD-BLOODED VAMPIRE ADDICTS
Sink your teeth into this panel! Cold Blooded Vampires are the hottest obsession. These mythical, blood sucking creatures are enjoying their time in the sun (in a metaphorical sense.) Vampire books are on best seller lists and their films are big at the box office. This panel will examine these gruesome and sexy children of the night in three novels and their movie counterparts. First, we’ll discuss the classic, Bram Stoker’s novel “Dracula”, then the cult success Anne Rice’s “Interview with a Vampire”, and lastly, Stephanie Meyer’s teen sensation “Twilight.”

Faculty Sponsor: Jodi Radosh

Paper Session 2
Masters Hall 204, 10:15 – 11:15 A.M.

Aroop Sinha, Rohini Das, Joshua Weiss, Kutztown University

TESTING THE CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL (CAPM)
This presentation provides an update of the report “Testing the Capital Asset Pricing Model: The case of the Emerging Greek Securities Market”. We use the monthly returns of top 15 companies from S&P indexes during the time period of December 2004 to March 2009. The S&P 500 index is used as a proxy for the market portfolio and the 3 month U.S Treasury bill is used as the proxy for the risk free asset.

Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta

Austin Weaver, Penn State Berks

FEEDING THE BABY BOOMERS: SOCIAL SECURITY’S FINANCIAL WOES AND WHAT IS TO COME
Social security has been the topic of increasing debate recently due to the funding shortfalls it is expected to incur in coming years. While the system currently collects more revenue from payroll taxes annually than it pays out in benefits, the onslaught of retiring baby boomers will reverse this trend starting in 2016, or earlier. At this time, social security will need to start paying benefits in part with money from the Social Security Trust Fund, which is comprised of the excess revenue accumulated from payroll taxes. Unfortunately, without any change to the current system, the Social Security Administration projects that the fund will be entirely depleted by 2042, at which point only ongoing payroll taxes will be available to pay benefits, and these will not be sufficient to honor the full scheduled benefits. This paper will analyze the options available to sustain social security, from simple adjustments to benefits received and revenue generated to more comprehensive reform like the privatization plan proposed by President George W. Bush.

Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Kathryn West, Penn State Berks

TAX CUTS: WHEN THEY MATTER AND WHEN THEY DON’T
This session will discuss tax cuts by examining their marginal costs and marginal benefits. I will discuss tax brackets and explain how people need incentives in order for them to keep moving through the brackets. I will discuss why temporary tax cuts never work while permanent ones
Paper Session 2
Masters Hall 207, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Laura Allison, Angela Sorg, Adam Feldon, Andy Velik, Kutztown University

FACEBOOK FRIENDS: LIVE CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES FROM THE NEWEST GENERATION OF GERMANS

Today’s students are bombarded with technology in their personal lives as well as their coursework. This presentation will explore ways to apply technology that students already use on a daily basis to build cultural awareness and language skills while interacting with live native speakers. Over the course of the spring 2010 semester, students in the German Conversation and Composition course are interacting with “Facebook Freienduite” [Facebook Penpals] to supplement the cultural material, much of which has to do with East West relations and nationalism, found in their current textbook. Using media assertions and textbook readings as a foundation, students will discuss ways that they have been able to analyze and synthesize the “live” information from the German students with their textbook information to build a more complete and chronically accurate cultural picture of today’s young Germans. Students will speak about the advantages of using technology like Facebook to establish and foster real contacts with German speaking people their own age, as well as to build current and accurate vocabulary. Students will also address possible disadvantages of a project like this one and make suggestions for future projects. Faculty Sponsor: Lynn Kutch

Evan Harbaugh, Eric Lindsey, Penn State Berks

HETEROSEXISM AND MASCULINITY: LINKAGES AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

The present study builds on previous research linking heterosexism and a subtler form of sexual prejudice called heteronormativity with heteromasculinity and religiosity among college students. Because of the cultural value of heteronormativity, it is important to understand individual differences with regard to heteromasculinity and heteronormativity. The researchers design a survey that consisted of questions measuring attitudes towards homosexuality, including the two constructs of sexual prejudice: heterosexism and heteronormativity. The surveys were then distributed to 164 individual students attending college in Berks County. The researchers hypothesized that heteromasculine attitudes will be associated with both heterosexism and heteronormativity. It was also expected that religiosity would be associated with heterosexism and heteronormativity. The data is in the process of being analyzed and the presentation will consist of a summary of the research findings. The implications that the results have for public policy and intervention strategies will also be discussed. Faculty Sponsor: Lynn Kutch

Cindy Quinter, Albright College

WHEN AND WHY HUMANS DEVELOP ETHICS FOR ANIMALS

The level of ethical value that ought to be assigned to non-humans ranges dramatically from psychological to cultural reasons. We have focused on the underlying evolved psychology and proposed that the three most likely sources of altruism arise from kin selection, reciprocal altruism, and/or philosophical contemplation. First when humans perceive animals as pseudo-kin, they are likely to develop higher levels of concern for them. Higher ethical concern can also arise through reciprocal altruism when animals are perceived as providing a valuable service for humans. Finally, our rational thinking abilities can result in philosophical principles, which cause humans to perceive animals as equal in value. We targeted individuals who bought, sold, and/or used animals for personal profit at various local animal auctions (New Holland, Leesport, Green Dragon,) and interviewed them. We found that individuals who perceived animals as members of their family displayed higher ethical concern. Likewise, individuals who had thought about the issue also displayed higher ethics for animals. The service hypothesis displayed only a limited correlation in ethics. We believe that our findings are not only valuable to understand how and when ethical values that arise between humans and non-humans but also between humans and other humans. Faculty Sponsor: Christopher Bloh

Paper Session 2
Masters Hall 210

Jeff Harvey, Eric Hartman, Kutztown University

EFFECTS OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT ON DELISTED AMERICAN DEPOSITORY RECEIPTS

In the wake of the many accounting scandals that shook the market in the early part of the decade, Senator Paul Sarbanes (D-MD) and U.S. Representative Michael Oxley (R-OH) felt it imperative to pass legislation that would prevent any such instances in the future. The Sarbanes-Oxley
Act (SOX) of 2002, through a series of acts and titles, sought to address the frauds perpetrated by Enron, Worldcom and Tyco to name a few, for the sake of protecting the shareholders of public firms, and restoring investor confidence. Though on the surface it would seem that such legislation was necessary, we purport that the cons of SOX legislation for many firms tend to outweigh its pros. Namely, a significant body of research exists addressing the fact that the costs of firms to adhere to SOX policies are quite burdensome. So much so in fact that we hypothesize that the compliance costs of many foreign firms to adhere to SOX is driving them to delist their American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) from American securities markets in lieu of markets abroad and or in their home countries. Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta

Peter Knouse, Jamie Hilty, Tarah Godusky, Kutztown University
PERFORMANCE-WITH OR WITHOUT THE BOARD
In this paper we compare the performance of companies that have a CEO who is also a member of the board against companies that have these positions separated. Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta

Tiffine Malamphy, Penn State Berks
DISASTERS AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY
Economic turmoil often arises from natural disasters. These macro disasters have cost the United States government billions of dollars in recovery. Government agencies have provided economic relief for areas that have suffered from localized trauma. While the organizations were designed to relieve the monetary woes, they instead attempted to profit from the crisis. While competing within the government’s laws, and against the government itself, private corporations have provided an additional type of support for victims of disasters. Considering the needs of county governments and the cost of disasters should determine all future policies regarding relief effort. Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Angeliki Yannaris, Penn State Berks
THE “R” WORD: RECESSION
The word “recession” has been in the mouths and minds of Americans for quite some time now. Many argue that the U.S. is in a recession or depression while others vehemently argue that we are in neither. However, numbers such as the GDP and statistics generated by the National Bureau of Economic Research leave little room for argument. The United States is undoubtedly in a recession and possibly a depression. I will discuss the statistics that irrefutably point to a recession and the main causes of it. Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Paper Session 2
Masters Hall 309, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Robin Anderson, Albright College
THE SOCIAL HIERARCHY OF LOS ALAMOS
The establishment of the Manhattan Project to manufacture an atomic bomb during World War II also led to the creation of new cities, such as Los Alamos, New Mexico. Isolated from most urban civilization, scientists and military personnel alike learned to live in a close community and govern themselves. Using primary and secondary sources, we compare and contrast the very different, social structures of the two groups of people brought together to build the bomb. We find that the governing hierarchy that evolved at Los Alamos was primarily modeled after that of academic institutions, the social system that the scientists were used to, much to the chagrin of their military compatriots. The eventual success of this government project, though attributed to several factors, rests also on this peculiar set-up of relative freedom enclosed in military secrecy. Faculty Sponsor: Guillaume de Syon

Eli Frey, Albright College
THE FRENCH NATIONAL GUARD DURING THE 1871 PARIS COMMUNE: A LEGITIMIZING AND UNDERMINING FORCE
The French National Guard played a pivotal role in the 1871 Paris Commune. This insurrection followed the siege of Paris during the Franco-Prussian War. The government called up troops to defend the city. Many of these troops refused to abandon their arms and influence. This democratic, non-hierarchical nature strengthened and weakened the commune. My paper analyzes the political underpinnings of this particular citizen militia. Artisan and working class mobilization empowered a segment of the Parisian population. In return, a military force gave teeth to the rhetoric of the Commune and encouraged its intransigence against the French state. The Commune handed power over to a civilian bureaucracy while maintaining an influence over Parisian life. The relationship between a Communard government and the committee representing militia groups challenged the dynamics of the Paris Commune. Faculty Sponsor: Guillaume de Syon

Marilyn Miller, Reading Area Community College
POLITICS, INDIANS, AND TIPPECANOE
Research was conducted to discover how events before, during, and after the Battle of Tippecanoe influenced the leaders involved and the United States of America. To obtain a complete comprehension of these events, sources from the past and present were analyzed. Older accounts exaggerated American leaders’ accomplishments associated with the battle, especially General William Henry Harrison’s. This eventually enabled Harrison to become the ninth President of the United States of America. Newer accounts revealed that the United States had utilized conflicts with the Indians, such as the Battle of Tippecanoe, to continue land expansion and justify the War of 1812. However, both previous and current versions of the battle cited disorganization as the primary cause for the Indians’ defeat and consequent failure to form a unified confederacy. Ultimately, results indicate that the outcomes of this battle were more significant than the conflict itself. Faculty Sponsor: John Lawlor

Ryan Nolan, Kutztown University
MAKING THE TALIBAN USEFUL
The past 30 years of Afghan history are characterized by a series of political rivalries between multiple stakeholders which have led to either civil war or political purges, and ultimately have kept the country destabilized. The International Security Assistance Forces new strategy in Afghanistan is focused on providing security to the Afghan people so that the Government...
of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan can bring about stability. This paper argues that strategically reintegrating the Taliban back into Afghan society will utilize the insurgency to create security, while at the same time set a basis to maintain long-term stability. Faculty Sponsor: Kristen Bremer

Paper Session 2
Campus Center Classroom 1, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Melissa Lemke, Kirby Barnett, Kutztown University

BIBLIO-GENESIS

Biblio-Genesis is a web-based relational database with a focus on integrating literature and the internet into the classroom regardless of subject area. Educators using Biblio-Genesis will find a fully functional web-interface that helps them locate titles that may be useful to their subject area. Each record on Biblio-Genesis contains bibliographic information, professional reviews, and lists of educational web resources delineated by subject area. This way educators can quickly and efficiently find a book and educational web-sites that relate to their concentration. Currently, Biblio-Genesis contains only Printz Award-winning novels. The database targets educators and professionals specifically in the field of young adult literature. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Czerny

Raquel Hamlett, Albright College

DEPICTIONS OF BLACK PEOPLE IN CURRENT CABLE ADVERTISEMENTS

This study examines cable networks’ depictions of black people in commercials on those networks, by analyzing the role, physical appearance, occupation and other attributes that describe the character. This study asserts that there are relationships between the networks and product types in commercials with black characters, networks and complexions of characters, gender and physical appearance of black actors. The networks examined are Nickelodeon, BET and MSNBC. A content analysis is used to find the different black identities. Patterns among the networks and connections between programming and commercials are discussed. Faculty Sponsor: Teresa Gilliams

Kaitlyn Seay, Kutztown University

LETTERS FROM A KUTZTOWN GIRL: DELVING INTO RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES AND MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION

What started as an independent study of research methodologies, Letters from a Kutztown Girl to Her Sister, 1920, grew into a full, multimedia project that incorporated research, interviews, historical fiction writing, script writing, and movie production. The alternative research included trips to the Kutztown Historical Society, aerial pictures of the town taken by the government, dusty tombs hidden in Kutztown University’s Rohrbach Library, and other sources. The finished product was a script and 16 minute film that combined the research into a historical fiction recounting life in Kutztown during the 1920s. The film is composed of footage from Kutztown today, images of the town, and scenes of the era circa 1920. Faculty Sponsor: Amy Lynch-Biniek

Cayla Wiener, Albright College

NON-PROFIT USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The purpose of this research was to gain insight into the communication medium of social networking and learn how it can influence the effectiveness of a non-profit organization. Secondary research was conducted regarding the positive and negative aspects of social media (ie. Facebook, Twitter, etc.). Based upon the analysis, a Facebook page was created to raise awareness of the nonprofit organization, Unite For HER. Lastly, a survey was conducted to determine the effectiveness of social networking. Social networking is rapidly becoming the go-to means of advertising for a variety of products and companies to reach an even larger variety of audiences. Faculty Sponsor: Margaret Rakus

Paper Session 3
Masters Hall 204, 1 – 2 p.m.

James Cullum Jr., Penn State Berks

ECONOMICS OF IMMIGRATION

Since the beginning of time, immigration has been a profound issue for mankind; whether it is as little as crossing the boundaries between the territories of Native American Indians or the vastness of crossing an ocean to an entirely new continent. In today’s society, some would say we have a huge immigration “problem” here in the U.S.. However, how much of a “problem” is it really? This essay will cover immigration in its entirety including the positives, the negatives, and the view of the possible emigrant. Most U.S. citizens would agree that immigration is a bad thing for our economy; however, the truth is quite the contrary. Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Xiang Gao, Penn State Berks

FROM FOUR TIGERS TO DRAGON: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

In this presentation, the topic is about the fast economic growth in Asian after WWII. The economy of Asian takes a great part of the world economy. Many American and European companies have already set up factories and service in Asian; it has a positive impact on the economic growth of this area. In the first part of my presentation, it will show the four Asian tigers: Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea. It will give a brief description about these four areas, and the reasons why their economy growth at an increasing rate. It will also discuss about the huge financial crisis in the 1997. In the second part, it will talk about the dragon in Asian: China. At first, it will show the economy growth in China, and why the economy grows at very fast rate in China. It will also discuss about the world economy right now. Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

Anastasia Sebastianelli, Penn State Berks

THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF OUTSOURCING

The purpose of this presentation is to inform the audience of the facts of outsourcing, and to dispel the rumors and misconceptions associated with the practice. I will define the term “outsourcing,” and offer an
explanation as to why many businesses are in favor of outsourcing; according to a study by AMR Research Inc. in 2009, 80% of IT businesses plan on either increasing their outsourcing rates or keeping them the same. An explanation will be offered as to why the practice is not so popular among the masses. To do this, I will host a comparison between the outsourcing scare of 2004 and the outsourcing opposition today. I will investigate how economic downturns, such as our current recession, affect the public opinion of outsourcing. Other concepts related to outsourcing that do not receive much attention, such as insourcing, or outsourcing done by other countries will also be discussed. The outsourcing and insourcing rates of America will be compared to those of Europe and Japan. In conclusion, I wish to offer an insight into the concept of outsourcing, and to have the audience make sound opinions on the subject with correct information. **Faculty Sponsor:** Jui-Chi Huang

**Paper Session 3**
Masters Hall 207, 1 – 2 p.m.

Robert Kortman, Reading Area Community College
**A NATION IS COMING**
Like many Native American tribes, tragedy had befallen the Sioux people. Dislodged from ancestral homes, trapped between rival tribes and unappeasable European migrants, many Sioux had given up the traditional ways. Hunger and sickness had been nonexistent until the streams of Wasichu flowed into their prairies. It was during these trying times that the Sioux found faith in a new, hopeful ideology: the Ghost Dance. The connections between the songs and the religion of the Ghost Dance faction are deep-seated. The dogma rooted in the songs, along with the legends, mores, rituals, descriptions of archaic ways of life, and divinations compose the schema of the Native American state of mind during the evolution of Sioux and Arapaho cultural conditions. These songs represent moments in time so earth-shattering that they were preserved and handed down through generations to be revealed to us today. **Faculty Sponsor:** David Leight

Michelle Reinhart, Albright College
**THE IMPORTANCE OF ORAL HISTORY TO THE STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST: A REFLECTION ON AN INTERVIEW OF HILDA GERNSHEIMER**
This paper intends to demonstrate the importance of oral history in the documentation of Holocaust History. Using the testimony of a Holocaust survivor recently interviewed for a class project, I show that one oral history can bring together many documented events including Kristallnacht, the kindertransport, and the St. Louis. Oral history also adds a human element to historical accounts and becomes a supplementary primary source for future generations: first-hand testimony may indeed encourage further investigation of the events mentioned. The interview of Hilda Gernsheimer illustrates both of these points and warns future generations of the mistakes she witnessed growing up in a society deemed modern and civilized, yet delved into genocide. **Faculty Sponsor:** Guillaume de Syon

Sophia Schuster, Albright College
**A SHORT TERM SAVING GRACE WITH LONG TERM CONSEQUENCES: THE TROPE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY**
The purpose of this paper is to challenge assertions made by nuclear energy advocates claiming that nuclear energy is the only viable solution to environmental problems. By considering the case of Yucca Mountain in Nevada and one of the prevailing issues of radioactive waste storage, their claims are easily put to the test. Public opinion has not been kind to the concept of nuclear energy, and, these reservations do not come without reason. While nuclear proponents claim that nuclear energy is the best way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus slow the process of global climate change, they often gloss over the consequences. Risks include the leakage of radioactive materials, the fact that no practicable resolution concerning waste storage exists, and the product’s generally volatile nature. Overall, it is a very expensive and merciless technology, which forces various questions about its idealistic presentation. Again, while the industry holds promise, it is not perfect, which forces society to weigh the costs and benefits in a time of environmental uncertainty. **Faculty Sponsor:** Guillaume de Syon

Kourtney Smith, Penn State Berks
**A LOOK INTO INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS**
Throughout our business world today, a portion of economic activity is done with foreign blocs and nations, most particularly in Western Europe and East Asia. Because these two blocs have risen in economic power, global business has increased. Since having a business means having to interact with other foreign nations and behaviors, many people do not know how to interact with them. In the society of business, language has become a huge part of business relations and communication, both domestic and internationally, and it does impact other cultures. Language does not include only verbal language, but also nonverbal communication and proper etiquette. In particular, the states of Japan, China, France, and the United Kingdom have all been impacted by language. Because of this impact, body motions such as shaking your head could mean something entirely different to another country. Intercultural language of this standard is important because of the large amount of foreign businesses that come into the United States. In this paper, topics that will be discussed include how language impacts other cultures, proper nonverbal communication, and business etiquette guidelines. **Faculty Sponsor:** Michele Ramsey

Kourtney Smith, Penn State Berks
**GOVERNMENT REGULATION NOT REQUIRED: MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS MAKE HUMANE REGULATORY DECISIONS**
Since the dawn of the 1980s, multi-national corporations and society together have pushed for corporate social responsibility throughout the world (Utting, 375). This new ideological movement for “ecorporate citizenship” in business is fueled by the power that multi-national corporate actors can bring into a nation. These actors can pave either a
road of prosperity for nations, or a road of destruction and exploitation. Many argue latter and state that multi-national corporations are harming the developing states they work in, and thus will require some form of government control to regulate their global business conduct. Although as research and analysis shown throughout this paper suggests about the various economic and sociological decisions these Multi-National corporations make, global business can surprisingly do a well job of regulating itself via third party influence and the market forces to increase national net well-being. Bringing in a governmental actor into this crucial issue can lead to inefficiency and a lack of growth in nations that need it. Corporations left alone by the government will evolve to regulate themselves and bring in strong gains for all players in trade. **Faculty Sponsor: Randall Newnham**

Brandon Deckert, Zach Phipps, Justin Kratz, James Ockershausen, Kutztown University

**STOCKS AND INTEREST RATES**
Our group researched how stocks performed during periods of rising interest rates. We will particularly look at sectors and industries that outperformed relative to the market. **Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta**

Sean Haley, Troy Wade, Matt Fredericks, Kutztown University

**THE EFFECT OF Mergers AND ACquisitions ON SHAREHOLDER VALUE**
Mergers and Acquisitions have a profound effect on shareholder value in the financial world. There have been many merger and acquisition booms in the past and another large surge happened recently, which was driven by the financial crisis. Historical data has shown that when mergers and acquisitions are on the horizon, market activity tends to increase but does it increase the value for shareholders? What we intend to do is to explore the facts about these mergers and acquisition to find how they actually effect the shareholders’ value. We intend on finding out why the large majority of mergers and acquisitions fail to add any value to the shareholders, as well as the firms involved. To do this we will look at historical data on firms that have merged. We will compare their pre-merger ratios with that of the post-merge firm. We will use such ratios as, price to earnings, return on assets, return on equity, cost of capital and equity, as well as many others. We plan on doing this by using Compustat, as well as using previous studies that have been done on this topic. **Faculty Sponsor: Keshav Gupta**

Dylan Lloyd, Penn State Berks

**HOW STRONG IS THE EFFECT OF THE SAVING RATE ON GDP GROWTH?**
Lloyd’s study examines the changing saving rate in the US and other countries in known periods of growth or decline (according to GDP). This known data will be used to calculate the entropy between the traditional implications of the saving rate of a nation and the real life growth trends. The results will provide a new means of judging the accuracy of discussions which heavily rely on this statistic. **Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang**

Dina Chiappelli, Alvernia University

**FIBONACCI IN EVERYDAY LIFE**
The characteristics of various lighting technologies, incandescent bulb, compact fluorescent lamp (CFL), and light emitting diode (LED) lamp are studied empirically in this paper. Incandescent light bulbs produce light by allowing current to pass through a filament. These light fixtures are very cheap to manufacture. However, incandescent light bulbs are very inefficient. They produce 15 to 25 lumens of light per watt while a LED usually produces 50 300 lumens per watt. The advantages of LED lighting can have many positive effects worldwide. It uses less energy and puts out more light, in result, tons of energy can be saved using LED lighting. This would save the burning of fossil fuels to make electricity and lower global warming effects. A LED also has lower power consumption and longer life span than the incandescent bulb. LED lighting can produce any color- by color mixing of red, green and blue colors and it is much smaller in size. The major disadvantage of LED lighting is high cost to produce. The reference property is efficiency in terms of input power and output light intensity. The overall efficiency of each lamp is obtained and compared. The LED lamp shows the most efficient lighting technology among the three. **Faculty Sponsor: Shiyoung Lee**

Kevin Hanchick, Alvernia University

**THE MATH BEHIND SUDOKU**
This paper will describe the relation of Latin squares and the newly popular number game Sudoku. Sudoku puzzles are very popular but many people are unaware of the math behind them. The paper will also give different strategies for solving Sudoku puzzles and touch on how they are created. I will research and include how the creators of the puzzles decide what numbers are given to the solver. **Faculty Sponsor: John Rochowicz**
TOPICS IN CODING THEORY
Coding theory is the study of creating efficient and reliable message transmissions. The goal of my research project is to explore some of the important topics in coding theory such as error-correcting codes and strategies for encoding and decoding along with concepts such as Hamming codes and Reed-Muller codes. The utilization of these codes will be examined, as well as their impact on information theory.
Faculty Sponsor: John Rochowicz

NEO-PROTECTIONISM? A THOUGHT OF THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT
One look at the growing American trade deficit can make even the strongest cringe. The huge and rapidly growing number makes up an enormous amount of our national debt, and because so it is a widely controversial topic towards economists and politicians alike. Also, as we continue to grow deeper into our trade deficit, our capital account starts to achieve surplus and our dependency on foreigners increases. Due to this, many Americans take up a mercantilist view in trade wherein they would prefer to export as many goods, while importing as little as possible to reduce the debt. In other words, this can make even the smallest protectionist and xenophobic American shy away from trade. The old slogan, “Buy American,” has never sounded so good. Although the argument may have some validity, as this presentation will show, the argument is also flawed in many ways. As ugly as our trade deficit may sound, it is needed for many mutual long run benefits.
Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

SELLING NASA: NASA’S MARKETING INITIATIVES
With the current US economic situation, pressure for the federal government to cut down budgets of federal agencies is greater then ever before. As any other federal agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, has to uphold its image and convey to Congress and the American people the value and benefits of the space program in order to keep its substantial governmental funding. In order to do this, NASA has to employ marketing tactics and strategies to prove why its programs and events are beneficial to the American public and to the field of science, technology, and civilian life. To solidify an identity for the agency, NASA has developed a branding and imaging campaign that stresses that NASA is an agency that works on pragmatic innovations and situations. Along with this branding campaign, in 2007 NASA developed the Strategic Communications Framework Implementation Plan, which outlines the agency’s marketing efforts to engage the American public in its activities. These strategies implemented by NASA are not only innovative initiatives and techniques that the agency uses to create and maintains its image, but also display the importance of marketing in keeping NASA an effective and productive governmental agency.
Faculty Sponsor: Guillaume de Syon

CHAOs THEORY AND CATAStROPHIC RISK
Chaos and catastrophe theories are among the most interesting recent developments in nonlinear modeling. Through the use of deterministic models, it is possible to explore both chaos and catastrophe theories mathematically. Catastrophe theory may then be applied to real world applications such as the management of risk and insurance. In this study I explored the mathematics behind both chaos and catastrophe theories.
Faculty Sponsor: John Rochowicz

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Faculty Sponsor: Jui-Chi Huang

GRAPH THEORY IN THE NUMB3RS TELEVISION SHOW
Math is something that we use every day whether we realize it or not. Despite the majority of people thinking that it is something they learned in high school and can just discard. The television show “Numb3rs” brings math into the world of solving crimes in multiple different ways. In most cases the math is too complicated for the everyday person to understand completely, but is broken down to an extent where the show can still be understood. Graph theory is a topic that comes up often during the show throughout the various seasons and episodes. In this case the topic of graph theory includes things like what graph theory is, social networks, and algorithms. The preceding and several other topics will be analyzed from a website linked to Cornell’s math department. This shows everyone that watches the television show that the math we learn does have an effect on life. If lives can be saved and murderers can be caught by using something as simple as an algorithm, just imagine the further implications that could be made.
Faculty Sponsor: John Rochowicz

TRAVELING WITH MS. ROSELILY
In a recent short story entitled In Love and Trouble, I propose to present a paper that reveals my engagement with Walker’s short story “Roselily.” The story extends Walker’s creative leanings with mine, situating myself and her central character on a twelve hour bus ride. Within my presentation, I will explain my reasons for choosing to sit with Roselily instead of Walker’s other women characters.
Faculty Sponsor: Teresa Gilliams

THE PERSONIFICATION OF DECONSTRUCTION: INVISIBLE MAN’S EXISTENCE BETWEEN BINARIES IN INVISIBLE MAN
The depth of character development within the novel Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison, connects to the intricate theory of deconstruction developed by Jacques Derrida. After extensive research in the field of literary criticism, I conclude that Ellison’s Invisible Man details the narrator’s revelation that he is the personification of deconstruction, the one who serves as the aporia within and between every binary presented...
in society. The Invisible Man portrayed by Ellison ceaselessly hunts through his past for some form of identity, only to remain helpless as contention stirs around everyone he seeks to connect with. After years of turmoil, the Invisible Man, also the novel's main character, realizes the power within his transparency. Delving deep into the literary theories of Jacques Derrida, Harold Bloom, and Eugene Goodheart, I propose in this paper that the Invisible Man serves as the living form of literary deconstruction, a moving entity to encompass what has previously been confined to theory. **Faculty Sponsor:** Jennifer Bottinelli

Kathryn Wells, Reading Area Community College

**MONTRESOR ON TRIAL: FINDING MOTIVE IN “THE CASK OF AMONTILLADO”**

Montresor, of the Cask of Amontillado, has been deemed as ‘mad’ and for his actions by critics and readers alike. The crime he committed was devious in nature and calculated in its execution. To simply label this man ‘mad’ would be a disservice to him and insulting. Yet he is labeled mad due to a lack of any known motive other than the first few words. However, this paper seeks to understand the crime committed in “The Cask of Amontillado” and the driving force behind it. Further, it will once and for all attempt to cast light on the character of Montresor for the future readers of this tale. **Faculty Sponsor:** David Leight

Sandy Datz, Kutztown University

**MOTIVATING STUDENTS TO READ WHILE LIVING IN A TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD**

The thesis explores intrinsic and extrinsic factors that affect students’ motivation to read including family background, educational experiences, and technology. Further, the study examines the impact of electronics on students’ reading behavior including the time spent reading, the reasons for reading, and other attitudes toward reading. In addition to motivation and technology influences, the thesis includes ways that technology and motivation can work together to encourage students to read. The paper contains the results of a survey conducted in local elementary schools that determines the amount of time children spend with technology and reading and the reasons for using technology and reading. The data collected are used to draw conclusions regarding the impact of electronics on reading behavior. **Faculty Sponsor:** Darlene Schoenly

**Paper Session 4**

Masters Hall 210, 2:15 – 3:15 P.M.

Rhonda Miller, Kutztown University

**LEARNING TO SEE THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN CULTURAL LANDSCAPE**

Southeastern Pennsylvania is a cultural hearth where a distinct language, religious practices, and Old World-inspired regional material culture have left a unique pattern still visible on its scenic countryside. The cultural landscape of this vernacular region expresses an individualized identity in our increasingly homogenized world; its continuum is important because it produces much needed diversity by distinguishing this region from the broader American landscape. We have a priceless intangible asset; as a society we must take a proactive stance in its preservation, or the cultural identity of this region will become absorbed into the uniform, globalized landscape of the 21st century. Due to post-war suburban development and the decline of family farm agriculture, a large portion of this cultural landscape has already vanished, but there are ways this heritage can be preserved, promoted, and passed on to succeeding generations. Cultural documentation is one way it can be sustained. This presentation will exhibit the imprints of this landscape’s ethnic heritage; by sensitizing the audience to the surrounding culture, its people, their traditions, religious ways of life, and distinct architecture—it will teach and serve to inspire others to identify, document, and preserve the Pennsylvania German landscape. **Faculty Sponsor:** Robert Reynolds

Michiaki Nakano, Albright College

**TRANSLATING THE WORK OF UEDA SHIZUTERU’S “IKIRU TO IU KOTO KEIKEN TO JIKAKU” (LIVING: EXPERIENCE AND SELF CONSCIOUSNESS)**

Ueda Shizuteru is a third generation philosopher of the Japanese Kyoto School founded by Nishida Kitarou in the early 20th century. A number of Kyoto School works have been translated into English in the past, but Ueda’s texts have not been translated yet. I chose a collection of his lectures given between 1973 and 1989 entitled Living: Experience and Self Consciousness and I am working on an English translation with Dr. Victor Forte. I will present the first chapter we completed during an interim ACRE project, “The Meaning of a Human Lifetime.” Basically, the chapter is about the biography of Nishida Kitarou, but one can also find the roots of East Asian philosophy, deeply related to the ideas of Zen Buddhism. The chapter tells us how people can experience a better life. According to Ueda, through knowing death, life becomes more meaningful. Death and life seem to be opposites in Western thought, but they are interconnected in Zen. The Kyoto School was mainly concerned with these kinds of human questions, comparing and fusing Western and Eastern philosophy. Ueda was a major contributor of the school’s last generation, and the conclusions of the school are written in his works. I would like to introduce Ueda’s work at this year’s undergraduate research conference to share his thought with my peers. **Faculty Sponsor:** Victor Forte

Timothy Suder, Kutztown University

**THE GOD’S SIGN FOR SUICIDE**

In the Phaedo Plato begins with Socrates’ talk about suicide. Socrates states that we are possessors of the god and that the god would not want us to kill ourselves unless he indicated us to do so. When speaking about the situation he is in, Socrates says, “It is not unreasonable that one should not kill oneself before a god had indicated some necessity to do so, like the necessity now put upon us,”(52). Socrates is sentenced to death because he was teaching the youth things the society did not approve of (31). In Plato’s Crito Socrates offers a justification of why one should obey the laws that are put in by the government. Socrates thinks that his death sentence is a sign from the god through the laws that it should approve of (31). In Plato’s Crito Socrates offers a justification of why one should obey the laws that are put in by the government. Socrates thinks that his death sentence is a sign from the god through the laws that it is his time to die. Therefore, Socrates kills himself to obey the laws that the god has put into place. Socrates’ view on suicide is that, when the
REBECCA AVERELL, MEGAN GLASS, HEATHER YOUNG, PENN STATE BERKS  
MOLECULAR IDENTIFICATION OF WAIETA CIRCINATA VAR. CIRCINATA, THE CAUSAL AGENT OF BROWN RING PATCH DISEASE OF POA ANNUA  
Thin and irregular-shaped rings of a peculiar bright yellow appearance were visually observed on an annual bluegrass (Poa annua L.) putting green in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. A single fungal isolate was obtained from affected annual bluegrass tissue, and grown on 20 g PDA plus 0.1 g chloramphenicol per liter water. Fungal colony morphology and sequencing of the ITS1F/ITS4-amplified rDNA internal transcribed (ITS) region confirmed the isolate as Waitea circinata var. circinata. This pathogen was only previously reported as the causal agent of brown ring patch on annual bluegrass and rough bluegrass (Poa trivialis L.) in the western U.S. This is the first documented report of W. circinata var. circinata infecting annual bluegrass in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. 
Faculty Sponsor: Michael Fidanza

CASSANDRA YATRON, PENN STATE BERKS  
SHANE: A KNIGHT WITHOUT ARMOR  
When one thinks of Westerns, the legends of King Arthur do not generally come to mind, but in fact, Sir Lancelot in Books 20 and 21 of Sir Thomas Malory's medieval romance Le Morte D'Arthur is a predecessor to the cowboy character of Shane in the 1953 Western film Shane. Shane resembles Sir Lancelot in his practice of chivalry and courtesy. They are the ideal heroes of classic legend: protecting the weak, defending their friends, and loving with pure hearts. Shane is the Sir Lancelot of the West with buckskin armor. This paper focuses solely on Shane as Sir Lancelot. 
Faculty Sponsor: Sandy Feinstein

ROSEMARIE ACKELSON, KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY  
VISUAL DEFINITION OF PICTURE BOOKS  
A collection of multiple poster boards were bound together to form a “big book” to visually represent the genre of Picture Books. Each page focuses on a particular part of Picture Books including some of the authors, characters and themes. As part of an oral presentation, this large picture book was used to replicate “big books” that are used in the elementary classroom. 
Faculty Sponsor: Mary Laub

JORDAN BARKET, ANDREW GRAINGER, ERIC CHRUSCH, ABEL WOLLE, PENN STATE BERKS  
DIFFERENCES IN MUSCLE ACTIVATION DURING DIFFERENT CONTRACTILE VELOCITIES FOR CONCENTRIC AND ECCENTRIC PHASES OF A DUMBBELL CURL  
According to previous research, muscle activation is greater during concentric (muscle shortens as weight is lifted) than eccentric (muscle lengthens as weight is lowered) phases, and faster contraction speeds lead to increased muscle activity during concentric but not eccentric phases (Bigland & Lippold, 1954; Christou, Shinozaka, & Enoka, 2001). To test these findings, ten students performed dumbbell curls at three different speeds prescribed by a metronome: 20, 50, 80 beats/min. Electromyographical (muscle voltage) and angular motion data were recorded using electrodes placed over the biceps brachii, and an electrogoniometer on the elbow joint. Muscle activity for each phase and speed was computed as a percentage of maximal isometric (static) contraction. In agreement with previous literature, muscle activity was significantly greater during the concentric (M = 35.27%) than eccentric (M = 20.59%) phases, and increased for faster speeds during the concentric phase (25.3, 35.6, 44.9% respectively). In contrast with previous literature however, muscle activity also increased as movement speed increased during the eccentric phase (16.6, 19.8, 25.4% respectively). This could arise from the faster speeds employed in the current study, which may require greater muscle activation to slow the movement down to rest at the end of each eccentric phase. 
Faculty Sponsor: Daniel Russell

PATRICK BAUER II, PENN STATE BERKS  
USING A CNC MILL TO FABRICATE MICROFLUIDIC DEVICES IN POLYDIMETHYLSILOXANE (PDMS)  
Microfluidic devices offer the potential for producing affordable and mass producible analytical devices that do not require a highly-trained staff to operate. These microdevices feature channels on the micron scale in which solutions flow. Using the physical properties of these micro channels along with the chemical properties of the fluids and the substrate, it is possible to perform several different analytical processes in a device the size of a microscope slide. The field of microfluidics has been around for ~20 years, and many different techniques have been used to produce these devices, depending primarily on the nature of the substrate. The production of glass devices, for example, requires cleanroom labs, photolithography, and relatively expensive etching tools. Plastic devices, however, can be produced using a CNC (Computer Numerical Controlled) milling tool that reduces the need for other more expensive and complicated etching tools. In this work, a CNC mill is used to produce a mold on which PDMS is cast to pattern channels and reservoirs in a plastic device. PDMS is an optically-transparent and inert organic polymer that has a surface similar to glass but offers the benefits of flexibility (it is an elastomeric polymer) and reduced cost. Several different devices will be presented here, featuring different channel patterns and dimensions generated using a CNC milling tool. 
Faculty Sponsor: James Karfinsey
Analyzing the Toxicological Effects of Graffiti Remover on Rana Pipiens

Aquatic environments are very important to the ecosystem. The impacts of humans (i.e. graffiti and the graffiti removal process) have the potential to cause irrevocable damage to these valuable environments. During this experiment the lethal and sublethal effects of graffiti remover were observed using a species of frog, R. Pipers. We concluded that at these simulated concentrations, there were no observable effects on the behavioral or neurological functions of R. pipiens. Faculty Sponsor: Bryce Bylawski

Sample Introduction Methods on a Microfluidic Device

A microfluidic device is a substrate, usually glass or plastic, which contains patterned features such as channels or reservoirs. Solutions are contained and manipulated using micrometer sized features that contain volumes less than 1 mL, allowing for the rapid analysis of chemical and biological samples. Microfluidic devices are especially useful in the laboratory because they allow a quick and efficient method of chemical analysis using small sample volumes. The field of microfluidics initially focused on the ability to perform electrophoresis separations. Electrophoresis is the separation of ions or molecules using an electric current. This method is most commonly used for biological analysis on gels, but recent advances have adapted electrophoresis separations from slab gels to narrow glass capillaries to microfluidic devices. Separation in capillary was used in the Human Genome project to sequence human DNA, but there are limitations associated with integrating additional analytical processes in capillary because the sample is isolated within the capillary. On a microfluidic device, however, it is possible to pattern and integrate multiple domains for different biological and chemical processes. For this reason, the terms “lab-on-a-chip” and “micro total analysis system” (or mTAS) have been used to describe microfluidic devices. The first, and arguably most important, example of integration on these devices is the introduction of sample into a separation channel. The sample introduction methods described here include pressure-driven and voltage-driven flows. The benefits of the different methods will be considered, and comparisons will be made to conventional sample introduction techniques in slab gel and capillary electrophoresis. Faculty Sponsor: James Karlinsey

Substitution of Hydroxide Ions with Fluoride Ions in Enamel (Hydroxyapatite) Using Theoretical Calculations

Theoretical calculations were performed to determine if fluoride ions will replace hydroxide ions in tooth enamel (hydroxyapatite), to form the more acid-resistant mineral fluorapatite. These processes are important in the remineralization of teeth, to inhibit the formation of cavities. A model of the hydroxyapatite mineral was developed using molecular mechanics, and energy minimized in the presence of water molecules to represent the surface of the tooth. Fluoride and hydroxide ions were incorporated in the aqueous phase and the competition of both these species for sites at the surface of the hydroxyapatite were evaluated. The distances between both ions and the positive calcium ions in hydroxyapatite are reported, showing that within the limitations of this method - the fluoride is more likely than the hydroxide to move closer to the surface of teeth. These equilibria are important to the maintenance of healthy enamel in teeth. Faculty Sponsor: Lorena Tribe

Brittini Ehnhart, Erica Bierschmitt, Albright College

Archival Process Through the Holocaust; Learning about the Life of a Local Survivor

Through techniques relating to the archival process in Library Science, we were able to examine the life of a Holocaust survivor who made his permanent residency in Berks County. Before we were able to touch any of the actual documents and photos, we had to learn proper handling techniques. This entailed a rigorous training that prepared us to easily arrange, describe and preserve the documents. We were then able to look at photos and documents of the survivor’s life with the aid of his self written memoir. Through this, we were then able to establish findings about the Holocaust and Europe through one man’s perception. This also enabled us to develop a further understanding of different facets of the tragedy’s legacy such as its memorization and the struggles of the survivors. Faculty Sponsor: Guillaume de Syon

Brittany Farrell, Justin Montgomery, Matthew Moyer, Peter Valenteen, Penn State Berks

Solar Thermal Water Heater

This project is designed to reduce the cost and environmental impact of heating tap water by using the sun’s energy. We designed and constructed a scaled down version to prove the concept. A wattmeter measures the power consumption and allows us to calculate the effectiveness of the system. Logic controls shut off the system’s pump when the benefits of the sun are negligible. Faculty Sponsor: Terry Speicher

Daniel Fonseca, Albright College

A Natural Water Quality Assessment at Blue Marsh Lake and Lake Ontelaunee

This research was an assessment of the water quality and the Eutrophication effect of two major Pennsylvania drinking water reservoirs in the Berks County Area’s Blue Marsh Lake and Lake Ontelaunee. The water quality of these two water impoundments directly affects the primary water treatment plants in the county, the Schuylkill River, the communities receiving the discharge water for domestic/industrial use, and the quality of the water as the rivers reach Delaware Bay. Data collection began in mid-April and ended in mid-August. The data was collected and analyzed using acceptable EPA quality control methods with analytical methods and instruments. Our findings were published and will be submitted to the Western Berks Water Authority and the City of Reading Water Authority. Faculty Sponsor: Phillip Dougherty

Carly Getz, Kutztown University

An In10sity Look at Probability

In10sity is a trivia game where all the answers are integer values between 1 and 10. If you get the answer correct, you get to move forward a certain number of spaces, determined by a green die which has the
numbers 2 through 7. If your answer is off by 1, then you move forward a number of spaces determined by a yellow die which has the numbers 1 through 3. If your answer is off by more than one, then you move your pawn backwards a number of spaces determined by a red die which has the numbers 1 through 6. Your other choice is to pass, which moves you forward one space. Like any multiple choice test, where there is a punishment for guessing, if you can narrow the answer down to a few choices, it is a good idea to try to answer the trivia question for that round. This is a study of the probabilities associated with the game. Specifically looking at scenarios in which a player should guess or pass. Faculty Sponsor: Patrick Gorman

Nicole Good Zawidski, Albright College
CLICK–LEARN–SHARE: COLLABORATION AND LEARNING USING WEB 2.0
Web 2.0, the next generation of computer applications, allows people to openly collaborate, edit, save, and share on the internet on any computer. As educators, we need to embrace these new technologies and lead out students into the future. Students are learners by nature. They strive to learn and use things that interest them. A majority of their time is spend on the internet using social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter. If this is where they are spending their time, why should we, as educators, not embrace this technology? Instead of denying student access to web 2.0 applications, we should be utilizing them in the classroom, reaping the benefits they offer. Web 2.0 applications allow us to collaborate on a global scale. They appeal to all learning modalities and offer unlimited learning resources. They are easy and efficient to use and provide better collaboration between students, teachers, parents, and administration while allowing us to contribute and collaborate with others around the world. The possibilities for educational use are endless. New ideas and applications are being developed everyday. Through the use of these applications, I will demonstrate their use and effectiveness in a learning environment and show that these new technologies embrace a variety of technical backgrounds and that it can be as simple as click, learn, share. Faculty Sponsor: Michele Mislevy

Juan Gutierrez, Nathan Rojas, Frances Jallu, Khanh Nguyen, Penn State Berks
SOCCER BALL MACHINE
Soccer coaches have found themselves restricted to their own abilities in order to train their players. A simple and efficient way to train players is through use of a soccer ball machine. A soccer ball machine can develop essential basic skills from very simple techniques with really young players to advanced and world class players. With a soccer ball machine the player can put the ball in the same place every time. The player can practice over and over again giving them the ability to build confidence in reliability through effective repetitions. With that in mind, the machine should have a range of features that would make training players and keepers more true to the game. The new design will enable the soccer ball machine to deliver curved balls and display the speed onto a LCD. The design will provide for the training of field players and keepers in more realistic aspect to the game of soccer where balls are varied. The project scope is to obtain Pro Soccer Trainer and modify the machine in order to produce curved balls. Faculty Sponsor: Michele Mislevy

Matt Harper, Kyle Wolski, Chris Reber, James Maimone, Penn State Berks
AUTOMATED TUBE BENDER
An automated tube bender will increase productivity, have better accuracy, and be more user friendly than its counterpart a manual tube bender. Using an automated tube bender will also benefit the user since there will be little to no physical exertion required to make a bend. Through an extensive design process and a team that worked well together a practical and cost efficient design was created. The design for the bender will incorporate a hydraulic power unit with a solenoid control valve to power a hydraulic ram that will exert the force required to bend round tubing. Through the use of a potentiometer and an electronic control system the automated tube bender will be able to bend a maximum of 2" O.D. X .188" wall thickness round tubing from 0° - 180° and have an accuracy of ±0.1°. This high accuracy will allow users to achieve accurate tolerances for their fabrication projects. Through the use of strength of materials calculations and pin/bolt rating calculations the automated tube bender design was verified to be strong enough for the force exerted on the system. Faculty Sponsor: Terry Speicher

Jesse Heffner, Joe Graf, Tom Ferris, Zack Correll, Penn State Berks
GROUND CONVEYOR
The problem that our team decided to solve was to convert a shingle conveyor that is not currently used, into a ground conveyor that works better than what is currently on the market. The team evaluated different designs and chose the best one that was the most efficient and within budget. Once a design was chosen, data was collected to determine motor size and weight capacity. Calculations were done to determine the weight of each component and the compatibility of the parts was checked. Faculty Sponsor: Terry Speicher

Eric Ho, Penn State Berks
DOES WATER PROMOTE A HEALTHIER BODY MASS INDEX?
Water, also known as H2O, can be considered the most basic nutrient for humans. Water is responsible for more than half of the human body weight; as a result we expect water to be the most important nutrient. The purpose of this study is to determine whether or not water consumption is related to a person’s body mass index (BMI). A BMI is used to estimate a healthy body weight based on height. It is hypothesized that consuming more water will result in a healthier BMI. The study will involve a survey with a cluster sample of college students at Penn State Berks campus. The respondents are asked their height, weight, and how much water they consume daily. The data will be examined for any indication of a relation between consumption of water and body mass index. Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Matthew Huff, Holly Huff, Penn State Berks
PENN STATE BERKS STUDENTS AND CYBER SECURITY
In this research study, we will explore how well the student population at Penn State Berks implements security measures and how aware they are of information vulnerabilities that come from internet use. We will design a survey to acquire the data and use cluster samples from general education courses, which typically have a variety of students
from different majors and standings. We hypothesize that the average student will have at best a moderate level of security and vulnerability awareness. Although modern computers come with basic anti-virus software, more action is usually necessary in order to safeguard data. We hope that our results will make students more aware of risks to their information security and take action to prevent potential attacks.

Faculty Sponsor: Aleister Saunders

Emily Kish, Albright College

FRANKLINA ALATAMAHA POPULATION GENOME DIFFERENCES OBSERVED USING PCR
Franklinia alatamaha, a member of the tea family, once thrived in the floodplains of Georgia but is now extinct in the wild. In the mid-1700’s John and William Bartram collected some of these trees for ornamental gardens; today the only known trees are in private collections which form distinct populations ideal for population genetics studies. I am exploring whether or not individuals from different populations are genetically homogeneous or have diverged over the past 250 years. Since a number of population genetics studies have been done on tea (Camellia sinensis) and none have been performed on Franklinia, I used Camellia-specific PCR primers. Many primers yielded no differences in banding patterns. However, using the primer DFR 3 which amplifies DNA found in an intron region of the gene dihydroflavonol 4-reductase, I found one band difference between a seedling derived from a population found in Boston, MA, and a seedling grown from a population found in Westtown, PA. This band will be re-amplified and sent off for sequencing. I hope to further refine my PCR procedure based on these results and plan to extend my work to more seedlings in the future.

Faculty Sponsor: Andrew Samuelsen

Sean Miller, Drexel University

DEVELOPMENT AND CHARACTERIZATION OF A DROSOPHILA MODEL OF ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE
A central event in Alzheimer’s disease (AD) is the sequential cleavage of the β-amyloid precursor protein (APP) by β- and β-secretase enzymes generating the amyloid-beta (Aβ) peptide. Aggregation of Aβ is a major pathological hallmark of AD. It is important to identify regulators of APP processing and Aβ production for developing any therapeutic intervention. Here we have developed and characterized a Drosophila model of AD that allows the natural processing of APP by β- and β-secretase in the central nervous system (CNS) to produce Aβ peptides. We show here that our AD model flies are defective for normal reflexive CNS behavior represented by significantly reduced climbing ability and also display significantly reduced longevity, consistent with the effects of the neurodegeneration we observe in these flies’ brains. Further, both of these behavioral defects can be significantly improved by using L-685, 458, consistent with the idea that these phenotypes also require the presence of Aβ peptides and AICD generated through β- and then β-secretase cleavage of APP. We also show that the Sir2/SirT1 agonist resveratrol, significantly rescued the climbing behavior in our AD flies further confirming that this would be a good model to screen genetic and pharmacologic regulators of APP metabolism.

Faculty Sponsor: Aleister Saunders

Leigh-Anne Newswanger, Penn State Berks

FACTORS INFLUENCING GPA IN COLLEGE
This project on the Penn State Berks campus will determine if there is a difference in the average GPA of students who are majoring in the IST, Business, or Biology majors. An analysis of several variables such as credits, semester standing, major, and hours worked per week will also be used to determine if they affect GPA. A survey will be given to a sample of students on campus in designated classes. The survey will consist of questions to determine the students major, GPA, number of courses scheduled, hours worked per week, and semester standing.

Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Danny Owens, Leah Kamau, Idriss El Idrissi, Penn State Berks

MICRO FLUID BED REDESIGN
Pharmaceutical research and development requires very tight tolerances on critical process variables. The two most important being: process temperature and process airflow. On R & D scale equipment, the accuracy vs. the overall cost of the machine is an important ratio with customers. Typically, the latter wins; and, as a result, the accuracy is less than those of the large scale production machines. This inaccuracy causes problems when scaling up R & D scale development to large scale production. The project challenge we faced was modifying the Vector MFL.01 Micro Fluid Bed to allow increased accuracy with a minimal increase in cost.

Faculty Sponsor: Terry Speicher

Indira Pabbathi, Penn State Berks

ANALYSIS OF STUDENT CRIME RATE
Analysis of Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency using the 2008 report of Pennsylvania youth surveys. In this analysis, data will be gathered from surveys to find antisocial behaviors of 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders, to compare their averages to see which grades are involved in 10 different crimes.

Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Andrew Peifer, Penn State Berks

GROWTH CURVES FOR HALOSIMPLEX CARLSBADENSE UNDER VARYING TEMPERATURES AND SALT CONCENTRATIONS
A member of the domain Archeae in the family Halobacteriaceae, Halosimplex carlsbadense is a rod shaped, obligate aerobe isolated from a 250 million year old salt deposit located in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Growth studies of H. carlsbadense have demonstrated that pyruvate is the only carbon compound able to support its growth. H. carlsbadense cannot grow in complex media or organic compounds such as amino acids, fatty acids, or nucleotides, suggesting that it may either lack unique catabolic pathways for metabolic processes. Most members of the Halobacteriaceae family exhibit optimum growth between 49-58°C in a 30% salt solution. Our study examined the growth of H. carlsbadense at a range of temperatures and salt concentrations. The growth curves were generated by taking OD600 readings over a 12 day period. The study found that the optimum temperature was between 37-47°C in 25% salt solution.

Faculty Sponsor: Tami Mysliwiec

Tami Mysliwiec, Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter
THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CYBER-ATTACKS

Information security has long been recognized as a necessary national policy issue. As computers become more integrated into modern life the need for it becomes even more dire. Data gathered through investigations into the impact of cyber attacks on stock-price show that the target of the attack suffered losses from 1-5% following the attack. Price drops of this size translate into losses for shareholders between 50-200 million dollars. Data about these attacks are hard to find due to an unwillingness to report the breaches of security as well as the inability to set a dollar value to the cost of the attacks. The type of attack most frequently reported are not the ones that cause the greatest loss. Information theft and denial of service attacks accounted for 67.3% of the total reported money loss but only accounted for 21% and 42% of reported attacks respectively. Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Steve Robinson, Dave Shaw, Shawn Rinker, Penn State Berks

CARDIO POWERED GENERATION SYSTEM

Over an eight week period the Cardio Power Gen System was planned and designed to be an electrical power generation system harnessing human generated rotational motion during the course of regular exercise equipment use; in our case a typical exercise bicycle. This biomechanical energy will be converted into electrical energy to be stored in a commercial battery pack used to power standard overhead lighting drawing current as needed. The intent for this project is to demonstrate the feasibility of using normally wasted human energy in an exercise gym setting to supplement electrical power, saving energy costs over time. Faculty Sponsor: Terry Speicher

Michelle Schwartz, Kutztown University

THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN LANDSCAPE

A compilation of photographs provides a backdrop to the narrative for this interpretation of the origins of the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. An historical account of German settlement to the region, during the 17th and 18th centuries, especially the notable heart of Berks County, begins this exploration. Through empirical research of the key elements of architecture, agriculture, folk arts and crafts, and the preservation thereof, a statement is developed in response to the essayistic inquiry, as to “What is the Pennsylvania German Landscape?” Faculty Sponsor: Robert Reynolds

Heather Spangler, Alvernia University

STRUCTURED EXERCISE PROGRAMS IN A PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION SETTING: A PRE- AND POST-EXERCISE STUDY OF BLOOD PRESSURE, RESTING HEART RATE, AND PERCEIVED QUALITY OF LIFE

The purpose of this case study is to examine the effects of a structured exercise program in a psychosocial rehabilitation setting on members’ resting heart rate, blood pressure, and perceived quality of life. The theoretical framework on which this study rests is Nola Pender’s Health Promotion Model, which states the success of health promotion activities, such as exercise, is dependent on several factors, which include an individual’s characteristics and prior personal experiences related to the health behavior, perceived benefits and barriers of said behavior, interpersonal influences, and activity related affect. Members’ heart rates and blood pressures were assessed at the beginning of each exercise session, in order to analyze changes in resting heart rate and blood pressure over the course of the 3 month program. Members completed the Multidimensional Index of Life Quality (MILQ) survey, at the beginning and the end of the exercise program. The MILQ survey measures quality of life according to nine major domains including mental health, physical functioning, productivity, relationships with health professionals, and financial status. Members were also individually interviewed. Common themes extracted from these interviews included physical health, well-being, self-esteem, and opportunities for interaction with others. Faculty Sponsor: Kathleen Wisser

Bradley Verret, Clint Stalnecker, Albright College

AN INVESTIGATIVE STUDY OF BETA AND GAMMA-CYCLODEXTRIN INCLUSION COMPLEXES USING COMPUTATIONAL AND SPECTROSCOPIC METHODS

Host-guest interaction constitutes a fascinating phenomenon in the study of chemical equilibria. Through our research, the ability of a class of small cyclic-oligosaccharides, referred to as cyclodextrins, to form inclusion complexes with small hydrophobic molecules was investigated. Cyclodextrins are comprised of (alpha-1,4) linked glucopyranoside subunits bound in a cyclic fashion, which creates a torus-shaped structure with a conical tendency. The three natural cyclodextrins (alpha, beta, and gamma) have six, seven, and eight glucopyranoside subunits respectively. Each subunit is oriented such that the hydrophilic hydroxyl groups reside on the outside of the torus while the inside of the torus retains hydrophobic character due to mainly carbon and hydrogen environments. This arrangement of side chains makes the inside of the torus an ideal cavity in which small hydrophobic molecules may be included. The hydrophilic outside of the torus in turn gives the cyclodextrin and its complexes solubility in aqueous environments. Our work focuses on the use of computational predictions of complex energies as well as spectroscopic analysis to investigate the ability of various cyclodextrins to include small hydrophobic molecules within their cavity. The objective of this study was a comparison of the experimental and computational data. Faculty Sponsor: Jeffrey Wolbach

Abel Wolle, Daniel Russell, Bruce Hale, Penn State Berks

DOES PREFERRED WALKING STRIDE PERIOD CHANGE WHEN TREADMILL SLOPE IS INCREASED?

Humans walking on level ground typically adopt a preferred stride period. This stride period has been found to utilize the least amount of energy, and is related to the pendular properties of an individual’s leg (Holt et al., 1995). While walking on level ground has received extensive investigation, there is little research on the preferred stride period during walking on an incline slope. This study aimed to determine whether preferred stride period changed for increases in slope. Ten healthy undergraduate students were recruited to walk on a treadmill set at 0, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25% grade. The speed of the treadmill was set at each individual’s preferred walking speed, and was maintained for all conditions. Electrogoniometers were attached over each knee joint to
record angular position over time. Stride period was defined as the time between successive peak knee angles of the same leg. Mean stride period was found to increase with increasing slope. This finding will be used to test models of human walking. Faculty Sponsor: Bruce Hale

**Poster Session B**
Campus Center Main Lounge, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Lisa Archibald, Albright College

**“PAYING IT BACK” VS. “RETURNING THE FAVOR”: EXAMINING POSITIVE PAYBACK AS A RESULT OF EXPERIMENTER ALTRUISM**

The saying goes, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,” but what about, “Do unto others as you have seen them do unto another?” This question could potentially lead to an ethical debate, but the present study looks simply at how participants respond when asked for help by a visibly helpful, non-helpful, or neutral experimenter. Participants were randomly assigned to the three conditions and were also measured for mood levels. 45 college students (31 females, 14 males) were used as participants. Helpful behavior was assessed quantitatively through the scoring of psychology quizzes. Results showed that exhibiting positive helpfulness was more likely to generate helpful responses, confirming positive payback as a more consistent response than negative payback. Faculty Sponsor: Ron Green

Vatonne Bethea, Albright College

**RELATION BETWEEN HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND STRESS LEVELS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS**

This study examines how students’ daily lifestyle habits affect their stress levels. Previous research has shown that students with healthier lifestyles tend to have lower stress levels than with more unhealthy lifestyles. This past research has shown that healthy lifestyle is related to lower stress, but this research has not examined how individuals with different lifestyles respond to a specific stressful event. This study experimentally manipulated stress in participants to determine if the amount of anxiety experienced by people with healthy and unhealthy lifestyles would be differentially affected by the stress manipulation. Participants completed a healthy lifestyle questionnaire, assessing their exercise, eating, and sleeping habits. Participants were then randomly assigned to high and low stress groups; those who were in the high stress group answered a fairly difficult math problem, and those in the low stress group answered a fairly simple math problem. After answering the math problem both groups of participants rated on a scale of 0 to 10 if the math problem made them feel stressed in any way. Results for this study are still pending. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendolyn Seidman

Jennifer Bonnes, Albright College

**SEXUAL AND AGE DISCREPANCIES AMONG COUPLES**

This study involves the examination of how individuals perceive different types of romantic relationships. The purpose of this study is to see how individuals perceive different types of couples based on the sexual orientation and age of the individuals in the couple. Participants viewed a slideshow with photographs of seven couples (varying the sexual orientation and age discrepancies of the members of the couple), and then answered a questionnaire about the photos seen. Couples include homosexual and heterosexual relationships of same and different ages (for heterosexual couples, one couple had an older female with a younger male and the other was an older male with a younger female). My hypothesis is that the heterosexual couples of the same age will be viewed most positively, and the homosexual couples of different ages will be viewed most negatively. The results for this research have not yet been finalized. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendolyn Seidman

Haywood Braxton, Penn State Berks

**MENTORING MILLENNIALS**

There is a steady increase of Baby Boomers retiring in the workforce. According to experts, Millennials offer a wealth of talent to fill that void. Millennials have a vast amount of potential as they enter the job market. Could more professional mentoring and guidance be the key for success in the professional world? Although it might vary, millennials usually refer to people born from 1980-2000, making up about 26 percent of the United States population. This research is to illustrate the benefits that a mentor can have on a millennial during their college career and entry into the job market. Research shows that students who are professionally mentored, are more likely to receive the same or even more experience than an internship would. Mentoring allows millennials to build a personal relationship, as well as building a career foundation. Students have been administered a short survey specifically focused on different aspects of their thoughts about mentoring. The analysis of survey results will be presented in table and charts. Faculty Sponsor: Sadan Kulturel-Konak

Robert Bremme, Albright College

**PERCEPTIONS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION AS A FUNCTION OF SMILING AND NON-SMILING FACIAL EXPRESSIONS**

This study examined perceptions of sexual-orientation and emotion based upon facial expressions. Participants viewed photographs of self-identified homosexual and heterosexual men and women who were either smiling or not smiling. Accurate perceptions of sexual-orientation were greatest for straight women smiling and lowest for lesbians smiling. Happiness ratings were lowest for straight women not smiling and highest for straight women smiling. These findings support the idea that perceptions of sexual-orientation are influenced by certain social expectations. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Hughes
Avery Brown, Albright College
PERCEPTIONS OF NOVICE VERSUS ESTABLISHED AUTHORS’ WRITINGS
This study examines whether or not the writings of a published author are truly great or if the author’s name is really the important factor. The participants of this study were given four different passages two by the professional author, two by the amateur. The participants were asked to read each of the passages and then to rate each of them on their level of enjoyment. Results show that participants enjoyed the unpublished works more than the published, participants felt that the authors of these works were more talented, and the unpublished works were more likely to be published than the actual published works. Because the participants did not know who the author is, the name of a famous author did not affect their ratings, allowing them to truly appreciate the level of writing rather than them just focusing on the author. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Hughes

Heather Coughlin, Albright College
PERCEPTIONS OF LIFE SATISFACTION AND CAREER SUCCESS ACROSS GENDER, AGE, AND MARITAL STATUS
This study examined gender differences across age and marital status in terms of life satisfaction and career success. Participants read 16 scenarios that combined gender, age, and marital status groups. The scenarios were rated on perceived life satisfaction and career success of the hypothetical people in the scenarios. I found that overall, the unmarried group was perceived as having less life satisfaction and the older, unmarried group was perceived as having the least amount of life satisfaction. Married individuals were also perceived as having greater career success, and older, married individuals had the greatest amount of perceived career success. This supports my hypothesis that marital status would have an impact on the perceptions people have about others. These results may be due to stereotypes that individuals learn through media and society that support marriage as an ideal goal in life. This study adds insight to the perceptions of individuals when considering their marital status rather than their self-reported experience. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Hughes

Camie Daigle, Albright College
EFFECTS OF PHYSICAL ATTRACTIVENESS AND ATTIRE ON PERSONALITY PERCEPTIONS
Initial perceptions of individuals’ personality are largely determined by the physical appearance of that individual. The current study examined the relationship between physical appearance and personality perceptions at zero acquaintance. Two aspects of physical appearance were varied: Attire (well-dressed or poorly dressed) and physical attractiveness (attractive or unattractive). Forty participants viewed photographs of 8 women, representing all four possible combinations of attire and attractiveness, with two photographs of each type. I expect to find that physically attractive, well dressed people will be perceived by participants as being more sociable in three ways. Those three ways include high positive ratings in extraversion, agreeableness, and conscientiousness. I also expect that people who are well dressed and physically attractive will also be perceived by participants as being more narcissistic than that of a poorly dressed, unattractive person. Data for this study is still being analyzed and results have not yet been finalized. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendolyn Seidman

Deborah Fan, John Chang, Penn State Berks
THE EFFECT OF STRESS ON FOOD INTAKE AND SELECTIONS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.
Stress affects the physiological changes in health behaviors such as food choices and intake. The researchers designed a survey addressing stress levels, regular food eating habits, and food eating habits when experiencing stress. The researchers hypothesize that the results from the survey will indicate that undergraduate students will intake sweeter high-fat foods in greater quantities when experiencing stress. The researchers hope to gain more knowledge of how undergraduate students cope with their stress in relation to any shifts in their food choices and intake. Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Krystal Gamez, Albright College
PERCEPTIONS OF SOCIAL INTERACTIONS
This study examined the impact length of responses to questions has on initial impressions, particularly those of friendliness, persuasiveness, and intelligence, as well as memory of information presented. Participants viewed video clips of a scripted conversation between two actors, one of which is manipulated. Participants saw two clips using either short responses or long responses. Participants then completed a short questionnaire assessing their impressions of the actor using Likert scales. There was no significant difference between ratings for each clip on persuasiveness, intelligence, and memory. When examined along with gender, the manipulation had an effect on friendliness, in which females rated the actor with the longer responses highest. These results may have resulted from many confounds, as the actors used were never trained. Perhaps the responses used were not quite long enough. This study adds to the psychological knowledge base and can be applied in real world situations such as job interviews. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Hughes

Amanda Givler, Albright College
MEMORY OF TEXTBOOK PASSAGES
This study examined whether storylines in textbooks help a reader to understand and recall the material being read better than textbooks that contain only facts. To examine this, participants were presented with two passages. One passage contained both facts and storylines, while the other passage contained only facts. Participants were asked to read each individual passage and take a multiple-choice quiz testing them on the material they read in each passage. The quiz’s were then graded to see which type of passages were more beneficial to readers and helped them understand and recall the information read. I anticipate that storylines in textbooks may help a reader to understand and recall the material being read better than those who are presented with material from textbooks that contain only facts. Perhaps this is the case because
readers can relate to the information better. I would also anticipate that readers would enjoy reading textbooks that contain storylines better than textbooks that contain only facts. Results from this study have not yet been finalized. **Faculty Sponsor:** Gwendolyn Seidman

Ricky Groner, Penn State Berks

**EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMORY: AN ANALYSIS OF SURVEY DATA**

Past studies have indicated that successful executive functioning behavior plays a central role in the performance of prospective memory tasks (Mantyla, Carelli, & Forman, 2007). This study investigated the relationship between self-reports of executive functions and prospective memory. Eighty college students completed the Executive Functions Index (Spinella, 2005) and the Prospective Memory Questionnaire (Crawford et al, 2006). Questions included areas such as motivational drive, organization, strategic planning, impulse control, and empathy. For prospective memory, areas differentiated between short-term and long-term future events, environmental cues, and self-generated cues. Analyses support the utility of self-report methods as a way to compare these two groups of constructs. Significant correlations were found between the four observed areas of prospective memory and the areas of executive functioning that include organization and impulse control, but not planning or motivational drive. We suggest that abilities relating to organizing and prioritizing tasks, and controlling one's thoughts and actions, are related to the ability to execute future-oriented tasks. The propensity to plan, however, seems to be unrelated to the propensity to remember when it is time to execute the plan to completion. **Faculty Sponsor:** Joanna Garner

Lauren Kittle, Albright College

**THE INFLUENCE OF PRIMING ON INTERPRETATION OF NEUTRAL FACIAL EXPRESSIONS**

This study investigated whether viewing pictures exhibiting happy or unhappy facial expressions would prime participants to rate a neutral-expression (presented immediately following) differently. Results showed that participants rated the neutral picture following the unhappy category as happier than either of the other categories. This may be because the neutral picture for the unhappy category was a colorful picture of a beautiful woman, as opposed to a black and white picture of a man, as was the case for the happy category neutral. The results can be applied to a counseling setting, where the neutral faced counselor will not be perceived as unhappy, and therefore clients may be prompted to open up more. **Faculty Sponsor:** Susan Hughes

Shea Mikelonis, Albright College

**INDEPENDENT RATINGS OF FACIAL AND VOCAL ATTRACTIVENESS AS A FUNCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LIGHTING**

This study examined environmental lighting to see if it has an effect on people's facial and vocal attractiveness ratings of others. Participants were asked to rate the attractiveness of a variety of face pictures, voice samples, and matched presentations of faces and voices in either a dark-lit or a light room. Generally participants rated faces, whether presented alone or in the combined condition, as being more attractive than voices presented alone, regardless of lighting condition. In general, the lighting did not seem to have an effect on attractiveness ratings; however, participants rated previously rated attractive faces as being more attractive in the light and previously rated unattractive faces as being more attractive in the dark. **Faculty Sponsor:** Susan Hughes

Katie Miller, Albright College

**THE EFFECTS OF COFFEE AROMA ON CONCENTRATION AND PERFORMANCE**

This study investigated concentration and performance in response to the presence or absence of coffee aroma. The study tests to see if the aroma decreased or increased concentration and performance time. Each participant completed three cognitive tasks; Where's Waldo, I Spy, and a maze, while the experimenter recorded the length of time it took to complete. During the study, half of the participants were exposed to the aroma of freshly brewed coffee while completing the three cognitive tasks. Results are anticipated to show that the coffee aroma decreases performance time, therefore increasing concentration. The effect is predicted to be more significant for coffee drinkers than non-coffee drinkers. It is also anticipated that participants with an earlier class, such as an eight o'clock class, will also have longer task completion times due to fatigue effects. Since coffee is an addictive drug, consumers feel the need to have it. The coffee aroma will stimulate the need to have coffee, therefore serve as a focus mechanism. Data is still being collected and final results are pending. **Faculty Sponsor:** Gwendolyn Seidman

Justin Mogilski, Albright College

**DIFFERENCES IN PRESENTATION EFFICACY BETWEEN USE OF POWERPOINT AND DRY-ERASE BOARD**

This study investigated differences in how effective the use of either Microsoft PowerPoint or a dry-erase board is in the presentation of lecture material. Participants were presented with two lectures, one historical and one biological in content, using either Microsoft PowerPoint or a dry-erase board. After each lecture, participants took a short multiple choice quiz pertaining to the material. Results indicated that participants who were taught the information with the dry-erase board scored significantly higher on the quizzes. These results may be very valuable in education for how professors/teachers can choose the best presentation method to supplement their lectures. **Faculty Sponsor:** Susan Hughes

Kelly Olena, Alexandra Papadopoulos, K. Tess Collum, Kutztown University

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IMPULSIVITY AND RISKY SEXUAL BEHAVIORS IN COLLEGE STUDENTS**

There are a number of factors related to why people engage in risky behaviors. The current study is attempting to explore the relationship between college students’ levels of impulsivity and self-reported risky behaviors. There is evidence supporting impulsivity being related to risky behaviors on self-report measures (Cooper, Wood, Orcutt, & Albino, 2003). Most of this research utilizes self-report measures related to impulsivity as a personality trait. Impulsivity has been investigated in neurological...
populations using behavioral measures of impulsivity. The current study employs one of these behavioral measures of impulsivity rather than the traditional self-report measures. In accordance with previous research regarding impulsivity as a personality trait, it is expected that there will be a positive correlation between impulsivity (measured behaviorally) and self-report of risky behaviors. Seventy-five college students were tested in a mid-sized Eastern college on the Immediate Memory Task (IMt) and the Risky Behavior Scale (RBS). The RBS consists of six different subscales. The subscale that is being investigated in this particular study is the sexual behavior subscale. The IMt is a continuous performance task that measures commission errors to determine the level of impulsivity. IMt scores will be correlated to a composite RBS sexual behavior subscale score. Faculty Sponsor: Matthew Heinly

Rafael Ordonez, Penn State Berks
**VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS OF BUSINESS NETWORKS**
My study includes an analysis of the security of current business networks and the statistical process and methods involved in the analysis of such networks. Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter

Kelly Quinlan, Kutztown University
**KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: RAISING FUNDS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY**
A retrospective review of sexual violence on campus reveals, on average, seven acts of forcible sex offenses and rapes each year. Therefore preventative strategies include increasing the knowledge of the student body to stimulate awareness of the potential threat of sexual violence. This study proposes goals and tactics to generate funds to aid in purchasing state-of-the-art equipment that will advertise matters relating to the latest incidents of sexual violence and preventive strategies offered to the KU community. Faculty Sponsor: Edward Hanna

Cameron Slade, Albright College
**PERCEIVED DANGER AND WEAPON FOCUS EFFECT**
The weapon focus effect is the tendency for eyewitnesses to have poorer recall of a crime when a weapon is present than when a weapon is not present. In past literature the focus was on the unusualness of the weapon being present, with more unusual weapons being more distracting. This current study focuses on how the level of perceived danger of the weapon affects recall of the crime. My hypothesis is the more dangerous the eyewitness perceives the weapon the fewer details about the crime and perpetrator will be remembered. In this study participants were randomly selected to watch one of four videos. The videos contained a non-Albright student mugging another person and approaching with one of three weapons (gun, knife, or bat), or no weapon (control condition). After viewing the seven-second video participants answered a questionnaire about the video they watched. One of the questions on the questionnaire used a Likert scale to determine the level of perceived danger of the weapon in the video. The other questions tested memory of the perpetrator, including selecting the perpetrator’s photo from a lineup. The questionnaire will be scored based on correct answers out of ten. Results are still pending. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendlyn Seidman

Elizabeth Snedeker, Kaitlin Hangendorf, Albright College
**EPA’S GREEN POWER PARTNERSHIP AND MOTIVATIONS BEHIND A GREEN CAMPUS**
In our modern industrial economy, each time we turn on the computer, each bite we eat, each item we discard, and each trip that we make to the local store entails a conversion of fossil fuel carbon to carbon dioxide. Institutions of higher education are poised to play a leading role in developing and implementing carbon-neutral policies. The Green Power Partnership (GPP), a voluntary program created in 2001 helps organizations get support from the EPA in lowering the transaction costs of buying green power, reducing their carbon footprint and improving their environmental performance. Currently, there are 92 higher education institutions and 63 other educational institutions participating in this program. This study examines what motivates higher education institutions to participate in this program and the basic institutional framework that has to be in place before taking the necessary steps toward making any commitments and moving towards an environmentally sustainable (green) campus. Faculty Sponsor: Soma Ghosh

Heather Stapleton, Penn State Berks
**IS DOMESTIC ABUSE RECOGNIZED SIMILARLY IN SAME-SEX COUPLES AS IN HETEROSEXUAL COUPLES?**
Domestic abuse occurs within heterosexual and homosexual populations. However, interpersonal violence may be more believable in heterosexual couples, particularly when the victim of abuse is a female (Messerli & Russell, in press). This research investigated the hypothesis that couples in same-sex relationships would be least likely to be believed that they were the victim of repeated abuse compared to heterosexual couples. We also expected that participant sex and homophobia would play a role in these beliefs. Participants included 374 individuals (244 females and 130 males). A 2 (participant sex) X 2 (sexual orientation of the couple) X 2 (high or low homophobia) ANOVA was conducted with belief that the defendant experienced repeated abuse as the dependent variable of interest. Results found a significant homophobia by participant sex interaction that showed that male participants with low rates of homophobia were most likely to believe the defendant was a victim of repeated abuse compared to females low in homophobia or males and females high in homophobia. Faculty Sponsor: Brenda Russell

Marcy Tocker, Penn State Berks
**ARE EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS A HIDDEN PREDICTOR OF GPA?**
Self regulated learning can be defined as planning and guiding learning behaviors. Executive function can be defined as planning and guiding behaviors regarding daily activities. Previous research has investigated the role of self regulated learning as a predictor of college achievement (GPA). Other relevant constructs, such as executive functions, have been overlooked. Using self-report measures, we examined the relationships between and the relative contribution of executive functions versus self-regulated learning habits on GPA. Thirty male and fifteen female college students (mean age 22.00 years, S.D.= 5.55) completed the Dysexecutive Questionnaire (DEX; Wilson, et al., 1996), assessing difficulties with the control of goal-directed behaviors, thoughts, and
actions. They also completed the Metacognitive Awareness Inventory (MAI; Schraw & Dennison, 1994), assessing planning, monitoring, evaluation, learning strategies and organization in a learning context. High cognitive dysexecutive function was associated with poorer self-regulated learning and lower GPA. High and low quartile DEX scores revealed more than a letter grade difference in GPA, which was statistically significant, t(21)=2.88, p<0.05. DEX Behavior scores accounted for 23% of the variance in GPA, while MAI scores did not enter the regression equation. These results reveal that executive function has a greater impact on educational success than previously thought. Faculty Sponsor: Joanna Garner

Vanara Ung, Zulmary Rivera, Cynthia Krupnik, Albright College

THE EFFECT OF MUSIC GENRES AND MOVIE PREFERENCE ON PULSE

Music is capable of affecting people emotionally and physically. Measuring heart rate is one method that tests how music affects individuals. Gomez and Danuser (2007) had found that faster rhythm is associated with an increase in breathing rate and heart rate. Twelve Albright College students between the ages of 18 and 22 were involved in the experiment. Participant’s heart rate was measured using IWorx physiograph. Independent variables consisted of participant’s movie preference (comedy, romance, horror, and drama) and two different types of music (soothing and discomforting). The dependent variable was heartrate. Participants watched a video clip of a diver swimming through the ocean. A baseline heart rate was obtained. This was followed with the video clip played along with the soothing music. A second baseline was taken before starting the video clip again, but with the discomforting music. This was followed by a baseline recording. All recordings were 1 minute in duration. Neither movie preference, nor interaction was significant. Music preference was significant, F (4, 32) = 3.092, p = .029. Soothing music did not give more or less arousal than discomforting music depending on an individual music preference. Gomez, Patrick and Danuser, Brigitta (2007). Relationships between Musical Structure and Psychophysiological Measures of Emotion. Emotion, 7(2), 377-387. Faculty Sponsor: Jerry Lee

Vanara Ung, Albright College

PERCEPTIONS OF TRUSTWORTHINESS OF INDIVIDUALS BELONGING TO DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS

Women are considered to have more warmth than men (Fiske et al., 2002), so I hypothesize that participants are more likely to trust females than males. Caucasians are perceived as having more warmth (Fiske et al., 2002) than Asians, Hispanics, and African Americans and people tend to favor Anglo-Saxons (Lott & Saxon, 2002) and people’s own race over other races. Since the majority of the study is white Americans, I hypothesize that participants will trust white Americans more than other ethnicities. In addition, people tend to believe Asians are highly competent (Fiske et al., 2002); thus, I expect that Asians are trusted most among non-whites, then Hispanics, then African-Americans. Thirty undergraduates participated in the study. Participants looked at eight photos on a slideshow of people from four different ethnicities (two Caucasians, two African Americans, two Asians, and two Hispanics), one female and one male for each ethnicity. While participants looked at each photo, they filled out a brief questionnaire rating the person in the photos on a 5-point Likert scale on how much they would trust the person in the photo. Data analysis is still in progress and final results are still pending. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendolyn Seidman

Christin Walter, Albright College

THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY RELIGIOUS PASSAGES ACROSS RELIGIONS

This study examined the underlying themes of the major religions of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism to see if participants could correctly distinguish the religious passage to the religious text (i.e. Bible, Koran, Torah, etc.). I chose the underlying moral values that went across all of these religions to determine how well the participants knew exactly what religions believe, including their own. The participants were then exposed to ten religious passages, two passages from each religious text, and were asked to try and decipher which religious text the passage was taken from. The religion the participants associated with did have an impact on whether or not they correctly identified the passages. There were differences between how positively the passages were viewed, how familiar they were with the passages, and if they thought people would follow the moral values presented in the passages. These results could have perhaps been a result of the majority of my participants associating with Christianity and there was not a lot of religious diversity among my participants. This study can help people to focus on the similarities instead of the differences, through education, helping to develop tolerance in our world. Faculty Sponsor: Susan Hughes

Chuhua Wang, Albright College

PRIMING RELIGION AND LIFE SATISFACTION

Past studies have found that religion is associated with greater life-satisfaction. Religion can be thought of as a cognitive structure that underlies individuals’ religious beliefs (Wenger, 2004). Past studies (Pichon et al, 2007; Wenger, 2004) studies have shown that religious concepts can be primed below conscious awareness. In the current study, 60 participants completed a survey assessing religious beliefs and life satisfaction. Participants were randomly assigned to primed and nonprimed groups. The primed group was asked, “What religion are you?” first, in order to activate religious concepts in their minds. The nonprimed group was asked this question at the end of the survey, and thus did not have religion on their minds when they answered the life satisfaction questionnaire. At the end of the survey, participants were asked to rate how religious they are, so participants could be divided into high and low religiosity groups. My hypothesis is that religious people will report greater life satisfaction than nonreligious people. Additionally, I predict that religious people who are primed with religion will report greater life satisfaction than religious people who are not primed, but that the priming manipulation will not affect non-religious people. Data are still being analyzed; results are pending research. Faculty Sponsor: Gwendolyn Seidman
Keiko Wolfe, Alvernia University

**DOODLING AND INFORMATION RETENTION**

Participants were randomly placed into one of three experimental groups—doodling, note taking, and controlled condition. They were played a 3 minute voicemail message and instructed to pay attention for names. They were given a memory test regarding the names, and places. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Ana Ruiz*

Brett Yoh, Penn State Berks

**SECURITY BREACHES AND YOU: A TIME ANALYSIS STUDY**

Utilizing information obtained through a cluster sample and various studies/reports from government and private organizations, a time series analysis will be conducted to study any trends or anomalies. My study examines personal security breaches with a focus on identity theft, one of the foremost areas of personal security breaches. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Janet Winter*

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**VISUAL ART PRESENTATIONS**

**Visual Art Presentations**

Center for the Arts Mezzanine, 9:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Nina Boodhansingh, Kutztown University

**ABSTRACT WORLDS**

My paintings present microcosms and macrocosms based on abstract elements of nature (primarily trees). The finished pieces suggest self-contained worlds that include tedious and time-consuming drawings of pod-like shapes, that essentially float through the piece. The forms can move fluidly throughout the piece, or they can be alienated from the surrounding environment. Evoking a dream-like quality, there is a mood of calmness in the image. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Daniel Talley*

Giuseppe Giunta, Kutztown University

**CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY**

The exhibited work contains a variety of photographs exploring the unknown. By crossing abstraction with realism I am able to find or sometimes create beauty in an unknown subject that is otherwise boring, ugly or bizarre. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Dan Talley*

Giuseppe Giunta, Kutztown University

**TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY PORTRAITURE**

The exhibited piece is a base point for an extended study on traditional and contemporary portraiture using charcoal. The idea is to capture the subject so that it looks as if the person was sitting right in front of you. I am interested in rendering everything in full detail from the softness of a persons skin to the hard shiny texture of a persons teeth. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Dan Talley*

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**PERFORMING ART PRESENTATIONS**

**Music**

Roop Hall, 10:15 – 11:15 A.M.

Sarah Slater, Rachel Turgoose, Kutztown University

**FIREBOLT**

World Premiere performance of Firebolt for two baritone saxophones by Sarah Slater. The inspiration to compose this piece simply came from the lack of repertoire for this combination of instruments. The work highlights the entire range of the instrument and is entitled Firebolt, because the piece is edgy, full of energy and sparks people's attention. Firebolt will be performed by the composer, Sarah Slater, and Rachael Turgoose. 

*Faculty Sponsor: Jeremy Justeson*

Michelle Turzanski, Kutztown University

**CHOPIN, NOCTURNE IN B-FLAT MINOR, OP. 9, NO.1**

Chopin wrote 21 Nocturnes (Night pieces). They are considered among the most popular pieces for the concert repertoire. The inventor of the Nocturne was the Irish composer John Field, but Chopin developed it and...
made it popular, by using a more freely flowing rhythm with an operatic melodic line. I will be playing the Nocturne in B flat minor, op.9, No.1. Faculty Sponsor: Maria Asteriadou

Zachary Hartman, Dave Palazzo, Kutztown University

ROCKSCHOOL
A Place where kids play in a band...but that is only the beginning. Students can enhance their abilities we provide through lessons to successfully work with peers to begin their own band by harnessing their talents. This program will bring back what is being taken out of the school and back into the students to give them a well rounded education. Faculty Sponsor: Paul Sable

THEATER
Klein Lecture Hall, 1 – 2 P.M.

Cat Whelan, Penn State Berks

TITUS ANDRONICUS MONOLOGUE
The researcher participated in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival as an Irene Ryan nominee. This presentation is the monologue from the prepared audition piece. Faculty Sponsor: Cleo House Jr.

Tarah Yoder, Courtney Vinson, Penn State Berks

SCENES FROM THE CRACKWALKER AND ANTIGONE
We will perform scenes from The Crackwalker by Judith Thompson and Antigone written by Sophocles. The Crackwalker is about people who live at the margins. They are violent, drunk, and thrive on toxic relationships. Some struggle with mental disabilities. The scene we will be performing is the opening scene with Sandy and Theresa. Sandy gets angry at Theresa (who is mentally disabled) for sleeping with her husband. Antigone is about the story of Antigone, daughter of Oedipus, the former king of Thebes, who unknowingly killed his father and married his mother, and who renounced his kingdom upon discovering his actions, and her fight to bury her brother Polyneices against the edict of her uncle, Creon, the new king of Thebes. It is a story that pits the law of the gods—“unwritten law”—against the laws of humankind, family ties against civic duty, and man against woman. Faculty Sponsor: Cleo House

Poetry Reading
Klein Lecture Hall, 2:15-3:15 P.M.

Roxanne Richardson, Kutztown University

IN SEARCH OF CREATIVITY
The poems being presented are in honor of poets such as Hilda Doolittle, Federico García Lorca, William Carlos Williams, Cecilia Vicuna, Craig Czury and Heather Thomas. The readings will open with a Creativity Narrative inspired by H.D.’s book, The Gift. These poems, crafted under the instruction of Heather H. Thomas, Ph.D., professor of English, Kutztown University, touch upon ordinary people, myth, and dream-like worlds. Faculty Sponsor: Heather Thomas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosemarie Ackelson</td>
<td>Kutztown University</td>
<td>9:30 A.M.</td>
<td>CC Main Lounge</td>
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<td>Susan Adams</td>
<td>Kutztown University</td>
<td>9:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Mas 207</td>
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<td>Laura Allison, Angela Sorg, Adam Feldon, Andy Velik</td>
<td>Kutztown University</td>
<td>10:15 A.M.</td>
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<td>Robin Anderson</td>
<td>Albright College</td>
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<td>Mas 309</td>
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<td>Lisa Archibald</td>
<td>Albright College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Averell, Megan Glass, Heather Young</td>
<td>Penn State Berks</td>
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<td>Jordan Barket, Andrew Grainger, Eric Chrusch, Abel Wolle</td>
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<td>Patrick Bauer II</td>
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<td>Austin Benner</td>
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<td>Vatonne Bethea</td>
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<td>Jillian Bonitatibus</td>
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<td>Jennifer Bonnes</td>
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<td>Haywood Braxton</td>
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<td>Robert Bremme</td>
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<td>Avery Brown</td>
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<td>Brian Cavaliere, Justin Miller, Jason Gross</td>
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<td>Devajyoti Chatterjee</td>
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<td>Devajyoti Chatterjee</td>
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<td>Dina Chiappelli</td>
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<td>Heather Coughlin</td>
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<td>Sean Crossley</td>
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<td>James Cullum Jr</td>
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<td>Camie Daigle</td>
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<td>Ashley Darzinikas</td>
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<td>Sandy Datz</td>
<td>Kutztown University</td>
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<td>Andrea Davis, Binayah Shaparenko</td>
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<td>Brandon Deckert, Zach Phipps, Justin Kratz, James Ockershausen</td>
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<td>Brittni Ehrhart, Erica Bierschmidt</td>
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<td>Serpil Ertop, Thi Thi Han, Abu Kebbay</td>
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<td>Deborah Fan, John Chang</td>
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<td>Eli Frey</td>
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<td>Evan Harbaugh, Eric Lindsey</td>
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<td>Matt Harper, Kyle Wolski, Chris Reber, James Maimone</td>
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<td>Scott Higgins</td>
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<td>Melissa Lemke, Kirby Barnett</td>
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11th Annual Undergraduate Research and Creativity Conference 28