

## **PROGRAM AT A GLANCE**

### **Monday, April 4**

**6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Art Student Competition, VSU Fine Arts Gallery**

### **Tuesday, April 5**

**5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Student Debate: Donald Trump is Best for America**

### **Wednesday, April 6**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Paper Session I**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Paper Session II**

**12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Pizza Lunch for Symposium Participants and Faculty Sponsors, Student Union Ballrooms**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Paper Session III**

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Paper Session IV**

**7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 3-Minute Video Research Competition**

### **Thursday, April 7**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Paper Session V**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Paper Session VI**

**12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Paper Session VII**

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Paper Session VIII**

**6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Poster Session and Reception, Student Union Ballrooms**

**7:30 p.m. – 7:50 p.m. Awards Ceremony with Interim President Staton, Student Union Ballrooms**

**All Paper Sessions, the Student Debate and 3-Minute Video Competition will be held in the Student Union Theatre**

**MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016**

**6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. ART STUDENT COMPETITION  
(VSU FINE ARTS GALLERY)**

Welcome: Dean Blake Pearce  
College of the Arts

Remarks: Mr. Michael Schmidt  
Department Head of Art

The VSU Fine Arts Gallery is proud to present the 2016 Student Art Competition, open to all VSU students. This year, 54 students entered 160 artworks, from which juror V. Elizabeth Turk selected 49 individual works. She awarded First through Fourth Place, as well as 5 Binders Art Supply Merit Awards. Ms. Turk is Professor of Photography and Graduate Coordinator for Photography for the Savannah School of Art and Design, Atlanta.



**BINDERS MERIT AWARDS**

Michael LaGon, *Bernini's Fallacy*

Dane Pelavin, *Blazers*

Bryce France, *Dejection*

Elana Harper, *Morpha*

Brandon Moultrie, *Phases*

**AWARD WINNERS**

**FIRST PLACE:**

Caleb Jamel Brown, *Condemned*

**SECOND PLACE:**

Michael LaGon, *They Pee Weird*  
and *Forms of Deterrence*

**THIRD PLACE:**

Tatiana Tsaruk, *Vera Wang Retail Store*

**FOURTH PLACE:**

Casey O'Kelley, *Self-Portrait*



**TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016**

**5:00 P.M. – 6:15 P.M. STUDENT DEBATE  
(STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderators: Dr. Michael Eaves and Mr. Keven Rudrow, Department of  
Communication Arts

**DEBATE TOPIC: DONALD TRUMP IS BEST FOR AMERICA**



Pro: Hayley Vinson

Con: Kelsey Townsend

Alternate: Hannah Tabrizi



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016**

**9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. PAPER SESSION I (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Department of  
Philosophy and Religious Studies

**“The Importance of Composition in Narrative Illustration”**

Savannah B. Hensley  
Department of Art  
Dr. Glenda Swan, Faculty Adviser

**“Blackberry and Paprika Pigments Characterization and their  
Application in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells”**

Gloria de la Garza  
Department of Chemistry  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Exploring Locus Curves in Euclidean Geometry”**

Tom Carnathan, Caleb Hightower, Hanna Ritter, and Haiyan Ricke  
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science  
Dr. Iwan Elstak, Faculty Adviser

**“Midwestern Accent”**

Rhett Pickle  
Department of English  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“The Spanish Baroque Architecture: Beauty or Lie?”**

Susanna Peonia  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

Moderator: Dr. Anne Price, Women's and Gender Studies Program

**“A Study of Aphorisms in José Martí’s *Versos Sencillos* (1891)”**

Rebekah Jane Bledsoe  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

**“Educated to Kill: An Ethnography of Southern Rural Hunters”**

Ashlie M. Prain  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Matthew Richard, Faculty Adviser

**“Confessions of a STEM Dropout”**

Tatyana N. Phelps  
Department of English  
Dr. Mark Smith, Faculty Adviser



**“Student Loans: The Impact of Legislation and Potential for Systemic Risk”**

Samantha Marie Mehr  
Department of Economics and Finance  
Dr. Elvan Aktas, Faculty Adviser

**“Language Acquisition in Universities and Language Prevalence in Society: Why the Mismatch?”**

Rickey BC Hooks  
Department of Marketing and International Business  
Dr. Howard Griffin, Faculty Adviser

**1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. PAPER SESSION III (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Jade Coston, Department of Communication  
Sciences and Disorders

**“The Supreme Court Decision on Affirmative Action Across Three  
Natural Courts: Limitation vs. Advancement”**

Katherine Westra  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser



**“Does Poetry About Love Mean that the Poet is in Love? Pablo Neruda  
and his Diverse Approaches to Love”**

Kiersten Jakes  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

**“The Adam Walsh Act and Sex Offender Research”**

Phenix Culbertson  
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Bobbi Ticknor, Faculty Adviser

**“Vessel Lag: How the Lack of Communication During Spanish  
Colonization Created Differences in Language Between  
Latin America and Spain”**

Tamelonie Thomas  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

Moderator: Dr. Glenda Swan, Department of Art

**“North Carolina: A Beacon of Progress”**

Sawyer Burkhalter  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Social Judgment Theory and Hip-Hop”**

Carter Bragg  
Department of Communication Arts  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser



**“Freedom Around the World: Exploring the Predictors of Freedom House Scores”**

Jacob Nalley  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Bering Strait Theory: What You Didn’t Know”**

Sydney Beckmann  
Native American Studies Program  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser



**7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. 3-MINUTE VIDEO RESEARCH COMPETITION  
(STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

The Undergraduate Research Council (URC) of Valdosta State University invited undergraduate students to showcase their original research through the making and presenting of a 3-minute video. The top seven student videos were chosen by the URC to be presented live at the 22nd Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium. Three winners will be chosen by a panel of judges to win cash prizes and have their videos, upon further editing, highlighted on the Valdosta State University website.

**Top Seven Finalists:**

Michael LaGon, **“Matters of the Art”**

Department of Art

Mr. Craig Hawkins, Faculty Adviser

Natalie Milko, **“Teter Tiny House”**

Department of Art

Mr. Tommy Crane, Faculty Adviser

Sydney Plummer and Tess Baker, **“Act for TB”**

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

Alex Metz, Jake Godin, and Jake Jones, **“Estimating MPC in Germany”**

Department of Economics and Finance

Dr. Cynthia Tori, Faculty Adviser

Tess Baker, Brittany Butler, and Sydney Plummer, **“Growing Oysters  
along the Georgia Coast Using Green Artificial Reef  
Technology”**

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

Jordan Linahan, Setu Patel, and Jayme Parker, **“Marine Chemistry  
Research”**

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

Jacobe Love, **“Loveless in Georgia”**

Department of Communication Arts

Mr. Talley Mulligan, Faculty Adviser





**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016**

**9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. PAPER SESSION V (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Gretchen Bielmyer-Fraser, Department of Biology

**“Understanding Cell Phone Behavior While Driving: A Reasoned Action Approach”**

Kacey Moore

Department of Communication Arts

Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser

**“Artificial Intelligence and its Influence on Jobs”**

Seunggyu You and Jin Seong Yun

Department of Marketing and International Business

Dr. Taewon Hwang, Faculty Adviser

**“Applications of Pattern Recognition in Machine Learning”**

Alexandra Carta, Wesley Cook, and Chris Poppell

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

**“Looking Behind the Black Mirror: Does Technology Control Us or Do We Control Technology?”**

Cherina Meighan

Department of Modern and Classical Languages

Dr. Erika Helena Parra, Faculty Adviser

**“Engineering Optimization: Analysis and Design”**

Tyler Brown and Eric Zimmermann

Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences and Engineering Studies

Drs. Barry Hojjatie and Mary Fares, Faculty Advisers

**11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. PAPER SESSION VI (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Tom Aiello, Department of History

**“Authority: An Interdisciplinary Examination”**

William R. Paulk

Department of Communication Arts

Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser

**“Mary Magdalene: Saint or Sinner?”**

Sydney Beckmann

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Dr. Fred Downing, Faculty Adviser



**“Then vs. Now: Anti-Islamic Sentiment in Spain”**

Darian Hector

Department of Modern and Classical Languages

Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

**“Indiocracia Discriminativa 2016”**

Andrés Felipe Ramos

Department of Modern and Classical Languages

Dr. Erika Helena Parra, Faculty Adviser

Moderator: Emily Rogers, Odum Library

**“An Examination of Martin Buber’s ‘I and Thou’ Theory”**

Sydney Beckmann

Department of Modern and Classical Languages

Gabrielle Stellmacher, Faculty Adviser

**“Raspberry Pigments Extraction, Characterization, and their Application in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells”**

Bernabe S. Tucker

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser



**“Paradoxes of a Decadence: The End of an Empire and the Blooming of Poetry and Literature in Spain”**

Daniel Espinal

Department of Modern and Classical Language

Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

**“New Hampshire Dialect: Phonetics”**

Daniel Joshua Smith

Department of English

Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“Saving Ancient Languages”**

Marcus D. Harvey

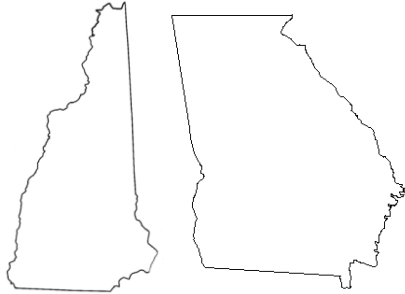
Native American Studies Program

Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

Moderator: Dr. Marc Pufong, Department of Political Science

**“Analysis of New Hampshire Accent vs. South Georgia Accent”**

Sarah Elizabeth Surface  
Department of English  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser



**“Choosing the Right Path: The Pascagoula River Tribe”**

Robin L. Wright  
Department of History  
Dr. Dixie Haggard, Faculty Adviser

**“Food and Public Health in Lowndes County, Georgia”**

John T. Bryan, Aaron J. Dixon, Caleb A. Drury, Dylan S. Ellzey, Sarah G. Lutterbie, Link D. Pair, William F. Peacock, Mary C. Plymel, and Alice M. Smoot  
Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences and Engineering Studies  
Dr. Jia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“The Traditionally Oppressed: Women and Indigenous People in the Work of Rosario Castellanos”**

Erica Martinez  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Erika Helena Parra, Faculty Adviser

**6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. POSTER SESSION AND RECEPTION  
(STUDENT UNION BALLROOMS)**

**7:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. AWARDS CEREMONY AND PRESENTATION OF  
BEST POSTER AWARDS  
(STUDENT UNION BALLROOMS)**

Welcome: Dr. James LaPlant  
Symposium Coordinator

Remarks: Dr. Cecil Staton  
VSU Interim President

Dr. Brian Gerber  
Interim Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs

Presentation of Best Poster Awards

## **POSTERS**

### **ART**

**“How to Use the Bathroom Appropriately”**

Hunter Pope

Dr. Glenda Swan, Faculty Adviser

### **BIOLOGY**

**“Arbovirus Surveillance Studies in Lowndes County, Georgia”**

Jordan Linahan, Erin Parker, and Laquetta Wysong

Dr. Mark Blackmore, Faculty Adviser

**“Detecting and Measuring Spanish Moss in a Tree with the Aid of  
Convolutional Neutral Networks”**

Jordan Anderson and Andrew L. Rezendes

Drs. Radu P. Mihail and Corey Anderson, Faculty Advisers

**“Refined Conditions for Genomic Extraction from Spanish Moss and PCR Conditions for Amplifying Microsatellite DNA Primer Sets Developed for Closely Related Bromeliads”**

Joshua Brown

Dr. Corey Anderson, Faculty Adviser

**“Responses of the Sea Anemone, *Exaiptasia pallida*, to Ocean Acidification Conditions and Zinc or Nickel Exposure”**

Codie R. Picariello, Christina G. Duckworth, Rachel K. Thomason,  
and Krina S. Patel

Dr. Gretchen K. Bielmyer-Fraser, Faculty Adviser

**“The Internal Strength and Morphology of Spanish Moss”**

Kathleen Lorna Tatro

Dr. Theodore A. Uyeno, Faculty Adviser



**“The Legacy Effects of Salamanders: Does Size Variance Influence Pond Structure?”**

Shaundon Moore

Dr. Cy Mott, Faculty Adviser

**“Using Morphological and Genetic Data to Investigate the Phylogeny of Land Plants”**

Skyla Smith, James Carnegie, Amenzee Amu, Juliana Masonheimer,  
Schylar Nipper, Kennedy Blount, Kyle Brooks, Jonathan Duhaney,  
Jermesha Henderson, Randall Hicks, Tiffany King, Courtney Mobley,  
Wellington Palmer, Briana Shugart, Matthew Turner,  
Corinne Vaughn, and Rechelle Woods

Dr. Richard Carter, Faculty Adviser

## CHEMISTRY

### **“A Comparison of the Experimental Infrared Spectra of Twenty Amino Acids with the Calculated Spectra Infrared Septra Using Molecular Mechanics, Semi Empirical and Hartree-Fock Theory Levels”**

Gloria D. De La Garza, Schuyler D. Vickers, Brittney T. Gatewood, Ashley N. Hopkins, Carlis M. Hand, Hyebin Kim, Darin D. Davis, Lauren S. Ingram, Mason G. Elmore, and Jordan E. Greene  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

### **“An Analysis of Marine Sediment from Different Locations on Bahia Honda in the Florida Keys”**

Kira L. Carreira, Ariana M. Cooper, Mason G. Elmore, Anthony J. Fino, Carlis M. Hand, Derek J. Hathaway, Briceton L. McNair, Alexander P. Metz, Garrett Crook, Samantha J. Powell, Ali M. Reese, Ariel S. Roddy, Rachael L. Sable, Crystal L. Swanson, Hunter A. Turner, Schuyler D. Vickers, Richard D. Williams, Setu D. Patel, Jayme E. Parker, and Jordan Linahan  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

### **“Antimetabolites”**

Rechelle Woods, Briceton McNair, and Ashley Butts  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

### **“Bryostatin: the Poster Child of Marine Natural Products”**

Schuyler Vickers  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

### **“Cancer Drugs: New Taxanes as Mitotic Inhibitors”**

Jacie N. Davenport, Erin L. Jowers, Katie L. Tatro, and Jesse W. Wayson  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

### **“Characterization of Hibiscus Sabdariffa Pigments and their Application in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells”**

Aaron Arnold  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Chemistry and Key West: A Modified Geocache Approach to a Chemical Adventure in the Florida Keys”**

Setu Patel, Jordan Linahan, Jayme E. Parker, Kira L. Carreira, Ariana M. Cooper, Mason G. Elmore, Anthony J. Fino, Carlis M. Hand, Derek J. Hathaway, Briceton L. McNair, Alexander P. Metz, Garrett Crook, Samantha J. Powell, Ali M. Reese, Ariel S. Roddy, Rachael L. Sable, Crystal L. Swanson, Hunter A. Turner, Schuyler D. Vickers, and Richard D. Williams  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser



**“Chrysanthemine Spectroscopy and its Application in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells”**

Jordan Greene  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational Analysis of Alkylating Agents”**

Darren Williams, Anthony Fino, and Khanh-Toan Tran  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational Analysis of Graphene”**

Hyebin Kim  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a New Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Agent, 5-Fluorouracil”**

Erin Jowers  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser



**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a New Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Agent Ascorbic Acid and the Complex Copper(II)-Ascorbic Acid”**

Ali Reese

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility of a New Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Agent, Isoniazid”**

Leah Edwards

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a Novel Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Agent Penicillin G”**

Setu Patel

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a New Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Agent Streptomycin”**

Taylor Holder

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a New Drug Delivery Approach for the Pharmaceutical Drug Imatinib”**

Richard Darren Williams

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational and Solubility Studies of a New Weed Control Application Approach for the Herbicidal Agent Glyphosate”**

Joshua J. Cowger

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational Methods to Study Alkylating Agents”**

Tiffany Clark, Dillon Veal, Schuyler Vickers, and Jordan Harrell

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Computational Project Focused on Derivatives of Insulin”**

JaMichael Snead and Jamaar Snead  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Developing a Field Method to Capture Lionfish: Controlling an Invasive Species in the Florida Keys”**

Garrett Crook, Kira L. Carreira, Ariana M. Cooper, Mason G. Elmore, Anthony J. Fino, Carlis M. Hand, Derek J. Hathaway, Briceton L. McNair, Alexander P. Metz, Samantha J. Powell, Ali M. Reese, Ariel S. Roddy, Rachael L. Sable, Crystal L. Swanson, Hunter A. Turner, Schuyler D. Vickers, Richard D. Williams, Setu D. Patel, Jayme E. Parker, and Jordan Linahan  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Developments and Uses of Antimetabolites”**

Ashley Hopkins, Will King, Brittney Hunter, and Carlis Hand  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Evaluation of Quantification Methods Using High-Performance Liquid Chromatography”**

Quadreka S. Burgess  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Mycolic Acid Research for Novel Mechanism Against Tuberculosis”**

Matthew Keen, Setu Patel, Hannah Pittman, India Harvey, Rachel Sable, and Aminat Aminau  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“On the Efficacy of the Sonogashira Carbon-Carbon Coupling Protocol Towards Further Modification of the Polyoxotungstate Anion,**



Shain Johnson  
Dr. Dean C. Duncan, Faculty Adviser

**“Silica as a Medium for the Synthesis of Chiral Imines and Amines”**

Chelsea Desbiens, Malcolm McCray, and Alexander Burch

Dr. John T. Barbas, Faculty Adviser

**“Spartan Insulin Variation Project”**

Christina Duckworth, Jordan Linahan, Erin Parker, and Setu Patel

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Spinach Pigments Characterization and Their Application in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells”**

Tiffany Brown

Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Structural Variations and Activity Variations in the Mitotic Inhibitor Taxol”**

Ariel Roddy, Taylor Holder, and Ashilee Thomas

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“The Big Pitch: Teaching Marine Science by Solving Current Problems”**

Jordan Linahan, Jayme E. Parker, Setu Patel, Kira L. Carreira, Ariana M. Cooper, Mason G. Elmore, Anthony J. Fino, Carlis M. Hand, Derek J.

Hathaway, Briceton L. McNair, Alexander P. Metz, Garrett Crook,

Samantha J. Powell, Ali M. Reese, Ariel S. Roddy, Rachael L. Sable,

Crystal L. Swanson, Hunter A. Turner, Schuyler D. Vickers,

and Richard D. Williams

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“The Sweet Side of Organic Chemistry: Identifications of Sweeteners Through Chemical Methods”**

Gloria de la Garza, David Oliver, Bernabe Tucker, and Pavan Patel

Dr. Jenny Vu, Faculty Adviser



**“The Synthesis of New Layered Lanthanum Materials for Environmental Applications”**

Cera T. Hsu

Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

**“Virtual and Computational Analysis of Graphene”**

Timothy Richards, Gloria de la Garza, Tess Baker, and Malcolm McCray

Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS**

**“Common Vocal Fold Appearance”**

Kaleigh Humphreys and Natalie Starling

Dr. Mary Gorham-Rowan, Faculty Adviser

**“Does Stuttering Lead to Deficits in Memory?”**

Courtney Mayton

Drs. Crystal Randolph and Matthew Carter, Faculty Advisers

**“Transference of Memory Strategies to Academic Learning and Memory Sports”**

Nicholas Ellis

Drs. Crystal Randolph and Ruth Renee Hannibal, Faculty Advisers

**“Visual Working Memory”**

Hayley Jackson and Sabrina Ogletree

Drs. Ruth Renee Hannibal and Crystal Randolph, Faculty Advisers

**EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**“Using *Antz* to Teach Life Science”**

Drew Childers, Javier Clark, and Ahnna Jacoby

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Cat in the Hat* to Teach English Language Art PreK-2”**

Emily Koutsky, McCall Ponder, and Tyler Werthwine

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Finding Nemo* to Teach the Ecosystem”**

Hannah Golden, Tamyra Hamilton, and Leah Stratton

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Finding Nemo* to Teach the Ocean Ecosystem”**

Anne Baldwin, Laura Johnson, and Marsallis Ponder

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Freedom Writers* to Teach English Writing in 5-8 Grades”**

Destiney Birdine, De`obra Glover, and Tiana Robinson

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Karate Kid* to Teach Modern Chinese Culture”**

Kaitlin Adams, Abbey Fallaw, and Kayla Griffin

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Matilda* to Teach Math 3rd Grade”**

Riley Cahal, Katie Johnson, Joy Tinnell, and Emily Upton

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Mulan* to Teach Chinese Feminism”**

Miranda Huff and Briane Parrish

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Radio* to Teach Humanity”**

Brian Breland, Bridget Grizzle, Sarah Henderson, Arlandis Lundy,  
and Hakeem Sawyer

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Road to El Dorado* to Teach Social Science - Racism”**

Lamarcus Dinkins, Rachel Lott, and Scott Rogers  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Spirited Away* to Teach Asian Folklore”**

Amara Moore  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *The Education of Little Tree* to Teach Cherokee Culture”**

Lavel Marshall and Falisia Murphy  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *The Lion King* to Teach Life Cycle”**

Meagan Wall and Caroline White  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *The Lorax* to Teach Environmental Science”**

Taylor Hritz and Jennifer Lamb  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *Wall-e* to Teach Earth Preservation”**

Georgia Alford, Samantha Phillips, and Madison Simons  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser



## ENGLISH

### **“Arthurian Magic: The Role of Magic in Arthurian Tales”**

Reagan Helene Bennett  
Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Adviser



## EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

### **“Effect of Aging on Body Composition in Obese and Non-Obese Individuals”**

Jayson Crum  
Dr. Dharini M. Bhammar, Faculty Adviser

### **“Effects of Training for a 439 Mile Endurance Run on Performance and Energy Balance”**

Rebecca L. Stansbery  
Dr. Serina J. McEntire, Faculty Adviser

### **“Verification Testing is Recommended for Estimating Maximal Oxygen Uptake in Obese and Non-Obese Children”**

Aubrey Suddarth and Leah Sullivan  
Dr. Dharini M. Bhammar, Faculty Adviser

## **HISTORY**

### **“Supreme Court Justice Freeman Miller in the Slaughterhouse Cases of 1873”**

Matthew A. Day  
Department of History  
Dr. Catherine Oglesby, Faculty Adviser

## **MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE**

### **“Connecting Neighborhood Social Networking Sites Through a RSS Feeds Publish-Subscribe System”**

Benjamin Watson  
Dr. Zhiguang Xu, Faculty Adviser

### **“Embedded System in Auto Industry”**

Krunal Patel  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

### **“Recent Technology for In-Home Medical Use”**

Sean Holcomb and Jameson Batten  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

### **“USB 3.0 & 3.1: Breaking Beyond the Boundaries of USB 2.0”**

Christopher DiNofrio, Tayler Miller, and Andrew Pirkle  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

## **MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES**

### **“Processing Instruction in Second Language Acquisition”**

Lauren Metzger  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser



**“Role of Study Abroad on the Creation of a Second Language Identity”**

Hannah-Gio Hansberry  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

**“Second Language Identity”**

Devon Dawson  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

**“The Process of Acculturation in *El sueño de América*”**

Charlee Cain  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Erika Parra, Faculty Adviser

**NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES**



**“Native American Concepts of Disability”**

Kelah Hendon  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Native Education and Oral Tradition in Latin America”**

John Tyler Exum  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Native Lands”**

Garrett Bickerstaff  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Violence Against Native American Women”**

Gwendolyn Williams  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

## **NURSING**

### **“Augmentations of Labor with Pitocin”**

Brittany Brashier, Kim Alderman, Sydney Borg, Jennifer Cason,  
and Renee DiBernardo  
Lois Bellflowers, Faculty Adviser

### **“Comparison of Swab or Biopsy Technique for Bacterial Analysis of Wound Cultures”**

Umida Malikova, Megan Raulerson, Charlene Schultz, Porshia Standifer,  
and Ashley Torres  
Michele Blankenship, Faculty Adviser

### **“Effects of Overcrowding in the Emergency Department”**

Sabrina McClinton, Chasity Johnson, Alison Frantz, and Christie Cummings  
Deborah Sauls, Faculty Adviser



### **“Elective Induction in Pregnancy and Associated Delivery Complications”**

Audrey Bachelor, Jasmine Edmonds, Kristina Evans, and Cara Kerby  
Lois Bellflowers, Faculty Adviser

### **“Examining the Efficacy of Fall Prevention Interventions”**

Channel Davis, Danielle Fender, Raveen Jackson, and Madison Smith  
Deborah Sauls, Faculty Adviser

**“How do Stress Reduction Techniques Improve the Physical Health of Adults Diagnosed with Hypertension?”**

Aaron Goodwin, Garrett Kline, Christina Burgess, Emily Waltz,  
and Taylor Durrence  
Dr. Vanessa Jones, Faculty Adviser

**“Impact and Implications of Birth Trauma on New Mothers”**

Aaron Cole Ford, Aaron Louviere, Chase Hankla, Daniel Powers,  
and Joshua May  
Dr. Vanessa Jones, Faculty Adviser

**“Infant Nutrition and Childhood Obesity”**

Stephanie Seibert, Lauren Will, Skikeka Poinsett, and Elyssa Tompkins  
Laura Carter, Faculty Adviser

**“Preventative Strategies to Reduce Rates of Childhood Obesity”**

Quashante Floyd, Zjonte Francis, Felicia Miller, Tiara Walker,  
and Kimberly Williams  
Laura Carter, Faculty Adviser

**“Relation of Nutritional Status to Wound Healing”**

Meagan Hooper, Ryan Kalgren, Aminah Khan, Amanda Klusman,  
and Lorrie Wicks  
Laura Carter, Faculty Adviser

**“The Effect of the Anti-Vaccine Movement on Communicable Disease Rates”**

Jennifer Giles, Denise Jimenez, Ivy McCranie, and William Seay  
Dr. Vanessa Jones, Faculty Adviser

**“The Effects of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome on the Development of Infants up to the Age of Twelve Months”**

Kristin Curles, Tinsley Dobson, Jenna Nobles, Emilie Tanner,  
and Kayla Wise  
Mrs. Jennifer Lawson, Faculty Adviser

**“The Relationship Between Dental Care and Cardiovascular Health”**  
Cedricka Lavender, Megan Powell, Jordan Williamson, and Briana Waldo  
Laura Carter, Faculty Adviser

**“The Use of Barrier Creams in Prevention of Intertrigo within the  
Obese Population”**

Joanna Amofa, Nariel Carmichael, Felicia Daniels, Leah Johnson,  
and Ansley Taylor  
Michelle Blankenship, Faculty Adviser

**“Use of Analgesics in Newborn Male Circumcision”**

Catherine Combs, Emma Lewis, Sarah Rigdon, Sarah Robinson,  
and Brooke Shippee  
Lois Bellflowers, Faculty Adviser

## **PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**“Free Will of the Inquisitor”**

Derek Homer Perry Illian  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Iris Murdoch: The Study of Good and Evil”**

Destiny Wilkinson  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Notes from Underground: Fyodor Dostoyevsky and the Existential  
Investigation of Consciousness”**

Audrey Whittle  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Simone Weil on Factory Work”**

Maya Angeline Mapp  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**Systemic Oppression in Western Culture”**

Marcus D. Harvey

Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“The Role of Women in the Bible”**

Rebecca Loskoski

Dr. Christine James, Faculty Adviser

**PHYSICS, ASTRONOMY, GEOSCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING STUDIES**

**“An Examination of the Natural and Anthropogenic Changes to the  
Vegetation of St. Simons Island, Georgia”**

Quintin Reed

Dr. Paul C. Vincent, Faculty Adviser



**“A System for Dilution of High CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration Air Samples  
for CO<sub>2</sub> Isotope Analyzer”**

Ryne D. Gordon

Dr. Weimin Feng, Faculty Adviser

**“Characterization of Anodized Metals”**

Christiana Epperson

Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Detailed Mineralogic Analysis of a Simple Pegmatite Near  
Ellijay, Georgia”**

Richard Lance Foster  
Dr. Mark S. Groszos, Faculty Adviser

**“Erosion of Beachview Drive on St. Simons Island”**

Caleb Drury  
Dr. Donald M. Thieme, Faculty Adviser

**“Examination of Measurement Increments used on Scale Bars on Maps  
in Professional Geography Journals”**

Timothie Warren  
Dr. Paul Vincent, Faculty Adviser

**“Fracture Analysis of the Oligocene Suwannee Limestone,  
White Springs, Florida”**

Ashton Smithwick  
Dr. Mark S. Groszos, Faculty Adviser

**“Geophysical Investigation of Withlacoochee Karst Area”**

Charles H. Akers  
Dr. Can Denizman, Faculty Adviser

**“Lowering Noise Level Inside an Aircraft Cabin to the  
Level of City Traffic”**

Alana Fraley  
Dr. Hasson Tavossi, Faculty Adviser

**“Mathematical Analysis and Applications of  
Optimization Process”**

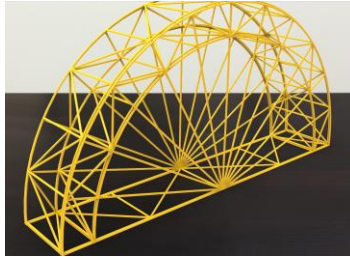
David May  
Drs. Barry Hojjatie and Jemal Mohammed-Awel, Faculty Advisers

**“Measurements of the Excitation Temperature of an Argon Plasma”**

Ashley E. Hardy  
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Project Based Learning in Mechanics: Design and Testing of Spaghetti Bridges”**

Repp Ledger and Dylan Brown  
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser



**“Seasonal Variations of Cave Conditions and Dripwater Stable Isotopes from a Monitoring Study of Raccoon Mountain Caverns, TN and Its Implications in Interpreting the Speleothem Record”**

Christin L. Holtzclaw  
Dr. Weimin Feng, Faculty Adviser

**“Silica Replacement of Miocene Coral”**

Jasmine Truitt  
Dr. Donald M. Thieme, Faculty Adviser

**“Structural Analysis of Fractures on the Suwannee River, North Florida”**

Matthew N. Fears  
Dr. Mark S. Groszos, Faculty Adviser

**“Water Quality Variations of Mud Creek and Withlacoochee River in South-Central Georgia, 2015-2016”**

Andrea T. Tuggle  
Dr. Can Denizman, Faculty Adviser

**“Water Quality Variations of the Grand Bay Creek and Withlacoochee River, Southern Georgia”**

Jenna Detar

Dr. Can Denizman, Faculty Adviser

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**“31 in a Billion: An Analysis of the Adoption of Voter ID Laws”**

Obediah Hall

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“A Comparison of Sexual Assaults and Violent Crimes in the United States: What Factors affect the Difference between the Two?”**

Stone Sirmans

Dr. Bernard Tamas, Faculty Adviser

**“Does Campaign Spending Affect the Outcome of an Election?”**

Todd L. McFarland

Dr. Bernard Tamas, Faculty Adviser

**“Factors Affecting Six-Year Graduation Rates Across Colleges and Universities in Georgia”**

Briggs Hightower

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Georgia and the Transition of Political Tendencies”**

Theodore Chase Johnson

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Health, Nutrition, and Socioeconomic Demographics: How They Affect an Individuals IQ”**

Walker Taylor

Dr. Bernard Tamas, Faculty Adviser



**“India Constitution and Human Rights Practices”**

Haneefah Saleem and Iyanna Burton

Dr. Marc Pufong, Faculty Adviser

**“Old and New Politics of Tennessee: A Comparison”**

Richard Ryan Steltenpohl

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Terror on the Rise: Driving Factors of Political Terror and Societal Violence Across Countries”**

Jacob Nalley

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Voter Turnout Across the 50 States”**

Isabella Lugo

Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser



**PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING**

**“Moral Decision Making: The Influence of Scientific and Religious Perspectives”**

Hailey Hatch

Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

**“The Effect of Self-Talk Compared to Verbal Encouragement on  
Participant’s Self-Confidence and Persistency on Solving  
Math Problems”**

Rachel M. Mathews  
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

**SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**“A Multi-Faceted Response to Juvenile Delinquency”**

Joseph Livingston  
Dr. Shani Wilfred, Faculty Adviser

**“College Controversy: Conflict Between the Student Body and  
University Administrations”**

Chelsea Marty  
Dr. Carl Hand, Faculty Adviser

## **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH COUNCIL**

The Undergraduate Research Council of Valdosta State University was organized in the fall semester of 2011. Membership includes faculty representative from the undergraduate academic departments and programs at VSU. The Council is charged with promoting undergraduate students' interest in research, with seeking ways to promote undergraduate students' involvement in research activities, and with helping faculty identify opportunities to involve undergraduates in research. The Council supports the implementation of Valdosta State University's Quality Enhancement Plan, which promotes undergraduate engagement in discipline-based inquiry. Prior to 2011, an undergraduate research symposium was celebrated for seventeen years in the College of Arts and Sciences.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS 2015-2016**

Dr. James LaPlant, Chair of the Undergraduate Research Council  
Dr. Tom Aiello, African American Studies  
Dr. Glenda Swan, Art  
Dr. Gretchen Bielmyer-Fraser, Biology  
Dr. Jenny Baxter Vu, Chemistry  
Dr. Vanessa Jones, College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Communication Arts  
Dr. Jade Coston, Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Early Childhood and Special Education  
Dr. Anne Greenfield, English  
Dr. Mary Block, History  
Dr. Michael Savoie, Honors College  
Dr. Matthew Grant, Kinesiology and Physical Education  
Dr. Zulal Denaux, Langdale College of Business Administration  
Ms. Emily Rogers, Library  
Dr. Jemal Mohammed-Awel, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Dr. Robert Spires, Middle, Secondary, Reading and Deaf Education  
Dr. Karen Acosta, Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Native American Studies; Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering Studies  
Dr. Marc Pufong, Political Science  
Dr. Jennifer Breneiser, Psychology and Counseling  
Dr. Fred Knowles, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Anne Price, Women's and Gender Studies  
Dr. Lai Kent Orenduff, Dean of Undergraduate Studies  
Dr. Michael Black, Director for Institutional Effectiveness

The Undergraduate Research Council would like to extend special thanks to Mr. Mark Mears, Ms. Laura Retersdorf, and Ms. Khristian Roberts for their generous assistance with organizing the Symposium.