

Research That Matters



V A L D O S T A S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y

ELEVENTH ANNUAL
**Graduate Student Research
& Scholarship Symposium**

APRIL 19, 2019

**Valdosta State University's Graduate School presents
the Eleventh Annual Graduate Student Research
and Scholarship Symposium**

April 19, 2019

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. • UC Magnolia Room

Welcome: Dr. Becky K. da Cruz, Associate Provost
for Graduate Studies and Research

Opening Remarks: Dr. Robert Smith, Provost and VPAA

Special Recognitions: Dr. Becky K. da Cruz

Enjoy the Posters!

Refreshments provided by the Office of University Advancement.



College of Arts

Communication Arts

ARE AFROS HERE TO STAY? AN ANALYSIS OF THE RESURGENCE OF THE NATURAL HAIR MOVEMENT

Jessica S. Fairley

**Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Member
Department of Communication Arts**

A trend of the 1970s is revived in almost a more iconic way than it was in the past. The natural hair movement has taken root in the black community once again. Black women are sporting their curls more than they have in the past 30 years but are black women committed to forgoing relaxers? Also are media companies committed to presenting a realistic image of black hair in the media? Using the Social Cognitive Theory, this research examined the possible effect that a resurgence of the natural hair movement in the media could have on African American women and society. This study also revealed the motive behind why major media conglomerates are choosing to display these images. This information could help determine whether or not natural hair in the media is a fad or something that's here to stay.

College of **Business Administration**

Business

A COMPARISON OF HUMAN TELEMEDICINE AND ANIMAL TELEMEDICINE

Jason Jacoby

**Dr. Gary Hackbarth, Faculty Mentor
Department of Management and Healthcare Administration**

Video conferencing has long been used as an effective tool in Healthcare to better serve both patients and doctors in order to be able to provide higher quality care when face-to-face communication is difficult or time critical. Video conferencing is now being used by Veterinarians to lower costs and provide higher levels of care to their animal patients. We found that companies tend to focus on their specific markets without overlap using similar technologies.

College of Science and Mathematics

Biology

SPATIAL NICHE PARTITIONING ALLOWS COEXISTENCE OF NINE-BANDED ARMADILLOS AND GOPHER TORTOISES IN A PINE PLANTATION

Namrata Bhandari

**Dr. Colleen M. McDonough, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Nine-banded armadillos and gopher tortoises cohabit pine forests in the southeastern United States but may compete for burrowing locations. This may be problematic because gopher tortoises are a declining species. To determine if they are utilizing the same habitat, a microhabitat selection study considering seven habitat parameters was carried out within a 13.35 ha plot on Moody Air Force Base near Valdosta, GA. Eighty-six burrows were randomly selected and a discriminant analyses was used to identify parameters that differentiate the locations of both species burrows from each other and from random sites (N=250). Armadillo burrows (N=40) were found in areas with higher vegetation density, greater canopy cover, steeper slopes and thicker ground cover than gopher tortoise burrows (N=46). Steeper slopes, low visibility and farther distance from edges separated burrows from random sites. Results suggest spatial niche partitioning and not empty niche concept allowed for the coexistence of these two species.

CROSS SPECIES TRANSFERENCE OF MICROSATELLITE PRIMERS FOR GENETIC MARKER IDENTIFICATION IN SPANISH MOSS TILLANDSIA USNEOIDES

Joshua I. Brown

**Dr. Corey Anderson, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Tillandsia usneoides (Spanish moss) is an ecologically and culturally important epiphyte. Nevertheless, many questions about Spanish moss dispersal, including the relative frequency of different reproductive modes (i.e., seed dispersal vs. vegetative breakage), have not been resolved because hypervariable DNA-based markers have never been developed for this species. This may be due to the fact it is difficult to obtain sufficient amounts of DNA. The present study will assess the transferability of microsatellite primers developed for species of the family Bromeliaceae to *T.usneoides*. This will be done by screening 36 identified microsatellite primer sets by way of gel electrophoresis and Agilent 2200 TapeStation. Since small DNA yields is a limiting factor, we also plan to refine current DNA extraction protocols. Once markers are identified, they will then be used to genotype collected Spanish moss specimens, so we can make inferences about the relative frequency of different reproductive modes in the organism.

DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH WEST NILE VIRUS

Katie Butts

**Dr. Mark Blackmore, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Understanding the complexity of West Nile virus (WNV) presents a challenge to state and local vector control agencies. The conditions that lead to an infectious disease outbreak are crucial for control measures and explaining vector-disease prevalence. Geographical and regional variability among host and vector ecology introduces unique dynamics to the predictability of WNV. We applied geographic information system technologies to West Nile surveillance data from 12 mosquito trap locations in Lowndes County, Georgia from 2008 to 2018 and evaluated demographic, socioeconomic, and environmental risk factors of West Nile virus incidence in *Culex* species. Risk factor data was obtained from the American Community Survey and the National Land Cover database. Minimum infection rates (MIR) were calculated for each year and each trap location with regards to *Culex* species. In this study, we identify locally- significant WNV risk factor associations to vector exposure. Ultimately leading to a better understanding of WNV transmission in this area and an improved response during WNV season.

CLASSIFICATION OF ALZHEIMER'S, DEMENTIA, AND BRAIN CANCER THROUGH SHANNON ENTROPY

Matthew L. Cowan, Jenu Thomas-Richardson, & Andrew Rezendes

**Dr. Jonghoon Kang, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Alzheimer's, dementia, and brain cancer have been examined using 41 sequences of proteins associated with all three of these areas producing different averages of Shannon Entropy for each area. The three different averages from the analysis of the protein sequences means a classification can be made utilizing information theory techniques dealing with the Shannon Entropy equation. Additionally, an exploratory multiple linear regression was done for these 41 sequences to advance this claim and the overall result was that Glycine and Histidine amino acids contribute over 44.5% of variation to these three areas as a whole meaning that the interaction of Glycine with Histidine may increase the chance of a patient to ultimately develop a type of brain cancer, dementia, or Alzheimer's since Shannon Entropy for this dataset is ultimately influenced by these two amino acids when selecting for the best model in a multiple linear regression analysis.

THE BIOMECHANICS AND FUNCTIONAL MORPHOLOGY OF TILLANDSIA USNEOIDES BASED ON TENSION TESTS, MORPHOMETRICS, AND X-RAY IMAGING

Brandi Missouri Griffin

**Dr. Corey Anderson, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

The functional morphology and biomechanics of the pendant epiphyte Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) has never been determined with strong support. In this study, tension tests, morphometrics, and X-ray imaging were used to elucidate the form and function of the nodal region in *T. usneoides*. Tension tests revealed the internode is up to four orders of magnitude stronger than the node. Regression analyses of the tension data showed a decrease in the strength of nodes with flowers, and a decrease in node strength with larger cross-sectional areas. However, node strength increased with an increase in node position. The morphometric data regression analyses showed the cross-section area of the sclerotized tensile core does not change significantly regarding node position. The X-ray imaging technique identified the fracture point morphology in this tensile-loaded plant. This combination of qualitative and quantitative analyses could lead to new technologies for tension loaded materials.

VECTOR-HOST INCIDENCE COMPARISON OF ITS1-ITS2 GENOTYPES OF CYTAUXZOOM FELIS IN SOUTHERN GEORGIA

Dariana N. Rodríguez

**Dr. Eric W. Chambers, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Cytauxzoonosis is an infectious disease of domestic cats caused by the protozoan parasite *Cytauxzoon felis*. The disease has been thought to be fatal in domestic cats, but recent research has found cases of survival in infected domestic cats. Studies on the genetic variation of the first and second internal transcribed spacer regions (ITS1-ITS2) of the rRNA operon have identified five genotypes associated with different severities of cytauxzoonosis in the bobcat and domestic cat. In this study we will be looking at the incidence of these five genotypes in the ITS1-ITS2 region in three hosts of the *C. felis* lifecycle located in southern Georgia. PCR and gel electrophoresis will be used to test for the genotypes ITSA, ITSB, ITSC, ITSG, ITSI in the ribosomal RNA region of DNA samples from *Lynx rufus* (bobcat), *Felis catus* (domestic cat), and *Amblyomma americanum* (Lonestar tick).

INVESTIGATING THE DEEP CHLOROPHYLL MAXIMUM IN LAKE LOUISE, GEORGIA

Danielle Ward

**Dr. James Nienow, Faculty Mentor
Department of Biology**

Previous monitoring of Lake Louise indicates an annual stratification event with a thermocline located at a depth of 2.0 – 2.5 meters. High tannin concentrations in the water during stratification rapidly attenuate incident light penetration, where less than 0.1% reaches 2.5 m. However, a distinct deep chlorophyll maximum develops below the established photic zone, containing higher chlorophyll b concentrations than the surface waters. Conditions within the hypolimnion during stratification and the presence of chlorophyll b suggests the presence of filamentous cyanobacterial species of the genus *Prochlorothrix*. Filtered samples from Lake Louise were collected and stored at -20°C. DNA was subsequently extracted and amplified for the 16s rRNA gene using PCR and standard bacterial primers. PCR products were cloned as plasmid inserts for sequencing. Sequences will be aligned using a nucleotide BLAST against published cyanobacterial 16s rRNA sequences to assess biodiversity of the cyanobacterial microflora and, potentially, confirm the presence of *Prochlorothrix*.

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

English

DEPICTIONS OF THE THIRD IN VOLTAIRE'S "MICROMEGAS"

Michael S. Antonoff

**Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Mentor
Department of English**

This analysis examines the character of the Saturnian within Voltaire's "Micromegas" in hopes of revealing what this unique intersectional character represents. This essay attempts to uncover the multiple meanings that this "third figure" signifies and potentially ascertain what the text says about the human race and the human condition in general. Conceivably, the figures in the text will reveal additional information about "the third" in tales of othering and conflict. The text both anticipates and evokes numerous interpretations of the Saturnian. Catherine Volpilhac-Auger confirms that Voltaire himself writes in such a way that elicits multiple responses, noting that he [Voltaire] "nevertheless comes close to the kind of philosophical history sketched out by Montesquieu when he focuses, like him, on the multiplicity and complexity of causes, which are examined in depth, thanks to the historian's discernment, political insight and understanding of events, both great and small, and of mentalities" (146). Likely, the Saturnian, like other figurative elements in Voltaire's writings, ultimately serves a didactic purpose, or at the very least, reveals something meaningful about the human condition. This analysis anticipates that the inclusion of the Saturnian functions to comment satirically on the failings inherent within human interaction.

WHEN A YOUNG CLOWNISH KNIGHT SLAYS A DRAGON: UNVEILING TRUTH AND FAITH IN BOOK 1 OF THE FAERIE QUEENE

Rachel Miller

**Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Mentor
Department of English**

Book 1 of *The Faerie Queene* is a narrative about how to successfully navigate a reality that is not what it seems. Spenser's bumbling ambitious Red Crosse knight embarks on a perilous quest to free a nation from a dragon. Little does Red Crosse realize though that in order to defeat the monster, he must master a far subtler quest; he must master his faithless heart and in so doing bind himself to truth which is divine communion gained through spiritual contemplation. Red Crosse proves himself faithless when he forsakes his quest and enters into a relationship with the seemingly fair Duessa. Once Red Crosse becomes entangled with Duessa he painfully discovers that what looks most sweet is often what is most foul. He learns that his senses will lead him astray and that only divine grace can free his faithless heart and enable him to participate in divine redemption.

**POETRY, SHELL SHOCK, AND THE HIDDEN INFLUENCE:
DECONSTRUCTING SELECTIONS FROM ROBERT VON RANKE GRAVES'S FAIRIES AND FUSILIERS**

Brian C. Phinazee

**Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Mentor
Department of English**

War has been a part of life throughout history. Battles often are romanticized and heroes lauded for their actions – even their deaths. But what about those warriors who don't die? Their lives didn't end when their wars did. Many had to find their place back in the world and, for a select minority, that place was as writers. Robert Graves was a poet who fought in the trenches of World War I and, despite being declared Killed in Action, survived to enjoy a full life. His literary works were widely well received, but the war never left him. Using deconstruction, it is possible to find the influences of violence, horror, and shell shock within Graves' poetry. With the help of Carl Leggo's article "Open(ing) Texts: Deconstruction and Responding to Poetry" and my own experiences, this essay addresses selections from Graves' Fairies and Fusiliers with empathic views from a fellow veteran.

**DARKNESS ON "THE STREET": SHINING A LIGHT ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN
IDENTITY IN THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE**

Jason A. Smith

**Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Mentor
Department of English**

In Ann Petry's *The Street*, characters throughout the novel are watched with passivity and invasiveness that creates unease for many of the characters. This unease produces a psychoticism for several of the characters in the text. While many characters perform the watching, all of the characters are watched in some way by a figure who holds power over the character that is being watched. By applying the ideas of observation and the panopticon and Otherness to the text, one can understand how surveillance and social Othering in *The Street* not only reinforces the white power structure in 1940s Harlem but creates a culture of oppression among similarly cultured African-Americans that ultimately leads to a crisis of identity for Lutie.

“THE DAMSEL’S NEW ARMOR”: LISA ANN SANDELL’S ELAINE, LANCELOT AND GWIENVERE IN SONG OF THE SPARROW

Ashley R Williams

**Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Mentor
Department of English**

Later works such as the postmodern work *Song of the Sparrow*, contains the trend of Elaine’s gender performance matching the author’s time period in which she is written. According to Judith Butler “[g]ender proves to be performative—that is, constituting the identity it is purported to be. In this sense, gender is always a doing...” (34). It seems that the authors of Elaine’s story revolve heavily on the sociocultural, political influences of the time. Thomas Malory endured the War of the Roses, Sir Alfred Tennyson was within the time of the rise and fall of English rulers with questions about the universe, and then Sandell, a twenty first-century writer whose modern take on a woman’s role becomes more prominent. Sandell subverts the chivalric code and allows Elaine to become a woman of action, Guinevere changing from a jealous woman to a friend, and Lancelot from a friend to a heartbreaker.

Modern and Classical Languages

AN EXAMINATION OF THE SECOND LANGUAGE IDENTITIES OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Rhonda Lisa Carey

**Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Mentor
Department of Modern and Classical Languages**

This research project investigated the connection between second language (L2) identity and language learning. L2 identity refers to any aspect of an individual’s personality that is connected to his or her knowledge or use of an L2. Both language teachers and students may develop an L2 identity. This poster presents a review of recent literature on L2 identity, including how language teachers and students view their own L2 identities compared to how others perceive them. Moreover, second and foreign language learners’ motivation, learning styles, and other factors that affect L2 identity were also examined. The poster contains definitions of key terms, annotated bibliographies of the studies that were examined, and practical implications for language teaching and learning.

THE PRAGMATIC COMPLEXITY OF REFUSALS

Robin Ponder DePaola

**Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Mentor
Department of Modern and Classical Languages**

Speech acts such as refusals, greetings, invitations, etc. require speakers to have both an understanding of not only the lexicon and grammar of a language, but also a sociocultural knowledge of pragmatics. L2 learners who do not have this pragmatic knowledge may appear rude or create misunderstanding as they interact with native speakers. Refusals are particularly difficult to pragmatically navigate because these speech acts require a speaker to respond to his/her interlocutor in a manner that provides a face saving act. This present study reviews the challenges L2 learners face when attempting to offer refusals and learning strategies to assist L2 learners in refusal production. This project provides annotations of reviewed studies, a list of key terms, implications for teaching, visual aids, and references.

A COMPARISON OF PEER, TEACHER, AND CALL SYSTEM FEEDBACK

Carey Holbrook

**Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Mentor
Department of Modern and Classical Languages**

This research project examined corrective feedback techniques within the context of second and foreign language instruction. Three techniques were investigated and compared: (1) peer feedback, (2) teacher feedback, and (3) computer assisted language learning (CALL) system feedback. A review of the recent literature on corrective feedback was conducted and the results suggest that the implementation of each type of feedback is affected by learners' individual differences such as language aptitude, working memory, motivation, and age. The poster includes a summary of key studies and their findings as well as practical implications for language teaching and learning.

College of Education and Human Services

Communication Sciences and Disorders

THE EFFECTS OF THICKENED LIQUIDS ON THE AMPLITUDE OF MUSCLE CONTRACTION DURING SWALLOWING IN THE GERIATRIC POPULATION

Bonnie L. Brown

**Ms. Katherine Walden CCC-SLP, Faculty Mentor
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education**

The influence of thickened liquids on muscle fatigue during swallowing was investigated on two healthy female individuals, using the Surface Electromyography (sEMG). Participant 1 is a young adult (20-30 years old), while participant 2 is a geriatric adult (65 years or older). The consistencies chosen for this study included: thin liquids, nectar thick liquids, and honey thick liquids. Participants were instructed to partake in 3 trials, 1 consistency per trial. Each trial involved 15 swallows of 10 milliliters of liquid. To determine if any muscle fatigue occurred, the last three swallows of each consistency were averaged together to produce a mean number. Once the mean was established, participant 1 was compared to participant 2. Age had no substantial effect on the amplitude of muscle contraction when swallowing the thin and nectar thick liquids but did reduce amplitude when swallowing the honey thick liquid, signifying that muscle fatigue did occur.

THE EFFECTS OF FATIGUE ON LEARNING AND ACADEMICS IN PERSONS WITH CONCUSSION

Summer Dacheux

**Dr. Matthew Carter, Faculty Mentor
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education**

Concussion introduces symptoms of memory deficits and fatigue that impact an individual's learning. This study was conducted to differentially assess the toll of both physical and mental fatigue on memory in a person who has active symptoms of a concussion. With concussion already impairing an individual's ability to focus and learn, it is vital to assess if added fatigue creates more difficulties. A single participant was administered the Test of Information Processing Skills four times. The test was first administered before any fatigue was exerted onto the participant as a baseline measure, after physical fatigue was introduced, after mental fatigue was introduced, and lastly, again with no fatigue. Results showed physical and mental fatigue both negatively impacted the visual memory, auditory memory, and word fluency in the participant. These results suggest that fatigue can cause a negative effect on a person's ability to remember and recall information that is needed for a successful education.

THE EFFECT OF EGOCENTRISM ON VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

Patrick Elliott

**Drs. Crystal Randolph and Ruth Renee Hannibal, Faculty Mentors
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education**

The current study examines the effect of egocentrism on vocabulary development. When learning new information and skills such as vocabulary, a common strategy is to make the information relatable to one's self. Thus, this study uses portraits (i.e., vocabulary self-portraits) as a tool to facilitate vocabulary development. Vocabulary flash cards, which typically contain a word and a related picture, are a common tool used to build a child's vocabulary. In this study, the effectiveness of vocabulary self-portraits, which depict words and photos of the child taken in a way that reveals word-meaning are compared with line drawings, both which contain novel vocabulary. The outcome of this study revealed a propensity for the use of vocabulary self-portraits.

EFFECTS OF VOICE THERAPY ON A TRANSGENDER MAN'S VOICE

Genevieve Kennett

**Dr. Mary Gorham-Rowan, CCC-SLP, Faculty Mentor
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education**

A transgender individual is one whose biological sex and gender identity differ. Those who identify as transgender typically identify as the opposite gender from which they were assigned at birth. Voice therapy has been a growing option for transgender individuals to obtain voices that match their identities. Although there are numerous studies available discussing voice modification for transwomen, the research for transmen is lacking due to testosterone therapy typically decreasing their vocal pitch. A study was developed to increase information regarding voice therapy for transmen who do not receive testosterone therapy. Additionally, this study aimed at providing unbiased research to allow transgender people to feel more comfortable in the bodies they were given. One transman underwent five weeks of voice therapy, twice a week for 50 minutes, using resonant voice strategies to lower his vocal pitch. Voice recordings were obtained after each session and analyzed.

LINGUAL FATIGUE: THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF SPEECH THERAPY ON INDIVIDUALS WITH PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Carsen Pastirik

Ms. Melissa Carter, Faculty Mentor

Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education

This study explored the unintended consequences of lingual fatigue due to speech therapy for a patient with Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's disease affects voice, swallowing, and cognition. Fatigue occurs in all stages of Parkinson's disease and can severely affect quality of life. Fatigue worsens as the disease progresses. The purpose of this study was to assess the lingual strength of a participant with Parkinson's disease using the IOPI at the beginning and end of treatment sessions. The data concluded that there is a significant decrease in tongue strength from the beginning to end of speech therapy. This indicates that fatigue increases as the activities of treatment are attempted. Many patients have expressed difficulties with fatigue both physically and cognitively. In order to improve quality of life for these patients, one must understand the various sources of fatigue in order to accommodate them as part of a daily routine.

IMPACT OF VOCABULARY KNOWLEDGE AND DECODING SKILLS ON READING COMPREHENSION IN INDIVIDUALS WITH DOWN SYNDROME

Alyssa Roundtree

Dr. Matthew Carter and Ms. Lorena M. Cole, M.Ed., CCC-SLP, Faculty Mentors

Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education

This study aimed to investigate the reading comprehension abilities of an individual with Down syndrome, and to investigate how these abilities were associated with decoding accuracy and vocabulary knowledge. During the study, the Test of Word Reading Efficiency – Second Edition (TOWRE-2), Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test – Fourth Edition (PPVT-IV), and the Gray Oral Reading Tests – Fifth Edition (GORT-5) were administered to an individual with Down syndrome, age 11 years and 11 months. The results from the tests were compared, and it was found that vocabulary knowledge was associated with comprehension skills while decoding accuracy was less related. These results indicate that comprehension is far more affected by vocabulary than word reading in those with Down syndrome.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EXECUTIVE FUNCTION AND NAMING ABILITY IN PATIENTS WITH APHASIA

Caroline C. White

Dr. Laura Lynn Mullis, Faculty Mentor
Department of Communication Science & Disorders and Special Education

The purpose of this research was to investigate the relationship between executive function ability and naming ability in persons with aphasia (PWA). One participant with aphasia was examined by administering the Functional Assessment of Verbal Reasoning and Executive Strategies (FAVRES) to assess for executive functioning ability, and the short form of The Boston Naming Test to assess naming ability. The data suggest that there is no relationship between executive functioning ability and naming ability in PWA. While the assessments used to analyze the relationship were reliable in their scoring, future studies should consider assessing a larger group of participants in order to obtain a more comprehensive view of the relationship. Based on results found in the current study, no relationship should be determined between executive functioning and naming ability in PWA.

THE NEED FOR AN ONLINE HEARING SCREENING TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE FIELD OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Emily K. White, B.S. Ed.

Dr. Ted Johnson, Au.D., Faculty Mentor
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders and Special Education

It is within the scope of practice of speech-language pathologists to conduct hearing screenings. This requires training and knowledge of the current American Speech-Language- Hearing Association (ASHA) guidelines in order to accurately screen individuals and determine the correct results of either pass or fail. However, there are a number of differing guidelines used within the field of communication sciences and disorders. This study was conducted using survey responses on how professionals currently conduct hearing screenings to examine the potential need for an online hearing screening training course based on ASHA's guidelines. The results of the survey determined that many of the participants do not conduct hearing screenings with the same methods as the ASHA guidelines. The participants reported a present need for an online hearing screening training course, and agreed that they would participate in such a course, as well as encourage students to do the same.

Library and Information Studies

DESTRUCTION OF ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES IN WORLD WAR II

Zachary Pate Council

**Ms. Deborah Davis, Faculty Mentor
Department of Library and Information Studies**

Throughout history, the cultural significance of archives and libraries has made them targets of destruction during times of war. In their attempt to eradicate the Jewish population of Europe, the Nazis targeted libraries, archives, and other cultural centers of Jewish origin. This paper examines the Nazi assault on Jewish culture during World War II. It examines how human lives were not the only casualties of the Holocaust, but an entire way of life and culture. However, amidst the devastation, entire communities and individuals resisted. Jewish ghettos ran their own libraries and sought to save books and items of cultural significance. This led to a greater awareness in the United States of the value of museums, archives, and libraries as cultural institutions that needed to be protected from destruction in wartime. Through the efforts of ordinary librarians, museum curators, and archivists, preservation became a war aim for ultimate Allied victory.

LIBRARIAN PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY MARKETING AND PROMOTION TECHNIQUES: AN EXPLORATORY QUANTITATIVE STUDY

Christopher A. Evans

**Dr. Nicole D. Alemanne, Faculty Mentor
Department of Library and Information Studies**

Public libraries spend a great deal of energy promoting the products and services offered to users and nonusers, and yet there is little research on marketing and promotion techniques in libraries. Furthermore, library professionals also often observe citizens making statements that indicate they are not aware of what a public library offers. In dealing with this dichotomy, experts suggest strategic marketing is more effective than an ad hoc approach. This exploratory study used an anonymous survey of librarians at a large urban public library system in Georgia to determine if age, gender, and education affect librarians' perception of the best marketing and promotional techniques to baby boomers, and to develop a platform for future research. Findings suggest that age and marketing education do affect librarians' perceived effectiveness of promotion techniques and support the importance of the use of evidence-based outcome measures to accurately determine promotion technique effectiveness.

Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy

CREATION OF THE WORKPLACE POWER DISTANCE SCALE (WPDS)

Jacob W. Highsmith, T. Kennedy Drury, Bethannie M. Jamerson, Sandra Marek, & Johnathan Burnette

**Dr. Jeremy A. Bauer, Faculty Mentor
Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy**

Hofstede (2001) defined power distance as the perceived inequality in power between a supervisor and subordinate and the individual's level of acceptance of the perceived inequality. Inequality of power and acceptance of the inequalities vary between cultures, organizations, teams, and individuals (Hofstede, 2001). The purpose of the current study was to create a new scale to measure workplace power distance within organizations. Both an EFA (n = 211) and a CFA (n = 400) were conducted to create the Workplace Power Distance Scale (WPDS). The final WPDS is a 21 item scale ($\alpha = .90$) developed in an attempt to create a unique scale which measures perceptions of power distance at the individual level across multiple sub-domains.

Social Work

THE IMPACT OF HOME VISIT INTERVENTION ON A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR'S SELF-ESTEEM

Amanda J. Brown

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

Self-esteem plays a significant role in the life of a domestic violence victim. The building up of self-esteem could lead into healthier relationships, an opening to learning new things, greater feelings of security and resiliency. Services rendered to shelter clients should not end at the time a victim has exited the shelter. Often times when the victim has finished their stay at the shelter, a lot of them are entering into an independence that they have not had before. Through Home visit interventions clients receive current needs assessments to establish what further assistance is needed to maintain the success of their shelter exit. These home visits provide a sense of security and reinforces the client's right to self-determination and with a healthy self-esteem, this will lower their risk of having to return to the shelter.

A STRENGTHS-BASED APPROACH TO PROBLEM BEHAVIOR IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT

Jalyn N. Buchanan

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

Many elementary aged students face behavioral issues during their time at school. Teachers, administrators, and other faculty have different methods of providing an environment where all of their students can thrive and have little unproductivity as possible. This single subject research design explores problem behavior in a first-grade student who attends an afterschool program through the YMCA. It uses a strengths-based approach to provide intervention to improve student's overall behavior. Decreasing the number of discipline referrals and decreasing the number of times the student is asked to do something before obeying were studied during the course of this research. Results illustrated a fluctuation in behavior throughout three weeks of intervention. The number of discipline referrals, however, did decrease. Charts are provided to display findings.

TALK THERAPY FOR REDUCING A WORKER'S COMPASSION FATIGUE SYMPTOMS IN A PREGNANCY SUPPORT CLINIC

Victoria Conrey

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

Compassion fatigue and burnout manifests in a variety of symptoms such as depression, hopelessness, isolation, and negative talk. All of which decrease satisfaction and zeal for one's job. This AB Single Subject Research Design (SSRD) is used to measure the effectiveness of talk therapy as an intervention for Client A, a worker at a pregnancy support clinic, and her compassion fatigue symptoms. The goal of this research is to decrease negative symptoms and increase job satisfaction, which is measured by the Compassion Fatigue Scale before and after talk therapy is implemented. This measurement is conducted through the frequency of secondary traumatic stress, burnout, and compassion fatigue symptoms. By comparing her symptoms in the baseline phase to the intervention phase, it is evident that talk therapy is an effective intervention to reduce compassion fatigue symptoms for Client A.

DOES COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY DECREASE STRESS IN A COLLEGE STUDENT

Hilda Dwumfuor

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

This research presentation is on the effectiveness of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) on college students. A single subject research design was used in this study. Using a perceive stress scale, the client (Mr. T) self-reported different levels of stress over the course of a month. The teacher-researcher used three phases in this research. The phases used in this research were baseline(A), intervention(B) and Baseline(A). Results showed Mr. T had a decrease in stress levels when CBT was administered opposed the baseline phases when CBT was not administered. Results also showed Mr. T reported higher levels of stress when asked to rate the level of stress he felt each week when the perceived stress scale was not given to him. This research shows that CBT is effective in treating stress in college students.

SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH DESIGN: UTILIZATION OF TALK THERAPY FOR REDUCTION OF SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS, BURNOUT, COMPASSION FATIGUE, AND OVERALL STRESS LEVEL OF A MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER

Haley Lane Flythe

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

Medical social work is a stressful field with high levels of burnout and stress. This Single Subject Research Design (SSRD) aims to identify the efficacy of utilizing talk therapy to reduce stress levels for a medical social worker. Levels of secondary traumatic stress, burnout, compassion fatigue, and a self-rated stress scale were used to evaluate the efficacy of talk therapy and the impact on the stress levels of the social worker over a seven-week time span.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF GROUP THERAPY ON OFFENDERS' DESIRE TO MAINTAIN SOBRIETY

Kimberly M. Goodman

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

The purpose of this Single Subject Research Design (SSRD) is to study how effective Group Therapy is in increasing one's motivation to achieve and maintain a life free from all substance use. The goal of this SSRD is that the offender becomes ready for change and makes progressive transformation through the stages of change. Ideally, what I wanted to see take place, is for this participant to take necessary steps to achieve his sobriety while in the program. The research design used in this SSRD was AB with a reconstructed baseline. The operational measures used include the Stages of Change (1-5), labeled from the first (1) to the last stage of change (5), as well as the Readiness to Change Ruler (1-10). The results of this SSRD matched the goals that were set for the participant at the beginning of treatment. Outcomes show progression through the stages of change model from pre-contemplation (1) to preparation (3), as well as an increase utilizing the readiness for change ruler from a 2 to 7. Observing the results of both operational measures, it was obvious that group therapy had been effective. These findings may aid in the future treatment of other offenders with illicit substance use.

COPE, DON'T MOPE: INTRODUCING COPING STRATEGIES FOR BETTER MOOD OUTCOMES OF A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WITHIN A SCHOOL SETTING

Melissa R. Hayes

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

High school students face various problems in their adolescence, ranging from mental, social, and emotional concerns. It can be even more challenging for an adolescent to navigate through this stage in their life when they do not have the proper tools to self-regulate their emotions to a more positive state when they are overcome with negative emotions. This Single Subject Research Design (SSRD), explored the ways in which introducing positive coping strategies can influence a high school student with a history of depressive symptoms and negative emotional outbursts. It was hypothesized that self-implementing various coping techniques would result in a healthier expression of emotions and reduce the number of self-reported negative feelings such as anger, sadness, fear, etc.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TALK THERAPY FOR DECREASING A COLLEGE STUDENT'S VERBAL OUTBURSTS AND PHYSICAL ALTERCATIONS

Jessie A. Laeder

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

Extreme verbal outbursts and physical altercations in college students can lead to detrimental effects on their education, especially if the altercations lead to a dismissal from college. This process uses the structure of a Single Subject Research Design (SSRD), with the use of talk therapy as an intervention on a college aged freshman, to address the rate of outbursts and altercations the subject has. While implementing talk therapy, the subject showed less verbal outburst and physical altercations over a short time period.

SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH DESIGN FOR CLIENT A WITH ANXIETY AND ADDICTION

Lauren E. Sandbach

**Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor
Department of Social Work**

The single subject research design studies the use of cognitive behavioral therapy as an effective intervention for high anxiety levels and the desire to self-medicate. The overall goal of the single subject research design was to measure one client's level of anxiety, and subsequently the client's desire to self-medicate. The goal of the intervention was to see the client's anxiety level decrease through the use of healthy coping mechanisms, and as a result, to see the client's dependence on drugs to decrease. Results showed a decrease in both anxiety levels and desire to medicate, indicating cognitive behavioral therapy as an effective intervention for reducing anxiety, and consequently the desire to self-medicate. The research also concludes that social and mental health factors addressed in cognitive behavioral therapy impacts client anxiety levels, and may increase or decrease the client's tendency to drug relapse.

Valuable assistance in support of the Symposium was provided by:

Faculty Advisors and Coordinators:
Becky K. da Cruz, Nia Lewis, Jessica Cid, and Ernest Smith

Graduate Executive Committee

VSU's Graduate Program Coordinators

Valdosta State University Office of University Advancement

The Graduate School Staff:
A'Shondee Kinlaw, Linda DeCarlo, Nicholas "Sage" Harris, Jessica Powers, and Rebecca Petrella

VSU Staff Members:
Obediah Hall and Laura Pitts

The Graduate School also wishes to thank the following for their support:

President Richard Carvajal

Provost and VPAA Robert T. Smith

VSU Catering

VSU Bookstore

VSU Campus Recreation

VSU Event Services

VSU Media Services

VSU Printing Services

VSU Creative Design Services

The Spectator

This program is supported in part by the Valdosta State University Alumni Association



The Graduate School

LOCATION Converse Hall • 3rd Floor

ADDRESS 1500 N. Patterson St. • Valdosta, GA 31698-0005

PHONE 229.333.5694 • **TOLL FREE** 800.618.1878 • **EXT** 5 • **FAX** 229.245.3853

WEB www.valdosta.edu/gradschool • **E-MAIL** gradschool@valdosta.edu