From The President...

The Celebrations of Scholarship marks a special day in the Millikin year, a time when the performance learning at the heart of the Millikin experience comes alive for all to see. On this day students from across campus share their work, offering evidence of the depth of learning that goes on every day in class and out.

At Millikin, students learn by doing – thinking, creating, making, shaping, and enacting their ideas. On this day, we all share in that learning and celebrate in our conversations our best imagination of Millikin University.

Patrick E. White
President
See the Products of Our Students’ Research

At Millikin University we believe in a simple but VERY IMPORTANT assumption—our students are capable of inquiry, discovery, creation, and application of newly acquired knowledge. This is true of first year students (as evident in today’s Freshman Focus Presentations) AND this is true of all of our students at every stage of their development as presented in the Poster Symposium, the HURF competition, and the many presentations of undergraduate research we celebrate today. Millikin students are not here to merely consume and regurgitate knowledge. Millikin students are here to be the makers, the research collaborators and the creative users of new knowledge.

In the 2014 Celebrations of Scholarship you have the opportunity to see the results of our students’ recent research and creative projects presented by the students themselves. The College of Arts & Sciences students have gained national and regional recognition for their outstanding research, exemplary models of social action, and top-quality college competitions such as MOOT Court.

I invite you to join in the 2014 Celebrations of Scholarship presentations and exhibits. Join me as we recognize the outstanding achievements of our students. Join me in the celebration of the creativity and thorough inquiry of students in the College of Arts & Sciences. Join in the fun of learning. See you at the Celebrations of Scholarship!

Dr. Randy Brooks
Dean
College of Arts & Sciences

Behavioral Sciences

Can’t You Take a Joke?: Sexist Humor and Male Attractiveness
SH 412
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Brittany Czaplicki, Dana Hunt, Emily Cleveland, Maddi Harner
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Linda Collinson
Abstract/Description:
Past research indicates that although women are significantly more likely to rate sexist jokes as offensive and less acceptable than men, women are similar to men in their reported likelihood to tell such jokes. Furthermore, enjoyment of sexist jokes by men is positively associated with acceptance of rape myths, adversarial sexual beliefs, acceptance of interpersonal violence, and the self-reported likelihood to rape (Ryan & Kanjorski, 1998). Conventional wisdom suggests that heterosexual women are attracted to those men who present the “bad boy” persona. Our hypothesis is that women will be more attracted to “bad boys” who have sexist attitudes as one of their characteristics than to more pro-feminist men. Our research is in its early stages. We are currently working on the survey instrument that will contain descriptions of two different types of men: one who demonstrates sexist behavior, and one who demonstrates more egalitarian behavior. The context will be that the participant is determining whether to date the man as part of a dating service. Female participants will rate the attractiveness of the man on various dimensions. A t-test will be conducted to determine if there is a significant difference between the attractiveness of the two men. In addition, a MANOVA will be conducted to determine what characteristics are typical of those women who prefer the “sexist” male.

Connecting with the LGBT Community in Denver, Colorado: The Spring Break Adventures of HSC
SH 412
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Trey Williams, Travis Neese, Kelly Dorang, Sandra Romero, Addie Smith
Faculty Sponsor(s): Professor Mary Garrison
Abstract/Description:
Come and learn about the experiential learning adventure that 5 Human Service major students engaged in over spring break 2014! Students will share their experiences of working with the LGBT community in Denver, Colorado as the engaged in performance learning putting theory to practice. Don’t miss out on hearing about this amazing experience!

Sociology Capstone Research
SH 319
11:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Christina Grimm, Maddi Harner, Alex Janssen, Shayna Key, Maizee Lamb, Megan McCauley, Ben Murrow, Bill O’Donnell, Brian Scott, Heidi Zapp, Torrey Pollard, Janaki Khati
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Ken Laundra
Abstract/Description:
Students will present findings from their original research on various sociological subjects, including Teen Court and Restorative Justice programs in Decatur.

Biology

The Effects of Anti-depressant, Fluoxetine, on the Aggressive Behavior of Paradise Fish, Macropodus opercularis
LTSC 001
8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Devon Perkins, Shakira Milton, Jackson Graves
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Marianne Robertson
Abstract/Description:
We hypothesized that paradise fish exposed to fluoxetine would show decreased aggression. We performed ten trials for each of the following three groups: untreated fish versus untreated fish, treated fish versus treated fish, and untreated fish versus treated fish. This allowed us to compare the behaviors of fish that were not exposed to fluoxetine to the behaviors of the fish that were. We paired fish based on their mass to eliminate weight as a possible variable. We observed and recorded four aggressive displays performed by the paradise fish and compared the frequency and duration of time spent performing each behavior between treated and untreated fish. Fish exposed to fluoxetine showed a significant decrease in aggression which could affect the reproductive success of an organism that relies on aggressive tactics for survival.

Effects of Atrazine, Acetochlor, and Chloropyrifos on Planariidae
LTSC 001
9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Devon Perkins, Shakira Milton, Jackson Graves
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Jennifer Schroeder
Abstract/Description:
Herbicides are heavily used on crops in the United States. The herbicides end up in the fresh water after rainfall. There has been past research done to see how the herbicides affect the wildlife, and people. This research explores the effects of several herbicides; Atrazine, Acetochlor, and Chloropyrifos on Planariidae (planarian). It was expected for the planarian to either not survive or for their mortality rates to increase. First it was important to see what controlled environment was suitable for the planarian to survive in without the herbicides. Then at various concentrations to the herbicides were put in the water containing about 4-6 planarians. Over time they were observed and the effects were astounding in comparison to the control. The planarians put in even the lowest concentration of pesticides of about 0.1 mL of the herbicides with 50 mL of water did not survive. The planarians in the control only had dimethyl sulfide (DMSO) on them and they survived for months compared to the others which only survived for a few days to a week.
Use of 5” -RACE Technology for Complete Sequence Identification of the Spätzle Gene in the Hermit Crab (Coenobita clypeatus) LTSC 001 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Presenter(s):Devon Perkins, Shakira Milton, Jackson Graves

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Samuel Galewsky

Abstract/Description:
Spätzle is a cytokine-like molecule found in Drosophila and is required in the Toll signaling pathway of innate immunity. Although innate immunity is fairly well understood in mammals and Drosophila, it is not as studied in other invertebrates. Recently, a Spätzle in other invertebrates that can serve as novel model organisms, such as hermit crabs (Coenobita clypeatus). We have successfully cloned a Spätzle cytokine-like gene in hermit crabs that shares 88% identity with Spätzle DNA sequence from Chinese Shrimp. Spätzle has significant alignment of the transcribed sequence with other organisms. Reverse transcription PCR indicates that Spätzle mRNA is present in hermit crab tissue. These results suggest that cytokine-like molecule is present in hermit crabs and may play a role in the innate immune response. Homology among Spätzle genes appears to be highest at the C’ end and thus has been the gene portion we have recovered from the hermit crab using low stringency PCR. Efforts to clone the 5’ end of the gene have been unsuccessful to date. In order to fully characterize this gene we are currently cloning the full length cDNA by 5’ - Race PCR.

Cell Phone and Internet Use

SH 420 9:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.

Presenter(s):Lauren Acton

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Nancy Curtin

Abstract/Description:
A look at developing intercultural relationships through online resources, such as “chatrooms” and “video-chatting” websites. Research suggests an emerging pattern in how cross-cultural communication has developed through emerging online communication resources.

Science Fiction VS Science Fact

SH 420 8:00 a.m.- 8:30 a.m.

Presenter(s):Jeffrey Grimes

Faculty Sponsor(s):Prof. Sam Meister

Abstract/Description:
This presentation is for students, teachers and faculty regarding the use of cell phones and internet in society. I will discuss the negative impacts, distractions, and attention span defects regarding the use of cell phone technology.

Communication

Performing London

Albert Taylor Theatre 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Presenter(s):Kevin Althoff, Coy Branscum, China Brickey, Jared Britton, Lisa Capasso, Danielle Davila, Geoffrey Egleston, Patrick Jordan, Mike Keim, Lauren McGrath, Anthony Normal, Patrick O’Brien, Jamie Shriver, Kyle Simonz, Nick Throop, PJ Walker

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Tom Duncanson

Abstract/Description:
Students from the Fall 2013 London Semester perform the “Chorus” from the play THE RITUAL SLAUGHTER OF GORGE MASTROMAS by Dennis Kelly, and scenes from William Shakespeare's MACBETH.

Environmental Studies/ Communication

SH 420 10:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.

Presenter(s):Kelsi Barney, Rachel Barter, Pauline Berche, Drew Bollier, Kenneth Castle, Samantha DeBondt, Ethan Francis, Miguel Garcia, Axelle Garnier, Marie Guillon, Emily Kissel, Kevin Martin, Josef Moore, Torrey Pollard, Sean Raymundo, Adam Shook, Grant Shreve, Paloma Siggini, Edward Stalter, Alyssa Visvardis, Blake Walters, Zachary Yarborough, Zoey Zara

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Tom Duncanson

Abstract/Description:
Critical presentations on environmental leisure and tourism.

Fame and Power Within Celebrities

SH 418 12:00 p.m.- 12:15 p.m.

Presenter(s):Michael Sheldon

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
I will be examining the different ways that celebrities deal with their Power. Furthermore, I will be examining the celebrities Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber, how they dealt with their fame and the power that they have over society. The media likes to glorify celebrities and view them as more powerful than they are. I will research Cyrus and Bieber because they both have gotten extremely successful and they have shown their celebrity status in two different ways. The world that we live in has a great fascination with the media because they are rich and famous and live extravagant lifestyles.

Communication

Performing London

Albert Taylor Theatre 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Presenter(s):Kevin Althoff, Coy Branscum, China Brickey, Jared Britton, Lisa Capasso, Danielle Davila, Geoffrey Egleston, Patrick Jordan, Mike Keim, Lauren McGrath, Anthony Normal, Patrick O’Brien, Jamie Shriver, Kyle Simonz, Nick Throop, PJ Walker

Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Tom Duncanson

Abstract/Description:
This presentation is for students, teachers and faculty regarding the use of cell phones and internet in society. I will discuss the negative impacts, distractions, and attention span defects regarding the use of cell phone technology.

Science Fiction VS Science Fact

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Presenter(s):Jeffrey Grimes

Faculty Sponsor(s):Prof. Sam Meister

Abstract/Description:
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Communication

Performing London

Albert Taylor Theatre 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

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Faculty Sponsor(s):Dr. Tom Duncanson

Abstract/Description:
This presentation is for students, teachers and faculty regarding the use of cell phones and internet in society. I will discuss the negative impacts, distractions, and attention span defects regarding the use of cell phone technology.
Abstract/Description:
Tennis has evolved from a game of strategy and consistency, to a game of power and speed. This change came about because of the need for better balls, racquets, and the desire for more intensity. I will be exploring the history of tennis, following the path it has taken. I will be researching the engineering behind the equipment and the changes in the game. My main reason for this interest is my coaches over the years, who still play tennis as it was played years ago. I want to know whether these changes have made the game better.

Critical Writing, Reading and Research: Frida Kahlo’s Past
SH 418
12:45 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Maya Hopkins
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Kahlo was an artist who took images in her mind and made them into reality. I am pursuing the relationship between Kahlo’s past and how that inspired her to create beauty. I am addressing the issue of feminism and how she made a statement of the aesthetics of beauty. The purpose of my research is figuring out why Kahlo created her art and what events in her life influenced her. The topics of Kahlo’s art, like feminism, heritage, and childbearing, are relevant issues. Kahlo’s art tells a revealing and passionate story.

Are We Being Watched?
SH 418
1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Veronica Fernandez
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
There are thousands of people roaming the internet, checking social networks every minute. According to Oxford Dictionaries, social networking is “a network of social interactions, and personal relationships”. But are these relationships and interactions really personal and private? I will focus on the relationship between social networks and the government, as well as explore the benefits in monitoring social networks. Through this exploration, I will be able to look deeper into cultural, historical,
economical and educational aspects of this relationship. I will explore the different groups of people this relationship might be affecting and the way it is affecting them.

The Brain on Video Games
SH 418
1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Oliver Czopek
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
My main focus for my abstract is to present the question, how do video games affect the brain? I want to know the relationship between video games and brain development. More importantly, how do the most popular commercially designed games affect the brain? Personally, I have played video games for many years and I know that I have benefited from them in some way, but I am uncertain as to how I have. I want to research what video games can do for the brain.

Baseball Between Your Ears
SH 418
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Dakota Mirabal
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Imagine it’s the bottom of the 9th inning, two outs, the game is tied and you’re up to bat. What are you thinking about? The topic that I am researching is how the mental side of baseball can affect the game. I am going to research how the mental side of the game impacts the actual playing of the game. The question I will be trying to answer is how much the mental side of the game can affect how well a player plays or how well they don’t play.

Understand Autism: Expelling Misconceptions from the Classroom
SH 418
2:15 p.m. - 2:30:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Emma Hoyer
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Inaccurate portrayals of individuals on the Autism spectrum are prominent in our culture, and in analyzing films as To Kill a Mockingbird and Rain Man, as well as popular shows like Big Bang Theory, it becomes apparent how imperative it is to educate future generations about Autism. Education should start in the classroom when students are young and more accepting of ideas that challenge the norm. Teachers need to develop and implement techniques to create an environment for individuals on the autism spectrum. Students should also be educated throughout their education about advancements society makes towards clearly understanding Autism.

Injuries in Softball
SH 418
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Dominique Tanchez
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
This research topic is on softball and its relationship to injuries that occur. There are statistics for each position defensively as well as offensively. For a pitcher, the rate of injury increases then any other person on the field. The most common injuries that occur are knee, shoulder, and ankle injuries. These can come up from running, throwing, and sliding into a base or person. Also, there are some injuries that occur by complete accident for the crowd or even the coaches. These injuries can be career-ending injuries or rehabilitation can be advised. The methods of rehabilitation are endless.

The Holocaust and The Many Psychological Portrayals Through Movies
SH 418
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Meaghan Grady
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
In this paper, I plan on uncovering the relationship between psychological implications of the Holocaust and the portrayals of the victims in the movies. I will research the impacts of the concentration camps on the victims, discuss the many different psychological outcomes the victims had throughout the Holocaust, and expand more on how it affected their everyday living. I will then analyze the many different movies made about the Holocaust and the portrayals of the victims in each movie. I will look into interviews with the victims in different articles and movies and see how psychologically they ended up after going through the Holocaust.

Online Dating Changing Romantic Relationships
SH 418
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Megan Seyfert
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
With the growth of internet dating cites, the way that relationships form and grow is changing drastically. In this essay, I plan to explore the sociological and physiological variables that are changing due to the rise of strictly online relationships. By exploring the statistical changes in divorce rates, online dating, and intercontinental relationships, I will assess why relationships are changing and posit possible causes. Through this essay, readers should grasp a better understanding of online relationships and the evolution of dating, not only in the United States, but in the world.

Media and Psychological Disorders
SH 418
3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Bryce Gilbert
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
In this paper, I plan on uncovering the relationship between the Media and psychology. To further the topic, I plan on showing how the media can cause and influence certain psychological disorders. I will research the specific disorders that can be traced back to the Media. I will use case studies and different sources to give insight to the influences of the media on our society and others introduced to it. Specifically, I will uncover how the Media’s stigma of beauty affects the psyche and leads to eating disorders such as Anorexia nervosa.

Poaching in the Pacific Ocean
SH 418
3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Paisley Spence
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Species facing threats in the wild such as poaching in the Pacific Ocean face many threats from poaching. Poachers often poach species for their body parts, which can be used for medicine, jewelry, or clothing. In addition to the poachers, there are also local communities that pressure the species for different uses. In this paper, I will explore the many threats species face and look at protections in place. I will also research what the species can do to help itself and protect itself from poachers. The species will gain a better understanding of how it is fighting for its survival in a hostile environment.
Abstract/Description:
Poaching is practiced everyday in the Pacific Ocean, and there are many different perspectives needing to be addressed in my paper. While I will look at both ethical and economical perspectives, I feel compelled to write from a poachers personal perspective. My purpose for this is to raise awareness on animal endangerment but also look at the humanitarian aspects of poaching. While my audience will undoubtedly be students and teachers, I am hoping that it could also expand to include marine biologists and coast guards of the Pacific.

Herodotus and “The Histories”

SH418
4:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Matthew Poncer
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
The topic of my research this semester will be on the Greek historian Herodotus. Known as “The Father of History” as well as, “The Father of Lies,” Herodotus will be the topic about which I will attempt to uncover the truth about. I want to discover how he went about collecting his information in addition to how he pieced together his writings. I also wish to research why most historians disregard Herodotus as a reliable source. The questionable relationship is between Herodotus and his writings, but from that come several sub-topics which I also wish to research.

Evolution of Tennis

SH418
4:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Emerick Fulton
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Tennis has evolved from a game of strategy and consistency, to a game of power and speed. This change came about because of the need for better balls, racquets, and the desire for more intensity. I will be exploring the history of tennis, following the path it has taken. I will be researching the engineering behind the equipment and the changes in the game. My main reason for this interest is my coaches over the years, who still play tennis as it was played years ago. I want to know whether these changes have made the game better.

Historic Expansion and the Iroquois Five Nations

SH420
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Kaelee Mitchelson
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Timothy Kovalcik
Abstract/Description:
This project studies the early history of New France – a colony of the French Empire that, at its height, covered most of eastern Canada and the mid-west of the United States. Today, remnants of French influence can be seen in states with French names, like Illinois, and the towns that they settled there. At the end of the 17th century, the Iroquois Five Nations Confederacy, a powerful alliance of Iroquois Indians, threatened French domination in the fur trade, the pivotal economical entity of New France. This report analyzes several primary documents regarding correspondence between King Louis XIV, the “Sun King” and his governors in New France, in order to understand the comparable position the Iroquois had on French hegemony in North America.

Branc Rickey: Bigot or Not?

SH420
11:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Max Couch
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Timothy Kovalcik
Abstract/Description:
In this research project, the motives of the integration of baseball are explored. The famed general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, Branch Rickey, has a background that set the stage for integrating baseball. The precise reasons for doing so are developed throughout this paper. This paper was the final project for my capstone history class, Historiography. Using the insight of professional baseball historians, I formed my own opinions and arguments as to the reasons behind the integration of baseball from Rickey’s perspective.

HURF

Humanities Undergraduate Research Forum

SH317
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
TBA
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Eric Roark
Abstract/Description:
HURF stands for the Humanities Undergraduate Research Forum. The awards are selected from a general solicitation of papers from all Millikin Undergrads. The purpose of the award is to recognize the very best undergraduate research efforts in the humanities. Awards are based upon the consensus of a three member committee comprised of faculty members from the departments of History, English and Philosophy.

Modern Languages

Spanish Capstone

SH422
3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Hector Hernandez, Kiara Landin, Roberto Borja, Daniel Jensen, Arianna Lawson, Brandi Bedinger, Kyline Humm, Miranda Little
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Eduardo Cabrera
Abstract/Description:
1. Causas de los problemas cardíacos en México (Hector Hernandez)
2. Desarrollo y fusión del jazz latino (Kiara Landin)
3. Las expectativas en las clases de matemáticas y su efecto negativo en estudiantes latinos de EEUU (Roberto Borja)
4. El teatro político argentino como herramienta educativa (Daniel Jensen)
5. Factores sociales en los trastornos psicológicos de los inmigrantes latinoamericanos (Arianna Lawson)
6. El impacto de los Estados Unidos...
### Physics

**Mathematical Physics Symposium**

**LTSC001**

10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Remmi Baker  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Casey Watson

**Abstract/Description:** The Mathematics of Tunneling and the STEM - Remmi Baker

**Mathematical Physics Symposium**

The Mathematics of the Variational Principle - Kaitlyn Gumina  
Bernaldi's Equation and Applications-Kyle Leadlove  
The Mathematics of Quantum Computing-Brad Rucker  
Complex Analysis and Contour Integration-John Spaw  
The Mathematics of Hawking Radiation-Ben Woodall

**Quantum Mechanic Symposium**

**LTSC001**

4:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

**Presenter(s):** Remmi Baker, Brian Barry, Kaitlyn Gumina, Josh Monroe, Brad Rucker, Syed Salik, Ben Woodall  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Casey Watson

**Abstract/Description:** The Physics of Tunneling and the STE - Remmi Baker  
Berry's Phase-Brian Barry  
The Physics of the Variational Principle-Kaitlyn Gumina  
Perturbation Theory-Josh Monroe  
The Physics of Quantum Computing-Brad Rucker  
The WKB Approximation-Syed Salik  
The Physics of Hawking Radiation-Ben Woodall

### Political Science

**Congressional Interaction in the 1960's**

**SH320**

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Julia Hesse  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Bobbi Gentry

**Abstract/Description:** During the civil rights period there was a public outcry that demanded a change in laws with little response in a sufficient amount of time. Lack of public interaction is even more noticeable when considering the Supreme Court ruled on many influential cases such as Brown v. Board. The actions of Congress are not noted as making a significant contribution, like that of the Supreme Court, till late in the 1960s when the civil rights bills were passed. My contribution to this field of political science will be illustrating the importance of Congressional interaction with the public.

**Promise Neighborhoods**

**SH320**

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Andrew Besalke  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Bobbi Gentry

**Abstract/Description:** Promise Neighborhoods are among the newest federal initiatives to improve America's schools. Funded by the FIE (Fund for the Improvement of Education program), Promise Neighborhoods invest in not only schools but also "cradle-to-career solutions", meaning social services that strengthen families as well as communities. The program recognizes that good schools aren't solely responsible in preparing children to be successful. The environment and resources a community provides are also imperative to a child's success. The year 2010 marked the first year neighborhoods received funding to start investing in their communities. While the program is relatively young, Political Scientists must measure the improvement of these neighborhoods and efficiency of their spending. Are Promise Neighborhoods making measurable impacts in their communities? If so, what's effective about them?

### The Rise and Decline of Small Town America

**SH420**

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Presenter(s):** Maddison Harner  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Bobbi Gentry

**Abstract/Description:** Where have all the small towns gone and why is small-town America disappearing? This study focuses on the apparent decline of some small towns across the United States. This project gives consideration to factors and policies that contribute to small town prosperity or decline. Two case studies of local communities in Illinois, one that is outwardly thriving and one that is seemingly failing, will be analyzed for comparison purposes. Finally, consideration will be given to the future of small towns across the country with a particular emphasis on the case studies futures.

### Electrodynamics Journal Article Reviews

**LTSC 115**

3:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Presenter(s):** Remmi Baker, Brian Barry, Kelsey Cosley, Josh Monroe, Chris Pelikan, Jon Robertson, Brad Rucker, Ben Woodall, Liyang Yu  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Eric Martell

**Abstract/Description:** Students in PY 362 - Experimental Physics II, will present the results of their experimental research projects.
Launching Millikin’s Premier Writers (MPW) Contest

In an effort to engage first-year writing students in performance learning opportunities, undergraduate fellow Brittany Mytnik & Critical Writing, Reading, and Research Coordinator, Dr. Carmella Braniger, worked together to organize and launch the inaugural Millikin’s Premier Writers Contest in 2013. We’re happy to say we are back again this year!

To participate in the contest, students had to submit abstracts of their work for presentation at Celebrations of Scholarship and for possible subsequent publication in Millikin’s Premier Writers. Those students participating in COS will go on to compete for a winning spot in the anthology.

The MPW editorial team consisting of Brittany Mytnik, Kara Anderson, Sophia Maria Andricopulos, Megan Chrisler, Caitlin Husted, and Owen Kosik works to organize and judge the contest and then revise the winning essays for publication.

This contest rewards and celebrates student achievement by publishing exceptional work. MPW gives first-year students the opportunity to make a name for themselves in the academic community from the beginning of their college careers.

At Millikin, we believe in performance learning, and there’s no better way to “perform” writing than to put it on display at Celebrations of Scholarship and in the second annual Millikin’s Premier Writers publication.

Dr. Carmella Braniger
English Department

MPW

Education and Internet: The Future of our Learning
SH319
2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Eric Johnson
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Are online courses the future of higher education? This is a very current question which this paper will attempt to answer. It will discuss both the potential benefits and downfalls of online education, and assess whether or not online courses will be a viable long-term asset to education. I will discover this conclusion using the thoughts and opinions of current educators as well as my own judgment as a student. This paper is inspired by the rapidly rising growth of technology and online abilities in education, and seeks to suggest an optimization of the benefits of these tools for education.

Religion Amidst Government
SH319
2:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Shawneka Burch
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Has America become the nation in which our Founding Fathers hoped for? It is evident that our Founding Fathers wanted the church to be separate from government. However, are religion and government really separate? In the essay, I will examine the way in which the government—both openly and subtly—advocates religion despite the First Amendment. I will also discuss the implications behind many government documents and why such implications are important in our “free” nation. This work is intended for both religious and nonreligious Americans as it primarily focuses on how religion is continually advocated by the government.

The Connection Between Attractiveness and Happiness
SH319
2:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Jada Haywood
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
In my paper I will be focusing on the connection between being attractive and people’s happiness. I believe that attractive people are generally happier human beings. Beyond that, I will explain psychologically what an attractive person is and how people generally behave towards them. Being considered an attractive person gives you an advantage over someone less attractive. I will explore how it is more common for things to come much easier to attractive people which makes them more successful and overall happier.

Portrayals of Holocaust Victims in Film
SH319
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
I plan to explore the relationship between psychological implications of the Holocaust and the portrayals of the victims in the movies. I will then analyze the many different movies made about the Holocaust and the portrayals of the victims in each movie. I will look into interviews with the victims in different articles and movies and see how psychologically they ended up after going through the Holocaust. The purpose of this research is to see if the movies portrayed the psychological effects correctly.

Understanding Autism: Expelling Misconceptions from the Classroom
SH319
3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Emma Hoyer
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Inaccurate portrayals of individuals with autism are prominent in our culture. In analyzing films such as To Kill a Mockingbird and Rain Man, as well as popular shows like Big Bang Theory, it becomes apparent how imperative it is to accurately educate future generations about the Autism spectrum. This education should start in the classroom when students are young and more accepting of ideas that challenge the norm. Teachers need to develop and implement techniques to create a positive, sympathetic, and understanding environment for individuals on the Autism spectrum, which will help those individuals, as well as the classroom as a whole.

Fortune and Fame, But Why?
SH318
2:15p.m.-2:30 p.m
Presenter(s):
Rebecca Coutcher
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Ever think of what goes through the brains of the 43.5 million people who read People magazine every day? Page by page, those individuals are becoming susceptible to “celebrity worship.” My paper will analyze the relationship between celebrities and obsessions. The long-term and short-term psychological and physical effects of obsessions with superstars will be discussed. Additionally, this paper picks a part the reasons why we, as a society, put these celebrities so high on a pedestal. What makes celebrities different than us? Anyone who has a knack for pop culture will find an enjoyment in my research paper.

Divergent and Feminism
SH318
2:30 p.m-2:45 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Lexy Bieber
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Why are so many young adult novels dystopian fictions with a female lead? Why do people assume this makes the book feminist? In my paper, I will discuss the modern dystopian novel Divergent by Veronica Roth, and I will show it is not as feminist as it appears. I will give an analysis of the text and highlight the places where the author fails to meet the ideals of feminism. Also in my paper, I would like to discuss the reception of this novel in order to question the reviews.

Who Cares? It’s Just a Tattoo...
SH318
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Nichole Tuttle
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
How would you feel if your doctor had tattoos? What about your hairstylist? What about your daughter? In my paper, I will relate the rising popularity of tattooing to what influences people's opinions of tattoos. I will view tattooing from religious, medical, and psychological standpoints. With this research, I will be able to better inform people of the social risks of tattooing and common uses of tattoos outside of self-expression in the U.S. In the end, I hope to have people be less quick to judge those who have tattoos.

The Effects of Star Wars on Society
SH318
3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Erin O’Brien
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
In how many ways can one movie saga affect the world? In this paper, I plan to explore this question by examining the relationships between the Star Wars Saga and society, such as how it has affected pop culture, the film industry, politics, and other areas. I will research pop culture and movies before and after the release of the first Star Wars episode in 1977. I intend to put the pieces together to create a unique and explanatory work of George Lucas' most successful story.

Star-Crossed Dressers: Cross-Dressing in Shakespeare and Modern Day
SH318
3:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Grace Piper
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
Inaccurate portrayals of individuals on the Autism spectrum, as well as popular shows like Big Bang Theory, it becomes apparent how imperative it is to accurately educate future generations about the Autism spectrum. This education should start in the classroom when students are young and more accepting of ideas that challenge the norm. Teachers need to develop and implement techniques to create a positive, sympathetic, and understanding environment for individuals on the Autism spectrum, which will help those individuals, as well as the classroom as a whole.

The long-term and short-term psychological and physical effects of obsessions with superstars will be discussed. Additionally, this paper picks a part the reasons why we, as a society, put these celebrities so high on a pedestal. What makes celebrities different than us? Anyone who has a knack for pop culture will find an enjoyment in my research paper.

Abstract/Description:
I will shed light on the strange practice of shaking hands (or any sort of physical greeting - such as hugging or kissing) to greet another human. I will delve into the history of the handshake, then turn to the field of psychology for studies on neurological connections between physical touch and positive interpretation of situations or persons. I will analyze the importance in modern society, and demonstrate why we (the human race) should or should not continue the practice of touching to say “Hello.” This research will inevitably cause the reader to introspectively consider the purpose and relevance of physical greetings, as well as how they are affected by these in everyday situations.

Motifs in West Side Story
SH318
3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Nicholas Sanders
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger
Abstract/Description:
I will explore the strange practice of shaking hands (or any sort of physical greeting - such as hugging or kissing) to greet another human. I will delve into the history of the handshake, then turn to the field of psychology for studies on neurological connections between physical touch and positive interpretation of situations or persons. I will analyze the importance in modern society, and demonstrate why we (the human race) should or should not continue the practice of touching to say “Hello.” This research will inevitably cause the reader to introspectively consider the purpose and relevance of physical greetings, as well as how they are affected by these in everyday situations.
Commitment to Performance Learning

Shilling Hallway (2nd Floor)
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

The Millikin Research Poster Symposium was developed to provide all currently enrolled students with an opportunity to share their scholarly activities, as well as practice the communication skills so crucial to professional success. Modeling professional research conference practices, the Millikin Research Poster Symposium celebrates the scholarship that results from student-faculty collaborations, and encourages students not currently involved in scholarship to participate in the future. Their scholarship is an authentic example of our mission and commitment to performance learning. The variety of research methods and topics vividly demonstrate each student’s definition of their professional success, active citizenship, and life of meaning and value.

The symposium atmosphere is casual and designed to foster informal conversations between student researchers and symposium attendees, typically other students, faculty, and invited guests. Participation in the poster symposium requires faculty review and certification of the quality of the scholarly project. During the poster symposium, faculty judges critique each poster and speak with the presenters to evaluate each participant’s level of expertise, with top posters receiving awards. Begun in 1993 with funding from the Office of the Provost, the poster symposium is now in its 21st year. In 1994, Judith and G. Richard Locke and the interdisciplinary Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi began providing financial support for the prizes awarded to the top-rated student authors of the poster symposium.

In Honor of Judith and Dr. G. Richard Locke

The 21st Annual Millikin University Research Poster Symposium is dedicated to Judith “Judy” and the late G. Richard “Dick” Locke, M.D., in gratitude for their longstanding support of undergraduate research at Millikin University. Dick and Judy founded the Judith and G. Richard Locke Undergraduate Research Poster Awards in 1994.

Dick served as a Millikin Trustee from 1994 until 2003, when he retired as Co-Vice Chair. In recognition of his service, he retained the title of Trustee Emeritus. While a Board member, he chaired many committees and served as Vice Chair for the campaign to build Leighty-Tabor Science Center.

An Ohio native, Dick earned degrees from DePauw University, Greencastle, In., and Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio. He served as Medical Director of the Decatur Cancer Care Institute from its founding in 1968 until his 2002 retirement. A local pioneer in the use of radiation therapy for cancer treatment, Dick was known for patient advocacy and compassionate care.

Dick served as Clinical Associate Professor for the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign School of Medicine and Southern Illinois University Medical School-Springfield. He was a longtime Trustee for his undergraduate Alma Mater, DePauw University. A Fellow of the American College of Radiology, Dick also held a variety of leadership roles in the local medical community.

Dick and Judith “Judy” Blang Locke were married soon after their graduation from DePauw. An advocate of parks and community recreation, Judy serves as President of the Decatur Parks Foundation. A Decatur Park District Commissioner for more than 20 years, Judy’s expertise led to her election as the Board President of the Illinois Association of Park Districts in 2000. She is a member of the Millikin Associates.

Look Inside the Process

Often, the only public presentation of an artist's work is the finished product. Audiences typically don't have the opportunity to see the applications of theory and practice taking place in the process of the creation of art. The celebrations of scholarship in the College of Fine Arts allow us to look inside the process, which involves analysis, research, development of structural and conceptual frameworks, and critically informed aesthetic judgment. This is the scholarship that informs and is embodied in a work of art.

We invite you to explore the process of creation with our students, and hope that the insights offered will allow you to enjoy the finished products of art making even more fully. Who knows, you may enjoy seeing the process as much, if not more, than the product!

Laura Ledford
Dean
College of Fine Arts

Art
Carriage House Steamroller Printmaking
Kirkland Parking Lot Circle
10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Jessica Greenslade, Dylan Schietinger, Michael Shultz, Maya Holst, Ali Asgar, Derrick Sosinski, Tatye Kesate Birhan, Jessica Brooks, Courtney Woodruff
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Lyle Salmi
Abstract/Description:
The Carriage House Printmaking class with perform a very special demonstration as they ink up and print large woodcut plates using a steamroller! The theme for this event will be “Mythology” and each artist has prepared a large woodcut plate with this theme in mind.

Music
Conducting And The High School Student
K136
10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Alex Bahaveolos, Melissa Baker, Nick Brockamp, Michelle Curiel, Jenny Gafron, Hannah Gifford, Andrew Gust, Hank Hantak, Erin Reger, Elizabeth Shapard, Marlina Zimmerman
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Brad Holmes
Abstract/Description:
Sophomore conducting students will teach conducting rudiments to high school students. The goal is to provide a ‘conductors perspective’ to young choristers who have spent their school years observing and perhaps ignoring the director in front of them.
The workshop group will be the Joliet West High School Choir, Tim DeBoer - Director.

OneVoice Recording Session
Millitrac
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Brenna Pfeiffer, Amy Mazzeo, Molly McCullough, Hannah Lieb, Alex Manfredo, Hunter Allen, Zach Shrout, Cory Arnold, Tyler Hollis, Grey Taxon, Connor O’Leary
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Stephen Widienhofer
Abstract/Description:
The members of the vocal jazz ensemble, OneVoice, will be performing in an actual recording session. Observers will be able to see how the producer, engineer and artists work together to make a record. The rhythm tracks will have already been recorded so this session will exclusively be geared to the vocal canvas. Effects such as the use of EQ, compression, overdubbing, and vocal layering will be demonstrated.

What is a BA Music Major?
SH310
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Dr. Mark Samples, Dr. Cynthia Handler, Conrad Fassig, Kiara Landin, Zachary Saenz, Carlos Cabrera, Amanda Hamilton, Dylan Tramutolo, Jessica Wysocki
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Mark Samples
Abstract/Description:
BA Music majors present a symposium which examines the versatility, innovation and passion of students who diversify their plan of study during their four years at Millikin. In this symposium we reveal our identity through all aspects of music and intellectual inquiry. With this major we are able to shape our education to focus on our passions while continuing to surround ourselves with music. The panel of students and alumni will discuss choices, expectations and post graduation opportunities.

“We invite you to explore the process of creation with our students.”
Celebrations of Scholarship 2014

SH310
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Sophia Maria Andricopulos
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Mark Samples

Abstract/Description:
In late 2007, Radiohead released their seventh studio album, In Rainbows, in an online format that allowed consumers to name their own price—including zero. Other artists (such as Amanda Palmer, Girl Talk, and Trent Reznor) have since taken the format beyond a single release and applied it to entire discographies. Using a musicological perspective to examine the results of implementing a “pay what you want” (PWYW) pricing model, I will uncover the potential this model holds for different kinds of musicians and its validity as an option for digital music distribution.

Theatre & Dance

New Musicals Workshop 2014: The Legend of New York by Ryan Cunningham and Joshua Salzman
Albert Taylor Theatre
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Prof. Lori Bales

Sean Doherty, Darian Lunsford, Hannah Shatinsky, Brian Kocher, Emmy Burns, Jessica Benson, Jake Morrissey, Ryan Hickey, Ryan Lacy, Conor McGarry, Anthony Norman, Quinn Wise, Sidney Davis, Emily Briggs, Lexis Danca, Jordan LeGaux

Abstract/Description:
Students will perform selections from the new musical The Legend of New York by off-broadway produced writing team Joshua Salzman and Ryan Cunningham.

Shakespeare Corrected
Albert Taylor Theatre
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Ben Locke, Alex Miller, Dana Anderson, Jaime Patriarca, Ben Locke, Dan Derrick, Alex Stevens
Faculty Sponsor(s): Prof. Alex Miller

Abstract/Description:
This presentation will go over the experiences of working with the women at the facility as well as a description of design in regards to costuming, lighting and more.

Directing One-Acts
PD2
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Dr. Tom Robson
Kelly Lipsey
Zach Minder
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Tom Robson

Abstract/Description:
Seniors Kelly Lipsey and Zach Minder present their final 10-minute plays from the Fall 2013 TH 321: Directing I class.

Student-Written Play Readings
PD2
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Dr. Tom Robson
TBD
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Tom Robson

Abstract/Description:
Selected 10-minute plays from the TH 325: Playwriting class will be read. A discussion of the plays and the writing process will follow.

Pierpont: A New Musical
SH310
4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Patrick O’Brien
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Lori Bales, Kevin Long

Abstract/Description:
For all the debate capital punishment inspires, there seems to be one crucial figure missing: the executioner, the person who actually does the deed. The popular image of this figure—foreshadowing, hooded, and silent—could not be more appropriate; we seem to neither know nor care about who holds the position.
The story of Albert Pierrepoint (1905-1992), England’s most prolific executioner, puts a decidedly human spin on this job. This new musical seeks more than moral discussion, but also to remind us of the responsibilities we hold toward our fellow citizens of the world.

Special Presentation/Theatre and Dance
Come join us for a progressive showcase of researched choreography projects! We’ll begin in the Old Gym Dance Studio with Denzel Tsopnang’s presentation on the exploration of style as demonstrated through the lens of musical theatre choreography. We will then move to Pilling Chapel, where Quinn Wise’s site-specific piece will be performed. Finally, for Anna Marie Abbate’s site-specific piece, audience members will stand outside of the east entry of the Tabor School of Business as her dancers perform in the north stairwell of Perkinson Music Center. These site-specific pieces will bring new meaning to some of the spaces we inhabit every day.

A Night With the Robinsons
Perkinson Music Center Stairway
7:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Denzel Tsopnang, Lexis Danca, Keila Hamed-Ramos

Abstract/Description:
An homage to the classic dance style of the 50s. Inspired by the work of Gene Kelly, we take you on a journey through an evening gone awkward in “A Night With the Robinsons”.

If Walls Could Talk
Pilling Chapel
7:45 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Quinn Wise, Rachel Reininger, Anna Brockman, Terrence (TL) Hodge

Abstract/Description:
A site-specific dance piece utilizing one of the smallest spaces on campus.

Sight Specific. Choreographic Work By Anna Marie Abbate
Old Gym
8:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Choreographer Anna Marie Abbate
Dancers:
Ben Locke, Daniel Jensen, Morgan Oliver

Abstract/Description:
This piece was developed in my choreography class with Angie Miller. It is a sight specific piece that takes place in the staircase of PMC. Just to see how even if dance and choreography don’t take place on stage you can still feel something while watching a sight specific piece.
We Celebrate Scholarship in all Forms!

Celebrations of Scholarship. What a fabulous moniker! Not only does it describe the work of the University, it communicates how we embrace the myriad of that work. We celebrate scholarship in all of its forms! The event is rich with a diversity of scholarly topics, settings, and approaches.

In the College of Professional Studies, we value the development of professionals who engage in active learning while acquiring knowledge. We believe there is no better example of active learning than an individual’s engagement in scholarly endeavors. Scholarly engagement improves the body of knowledge of the professional. Scholarly engagement advances the application of theoretical concepts to practiced performance. Scholarly engagement supports the development of partnerships within communities. Scholarly engagement shapes the future of the professions in which we practice.

Scholarly engagement ... when ESS students investigate concussive sports’ injuries and use that knowledge to improve the overall health of athletes in rural communities. Scholarly engagement ... when SOE students complete comprehensive research based upon observations of students in their learning environments. Scholarly engagement ... when undergraduate SON students use translational research to improve best practice in the clinical arenas. Scholarly engagement ... when graduate SON students’ design final projects where inquiry and evidence-based practice are paired with focused residencies, quality improvement initiatives can be initiated to improve patient outcomes.

Exercise Science & Sport

Predictors for Success in a Medically Monitored Weight Loss Low Caloria Diet Program

SH320
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Samantha Bronson, Katie Callahan, Brooke Evans, Meagan Booth

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Tina Cloney

Abstract/Description:
We are investigating factors that may predict the success of Physician’s Choice Wellness clients, and actual weight loss/ body composition changes with different weight loss programs and associated lifestyle variables. Baseline changes in lifestyle variables, anthropometric data, body composition data will be collected at three months, six months, and at program cessation following one of two multi-disciplinary staff-monitored weight loss programs: (1) Low Calorie Diet (1000-1300 calories daily: two meal-replacing beverages and one modified meal according to the exchange system), (2) Very Low Calorie Diet (800-1000 calories a day for men; 600-800 calories a day for women).

School of Nursing

A Nested Population Control Study for Macon County, IL and the Occurrence of Stage IV Colorectal Cancer

SH409
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Miranda Watson

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Marylin Prasun

Abstract/Description:
According to the CDC, in 2010 Illinois had higher rates of colon and rectum cancer, 46 per 100,000 persons, compared to the national average of 40.4 per 100,000 persons. The Illinois Department of Public Health states that in Macon County, the male rate is 67 as compared to all of Illinois’ 58.1 (Five-Year Cancer Incidence Counts and Age-adjusted Rates per 100,000, 2006-2010). Research has found a positive correlation between colon cancer and body mass index. According to Bardou, Barkun, & Martel (2013), some studies suggest that obesity can increase the risk for developing colon cancer in men 30-70%. Not only does body mass index play an important role in whether a person may develop cancer, it has the potential to also affect the person’s outcomes after diagnosis (negatively or positively) (Dignam, Polite, Yothers, Raich, Colangelo, O’Connell, & Wolmark, 2006); however, the effect of other comorbidities (diabetes, hypertension, etc), person’s lifestyle (occupation, existence of insurance), and geographical location in relation to colon cancer has not been as widely studied.

Therefore the purpose of this retrospective study is to investigate the incidence of stage IV colorectal cancer in a Midwestern population, the relationship between comorbidities and the occurrence of stage IV colorectal cancer, and the relationship between health promotion behaviors (such as insurance, alcohol use, illicit drug use, smoking, and BMI) and the development of stage IV colorectal cancer. A convenience sample will be used from a local Midwestern cancer care facility.

The findings of this study will serve to provide insight and guide health promotion education within the local community.

Patient Education and Anticoagulation Therapy in a Cardiac Population

SH409
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Katie Kok
Abstract/Description: Anticoagulation therapy is used to prevent blood clot formation, and subsequent complications like stroke in many cardiac conditions. Unfortunately, the management of these medications can be difficult and can have serious adverse effects. The purpose of this research study is to examine patient knowledge and health literacy regarding anticoagulation therapy in a cardiac population. This pilot study will use a prospective, descriptive design that will assess participants’ knowledge of anticoagulation therapy and their health literacy using the Brief Health Literacy Screening Tool. By assessing the patients’ health literacy, knowledge of anticoagulation therapy, and how they were educated, this study will provide insight on which types of educational materials and interventions are effective in improving patient knowledge of anticoagulation medications.

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Marilyn Prasun

Barriers and Facilitators to Electronic Medical Record Documentation for the Anesthesia Provider
SH409
9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Todd LaDage, RN, BSN, RNAI

Abstract/Description:
Objective: The purpose of this study was to identify barriers and facilitators of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist documentation on the electronic medical record known as Anesthesia Information Management Systems.

Background: AIMS has improved documentation of patient care and has financial incentives to facilitate its adoption. However, AIMS adoption remains slow.

Methods: This was a prospective-quantitative descriptive study using a self-developed tool sent to IANA members through Survey Monkey.

Results: 90 certified registered nurse anesthetists in Illinois responded to the survey.

Conclusion: CRNA's perceptions of AIMS offer concern toward system cost, the disruption of workflow, and concern for reduced vigilance.

Complications related to anesthesia in total joint replacement patients with a BMI greater than 25
SH409
10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Tiffany Stork

Abstract/Description:
Obesity rates have reached epidemic proportions. There are an increase number of surgical patients who are obese. Obese patients have a higher incidence of co-morbid conditions such as: coronary artery disease, diabetes, hypertension and obstructive sleep apnea, which can impact anesthesia management. CRNA's should be aware of perioperative complications that occur in the obese patient population. The purpose of this study is to examine complications related to anesthesia in patients with a BMI greater than 25 undergoing total joint replacement.

A descriptive retrospective chart review was performed using a convenience sample of 50 patient charts that underwent total joint replacement.

Over 10 years later: CRNA awareness and experience with perioperative DNR orders
SH409
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Lisa Cross

Abstract/Description:
The Patient Self-Determination Act of December 1, 1991 provoked many institutions to understand and clarify practice with regards to advance directives. Many professional organizations representing patient care in the operating setting have released practice recommendations or a statement regarding the importance and necessity of preoperative DNR procedures and policies. In 2000, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetist published an article by Coopmans and Gries that explored Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist’s (CRNA) awareness and experiences with perioperative DNR orders. The results from this study prompted a need for evaluation of the current state of CRNA practice in regards to perioperative DNR orders. This study is a replication research study of Coopmans and Gries original research that identifies and documents current trends in practice.

Attitudes of Nurse Anesthetists Regarding Cost-Effective Care
SH409
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Heidi Phillips

Abstract/Description:
The evolving American healthcare system has led to an influx of studies evaluating healthcare costs as well as assessing practitioners’ awareness of costs. However, studies assessing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists’ (CRNA) attitudes towards healthcare costs are lacking. Identifying CRNA’s attitudes towards costs provides insight how to approach cost-effective care. If CRNAs are to be considered cost-effective practitioners, their attitudes concerning healthcare costs should be examined. The purpose of this research project is to examine CRNA’s attitudes regarding cost-effective care. Questionnaires were sent to members of the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists addressing CRNAs’ attitudes towards cost-effective care and cost-efficiency education.

Differences In Dosages of Midazolam and Fentanyl Among Smokers Undergoing Colonoscopy
SH409
11:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Kyle Floyd

Abstract/Description:
During a colonoscopy, medications are given for the purpose of blunting the patient’s awareness and pain perception, a process more commonly referred to as conscious sedation. Fentanyl and midazolam are two medications commonly used to effect this effect. The receptors that these medications exert their effect on are also commonly altered by cigarette smoking. The purpose of this study is to determine whether there is a significant difference in the dosages of fentanyl and/or midazolam among smokers and non-smokers undergoing colonoscopy with conscious sedation. This is a retrospective, descriptive chart review which utilized a sample...
of 100 participants. Data was statistically analyzed for the purpose of correlation among the factors involved. Practitioners will be able to use the reported data to help make inferential decisions as to which patient may need more, or less, fentanyl or midazolam. In turn, patients will benefit from improved safety and better outcomes.

CRNA Pain Management on the Post-Operative Cardiac Surgical Patient
SH409
12:00 p.m.-12:30 p.m.
Presenter(s): Renee Harrison
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Marilyn Prasun
Abstract/Description: Unrelied post-surgical pain leads to poor patient outcomes. The purpose of this study was to examine the practice patterns of CRNAs, regarding pain management and analgesics among open heart patients during the perioperative period. Patient characteristics, pain management and analgesics provided to the patient were reviewed based on current clinical practice guidelines. A retrospective chart review was conducted on open heart patients who had surgery between January 2012 and December 2013. CRNAs are in an ideal position to significantly impact the pain management of this population and improve patient outcomes. By examining practice patterns opportunities to improve patient care and outcomes will be shared.

Perceived Health-Promoting Lifestyle and Stress Coping Strategies of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
SH409
12:30 p.m.-12:45 p.m.
Presenter(s): Hannah Sons
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Marilyn Prasun
Abstract/Description: This study identifies coping strategies regularly used by practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) identified as providers with high levels of wellness in addition to expanding knowledge about current self-perceived and actual wellness levels of CRNAs. A total of 100 CRNA members of the Illinois Associated of Nurse Anesthetists (IANA) completed an online survey that included demographic data, the Health-Promoting Lifestyle Profile II (HPLPII) and a list of stress coping techniques. The study demonstrated a high level of wellness among the overall CRNA population surveyed in addition to several coping techniques that may be associated with increased levels of wellness.

School of Education
Context for Learning at a Local Public School
SH303
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Matthew Gremo, Wyatt Beesley
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Hee Young Choi
Abstract/Description: The research goal is to understand the important features of classroom context that influence teachers' instructional decisions at a local school. To accomplish the goal, intern students in ED 170 (Education Internship) collect data of 1) classroom setting, 2) important factors related to teaching and learning, and 3) school environment. Also, intern students reflect on the relevant features of the classroom context that would impact teachers' planning, instruction, and assessment. These steps are crucial for teacher candidates (intern students of ED 170) to become capable teachers and reflective practitioners.

Teacher Candidates' Looking Backward and Forwards
SH303
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Emma Hoyer, James Booker, Austin Jesse, Erin McDonald, Khadijah Visor,
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Hee Young Choi
Abstract/Description: The goal of this study is to assess teacher candidates’ ability to “look forward and backward at the same time” (Koch, 2012). Teacher candidates reflect on their past school experiences and how they impact their current viewpoints about education, teaching, and learning. In addition, they are asked to project into their future as professional teachers and create plans for their growth and development on their journey toward excellence in teaching and learning. This study is the opportunity to describe themselves as learners and as prospective teachers and begin thinking about how they will transition themselves into the profession.

Researching Kids: Case Studies from Early Childhood Development
SH327
4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Presenter(s): Brianne Barrett, Amber Butler, Meredith Crook, Amanda Floyd, Syndi Good, Hannah House, Megan Provenzale
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Georgette Page
Abstract/Description: The group (7 juniors, majoring in Early Childhood Education) will report significant findings from case studies (Embedded Signature Assessment), which is a major course requirement of ED 232 (Early Childhood Development). The participants of the group will address specific developmental, individual, and cultural characteristics in presenting an interesting picture of “the whole child.”
Celebrate Our Students’ Scholarship

Discover. Innovate. Practice. In Tabor, students engage in scholarship not only through research, but through putting their ideas and discoveries into practice. They may have built a new venture or solved a complex business problem for a client. Come and see examples of this excellent work. You can even see things in action today as students across campus will compete for cash prizes in the Business Creation Challenge where their “pitches” will be judged by entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. Or, watch freshmen compete in the Business Plan Competition.

Whatever you choose, I think you will be impressed by the capabilities of our Millikin students! This is a fantastic way to lift up and celebrate their good works. Please join us.

Entrepreneurship

2014 Business Creation Competition
SCO207
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Presenter(s): TBD
Faculty Sponsor(s): Prof. Andy Heise
Abstract/Description: The 2014 Business Creation Competition showcases student ideas and concepts for a business. Students compete individually or as a team for cash prizes and seed funding based on the quality, creativity, and innovation of their business.

Blue Connection
SCO208
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Jonathan T. Hicks-Oliver, Jared Dosien, Basia Brown, Angie Fassett
Faculty Sponsor(s): Prof. Julienne Shields
Abstract/Description: This year marks the completion of Blue Connection Retail Art Gallery’s 10th year in business. It is the envy of art entrepreneurship educators at hundreds of universities throughout the US and abroad. We will share the successes, failures, and lessons learned including small business strategies in management, marketing and financial considerations. Alumni and current student experiences will be highlighted, along with the vision from the various faculty who have been involved over the years. Join us as we celebrate the success of 10 years, and look forward to the next 10 years!

Tabor School of Business

Performance Learning: Database Modeling & Development for a Local Law Firm
SCO208
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Brian Kane, Boone McIntosh, Jamie Rockhold, Matthew Schmitz, Kishan Tailor
Faculty Sponsor(s): Prof. RJ Podeschi
Abstract/Description: A twelve-member class team of students created a database application for Bolen, Robinson, and Ellis, LLP (BRELaw), a full service law firm. BRELaw’s current system of using Excel spreadsheets in a folder system is a time consuming, cumbersome and redundant system. In order to alleviate BRELaw’s problems, the class created a Microsoft Access database. The database developed by the students efficiently stored the data, effectively presented necessary reports, and simplified the user interface. This database was developed in three stages (database model; queries and reports; and user interface) with presentations to BRELaw after each stage. Currently an intern from the class is working on implementation of the database the class created in the fall of 2013.

Tabor Investment Portfolio Annual Report
SCO208
1:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Presenter(s): Maja Fidanovski, Paige Harris, Maja Fidanovski, Matt Wooley, AJ Fillip, Miranda Korte, Matt Wombacher, Brian Colton
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Tatiana Isakovski
Abstract/Description: Senior finance majors present the Tabor Investment Portfolio results for 2013 and share our experiences in managing the portfolio and interacting with professionals and using external databases.

Altos de Chavon/la Escuela de Diseño Marketing Campaign
SCO208
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Presenter(s): Malcolm Branch, Natalie Mendez
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Larry Stapleton
Abstract/Description: During the 2014 Winter immersion, 14 other students and myself spent 9 days in the Dominican Republic developing a event to help bring revenue and exposure to the Alto de Chavon Art School of Design. This had been a semester long research project that concluded with a final presentation to the school’s top administration.

altosarte.com
SCO208
3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Presenter(s): JD Runyon, Rachael Coyle, Diana Popoca
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Larry Stapleton
Abstract/Description: Our group designed a webpage using WordPress that could sell students artwork and receive donations for the School of Design at Altos de Chavon in the Dominican Republic.
Celebrate Our Students’ Scholarship

The Millikin University English Language Center (ELC) is a 4-level transition program that prepares international students for undergraduate degree programs at Millikin University. ELC students have been conditionally admitted to Millikin. The ELC curriculum combines general English and academic English skills focus with project-based learning and community outreach.

During Celebrations of Scholarship, ELC students will present their research on the theme of global issues. This spring the ELC students are developing their academic English writing skills through comparison/contrast, argumentative, and research papers about three global issues. This presentation will address how this thematic approach has improved their writing as well as expanded their understanding of global issues.

Cross-cultural Awareness through Project-based Learning

SH312

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Brandy Barter-Storm (faculty; adjunct instructor), Jesus Aguirre (student), Abdullah Alhusayni (student), Alyah Altamimi (student), Sara Kim (student), Gita Jeong (student), Hyunsuk Jung (student)

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Steven Hales

Abstract/Description:
International students from the English Language Center (ELC) will present the findings of their “My Cities” project. This Spring 2014 project focused on cross-cultural awareness through a comparison and contrast of the greater Decatur area with students’ hometowns in three countries: South Korea, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. This interactive presentation will afford Millikin students, faculty and staff a unique opportunity to learn from international students’ perspectives on noteworthy similarities and differences between the U.S. and their countries. It will also include clips from the ELC student-created “My Cities” iMovie.

“The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate.”

Steven Hales
Director
English Language Center
Academic Excellence and Scholarship

The Long-Vanderburg (LV) Scholars Program honors the first two African-American graduates of Millikin University, Fred Long and Marian Vanderburg.

The Long-Vanderburg Scholars Program is an honors program that provides historically underrepresented students and those committed to diversity and inclusion, with the opportunity to uphold and contribute to the legacy of academic excellence, leadership, and service at Millikin University. Scholarship, Leadership, and Service are emphasized through a four-year program offering both curricular and co-curricular activities.

During Celebrations of Scholarship, Freshmen through Senior Long-Vanderburg Scholars will present original research that explores their position in society, their ever-growing leadership models, their professional creeds, and also their development as citizen-scholars. Join them as they showcase what it means to be Long-Vanderburg Scholars at Millikin University!

Long-Vanderburg Scholars

First-Year LV Students: Representations of Identity in Popular Culture
SH323
8:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Seth Adams, Alexandra Alontaga, Heather Banks, Antwainique Broadway, Shawneka Burch, Emily Chang,
Rebecca Fonseca, Philip Ganley, Courtney Ginigereme, Summer Hemphill, Adrianna Hines, Haley Hogenkamp, Michael Lambton, Rochelle Lewis, Timothee McElroy, Ryan Morgan, Matthew Poncer, Dominique Tanchez, Ketyra Taylor, Anastasia Tomanek
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Vicky Gilpin
Abstract/Description:
The First-Year LV students will present their individual analyses of selected representations of identity in popular culture, what those representations could mean in light of social justice and personal understanding, and incorporate concepts of identity and self-reflection as LV scholars in regard to leadership, historical understanding of diversity and culture, and extension of social justice.

“Achieving effectively your Personal and Professional Goals”
SH323
10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Jacqui Chaidez, Shakira Milton,Faraaz Salik, Demetrius Spidle
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Paul Toure
Abstract/Description:
All of us have various purposes in life. We want to accomplish different goals for ourselves, nurtured relationships, serve and contribute to society. And yet, we struggle to determine the exact amount of time and energy we need to set aside in order to reach these personal and professional goals. As Long-Vanderburg Scholars, students have learned to explore different aspects of their four years of college lives that they will share with the university community in their papers. Areas of exploration of the papers include, among other topics, the followings: personal principles and personal leadership, self-awareness of differentiating the personality ethic and the character ethic, personal mission statement, emotional bank account, the law of priorities (understanding that too much activities does not necessarily mean accomplishment).

LV Monologues: I Am!
SH323
1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Stephanie Strick, Simone Griffis, Ashley Flores, DJ Finley, Amanda Meeker, Amanda Morgan, Ebony Hughey, Naya Franklin, Toni Pennington, David Velazquez, Erica Nwachukwu
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Maire Fox
Abstract/Description:
In order to understand what it means to be an LV, you must first understand the meaning of Me. I might not be a minority as I am a majority. Yet, even though I am a majority as Me, in reality, I am a minority even if I belong to We. Come explore and participate in the understanding of who we are using the identifiers I, Me, and We!
I am discussing the topic of homosexuality and whether it is a choice or something that a person is born with. This question has not been able to be completely answered, scientifically or psychologically. I plan on researching a myriad of journals to see the overall trend of people's opinions of sexual orientation (is it a choice or not). I also plan on sending out multiple surveys to try to get a broader idea of the views from Millikin's own community, my community back home (Hillsboro, IL), and the community of Murray State, Kentucky (to get a very southern conservative perspective). I am going to try to get anonymous personal interviews from some people at Millikin commenting on their sexual orientation and their own beliefs regarding the controversial topic. I will also focus on the discrimination homosexuals undergo because of the idea that they have chosen this particular lifestyle, and how this discrimination is unethical.

“Look Mommy, I’m Sexy”: Marketing Sex to Children
SH315
8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Mercedes Johnston
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
I am discussing the topic of homosexuality and whether it is a choice or something that a person is born with. This question has not been able to be completely answered, scientifically or psychologically. I plan on researching a myriad of journals to see the overall trend of people's opinions of sexual orientation (is it a choice or not). I plan on sending out multiple surveys to try to get a broader idea of the views from Millikin's own community, my community back home (Hillsboro, IL), and the community of Murray State, Kentucky (to get a very southern conservative perspective). Also, I am going to try to get anonymous personal interviews from some people at Millikin commenting on their sexual orientation and their own beliefs regarding the controversial topic. I will also focus on the discrimination homosexuals undergo because of the idea that they have chosen this particular lifestyle, and how this discrimination is unethical.

“Skinny is the New Phat: Body Image from Past to Present”
SH315
8:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Sydney Brangenberg
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
The ideal body image and perceived beauty of women have changed greatly from the Renaissance Era due to media, men, and family views. The Renaissance ideals were better because women were viewed as attractive in whatever their God-given body was. They were not expected to go to health extremes to become what society deems as “attractive”. In this paper I will discuss the reasons why the ideals of beauty for women today are harmful and how it can affect them both physically and mentally. I will also further discuss the 1950s time period and how things such as advertising are so much different, even complete opposites, as compared to now.

“Jesus: The Most Misunderstood Philosopher”
SH315
8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Taylor Hagerdorn
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
Through my studies, I have realized that Jesus of History is not outdated and that his messages can be effectively interpreted as philosophies that are still relevant to a generation veering away from formalized religions. I will explain my understandings of Jesus' birth, life, and messages. The primary goal is to explain how the evident truths make the larger-than-life man more approachable to the modern mind.

I am not arguing that God exists; I argue for a deeper understanding of Jesus because he advocated positive things that can—and do—bring goodness to people around the world. Regardless of the existence of a supernatural being, philosophies that encourage love, compassion, understanding, and other positive qualities should be available to the masses.
Celebrations of Scholarship 2014

April 25

“The Miley Cyrus Effect: Musical Influences on Teens”
SH315
9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Jeffrey Davis
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
The Miley Cyrus Effect is a cultural phenomenon that has captured the attention of millions of viewers. This research project aims to explore the impact of Miley Cyrus’s music on teenagers. Through a qualitative study, we will examine how her music influences teenagers’ behavior and attitudes. The research will provide valuable insights into the influence of popular music on teenagers and help educators and parents understand the various ways music can shape adolescents’ perceptions and decisions.

“Spilling the Facts on the 2010 Oil Spill”
SH315
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Presenter(s): Mackenzie Peck
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
The BP Oil Spill of 2010 was one of the biggest oil spills in recorded history. This paper will address the effects of this spill on the environment, specifically on marine ecosystems. I will discuss the chemicals used in the attempt to clean the oil and how they arguably harmed the environment more than the oil itself. I will also compare the Exxon-Valdez spill of 1989 to the 2010 spill in order to predict possible lingering outcomes of the oil on the environment.

“Just because I play Cooking Mama doesn’t mean I’m a chef: Video Gaming Influences”
SH315
9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s): Jacob Sagan
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
It is becoming increasingly obvious that video games are having a bigger role in the lives of people of all ages. From an infant’s first Leapster to learn how to read, all the way to an adult’s behemoth of a gaming computer, games are everywhere in society. Unfortunately not all video games receive the positive press that Leapster gets. The subject of violent video games is harboring more and more negative attention as games that lead children towards aggressive and violent behavior. It is my goal to help remove this taboo from video games and show that violence in them does not cause increased aggressive/violent behavior.

“Dilema of Death: The War of Physician Assisted Suicide.”
SH315
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Presenter(s): Abigail Greider
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
Many terrible diseases cause patients’ loved ones to have to make a decision about end of life care. The happiness and well-being of the patient is always taken into consideration. There are few options offered by end of life care that patients suffering from painful and debilitating diseases when treatments have stopped working can choose from. In this paper, I will discuss why physician assisted suicide (PAS) is a viable and ethical option. I will focus on an ethical comparison of PAS and palliative sedation.

“SeaWorld: Blackfishing for the Truth”
SH315
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s): Nicole Koch
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
I intend to analyze SeaWorld and discover why it is inhumane. I will explore some of their animal training techniques and what makes some people view them as unethical. Along with this, I will also be looking at the influence of the documentary Blackfish and how it has affected the public’s view on SeaWorld. Then, I will look at SeaWorld’s response to the documentary and introduce some flaws that many do not know about Blackfish. For background information, I will be researching about animal training and how wild animals act in captivity. Finally, I will leave it up to the audience to decide for themselves if they believe in the documentary or not.

“Education for a Better Future: Time for a European-Influenced Change for the Better?”
SH315
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Presenter(s): Katie Stromsland
Faculty Sponsor(s): Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
In this paper, I will discuss the lack of vocational programs in the United States education system and how this lack negatively affects the individual and society as a whole. I will compare the United States education system to others in countries like France, Germany, and Poland, which have vocational programs. While our students are on a ‘college or bust’ educational track, these vocational programs in other countries provide students with opportunity in a variety of fields after high school. I will explore the structure and benefits of these vocational programs and discuss why the United States should use these countries as a model for reforming its education system, especially now with our struggling economical state.
In this paper, I will be talking about Dr. Michael O’Conner Faculty Sponsor(s): Alyssa Becker

**Abstract/Description:**
Abortion is undoubtedly at the top of the list of controversial topics across the world. Everyone has an argument about it whether or not they support their argument with science or religion. However, is everyone properly informed on the subject before they state their argument? I will investigate what “getting an abortion” really means and suggest that it becomes illegal due to how unethical the procedure is.

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**Social Media: #IsThisRealLife?**

**SH317**
8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Alyssa Becker

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
In this paper, I will be discussing how social media on college campuses, especially in friendships and relationships with significant others. Any posts on these websites may send your special relationship with someone into a spiral. Through my research, I will revisit the problems with the use of social media and explain how we can avoid the toxic outcomes.

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**Killing Our Own: What’s Humane for Humans?**

**SH317**
9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.

**Presenter(s): Christina Cummins**

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
In my paper, I will venture into the details of different methods used for the death penalty, such as lethal injection, electric chair, and hanging. My research will discuss and analyze the benefits and consequences that come from each method. I will also bring up the history of legalizing and abolishing capital punishment within different states, considering 32 states use the death penalty as of 2013. Besides the research, I will go through the morality of each method and come to a conclusion about which method is the most humane.

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**No Right Brain Left Behind: The Importance of Fine Arts in Public Education**

**SH317**
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Natalie Zelman

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
As a result of the way that American public education is structured and funded, attention is focused on the tested subjects of language and math, while fine arts programs are more often than not pushed aside. Despite this, it is important that music, art, and theater are taught as educational disciplines. In this paper, I will discuss the importance and the merits of teaching the fine arts by examining testimonies from teachers and students, studies showing the effects of fine arts on learning, and further research.

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**Don’t Call Me a Feminazi**

**SH317**
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Danna Herbach

**Abstract/Description:**
In this paper I will be discussing how “getting an abortion” really means and suggest that it becomes illegal due to how unethical the procedure is.

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**American Waistland: Who’s to Blame for the Obesity Crisis?**

**SH317**
9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Emily Wheeler

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
Obesity is the number one cause of diabetes worldwide. Roughly 34% of Americans are obese, among the over 1 million obese persons in the world. Due to the serious and sometimes severe effects of obesity, one might question whether the United States government is, or should even be taking every measure possible to combat what is now considered an epidemic. Though some argue that nutritional choices fall solely on the individual, I believe that through public education and updated FDA regulations, we can reverse the obesity crisis in America.

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**Reach ing for the Clouds or Falling to the Ground: The High Flying Danger of Roller Coasters.”**

**SH317**
10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Sara Siegfried

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
Roller Coasters have been an exciting part of passengers’ lives for many years. Guests look forward to the heart pounding drops and inversions of these pulse-pounding thrill rides. However, with each passing year, the safety of these rides have become increasingly questionable. I will explore the past, present and future of these high speed thrill rides and investigate how pushing the limit can cause some serious issues.

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**Living Room Learning: Mama Don’t Raise No Dummy**

**SH317**
10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Eve Greenwell

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
A great number of prisoners have grown so accustomed to prison life that they develop a psychological dependency and have difficulty reintegrating into society. In this paper, I will be exploring the topic of prison systems and what makes them effective or not. My intention is to compare Finland and other Nordic countries’ systems to that of America’s, and provide persuasive evidence as to why America should consider adopting some of their strategies and programs.

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**SH317**
8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Courtney Woelfel

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
I will discuss the importance and the merits of teaching the fine arts by examining testimonies from teachers and students, studies showing the effects of fine arts on learning, and further research.

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**Killing Our Own: What’s Humane for Humans?**

**SH317**
9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.

**Presenter(s): Christina Cummins**

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
In my paper, I will venture into the details of different methods used for the death penalty, such as lethal injection, electric chair, and hanging. My research will discuss and analyze the benefits and consequences that come from each method. I will also bring up the history of legalizing and abolishing capital punishment within different states, considering 32 states use the death penalty as of 2013. Besides the research, I will go through the morality of each method and come to a conclusion about which method is the most humane.

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**Wait...There's a Drinking Age in College?**

**SH317**
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Daniel Rausch

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
Ever since the drinking age in the United States was altered to 21 in 1984, there have been many negative outcomes. I will look at several of these negative outcomes brought about by drinking habits and analyze them. I will also compare the drinking habits of the United States to those of different countries with lower drinking ages. The goal of this paper is to show that the United States would be a much safer environment if there were a lower drinking age - especially for college students.

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**No Right Brain Left Behind: The Importance of Fine Arts in Public Education**

**SH317**
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

**Presenter(s):** Natalie Zelman

**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Michael O’Conner

**Abstract/Description:**
As a result of the way that American public education is structured and funded, attention is focused on the tested subjects of language and math, while fine arts programs are more often than not pushed aside. Despite this, it is important that music, art, and theater are taught as educational disciplines. In this paper, I will discuss the importance and the merits of teaching the fine arts by examining testimonies from teachers and students, studies showing the effects of fine arts on learning, and further research.
In this paper, I will be analyzing the negative connotations of feminism and why they became assumptions for all feminists.

College Students and Depression: Standing With the Hidden
SH317
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Elizabeth Nisly-Nagele
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
Some diseases are easy to identify, but some, such as depression, are not. The ability of individuals to hide their struggle with depression from those close to them can make it hard to provide support for those individuals. Rates of depression are rapidly increasing on college campuses all over the United States and yet, colleges and students do not have the proper knowledge to support those experiencing depression. In this paper I will explore how perceived social support effects and changes cases of depression and how students and faculty can help those experiencing depression heal.

“Nature vs. Choice: The Battle of Sexual Orientation”
SH317
11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Hunter Allen
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
Is sexual preference genetic or a decision? In this essay, I will be discussing sexual orientation, and most importantly, homosexuality and how humanity’s perception of sexual orientation differs from that of the Bible. I will be exploring whether sexual orientation is a natural trait, triggered by something genetic, or whether it is simply a choice made by all human beings. I will also bring up the issue of Christianity and how it fits into this debate. Having come from a Christian home with moral values based on the Bible, I have lived my life believing that homosexuality is an abomination in God’s eyes. There are those who oppose this belief vehemently. I am going to address this opposition and what I believe in through research. In the end, I hope to have a better understanding of the debate regarding whether homosexuality is a choice or something natural. I plan on bringing some light on the subject of homosexuality and the Bible, because if homosexuality and all other sexual orientations are genetic, than questions will definitely be brought about in regards to the Bible’s text.

Disregard Females, Acquire Currency
SH317
11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Jake Kotopka
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner
Abstract/Description:
In this paper, I will be analyzing the effects of cortisone steroid injections. Currently, cortisone injections are controversial because they initially mask the pain of an injury but can potentially leave the patient with progressing pain after several treatments. By discussing benefits, defects, and other steroid injections for injury, I plan to assess the overall effectiveness of using cortisone injections and the measures that should be taken to improve patient injuries.

“Race Politics: Asian Americans in Theatre and the Fear of Failure in Art”
SH318
8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Alexandra Alontaga
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Theatre is often praised for its inclusion of people of all backgrounds. Despite the welcoming environment that seems required for a passion meant for embracing all walks of life, there are still very few opportunities available for Asian American actors. For Asian Americans, a theatrical career is an endeavor that involves unshakeable fears, such as fear of being restrained to stereotypes and not being good enough to represent one’s own culture.

The Lachrymose Layers of Loneliness
SH318
8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Grant Sauter
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Claustrophobia is commonly regarded as the fear of small spaces. But I am intending to prove it is not simply a fear of close quarters, but a condition of true hopelessness and despair. I will reveal to you the true nature of this menace and how no amount of weeping can keep you safe, for there is no escaping any of these walls around you.

Insurance: A Disaster Waiting to Happen
SH318
8:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Blaine Buente
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
The ability to understand insurance is necessary to live a safe, healthy life. In some cases, we are not entirely aware of the coverage that they currently have or need. The horrors of being insured are great in numbers; they cause the insured to be subject for disaster. When disaster strikes, the lives of the insured, or uninsured for that matter, are greatly affected. I intend to show the horrors of insurance through everyday life and how it causes feelings of unrest for us.

“Just Out of Reach: The Inaccessibility of Higher Education”
SH318
8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Ashley Faulkner
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Students of today’s society are not seeking higher education with the same fervor as in the past. I seek to uncover the horrors of the increasing inaccessibility of a higher education for the adolescents of America in addition to what students are pursuing instead of a higher degree. I intend to show that this attainability reflects society’s current, changing viewpoints on educational values.

“No Escape: The Horrors of Small Town Entrapment”
SH318
9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Catherine Forthofer
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Throughout the horror genre, small towns serve as a common backdrop. Rarely do we see truly effective horror films set in urban areas; usually, terrifying events take place where few outsiders are present to witness them. In real life, small towns are home to unique horrors. My goal is to explore why small towns are such effective locales for many horror films, and how this is informed by the anxieties of those of us who come from rural areas.

The Power of Sound and Silence
SH318
9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Brandon Januska
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Music has been an important aspect of horror films and has the ability to produce an array of emotions in an audience. Long removed from silent films, horror films have been known for and remembered because of the music used in specific scenes. I will seek to show how music is effectively used in horror films and the importance of the absence of silence.

The Terror of Tritones: Music and Its Effects in Horror Films
SH318
9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Emily Altic
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Judith Crowe
Abstract/Description:
Music in films is used to play with the emotions of the audience. The audience is usually unaware of the subtle crescendos as film climax, but it is the crescendo that subconsciously excites the senses and makes the heart race. Those crescendos, main themes,
and uncomfortable dissonance are crucial parts of a horror film, and they remain with the viewers long after the film has ended. I hope to analyze music in horror films and its effects on the audience by researching the psychological effects of music as well as the theoretical approach to writing bone chilling themes.

Terrified by Text: The Effectiveness of Horror Literature
SH318
10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Sarah Suits
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Abstract/Description:
In much of the horror genre, men take the lead roles as heroes and/or villains. Women, on the other hand, traditionally take the passive wives, daughters, girlfriends, and victims' roles. Horror can also target young men, leaving women in the cold. I will research this unbalance between men and women in horror in order to understand why this occurs, what it contributes to the genre, and what it destroys.

Horror Opera and How the Voice Emotes Fear
SH318
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Tess Slack
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Abstract/Description:
I will be looking at horror opera as a subgenre of opera, and what it takes to scare an audience with a voice. The singing-actor's job in horror opera is to use their voice to emote the fear or insanity of their character. So my question is: How, where and when should a singing-actor change things about their sound production to create emotion that is effective and appropriate in the context of a horror opera?

Preserving Humanity: A Look into the making of a Zombie
SH318
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Wyatt Burton
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Abstract/Description:
In the world of art, humans are obsessed with humanity and the monstrosities we can become, and what better way to show this than through film, specifically zombies. Zombies are only as scary as we create them, and I believe the best way to make a zombie is with the use of theatrical make-up. I will be defending the use of theatrical make-up against the idea of Computer Generated Imagery (CGI). I believe that using make-up preserves the humanity of the individual, making it all more real for the viewer.

A Death Sentence
SH318
11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Justin Thrall
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Abstract/Description:
In much of the horror genre, men take the lead roles as heroes and/or villains. Women, on the other hand, traditionally take the passive wives, daughters, girlfriends, and victims' roles. Horror can also target young men, leaving women in the cold. I will research this unbalance between men and women in horror in order to understand why this occurs, what it contributes to the genre, and what it destroys.

The Horror of Theme Parks
SH318
11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Allie Wilson
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Abstract/Description:
Theme parks have always been a source of horror for their guests. Rides have broken down or malfunctioned creating horror stories that although rare are still true. This threat does not deter customers, though, and thus, theme parks have always thrived. I hope to address why it is that people pay to be scared at theme parks, what keeps these customers coming back, continuing to seek the thrill that this horror can provide them.

Social Preface: Applying Existentialism to the Middle School Mind
SH327
8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Glynis Baillies
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
This will be an exploration on how children ages 12 to 14 might react to the ideas of existentialism. These views are much different in terms of what types of philosophy, if any, is taught to these middle school aged children. Through the research, I will cover the ways in which existentialism might affect their thought processes and decision making ability throughout their lifetime. What is uncovered will display social repercussions to having children being taught this form of philosophy. Learning techniques for implementing this type of education in both the home and school systems will also be discussed.

The United States of Communism
SH327
8:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Justice Grabinski

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Celebrations of Scholarship 2014

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
This paper speculates about the potential for harmony and peace between communism and liberalism. Imagine a world in which the United States was Communist, and China was the Liberal Democracy of China. Imagine a world in which our vicious history has been erased, and there's peace and harmony between the two. The purpose of this paper is to dig into the theories of communism and liberalim; to get into the heads of Karl Marx and William Robertson. The project speculates about dangers that lie in conflicts between communism and liberalism, and potential for turmoil in the future if nothing changes.

Putting Pieces Together: The Healthier Form of Therapy for Children with Autism
SH327
8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Jonathan Rieck
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
What is the organic impact of play therapy (the Developmental Individual-Difference Relationship Model [DIR]) and drug therapy (fluoxetine [SSRI]) on children with Autism? Within this research, there will be comparison of the advantages and the drawbacks of each therapy in order to assess their value with a personal case study. There will be specific reasoning and evidence to support each therapy in regard to social, emotional, and bio-psychological perspectives. This project will help guide parents in healthier directions of therapy and it will help other researchers evaluate these forms of therapy.

Rhythmic Connection
SH327
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Genevieve Breitbach
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
What is the connection between alternative therapies and conscious living? Rhythm. In the modern world, including the audience of Millikin's intergenerational community, the public image of alternative therapy practices has been misperceived. The majority of the population is limited to traditional therapeutics and medicines, while there are a plethora of other options available. Proactive healing often works through techniques relying on rhythm. Hippotherapy, Network Spinal Analysis, and Music Therapy, (therapeutic practices I will focus on), illustrate the connection of rhythm and alternative therapy, as well as how many therapies interconnect and share a basic foundation.

Achieving the American Dream
SH327
9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
EJ Infante
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
I plan to conduct research on the concept of the American Dream, specifically its perceived level of attainability. I will research the concept's history and its evolution over time, to compare and contrast between times and cultures to provide a worldly view. Using existing sources and an original survey, I will formulate inferences at the conclusion of my research. The motivation behind this research is personal and informal, giving light to a topic often disregarded as fallacy; hopefully re-acknowledging the persistence of success needed nowadays. I hope to reach out to the youth, migrants, and dreamers of the world.

Soccer In St. Louis: It All Starts Here
SH327
9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Matthew McCarty
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
My paper will analyze the relationship between celebrities and obsessions. Additionally, this paper dissects the reasons why we put these celebrities so high on a pedestal and the resulting effects. This topic came to life because I have adored a celebrity, as well. In general, my paper would be appreciated by a wide range of an audience, fluctuating from teenagers to adults.

Health Benefits from Animals
SH327
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Alexander Blair
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
People tend to worry about negatives involved in maintaining a family pet, but there are health benefits to having them in the household. In this paper, I plan to explore the benefits of animal-assisted therapy in individual cultures around the globe. The purpose of my research is centered on adapting new treatments for patients suffering from physical and psychological disease, as well as reassure individuals that alternative styles of therapy are functional. Benefactors from this research include patients of disease or disability that are seeking out different styles of therapy and healthcare providers wanting to expand their variety of service.

Disney and Its Influences on Children
SH327
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Austyn Krueger
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Have you ever sat back and noticed the common theme in nearly every classic Disney movie? Women are portrayed as weak and inferior to men. With this in mind, I would like to research the relationship between Disney Movies and the psychological impacts and pressures it has on its primary audience: children. I will talk to children first hand and gather other evidence to support my claims. I will conclude with discussing the changes that Disney has made in its new movies, and how the future is looking a little bit brighter.

Star-Crossed Dressers: Cross-Dressing and Gender in Shakespeare and How it Relates to the Modern Day
SH327
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Grace Piper
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
How does the trope of cross-dressing impact gender roles in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, and how do these relate to feminism in the modern day? To delve into this issue, I want to

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look at the ideas of power, feminism, misogyny, homosexuality, and cross-dressing that are addressed in Twelfth Night and see how they connect to the environment I live in. This project would involve in-depth literary analysis, knowledge of the emotional and political atmosphere I live and interact in, and making a connection between the two. Ultimately, I want to analyze the timelessness and importance of Shakespeare.

Education and Internet: The Future of our Learning
SH327
11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Eric Johnson
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Are online courses the future of higher education? This is a very current question which this paper will attempt to answer. It will discuss both the potential benefits and downsides of online education, and assess whether or not online courses will be a viable long-term asset to education. I will discover this conclusion using the thoughts and opinions of current educators as well as my own judgment as a student. This paper is inspired by the rapidly rising growth of technology and online abilities in education, and seeks to suggest an optimization of the benefits of these tools for education.

Why High Schools Should Provide Gatorade and Powerade to Their Athletes
SH327
11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Alexander Cardascio
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Every year in the news, we find out a high school athlete has died from severe dehydration. Because of these incidents, it is recommended that high schools provide sports drinks to better hydrate their athletes. Gatorade and Powerade will help hydrate these athletes and reduce the number of incidents each year related to dehydration. This research will look at many different aspects between Gatorade, water, and Powerade as well as personal experience with dehydration, and interviews from knowledgeable people to help come up with a way to resolve this ongoing problem.

Is Divergent Feminist?
SH327
11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Lexy Bieber
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Why are so many young adult novels dystopian fictions with a female lead? Why does everyone assume this makes the book feminist? I will discuss the modern dystopian novel Divergent by Veronica Roth and show it is not as feminist as it appears. I will highlight the places where the author falls below the ideals of feminism. To do this, I will research feminism in general so that I can back up my reasons for thinking this novel is not feminist. Also in my paper, I will discuss the reception of this novel in order to question the reviewers.

In Our Society Not So Far Away...
SH328
8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Erin O’Brien
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
I plan to explore how one movie saga has affected the world by examining the relationships between the Star Wars Saga and society. I will research pop culture and movies surrounding the release of the first Star Wars episode along with relations to politics and how each trilogy was related to each other and society. My goal is to discover why Star Wars’ success has and is currently impacting society. This paper is intended to inform readers about Star Wars’ themes, special effects, story, and diversity. I intend to create a uniquely explanatory work of George Lucas’ most successful story.

Handshaking and Hugging: Why Do We Greet Physically?
SH328
8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Grey Taxon
Faculty Sponsor(s):

Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
I will shed light on the strange practice of shaking hands (or any sort of physical greeting—such as hugging or kissing) to greet another human. I will delve into the history of the handshake, then turn to the field of psychology for studies on neurological connections between physical touch and positive interpretation of situations or persons. I shall conjecture the true origin of handshakes and hugs as effective means of greeting. I will analyze their importance in modern society, and argue why we (the human race) should or should not continue the practice of touching to say “Hello”.

Exploring the Motifs in West Side Story
SH328
8:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Nicholas Sanders
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
My project is going to be a research paper analyzing the repeated motifs in West Side Story. I will first address what motifs are used in West Side Story and where they are used. After that I will address how these motifs affect the score in regards to music theory. I will talk about and compare the motifs in West Side Story and how the same motifs are used in other works of music. Finally, I will analyze the overall effect the repeated motifs have on the score and talk about why Bernstein would use these motifs specifically.

Coffee’s Effects on Weight Lifting
SH328
8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Skylar Taylor
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
Pure caffeine, consumed two to three hours prior to cardiovascular workouts such as running or cycling, can improve endurance throughout the event. However, some may be skeptical that coffee, which contains caffeine as well as many other chemicals, can improve athletic performance. There are few studies that examine how coffee influences performance—none that observe its effect on weight lifting. My study will address coffee’s immediate impact on an athlete’s ability to lift weights. Athletes will benefit from this study with the knowledge of whether or not their pre-workout lattes are aiding or inhibiting their performance.

Happily Religious or Religiously Saddened
SH328
9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Emilee Gerk
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Carmella Braniger

Abstract/Description:
I plan to explore the relationships and connections between the level of a person’s involvement in Christianity, and a person’s mental state of mind, specifically towards depression. Through researching other studies that connect Christianity and depression, with a few of those being longitudinal case studies, and interviews with people who suffer or have suffered through depression, I will attempt to discover if the involvement with Christianity helps or hurts the severity of depression. I hope to determine that the correlation is real and not just coincidental or biased.

Up in Smoke: A Personal Choice with Public Consequences
SH328
9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Ryan Morgan
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner

Abstract/Description:
In this research paper, I plan on discussing different personality disorders, and whether or not they should be considered disorders. I will define each disorder, discuss the symptoms, how each is diagnosed, the onsets, causes, and treatments for each and why they are controversial when it comes to being labeled as “disorders.” I feel this topic is not only interesting, but is something that can relate to many of my peers, and I can educate the public on why this is so controversial.

“Getting Too Crazy with Player Safety?”
SH328
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Nick Retherford
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner

Abstract/Description:
Safety in the sport of football is a popular source of discussion in the world of sports today. The National Football League (NFL) has the most-qualified physicians and most plentiful resources to look into player safety. The league also sets an unsaid precedent for college, high school, and youth football programs to follow. Football is the most popular competition in the United States according to polls. I am writing this paper to convince readers that the sport of football is dangerous in its nature, and cannot be made safer without making major changes to the game.

Disorder or Not: Are Personality Disorders Real?
SH328
9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Emily Mihalkinin
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner

Abstract/Description:
In this research paper, I plan on discussing different personality disorders, and whether or not they should be considered disorders. I will define each disorder, discuss the symptoms, how each is diagnosed, the onsets, causes, and treatments for each and why they are controversial when it comes to being labeled as “disorders.” I feel this topic is not only interesting, but is something that can relate to many of my peers, and I can educate the public on why this is so controversial.

Deforestation: Bringing the Truth Out of the Woodwork
SH328
9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Shelby Cheshko
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O’Conner

Abstract/Description:
In this paper, I will be discussing deforestation and how it does more harm than good in the world. I will begin with what is produced from the trees that have been removed and how these products affect humans materialistically and economically. This will lead into discussion of the effects deforestation has on local economies, and what the consequences will be if humans continue to remove trees at the same rate that they are now. The effects of deforestation on plant and animal life, both positive and negative, will also be presented. Finally, I will propose solutions to the problems of deforestation and its alternatives.

**“Dementia: Losing Yourself in Your Mind”**

SH328  
10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.  
**Presenter(s):** Francesca Rios  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Prof. Judith Crowe  
**Abstract/Description:** Alzheimer’s, a form of dementia, is a neurological disease commonly found among elderly people. This single disease is known to instill fear because not only no one is safe, but it is also incurable. This terminal illness has perplexed doctors as they have struggled to decipher a cause and moreover, a cure. I seek to explore these fears of losing yourself in your mind, unavoidable death, an unknown origin, and even the fear of whom can attract it. The elderly may not be the only ones who need to keep an eye open for this silent assassin.

**Broadway or Busted: Growing up on Broadway**  
SH328  
10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  
**Presenter(s):** Olivia Cuff  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Prof. Judith Crowe  
**Abstract/Description:** Many people understand the perils of children growing up in the spotlight in Hollywood, but children have been growing up on the Broadway stage for many years. As of recent years, more and more children are being cast on Broadway, replacing school and slumber parties with tutoring in between rehearsals and late night performances multiple nights a week.

I will seek to point out how children are expected to become adults at the age of 10 and the toll it takes on their lives.

**Who Cares? It’s Just a Tattoo...**  
SH328  
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.  
**Presenter(s):** Nichole Tuttle  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Carmella Braniger  
**Abstract/Description:** How would you feel if your doctor had tattoos? What about your hairstylist? What about your daughter? In my paper, I will relate the rising popularity of tattooing to what influences people’s opinions of tattoos. My research will include several interviews—interviewees will be grouped according to whether or not they have tattoos. With this research, I will be able to better inform people of the social risks of tattooing and common uses of tattoos outside of self-expression in the U.S. In the end, I hope to have people be less quick to judge those who have tattoos.

**Tech Suits: Do They Enhance Your Time?**  
SH328  
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
**Presenter(s):** Tyler Via  
**Faculty Sponsor(s):** Dr. Carmella Braniger  
**Abstract/Description:** I will evaluate the impact of Tech suits in competitive swimming in this paper. I will explain what tech suits are and talk about them and other ways to improve times. I will also look back on the history of swimming where tech suits made an impact. As a life-long swimmer I have realized the importance of tech suits but I want to evaluate just how important tech suits are compared to taper and shaving. In the end I plan to come up with a convincing argument for how important tech suits are.
Showcasing the work of the James Millikin Scholars

Today’s and Saturday’s program showcases the work of the James Millikin Scholars. Students in this program have completed a project that began at the beginning of their junior years and culminates in today’s presentations. The projects are as unique as the students presenting them. You will see presentations about conspiracy theories; a musical revolving around the most prolific executioner in British history; ways to improve young people’s self-esteem to prevent bullying; an analysis of the DNA Barcoding System in terms of sequence and primers to establish a system of species specific sequence identification; and the motivations driving ultra-marathon runners. We expect you to see some of the best student research and creative project that Millikin has to offer.

Top Row pictured (l to r): Anastasia Arnold, Adam Blakey, Julia Hesse, James Farris, Emily D’Ambrose, Grant Edwards, Elise Scannell, Haily Albert, Merissa Marx
Middle Row pictured (l to r): Dana Bjorge, Sarah Block, Chelsea Hadsall, Madison Harner, Nicole Johnson, Kalee Mitchelson, Patrick O’Brien, Jennifer Petagno, Dana Anderson
Bottom Row pictured (l to r): Alexandra Berroyer, Hannah Gifford, Emma Prendergast, R. Kolton Ray, Jamie Rockhold, Jaquelyn Rogers, Megan Vail, Heidi Zapp, Lindsey Baxter
Mitochondrial COI genes can be used to classify organisms into different species. In some cases, taxonomy is not enough to classify organisms into species-specific categories. One way to categorize organisms into species-specific categories is to use DNA sequences as a barcode. The mitochondrial COI gene in animals can be amplified through a polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The amplified gene can then be sequenced in order to identify what species an organism belongs to. The process of identifying organisms by their mitochondrial gene sequences is called the DNA Barcoding System. The DNA Barcoding System was analyzed in terms of sequence and primers order to establish a system of species-specific sequence identification. Four different blood samples from different species of birds were used in order to compare sequences and PCR primers. It was determined that the VI primer can be used to amplify the mitochondrial COI genes of all four bird species.
suggested Ru-containing compounds with the perovskite structure were fabricated, but the materials were impure, making structure determination nearly impossible. Thus, the crystal structures of three A2CdTeO6 perovskites were solved. Starting structural models were calculated using the structure prediction software SPuDS. The SPuDS output was used as a starting point for Rietveld refinement of X-ray diffraction data. Ba2CdTeO6 adopted the cubic double perovskite structure, whereas Sr2CdTeO6 and Ca2CdTeO6 both crystallized with the lower symmetry monoclinic structure. The methodology for analyzing powder diffraction data and the resulting structures of the three double perovskites will be discussed.

Distance: The Creation of a New Musical
SCO 207
9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Anastasia Arnold
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Kevin Long
Abstract/Description:
Musical theatre is a form of entertainment that brings people together and allows them to share in human experiences. Songs in musicals are integral because they are used when the characters onstage cannot possibly use just words to get what they want. A successful musical can be accomplished when the writers have a clear and personal subject they are writing about. I am going to be writing the score to a musical about long distance relationships—a subject that is extremely personal to me. I am going to use my strengths as a performer to try my hand at the creation of a musical. Throughout the process of writing this musical, I am going to learn more about the career path I have chosen to take. In this process, I am also going to share a story that is very personal to me, which is the most important part of this project.

Distance: The Creation of a New Musical
SCO 207
9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Sean Doherty
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Kevin Long

“If You Only Knew What We Knew:” Institutional Whistleblowing in the United States, 1968-1976
SCO 212
10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Maddison Harner
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Brian Mullgardt
Abstract/Description:
This study concerns itself with the fairly recent trend of institutional whistleblowing that emerged in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Focusing on historical actors, such as Ronald Ridenhour, Daniel Ellsberg, and Mark Felt, this study will focus on notable cases in which individuals worked to expose the secrets of the system from within. Prior to this period in history, there had been no recorded instance in which multiple agents from within the political and media spheres worked to release evidence exposing the government of the United States for misconduct and deception of the American people. Historians have offered few explanations as to why this trend emerged, framing the instances of governmental exposure as rare, unforeseen phenomena rather than a notable shift in culture. This study will argue against this view and assert that the emergence of institutional whistleblowers was due to the national culture of dissent. It seems that through the government’s own actions, a new, overlooked faction of activism was empowered to emerge.

Encapsulation of Cantharidin via Gold Nanoshell-Liposome Composites
SCO 109
10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Eddy Prendergast
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Linda Collinsworth
Abstract/Description:
Vast progress has been made in cancer treatment over the past few decades; however, a conventional cure without serious degenerative side effects has yet to be discovered. Cantharidin, commonly found in the excretion of blister beetles (family Meloidae), is a known toxin that causes cell apoptosis. A means of transporting this toxin to specific tumor cells without damaging healthy cells within the body is a potential approach to cancer treatment. Composites of liposomes and hollow gold nanoshells are potential selective carrier molecules for the toxin. The composites were imaged and sized using atomic force microscopy. Fluorimetry measurements showed the liposomes retained their cantharidin cargo during a 48-hour study. Cytotoxicity studies employing three breast cancer cell lines were implemented to measure cell apoptosis rates in the presence of the various constituents of the composites. Application of these composites presents a potentially less toxic, targeted defense against cancer.

The Collective Artist
SCO 207
10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Presenter(s):
Dana Anderson
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Tom Robson
Abstract/Description:
This project is centered around establishing a drama program at Webster Cantrell Hall, providing a creative outlet for its participants to perform and talk about issues in day to day life. The final show that is put together will seek to undermine
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Saturday Presentations

the traditional audience-actor relationship by making theatre that serves as a two-way conversation. It questions the very definition of what an audience is, and what participation they wish to offer to the production. By making theatre a dialogue, it becomes more valuable to all involved.

Buyer Beware: The Power of Reading Between the Lines
SCO 212
11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Jamie Rockhold

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Cheryl Chamblin

Abstract/Description:
The purpose of this study is to investigate the differences and similarities between well-known legal investment programs that require information disclosure, such as Social Security and government-sponsored pensions, compared to non-disclosure investment programs. In the project, I examined different disclosure laws, investment and ethical behaviors, and investment components, including sustainability, support, earning potential, and participant characteristics to gain a better understanding of why and at what point non-disclosure investment programs, such as Ponzi schemes, are considered illegal. Since the unraveling of Bernie Madoff’s $65 billion scheme, substantial efforts have been undertaken to detect and eliminate Ponzi schemes from occurring due to potential financial harm investors can experience. While many people agree that Ponzi schemes should be considered illegal, few know exactly what separates the Ponzi scheme from legal investment programs. Among the variations of schemers, participants, and promises, Ponzi schemes follow an overall similar format, explaining their initial success and ultimate failure. However, is there a possibility that an “honest” Ponzi scheme could not only exist but thrive in today’s market place when the illegal element is discovered and altered? How might this inform investors about the legitimacy of other investment programs?

Implications: Using Theatre as a Restorative Justice Program
SCO 213
11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Heidi Zapp

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Ken Laundra

Abstract/Description:
This study involved an original play called Implications to be used in concordance with Teen Court. The goal of the play is to educate teens on the general aspects and goals of restorative justice, including focusing on the victims of non-serious crimes and restoration versus punishment. The play was performed at Teen Court for the jurors as a trial run and learning was measured through a pre-and post-questionnaire. The results of the study can imply understanding of crimes and restorative justice.

A Time for Change: Modifying the Rental Process For Theatrical Props at Millikin University through Online Accessibility
SCO 208
11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Jennifer Petagno

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Barbara Mangrum

Abstract/Description:
The goal of this project is the adaptation of the ancient Irish epic Táin Bó Cúailnge into a piece of solo theatre. The adaptation will deal with the problematic nature of the extant text, as well as serve as an entertaining introduction for the audience to a story that has been largely forgotten. In addition, it will experiment in the blending of various performance styles, including spoken word poetry, performance storytelling, and live music, in order to convey this grand tale using very limited resources.

“L’État...” Illinois “C’est moi”: French Expansionism and the Iroquois Five Nations
SCO 109
11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Presenter(s):
Kalee Mitchellson

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Timothy Kovalcik

Abstract/Description:
This project studies the early history of New France — a colony of the French Empire that, at its height, covered most of eastern Canada and the mid-west of the United States. Today, remnants of French influence can be seen in states with French names, like Illinois, and the towns that they settled there. At the end of the 17th century, the Iroquois Five Nations Confederacy, a powerful alliance of Iroquois Indians, threatened French domination in the fur trade, the pivotal economical entity of New France. This report analyzes several primary documents regarding correspondence between King Louis XIV, the “Sun King” and his governors in New France, in order to understand the comparable position the Iroquois had on French hegemony in North America.

The Guide to Understanding Your Strange Neighbor: The Ultra Athlete
SCO 212
1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Presenter(s):
Grant Edwards

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Linda Slagell

Abstract/Description:
The purpose of this research is to attempt to enlighten the audience on the relatively obscure athletes that participate in the sport of ultra marathon running. In the ensuing report the reader will find information pertaining to the underlying factors of the athletes motivation. They will further find an in-depth look at the relationship between ultra runners and pain. The next step to understanding the athlete is phenomenology, which is the study of how we perceive our experiences. Then the reader will find the connection between these athletes and addiction. Finally, they will find the author’s first-hand account of competing in an ultra marathon race. This information was gathered from primary research, which includes memoirs, published works, and first hand experience.

Finding a Path Through the Dark: An Exploration in Darkroom Photography and Alternative Photographic Processes
KFA 128
1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Presenter(s):
Megan Vail

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. James Schietinger

Abstract/Description:
In today’s day and age, a photograph is seen as pixels on a screen or a color image printed from a computer onto glossy paper; and while this is the only way many of us can remember experiencing photographs, it is only a very recent development in photographic history. In centuries past, chemicals had to be mixed and brushed onto the surface of paper or metal to capture an image and create a photograph. Along with the less antiquated silver gelatin print, I am researching historical and alternative photographic processes, specifically cyanotypes, gumoil prints, and salt prints, with the hope of helping new generations of photographers rediscover the romance of creating a photograph completely by hand.

Drama Free Friendships: Helping Female First Year College Students Communicate Effectively and Build Healthy Relationships
SCO 213
1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Presenter(s):
Dana Bjorge

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Mary Garrison

Abstract/Description:
Sociological research and survey data analysis regarding the friendship health and communication habits of residential first-year female students at Millikin University was conducted. This research leads to a better understanding of the changes in relational patterns over the course of the respondents’ first year at Millikin. Through these findings, a program in healthy friendship and relationship habits was developed. This program is intended for use with first year female students in a first week orientation style setting. The intent is to assist female first year students in building and maintaining strong and reliable friendships throughout their first year of college and beyond.

Literature and Art in Paris through the Eyes of a Child
SCO 109
1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Presenter(s):
Julia Hesse

Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Anne Matthews

Abstract/Description:
Books in the classroom that enhance a child's curriculum both at current time and for their later studies is a primary need. This idea of engaging young readers in curriculum based...
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literature at a young age will be enhanced through the creation of a story by introducing the concept of famous authors and artists to children much earlier than they would typically be introduced to them in a classroom. The book is set in Paris in the 1920s using characters that are both fiction and real of the time period to construct a foundation for children about the time period and the artists and writers that were major influences, such as Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and Picasso.

Coriolanus: Shakespeare's Resonance in a Modern Context
SCO 207
1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Jaime Patriarca
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Alex Miller
Abstract/Description:
"The people are the city.” In a world where public dissent and political upheaval seem to be the norm, who really holds the power? What implications do these power shifts have for people throughout the world? Can a 400 year-old play really illuminate modern situations and provide context for these questions? In Coriolanus, William Shakespeare presents a political climate which seems eerily familiar in light of recent situations in places like Egypt, Syria, and Ukraine. By presenting specific scenes from this play and discussing its contemporary relevance, I will examine how classical theatre has the ability to speak to modern audiences and challenge them to think about our world.

21st Century Entertainment: Our Attraction to the Use of Violence in American Film & Television
SCO 212
2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Elise Scannell
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Michael O'Conner
Abstract/Description:
This project began as a study of human behavior focusing on the human attraction to violence. While researching, the project changed from a study of the cause of the attraction to violence to a study of the individual experiences that may or may not have an affect on an individual's viewing choices. Ultimately, the research attempted to explore and prove whether or not experiencing a particular type of violence in reality deters viewers from selecting television shows or films with the type of violence experienced.

The Development of a Self-Esteem Program for Middle School Students
SCO 213
2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Hannah Gifford
Faculty Sponsor:
Dr. Linda Collinsworth
Abstract/Description:
Soliciting reports regarding bullying because of appearance, social supports, overall self-esteem, and participation in school activities from middle school students advised the development of a self-esteem program. Eighty-six seventh and eighth grade students were randomly surveyed in gym class at a public middle school about these experiences with bullying. This research was used to create an overall 16-week self-esteem program for a middle school population based on the needs found. The program was created with the intent to be implemented inside a health or physical education classroom setting.

Everything is Rent: Analyzing the Presentation of Social Issues Topics in American Musical Theatre
SCO 208
2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Sarah Block
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Kevin Long
Abstract/Description:
The project consists of a brief history of social issues presented in musical theater and a study of how the tools of theatre, stagecraft, and music are used to advance understanding of social issues. Among other shows, in-depth analyses of “Show Boat”, “West Side Story”, “RENT”, and “Next to Normal” are included. Some issues presented are race, sexuality, socio-economic class relations, and mental illness. Focusing on the uniquely American phenomenon of prevalent social issues shows, changes in approach over time, efficacy, and public response are also addressed.

Slip Away
SCO 109
2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Merissa Marx
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Prof. Ann Borders
Abstract/Description:
My creative project is a 6-song demo CD of my original music. I will be responsible for: writing, arranging, performing, and producing the songs, then recording, and mixing them in the studio. This CD will represent who I am as an artist. The style of music, melodies, words, and harmonies will all come together to create my sound. My CD will be accompanied by a research paper sharing insight on information musicians should know as they enter the music industry. It will be more of a musicians guide on how to be prepared and knowledgeable in the music industry focusing on money, resources, legalities, and entrepreneurial strategies.

George/Anne: A Gendered Space Opera
SCO 207
2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Presenter(s):
Jordan Pennington
Abstract/Description:
This presentation chronicles the conception and composition of the novel George/Anne, an original space opera that projects issues of gender inherent to contemporary society on a future scenario and uses these issues to explore themes related to identity and the struggles of human relationships. Excerpts from the novel will be shared, as will its theoretical basis in contemporary notions of feminism.

Alternatives to Find the Balance
Presenter(s):
Nicole Johnson
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Linda Collinsworth
Abstract/Description:
Are antidepressants the only solution for those diagnosed with depression, though their history is questionable, or are there alternatives that can provide the same benefits with fewer side effects? What alternatives are out there for those who suffer from depression? Which alternatives are the best? The worst? This paper will serve to answer those questions by exploring the background of antidepressants and looking at how they were put under the spotlight. An evaluation of common antidepressants will be conducted, scoring each based on their social, neurological, physical, and emotional side effects. The paper will also examine the most common alternatives for patients suffering from depression and break down the positive and negative side effects of each. Finally, the paper will conclude with a recommended treatment plan for those affected with depression. The purpose will be to allow depressed patients to make well-informed decisions about how they would like to be treated.

To be presented at a later date

“Why is Holding Hands Weird?” and Other Problems Between Middle Schoolers
Presenter(s):
Jade Blakey
Faculty Sponsor(s):
Dr. Ray Boehmer
Abstract/Description:
While there is considerable research on what is “wrong” with current public school approaches to sexuality education, there is not much research in addressing it in a curriculum-driven sense. The current health class model, the most typical approach, has little innovation from the abstinence-only or abstinence-plus method beyond removing the scare tactics and adding discussion on the emotional impacts of being sexually active and more about safe sex practices. This project seeks to meet the emotional awareness of 7th grade students, both intrapersonally and interpersonal, and to utilize the NSES (National Sexuality Education Standards) in a creative and usable format. Using the current body of research on both middle school development and sexuality education, this curriculum will use the vehicle of historical dance practices (line, partner, and group dances) to create discussion on healthy relationships and social pressures on how individuals relate to one another.

“Originality is the essence of true scholarship. Creativity is the soul of the true scholar.”
See A31 for Friday’s presentation schedule