PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Monday, April 13
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  Art Student Competition, VSU Fine Arts Gallery

Tuesday, April 14
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Faculty Roundtable of the Presidential Fellows for Teaching and Research
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  Paper Session I
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Paper Session II

Wednesday, April 15
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Paper Session III Journalism Panel on the Digital Divide
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Paper Session IV
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 V
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Paper Session VI

Thursday, April 16
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Paper Session VII
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Paper Session VIII
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  Lunch Break
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  Paper Session IX
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  Student Debate: Local and State Law Enforcement Securing Military Weapons for Combating Protests—Pros and Cons
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 President McKinney, Student Union Ballrooms

All Paper Sessions and the Student Debate will be held in the Student Union Theatre
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015

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

Welcome: Dean Blake Pearce
College of the Arts

Remarks: Mr. Michael Schmidt
Department Head of Art

VSU Fine Arts Gallery is proud to present the 17th annual Student Art Competition. This competition is open to all VSU students. This year, 73 students entered 265 artworks. The juror and judge, Ljiljana Obradovic-Edmiston selected 65 works from 45 students. Ms. Obradovic-Edmiston is an artist working in multiple two dimensional media, drawing, painting, and printmaking. She has exhibited her work in the United States, Bosnia and Hercegovina, and Italy, and has taught many different art classes at Florida State University and Tallahassee Community College.
11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  FACULTY ROUNDTABLE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWS FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. James LaPlant, Interim Assistant Vice President for Research

Dr. Elvan Aktas
Presidential Fellow for Teaching
Department of Economics and Finance
Langdale College of Business Administration

Dr. Leslie Jones
Presidential Fellow for Teaching
Department of Biology
College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Mary Gorham-Rowan
Presidential Fellow for Research
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Dewar College of Education and Human Services
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.  PAPER SESSION I (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Department of Modern and Classical Languages

Sarah Marie Allison
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

“Rebeldes Pioneras. The Postmodern Image of Women Shaped by the Post-War Era, in Spanish and Latin American Literatures”
Erica Martinez
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

“¡Bienvenidos A España! ¿O No?”
Danita Campbell-Thomas
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

“El Matadero by Esteban Echeverria: The Birth of Latin American Regionalismo”
Daria Bzeniuk
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.  PAPER SESSION II (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Glenda Swan, Department of Art

“Experiencing Comedy: How Synthetic Judgment and Experience Dictate What is Funny”
Jonathan Ernest Lollar
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Dr. Christine James, Faculty Adviser

“On Initial Effects of the k-Means Clustering”
Sherri Burks
Department of Math and Computer Science
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Adviser

“The Rise and Evolution of the Cello”
Sydney Elise Passmore
Department of Music
Dr. Susan J. Eischeid, Faculty Adviser

“Saving SORNA”
Kerri Ann Henderson
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Dr. Wilson Huang, Faculty Adviser
9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. PAPER SESSION III (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Mark Smith, Department of English

“The Digital Divide: Journalism and Publishing in the 21st Century”
Jessica Cooke, Khiry Clements, Cole Edwards, Elizabeth Fish, Jordan Hill,
Eric Jackson, Cierra Jones, Ivey Noel, and Bianca Smith
Department of English
Dr. Mark Smith, Faculty Adviser

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

Moderator: Dr. Mary Block, Department of History

“Message to the Black Man”: Islam in 1990s Black Male Narrative Films”
Kameron J. Copeland
African American Studies Program
Dr. Tom Aiello, Faculty Adviser

“Before Our Burdens We Were Stars: Presentation of the Artwork”
Brandon Moultrie
Department of Art
Ms. Kalina Winska, Faculty Adviser

“Essentialist Feminism and the Show Lost”
Jennifer Dandron
Department of Communication Arts
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

“The Fall of an Empire: Masculinity and the New Woman in H. Rider Haggard’s She”
Shamya S. Smith
Department of English
Dr. Jacob Jewusiak, Faculty Adviser
Moderator: Dr. Michael Eaves, Department of Communication Arts

“Three Dimensional Mapping with Simple Devices”
Tyler Brown
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science & Honors College
Dr. R. Paul Mihail, Faculty Adviser

“Solving Polynomial Equations with Geometry Sketchpad and Exploring the Notion: What Does it Mean to Solve an Equation?”
Jonathan Hernandez and Charles Griffis
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
Dr. Iwan Elstake, Faculty Adviser

“Interaction of Counter-Propagating Alfvén Waves in a Laboratory Plasma Environment”
Joshua Del Rhudy
Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering Studies
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

“Do We Need Q? In Defense of the Two Source Hypothesis”
Tyler Daniels
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Dr. Lily Vuong, Faculty Adviser
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.  PAPER SESSION VI (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Tom Aiello, Department of History

“How Senators Use Twitter”
Jennifer Dandron
Department of Political Science
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

“The Paxton Political Motive”
Matthew Tyler Hembree
Department of History
Dr. Mary Block, Faculty Adviser

“Polya's Random Walks: An Application of Lattice Path Results”
Brooke Johnson
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
Drs. Charles Kicey and Shaun Ault, Faculty Advisers

“Corruption in Africa”
Tochukwu “Tochi” C. Madueke
Department of Political Science
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser
9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. PAPER SESSION VII (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Fred Knowles, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice

“An Analysis of a South Korean Student’s English Pronunciation and Grammar”
Perry Chan Davis
Department of English
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

“On an Independent Kurdistan”
Connor Wyatt
Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering Studies & Honors College
Dr. Michael Noll, Faculty Adviser

“Reaching Global Competence through Research and Service Learning Abroad”
Sarah Allison, Ashley Jacobs, Hilaria Taft, and Kristina Wingate
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

“Can South America Replace the Asian Giant, Japan?”
Eric Cureton
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

“A New Bipolar Order? Democratization Versus Traditionalism: The Case of Modern Iraq”
Nicholas A. Rudnik
Department of Political Science
Dr. James W. Peterson, Faculty Adviser
11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. PAPER SESSION VIII (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

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

“Top Ranked Hospitals: Does Diversity Inclusion Matter?”
Tiffany Clemons and Kristal Rolle
Department of Marketing and International Business
Dr. Gary Futrell, Faculty Adviser

Ja’Marrius Thomas and Skyla Smith
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Dr. Victoria Russell and Ms. Edris Brannen, Faculty Advisers

“The Historical Oppression of Native Culture and Its Effect on the Issue of Healthcare”
Sydney Beckmann
Native American Studies Program
Drs. Mike Stoltzfus and Ericka Parra, Faculty Advisers

“ELM’s Effect of Advertising of Beer in College Campuses”
Christopher L. Chennault
Department of Communication Arts
Dr. Michael H. Eaves, Faculty Adviser

“Is $\pi$ a Good Random Number Generator? Visual and Statistical Analysis of $\pi$ Digits as Random Numbers”
Ilya Rogers
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Adviser
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. PAPER SESSION IX (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)

Moderator: Dr. Michael Savoie, Honors College

“Understanding the k-Medians Problem”
Christopher Whelan
Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Advisers

“Empire and Masculinity in Haggard’s She”
Marlana Hufstetler
Department of English
Dr. Jacob Jewusiak, Faculty Adviser

“Textile Preservation - A Chemical Science”
Ann Williams
Honors College
Dr. Michael Savoie, Faculty Adviser

“Federico Garcia Lorca: Illuminating the Hypocrisy”
Darian Hector
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Mr. Brian Nelson, Faculty Adviser
4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. **SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS: STUDENT DEBATE (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderators: Dr. Michael Eaves and Mr. Keven Rudrow

Debate Topic: Local and State Law Enforcement Should be Able to Secure Military Weapons from the U.S. Federal Government for Combating Protests

Pro: Mercy Dahn and Kyle Denslow

Con: Darian Hector and Ashilee Thomas

Alternates: Hannah Tabrizi and Lexi Outlaw

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 (STUDENT UNION BALLROOMS)**

Welcome: Dr. James LaPlant
Symposium Coordinator

Remarks: Dr. William McKinney
VSU President

Dr. Hudson Rogers
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Best Poster Awards
Posters

ART

“Exploring Phenomena of Color in Art and Science”
Maria Herrera Vega
Ms. Kalina Winska, Faculty Adviser

“Reimagining the Myths and Folklore of the Past”
Zach Steele
Mr. Craig Hawkins, Faculty Adviser

BIOLOGY

“A Phylogenetic Evaluation of Family Myxinidae and the Evolution of Body Size”
Bradley D. Owens
Dr. Joshua S. Reece, Faculty Adviser

“Assessment of the Genetic Diversity of North America’s Most Endangered Bird, the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow”
Erika L. Schumacher
Drs. Joshua S. Reece and Corey D. Anderson, Faculty Advisers

“Background Variation in Loggerhead Nest Placement: Important Data for Monitoring Future Responses to Climate and Land-Use Change”
Brianna Shepherd
Dr. Joshua S. Reece, Faculty Adviser
“Does Nitrogen or Honeydew from Insects Affect Fungal Disease Resistance in Peanut?”
Al’Tiana W. Watson
Dr. Emily Cantonwine, Faculty Adviser

“Evolution of Diadromy in Anguilliformes”
Ashilee Thomas
Dr. Joshua S. Reece, Faculty Adviser

“Metal Accumulation in Bobcats in the Southeastern United States”
Rachel K. Thomason
Drs. Gretchen K. Bielmyer-Fraser and J. Mitchell Lockhart, Faculty Advisers

“Morphological Development of Dionaea muscipula (Venus Flytrap) Leaf Trichomes in Leaf Primordia”
Robert Land
Dr. Russell H. Goddard, Faculty Adviser

“Niche Overlap in Aquatic Salamander Guilds Based on Analysis of Gut Contents”
Matthew Keen and Hannah Pittman
Dr. Cy Mott, Faculty Adviser

“Population Genetic Variation in the Nine Banded Armadillo”
William A. Haney and Fran Johnson
Dr. Corey Devin Anderson, Faculty Adviser
“Sex Change in Atlantic Ribbed Mussels in Response to Starvation”
Carla Ortiz, Casey Wood, and Steve Watts
Dr. Cristina Calestani, Faculty Adviser

“Sound Production by the White Tubercled Crayfish, *Procamburus spiculifer*”
Yessi Castro
Dr. Ted Uyeno, Faculty Adviser

“The Effects of Salinity on Silver Toxicity in the Euryhaline Fish, *Fundulus heteroclitus*”
Codie Picariello and Anupam Gupta
Dr. Gretchen K. Bielmyer-Fraser, Faculty Adviser

“The Influence of Hydroperiod on eDNA Concentration within Aquatic Ecosystems”
Courtney Erskine and Shaundon Moore
Dr. Emily Croteau, Faculty Adviser

“The Influence of Relative Humidity on Penetration of Peanut Leaves by *Cercosporidium personatum*”
Crystal Charmaine Askew
Dr. Emily Cantonwine, Faculty Adviser

“The Influence of Water Hardness on Accumulation and Effects of Silver in the Green Alga, *Raphidocelis subcapitata*”
Aarya Venkat, Adriana Amerson, Ja’Davia Hill, Yessi Castro, Anupam Gupta, Codie Picariello, Jasmine Williams, Crystal Askew, and Kyle Conger
Dr. Gretchen K. Bielmyer-Fraser, Faculty Adviser
“[3+2] Cycloaddition Reactions of Nitrile Oxides and Dienes: Effect of Reaction Conditions on Regioselectivity”
Gloria de la Garza and Jesse Prince
Dr. Jenny Vu, Faculty Adviser

“3D Printing: Exploring New Technology”
Darrell Hill
Dr. Thomas Manning, Michael Holt, Kyle Culpepper, and Rex Devane, Faculty Advisers

“A Green Synthesis of Fluorescein under Mild Conditions: Development of an Undergraduate Organic Chemistry Laboratory Experiment”
Gloria de la Garza, Pavan Patel, William J. Croft, and Jesse Prince
Dr. Jenny Vu, Faculty Adviser

“A Green Technology Approach to Artificial Reefs”
Brittany Butler, Sydney Plummer, and Tess Baker
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

“Building, Deploying, Modifying and Using Remote Operated Vehicles in a Marine Environment”
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser
“Cellulose, Concrete, and Artificial Reefs: New Approach to Marine Conservation”
Jamie Wilson, Marissa Reyes, Morgan Herrington, Alesia Neloms, and Mehulkumar Patel
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

“Converting Two Dimensional Instrument Schematics into Three Dimensional Models Using Three Dimensional Printers”
Aaron A. Arnold, Elizabeth A. Atkinson, Clinton P. Anthony, Eric V. Haas, Brittney S. Ikuesan, Lauren A. Lindsey, Matthew May, Darius J. Miliam, Reginald N’Jai, Krina S. Patel, Parita N. Patel, and James R. Rigsby
Dr. Thomas Manning, Michael Holt, Kyle Culpepper, and Rex Devane, Faculty Advisers

“Coumarin Boronic Acid for the Detection of Peroxynitrite in Cellular Systems”
Victor C. Sanks
Dr. Yakov Y. Woldman, Faculty Adviser

Brittney Ikuesan, Brian Cortesi, Kaylee Higginbotham, Chelsea Desbiens, Julie Beacham, Malcolm McCray, Alesia Neloms, Felicia Woods, Cassandra Nix, Megan Macfarlane, Cameron Griffin, Jamie Willis, Krina Patel, Allyson Ritter, Eric Spencer, Elizabeth Atkinson, Sara Pleasants, and Khanh-Toan Tran
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser
“Enhancing the Efficacy of a Cancer Drug by Accelerating Angiogenesis”
Ryan Parrish, Jamie Wilson, Morgan Herrington, and Marissa Reyes
Drs. Thomas Manning and Russ Goddard, Faculty Advisers

“Graphene as a Drug Carrier for Cancer and Antibiotics”
Krina Patel
Drs. Thomas Manning and Michael Savoie, Faculty Advisers

“Growing Biofilms in a Marine Environment to Produce Pharmaceuticals”
India Harvey, Eric Haas, and Tess Baker
Drs. Thomas Manning, and Jim Nienow, Faculty Advisers

“High Performance Liquid Chromatography of RNA Bases”
Taylor Holder
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

“Kinetics and Thermodynamics of Solvent Evaporation”
Wes Potter, Donna Law, Krina Patel, Seyeon Park, Aaron Arnold, Ginny Rhoades, and Lauren Lindsay
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

“Natural Sponges, Scents and a Green Technology Approach to Fish Bait”
Katie Myers, Jaylan Young, and Ashley Smith
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

“Photocurrent Production of Iron Oxide Nanoparticulate Films Modified with Ascorbic Acid”
Candice B. Childs
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser
“Photoelectrochemical Studies of TiO$_2$-Fe$_2$O$_3$ Layered Films”  
Hyebin Kim  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Artificial Cornea Implant”  
Elizabeth Broadie, Kimberly Huynh, and Jamie Willis  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Artificial Knee Replacement Spacer”  
Brian Bourne, Tony King, and Brandon Harris  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Connecting Learners through Guided Class Projects in the Sciences”  
Brian Bourne, Chelsea Braddy, Elizabeth Broadie, Yessi Castro, Brandon Harris, Kimberly Huynh, Tony King, Matthew May, Tyler Peterson, Codie Picariello, Jamaar Snead, JaMichael Snead, Aarya Venkat, and Jamie Willis  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Drug Delivery for Alzheimer Patients”  
Chelsea Braddy, Tyler Peterson, and Matthew May  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Implanted Glucose Sensor and Release Mechanism”  
Yessi Castro, Codie Picariello, and Aarya Venkat  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning: Pacemaker Leads”  
Jamaar Snead and JaMichael Snead  
Dr. Tolulope O. Salami, Faculty Adviser
“Quibits, Quantum Computers, Mn$_{12}$, & Fe$_8$”
Brittney Ikuesan, Kaylee Higginbotham, Chelsea Desbiens, Julie Beacham, Felicia Woods, Megan Macfarlane, Raymond Fontanez, Ivana Domljanovic, Matthew May, and Harsh Patel
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

“Sonagashira C-C Coupling of Trimethylsilylacetylene, H-CC-Si(CH$_3$)$_3$, to the Polyoxotungstate Anion, [PW$_{12}$O$_{39}$(NC$_6$H$_4$I)]$^{3-}$”
Matthew May
Dr. Dean C. Duncan, Faculty Adviser

“Structural Measurements and Cell Line Studies of the Copper-PEG-Amikacin and the Copper-PEG-Sucrose Complexes Against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and Resistant Strains of the Same”
Hatel Patel, Sydney Plummer, and Tess Baker
Drs. Thomas Manning, Greg Wylie, Dennis Phillips, and Jacki Jarvis, Faculty Advisers

“Synthesis of Chiral Amines on Silica Surfaces”
Chelsea Desbiens, Brittney Ikuesan, and Eboni Skerrit
Dr. John T. Barbas, Faculty Adviser

“Thermodynamics of Calcium Metal Reactions”
Aarya Venkat, Victor Sanks, Tony King, Cecilia Furey, and Collins Egbe
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

David Oliver, Nikesh Patel, Sterling Serfoss, Danielle Ward, Gloria de la Garza, and Jesse Prince
Dr. Jenny Vu, Faculty Adviser
“Using Computations QSAR Methods to Propose a New Group of Antibiotics for Dental Applications”
Aminat A. Aminu, Yessi S. Castro, Deven Anthony Chapman, Brandon B. Harris, Travis E. Kimble, Lamya Mollay, Krina S. Patel, Sydney A. Smith, and Aarya Venkat
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

COMMUNICATION ARTS

“Fear Appeals and the Dangers of Thrill Rides: Literature Review and Sample Experiment”
Daphney A. Young
Dr. Michael H. Eaves, Faculty Adviser

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

“A Comparison between Silent Reading, Accelerated Oral Reading, and Altered Auditory Feedback Reading”
Melanie Morris
Drs. Matthew Carter and Jade Coston, Faculty Advisers

“Graduate Student Clinicians’ Data Collection Reliability”
Shelby Sharp and Molly Zechman
Drs. Crystal Randolph and Renee Hannibal, Faculty Advisers

“Readability and its Effects on Standardized Assessments”
Amanda Barlow, Mara Charles, and April Ward
Drs. Crystal Randolph, Corine Myers-Jennings, and Ruth Renee Hannibal, Faculty Advisers
EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

“Cerebral Palsy”  
Elizabeth King  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Child Abuse”  
Catie M. Morse  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Debunking and Enlightening Male Perspectives on Feminism”  
Bradley R. Gandy  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Diversity in the Workplace”  
Matthew B. Hooten  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Does Music Activity Affect Brain Development”  
Kameron Agee  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“High School Dropout in the U.S.”  
Christina O. Miller  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“High School Dropouts in the U.S.”  
Emily Coats  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser
“Marching Band is the Window of the University”
   Rickie Limoges
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Multi-Cultural Literature: Eric Carle”
   Priscilla N. Cook
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Oyster Bed Restoration”
   William S. Wallace
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Racism, Culture, and Bullying”
   Lauren McNaughton
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Religion in Public School Setting”
   Maria Vazquez
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“School Bully”
   Brooke Simpson
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“The Effects of Children on Marriage and Divorce”
   Morgan A. Williams
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“The Fall and Rise of the Inca Empire”
   Phelan Eastberg
   Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser
“The Three Evils that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Believed”
Jordan L. Dowd
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“The Victims of Parents’ Divorce”
Eric Wells
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Tiger Moms”
Holly Mihalick
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Why Physical Education is Important in School Setting”
Christopher M. Thomas
Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

ENGLISH

“Imperialism through Racism”
Kailyn Middleton
Dr. Jacob Jewusiak, Faculty Adviser
“A Model for Giving Up Smoking”
César J. Menjibar
Dr. José A. Vélez-Marulanda, Faculty Adviser

“A Study of Useful Education Apps for Mobile Devices”
Joshua Jones and Jamal Birt
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

“Advances in Self Driving Cars”
Jonathon McCraney, Christopher Rich, and James Ishmael
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

“ATOMMS – Attendance Tracker and Official Mass Messaging System”
Ilya Rogers
Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Faculty Adviser

“Challenges Concerning Applied Big Data Analytics”
Christopher W. Sanger
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Adviser

“Comparison of Probabilistic-D and k-Means Clustering”
Reece Walker
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Adviser
“Era of Surveillance: A Time of Ethic and Legal Consideration”  
Christopher DiNofrio  
Dr. Subip Chakraborty, Faculty Adviser

“Online Auction and Secretary Problem”  
Josh Harrison  
Dr. Jin Wang, Faculty Adviser

“OStrich: Digging the Groundwork of an Operating System”  
Matthew Cliatt, Jacob Benoit, and Eric Abbott  
Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Faculty Adviser

“Structure from Motion with Plants”  
Robert Putman  
Dr. Radu P. Mihail, Faculty Adviser

“Visualization of Fraction Concepts in School Mathematics”  
Ryndell E. Langford  
Dr. Arsalan Wares, Faculty Adviser

MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

“Language Anxiety in Second Language Acquisition”  
Karla Rodriguez  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

“Spanish Pride and Aristocratic Affinity During the Golden Age”  
John Tyler Exum  
Dr. Grażyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

“The Critical Period Hypothesis in Second Language Acquisition”  
Hope C. Screen  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser
NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

“Saving Ancient Languages”
Marcus D. Harvey
Dr. Lavonna L. Lovern, Faculty Adviser

“The Fabric of Ancestor Veneration: A Relationship of Purpose”
Asante-Sudani Ade
Dr. Lavonna L. Lovern, Faculty Adviser

“The Lost Atrocity: Indigenous Slavery in the Colonial Americas”
Alisa Marie Pappas
Dr. Lavonna L. Lovern, Faculty Adviser

NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

“Characteristics of Traditional and Second Degree Nursing Students: Emotional Intelligence, Learning Style and Critical Thinking”
Shayla R. Cue and Kate L. Marple
Dr. Maura Schlairet, Faculty Adviser
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

“David Hume and the Cosmological Argument”
Andrew De Luca
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

PHYSICS, ASTRONOMY, GEOSCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING STUDIES

“Analysis of Historic Earthquake Activity in Georgia”
Dion M. Pinkney
Dr. Mark S. Groszos, Faculty Adviser

“Analysis of Wetland Loss in Southeastern Louisiana”
Sean M. Bolan
Dr. Paul C. Vincent, Faculty Adviser

“Application of Gravity Model for Restaurants in Lowndes County, Georgia”
Tanner Dennis Herrington
Dr. Jia Lu, Faculty Adviser

“Chaotic Fluctuations in a Steady Fluid Flow by Non-Linear Damping in the System”
Quadreka S. Burgess
Dr. Hasson M. Tavossi, Faculty Adviser

“Comparison of Monthly and Seasonal Precipitation Totals from Manual and Automated Weather Stations in Georgia”
Thaira Williams
Dr. Jason Allard, Faculty Adviser

“Correlation Among Caves, Sinkholes, and Faults in Belize, CA”
Carlie Perez
Dr. Can Denizman, Faculty Adviser
“Measuring Magnetic and Electric Fields in a Plasma: The Building Stage”
Ashley E. Hardy
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

“Monitoring Study of Cave Conditions and Water Isotopes of Raccoon Mountain Caverns, TN”
Kasey Lynn Zagorski
Dr. Weimin Feng, Faculty Adviser

“Plasma Fetching as a Method of Cleaning Niobium Oxide for use in Particle Accelerators”
Christiana Epperson
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

“Project Based Learning in Engineering Through QEP: Lesson Learned”
Jordan Franklin, Carlos Ponce, Lauren Hale, Joshua Brant, and Devin Gillette
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

“Qualitative Analysis of Geomorphic Change of the Saint Mary’s River through Time”
Bradley E. Arbo
Dr. Paul C. Vincent, Faculty Adviser

“Spatial Analysis of Accessibility to Healthy Food in Lowndes County”
Ambria N. Blyther, Devin M. Carpenter, Quiana S. Martinez, Matthew Morbey, Kaitlin R. Mortensen, William F. Peacock, and Javante T. Richey
Dr. Jia Lu, Faculty Adviser
“Structural Control of Karst Taurus Mountains in South Turkey”
Devin Carpenter
Drs. Can Denizman and Jason Allard, Faculty Advisers

“The Path to an Engineer’s Success”
Ryan Baptiste and Devin Gillette
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

“Variations in Coastal Geomorphology on Guadeloupe”
Warren James Youmans
Dr. Donald Thieme, Faculty Adviser

“Verification Analysis of some Mechanics Problems Using ANSYS Finite Element Software”
Brendan Taylor
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

POLITICAL SCIENCE

“An Assessment of Crises Driven Constitutions: Libya, Rwanda, and South Africa”
Briana L. Carter
Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser

“Conspiracy Culture: A Look at the Appeal and Predictors of Conspiracy Thinking”
Kenneth D. Holiday
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

“Constitutional Theory and Constitutional Practice in Selected OAS Countries”
Yanira Francisco
Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser
“Constitutionalism and the Framework of Powers in Americas”
Kate Marie Riddle
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“Libertarian Vote in the 2014 U.S. Senate and Georgia Gubernatorial Races”
Shelby Simmons
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

“Media and Vote Choice”
Taylor Thomas
Dr. Mandi Bailey, Faculty Adviser

“Predictors of the 2014 Florida Gubernatorial Election”
Jesse P. Jaime
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“The United States Senate Race in Georgia and the Factors that Influenced the Vote for Michelle Nunn”
Katherine Westra
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“Women and Unequal Pay Among Professors in the University System of Georgia”
Kelah M. Hendon
Dr. Bernard Tamas, Faculty Adviser
“Emotional Dysregulation and Test Anxiety”
Samantha Deane Hartman
Drs. David Wasieleski and Mark Whatley, Faculty Advisers

“First Impressions: The Effects of Clothing in a Job Hiring Scenario”
Mary Geraldine Bartido
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“Participant Sex and Dating on Longevity and Infidelity”
Diamond Moore
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“Sympathy and Leniency Toward a Murder Defendant”
Lydia R. Edwards
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“The Effect of Participant Sex and Same Relationship Scenario on Attitudes toward Homosexuality”
Hailey Hatch
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“The Effects of Exercise on Memory and Stress”
Angela Marie Prine
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser
“The Effects of Participant Sex on Reading Comprehension”
Oyindamola Bamgbola
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“The Effects of Social Media on Social Skills”
Janecia Williams
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

“The Influences on Sympathy and Willingness to Help”
Kaitlyn Alyssa Thrift
Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

“Crime and Social Media”
William Gruno
Dr. Shani P. Wilfred, Faculty Adviser

“Food Deserts and Food Insecurity in Lowndes County”
Molly Drescher
Dr. Anne Price, Faculty Adviser
“Life Versus Life”
Anthony Lamar Anderson
Dr. Shani P. Wilfred, Faculty Adviser

“Negative Workplace Environment: Observing Ageism Among Younger Employees”
Sara Clemens
Dr. Carl Hand, Faculty Adviser

“Psychological and Emotional Impact of Capital Punishment”
Jonathan L. Jaime
Dr. Shani P. Wilfred, Faculty Adviser
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.

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