

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.



TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

**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

**“El Indigenismo: 20th Century Hispanic Literature and the Fight for
Equal Rights of Indigenous Peoples”**

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

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”

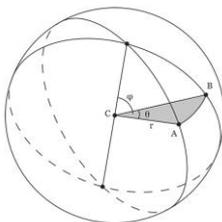
Tyler Brown

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015

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

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, *Procambarus
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

CHEMISTRY

“[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”

Aminat A. Aminu, Christina G. Duckworth, Jordan A. Everett, Clinton P. Anthony, Cameron C. Griffin, Blaine M. Hendon, Tyonna S. Hill, Brittney S. Ikuesan, Jordan Linahan, Angela D. MEEKS, Darius J. Miliam, Lanya Mollay, Katie N. Myers, Reginald N'Jai, Jayme E. Parker, Setu D. Patel, Tony Pina, Sara E. Pleasants, Allyson C. Ritter, Sarah L. Smart, Ashley N. Smith, Sydney A. Smith, Brittany A. Spencer, Jaylan B. Young, Sydney E. Plummer, Tess A. Baker, Brit Butler, Jamie K. Wilson, Marissa N. Reyes, and Morgan K. Herrington

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

“Developing Pharmaceutical Based Intellectual Property: Writing and Filing a U.S Provisional Patent Application for a Drug Delivery Approach for Tb Drugs”

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 TiO₂-Fe₂O₃ 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, Mn₁₂, & Fe₈”

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(CH₃)₃, to the Polyoxotungstate Anion, [PW₁₂O₃₉(NC₆H₄I)]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

“The Sweet Side of Organic Chemistry: Identification of Sweeteners through Chemical Methods”

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, Lamyra Mollay, Krina S. Patel, Sydney A. Smith, and Arya 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

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



“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

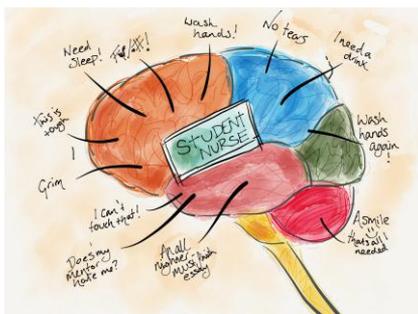
Dr. Lavonna L. Lovern, Faculty Adviser

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

Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser

“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

Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

“The United States Senate Race in Georgia and the Factors that Influenced the Vote for Michelle Nunn”

Katherine Westra

Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

“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

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“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



“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

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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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