

# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WEEK

May 11-15, 2015

## Abstract Book and Schedule for Powell Library Events



*Undergraduate Research Week is sponsored by the Division of Undergraduate Education, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, School of Engineering, School of Medicine, Division of Humanities, Division of Life Sciences, Division of Physical Sciences, Division of Social Sciences, Office of Instructional Development, Office of Residential Life, Center for Digital Humanities, Undergraduate Science Journal, Startup UCLA and Blackstone LaunchPad, Academic Advancement Program, and Clinical and Translational Science Institute.*

**The Undergraduate Research Centers** wish to thank the following for their generous support in making this event possible:

**Scott Waugh**, UCLA Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

**James Economou**, UCLA Vice Chancellor for Research

**Patricia E. Turner**, Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

**David Schaberg**, Dean of Humanities

**Victoria Sork**, Dean of Life Sciences

**Joseph Rudnick**, Dean of Physical Sciences

**Alessandro Duranti**, Dean of Social Sciences

**Vijay Dhir**, Dean of Engineering

**Eugene Washington**, Vice Chancellor, UCLA Health Sciences  
Dean, David Geffen School of Medicine

**Alan Robinson**, Associate Vice Chancellor, Medical Sciences  
Executive Associate Dean, David Geffen School of Medicine

**The Clinical and Translational Science Institute**

*This project received support from the NIH/NCRR/NCATS UCLA CTSI Grant Number UL1TR000124*

*Abstracts were received directly from the authors by electronic submission. Every effort has been made to reproduce the content of the abstracts according to the electronic version submitted, except in certain circumstances where changes were made to comply with Undergraduate Research Week standardized format or upon request by the author or mentor. Editors do not assume responsibility for proofreading or correcting any errors.*

*Photos and video footage taken by UCLA during Undergraduate Research Week may be used for promotional purposes on behalf of the university.*



Office of the Dean and Vice Provost  
Undergraduate Education  
College of Letters and Science  
2300 Murphy Hall  
143801

May 11, 2015

**Welcome to the Second Annual Undergraduate Research Week and the Eighteenth Annual UCLA Science Poster Day!** UCLA has a long and proud history of encouraging students to participate in research. Our undergraduates engage in pioneering research with distinguished teacher-scholars. As a testament to this tradition, over 700 students will be presenting their research and creative work as part of Undergraduate Research Week. UCLA's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Science Poster Day alone will showcase 422 posters. The explosion of student research on campus is notable and is in keeping with our mission to promote undergraduate research and other capstone experiences as part of a UCLA undergraduate education.

UCLA provides a rich array of academic research opportunities, from the Student Research Program to Honors Thesis courses. Undergraduates have opportunities to work with faculty in the College and in the professional schools, and student participants in Undergraduate Research Week are working with faculty in 93 departments. These include departments in the Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Health Sciences, and Engineering. I invite you to visit the Undergraduate Research Week website to learn more about all the activities being offered to celebrate undergraduate achievement: <http://urweek.ugresearch.ucla.edu>. For information about more opportunities for undergraduate research please visit: <http://www.ugresearch.ucla.edu>.

I thank the Undergraduate Research Centers for organizing this week of events and presentations. I am also indebted to the faculty who direct research programs administered by the Undergraduate Research Centers. Undergraduate Research Week receives cross-campus support. Please review the Undergraduate Research Week brochure for a full list of donors. We are particularly indebted to the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) Catalyst Award program for providing support for poster printing to students involved in health-related projects.

During Undergraduate Research Week, alumni and distinguished guests will be present to review presentations in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. In parallel, ninety-six students will be judged by UCLA faculty during Science Poster Day. At the end of the presentations, we will honor students who have done an exceptional job sharing their research findings. The Dean's Prize Award Ceremony after Science Poster Day will include a keynote speech by Dr. Daniel Kamei, Associate Professor of Bioengineering. The Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Awards Ceremony will occur on Friday afternoon at the end of Undergraduate Research Week. Together these two awards ceremonies will celebrate the successes of our students, as they share their accomplishments with the campus.

All participants in Science Poster Day and Undergraduate Research Week are deserving of recognition. They have challenged themselves to extend their learning beyond their classrooms. Good luck to the presentation prize nominees and thank you all for sharing your exciting discoveries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia A. Turner".

Patricia Turner  
Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

## TABLE OF CONTENTS AND SCHEDULE FOR POWELL LIBRARY EVENTS

For all a schedule of all Undergraduate Research Week events, including those outside of Powell Library, please see: <http://urweek.ugresearch.ucla.edu/>

<b>MONDAY, MAY 11</b>	<b>5</b>
4-6pm. Welcome Reception	5
<b>TUESDAY, MAY 12</b>	<b>5</b>
9:30am-12pm and 1:30-5pm. Video Installation: ASPIRE Student Documentaries on Mobility in Los Angeles	5
12-1:30pm. Digital Humanities Undergraduate Research Presentations and Project Demos	8
<b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 13</b>	<b>9</b>
12-1pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 1	9
1-2pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 2	16
2-3pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 3	23
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 14</b>	<b>30</b>
12-1pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 1	30
1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 2	48
2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 3	66
3-4pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 4	85
<b>FRIDAY, MAY 15</b>	<b>104</b>
11am-12pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 1A	104
11am-12pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 1B	106
12-1pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 2A	108
12-1pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 2B	110
1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 3A	112
1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 3B	113
2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 4A	115
2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 4B	117
3:30-5pm. Closing Reception and Awards Ceremony	119
<b>INDEX OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>120</b>

## MONDAY, MAY 11

4-6pm. Welcome Reception

---

Welcoming Remarks and Program

## TUESDAY, MAY 12

9:30am-12pm and 1:30-5pm. Video Installation: ASPIRE Student Documentaries on Mobility in Los Angeles

---

1.

### **Documentary Production for Social Change: Mobility in Los Angeles**

This video, created by students in a course about commuting in Los Angeles, offers a brief overview of ASPIRE from the perspectives of students. <https://youtu.be/sWks75mwZLg>

2.

### **Long Ride to Los Angeles**

**BILL NIPPER**

A portrait of a man who commutes to work at the VA hospital in West Los Angeles by bus from Lancaster, CA. <https://youtu.be/jf9o2arVYNA>

3.

### **Green Shoes, Green LA**

**PATRICIA FERIDO and SEOL CHO**

Hear a case for public transit from Stephanie Pincetl, Director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA, as she commutes by bus and bike at the end of her work day.

<https://youtu.be/tnW3JJnbLp8>

4.

### **A Car Conversation**

**LIBIN TOH and ALEX REGALADO**

Everything from parking tickets to bike lanes is discussed in this intimate chat between Li and her boyfriend William. <https://youtu.be/hL7PwdD-7dU>

5.

### **Access Game**

**MATTHEW MARCOS, YAZMINE MIHOJEVICH, BILL NIPPER, SUBI ROSS,  
SUZANNA TRAN, and KEVIN WAITKUWEIT**

Students with disabilities encounter many challenges commuting to and from UCLA as well as accessing different parts of the university campus. This is the narration of one student's journey.

<https://youtu.be/jmz-mrhN5ek>

6.

### **Hunting for Hipsters**

**KIMBERLY SORIANO**

Exploring Latin@ Echo Park resistance while exposing Rayban wearing, latte sipping, neo-colonialists.  
<http://youtu.be/FHaVjBPxggM>

7.

**Locational Pride**

**KAYLEIGH WADE**

First generation Chicana comes into her identity as a queer mujer and struggles with maintaining different expressions of her identity on campus and back in her hometown in Southeast Los Angeles.  
<http://youtu.be/pMoWMQkmnaU>

**8. Gloria & Her Guitar**

**ANGELICA BECERRA and SILVIA RODRIGUEZ-VEGA**

An inside look into the life of Los Angeles based Chicana musician Gloria Estrada.  
[http://youtu.be/\\_AHvn6XeNq0](http://youtu.be/_AHvn6XeNq0)

9.

**Politicized**

**SIGIN OJULU and ZIYAD MARCUS**

A portrait of UCLA student Jumana Al-Quwasmi, a Palestinian-American, Muslim feminist who reflects upon what her grandfather finds in his only trip home, in 2006, after being forced into exile in 1948.  
<http://youtu.be/APjgYmTtTCI>

**10. BREWING**

**ANTHONY ELDER and LISA MENDEZ**

The examination of one student's look back upon their path while venturing through the accepting halls of UCLA. [http://youtu.be/GAoqJoK\\_nH0](http://youtu.be/GAoqJoK_nH0)

11.

**Transcending Borders**

**ALENA MASCHKE and AMINAH IBRAHIM**

Angelica's story about crossing the border and fighting to transcend the limitations of living undocumented in California. <http://youtu.be/aYFtsD4O2fM>

12.

**Alex**

**LUCY PLASCENCIA**

The migration story of a UCLA graduate and finding community on campus through dance.  
[http://youtu.be/-\\_pNSw0FfGc](http://youtu.be/-_pNSw0FfGc)

13.

**Alejandra's Quesadilla Cart**

**KIMBERLY SORIANO and JANETH LOPEZ**

An independent street vendor describes her struggles and motivation to continue her business in the face of gentrification in the neighborhood of Echo Park. <http://youtu.be/sHvhlgpf2w8>

14.

35

**ANTHONY ELDER**

In remembrance of 35mm film, this piece looks at the demise of celluloid and the replacement of movies in digital format. <http://youtu.be/73WNjugMz74>

**15.  
Heritage Room  
SIGN OJULU**

What is heritage without a material lineage and how does this inform identity? This short film explores heritage as a site of identity formation, juxtaposing concepts of richness and emptiness, privilege and trauma, through a distinct narrative evoked by a room. <http://youtu.be/NHHS-0eHS48>

**16.  
Illuminated Blindfold  
KRISTAL BARBOZA and ISAURA RIVERA-ANAGNOS**

A short documentary about Patricia Santacruz, a veteran of the civil war in El Salvador between 1980 and 1992, who now lives in Los Angeles. <http://youtu.be/5GwDZoSzAUw>

**17.  
The Black Worker Crisis  
VLADIMIR SANTOS and ANDRENE SCOTT**

Two prominent social activists tackle the black worker crisis affecting LA County.  
<http://youtu.be/8CgpVJ5NCts>

**18.  
History in the Edge  
KEVIN WAITKUWEIT**

An experimental short on the transportation culture and meaning of history in the San Fernando Valley, a so-called “edge city.” <https://youtu.be/EJtdGlj0JJ8>

**19. Mobile Muralism  
DANIELLE ALVA, ALLY BACH, LAUREL DIRECTO, RAN DUAN, LINGYUE ZHU,  
LAILA VINSON, and ROBERT PENNA**

A crew of muralists committed to community engagement and empowerment through the arts drive a white step van to different locations in Los Angeles to reintroduce mural painting and public expression.  
[https://youtu.be/JFS\\_expEURU](https://youtu.be/JFS_expEURU)

**20.  
What's Inside Araceli's Food Truck?: The Story of Panther's Catering  
DIANA VALENZUELA**

This video documents oppositional urban citizenship through the story of Irma (Araceli), a longtime food truck vendor and now the owner and operator of a pink food truck in Central Los Angeles called *Panther's Catering*. <https://youtu.be/2XEi1nS6UBY>

**21.  
An Introduction to Disability Studies at UCLA  
ASPIRE**

[https://youtu.be/46rrvkuQ\\_Dc](https://youtu.be/46rrvkuQ_Dc)

12-1:30pm. Digital Humanities Undergraduate Research Presentations and Project Demos

---

---

1.

**Andean Narratives**

**LINTA KUNNATHUPARAMBIL**

**Mentor: Miriam Posner**

2.

**Paris, Past and Present**

**TORI SCHMITT**

**Mentor: Meredith Cohen**

3.

**Event Pulse**

**JONATHAN SOLICHIN**

**Mentor: Todd Presner**

4.

**Developing a Prototype “Publication” Using Vsim**

**JOY GUEY**

**Mentor: Lisa Snyder**

5.

**Mapping L.A. Food Trucks**

**CHRISTIAN GIMBER**

**Mentor: Miriam Posner**

6.

**Metadata Visualizations from the Hammer Museum Collection**

**HALEY DIPRESSI**

**Mentor: Philip Leers and Miriam Posner**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 13**

**12-1pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 1**

---

**1.**

**Shear Wave Velocity and Surface Geology Association in Los Angeles County**

**THOMAS ARNDT, Dong Youp Kwak, and Jonathan Stewart**

**Mentor: Jonathan Stewart**

The velocity at which shear waves propagate through the surface of the earth during a seismic event (i.e. earthquake) is measured using the VS30 metric, which is the average velocity of shear waves traveling through the top 30 meters of the earth's crust in a given location. This metric is crucial in predicting ground motions, and therefore potential infrastructure damage, during an earthquake. Though widely recognized as being associated with surface geology, particular VS30 relationships on relatively small geographic scales are often overlooked. To examine the particular VS30 association of major geologic units in Los Angeles county specifically, I collected relevant site profiles from the United States Geological Survey and identified each site's corresponding surface geology using a map from the Seismological Society of America. A one-way ANOVA statistical test to test for association yielded a p-value of  $4.69 \times 10^{-6}$ , indicating that there is a statistically significant difference between the VS30's of the selected geographic regions. A subsequent Tukey Honest Significant Difference (HSD) test revealed that while some pairs of geology types had significant differences in VS30 measurements, others did not. This information is potentially useful in situations where VS30 approximations are needed, such as focusing infrastructure reinforcement in areas of Los Angeles that are most at risk for earthquake damage.

**2.**

**Analyzing Gas Storage Methods for Ammonia-Based Renewable Thermochemical Energy Storage**

**KINAN BACHOUR, Keith Lovegrove,**

**Adrienne S. Lavine, and Abdon Sepulveda**

**Mentor: Abdon Sepulveda**

Non-renewable energy sources have a competitive advantage over renewable options in their practicality. Renewable methods, such as solar energy, are hindered by energy intermittency; meaning energy extraction depends on the sun's availability. Thermochemical energy storage has already been developed to tackle this problem. These systems use reactors that absorb solar energy to drive the endothermic dissociation of ammonia; then the exothermic reverse reaction produces heat driving energy production. Previous systems did not reach the 650°C temperature needed for modern day power blocks; this project's reactor will be the first to achieve such high temperatures. The system requires efficient methods to store large amounts of products of ammonia dissociation - hydrogen and nitrogen - to be used whenever energy is needed. My project analyzed gas storage methods, including oil wells, salt caverns, water tanks, tunnels, etc. They were evaluated based on investment cost, operational cost, location dependency, leakage potential, environmental safety, scalability, and gas extraction rate. Each of these variables was ranked according to importance. Analytic Hierarchy Process, a statistical method, was used to complete the evaluations. Once analysis is complete, we expect to rank

the storage methods. These results, alongside the reactor created by the rest of the lab team, have a 15\$/kWh target cost set by the Department of Energy. Meeting the DoE's requirements will hopefully result in implementing this plan for California State.

### 3.

#### **Development of Mobile Applications To Control Electric Vehicle Charging**

**BRYAN J. EMERSON and Rajit Gadh**

**Mentor: Rajit Gadh**

The electric grid is growing older with few technological improvements over the decades. Currently the electric grid provides a one-way power delivery from a power plant to industries or homes. The push towards a modern and sustainable energy system starts with power management. Communication is necessary for a “smart-grid” and mobile phones are a critical member in grid management for aspects such as electric vehicle(EV) charging. Mobile applications present a powerful tool to control EV charging systems through the Internet using the cloud. Currently all charging algorithms developed by Smart Grid Energy Research Center(SMERC) rely upon user interaction to initiate EV charging. Currently users must navigate to a web page to start, monitor, and stop EV charging. With a native iOS mobile application, the users are able to control the EV charging system with greater speed and ease as compared to the existing web portal. With a native mobile application, the mobile device can use features such as maps to allow the users to navigate to a charging station. In order to develop the iOS app, Apple’s new programming language, Swift, was employed. Swift provided a fast and powerful platform to rapidly develop iOS applications. The final result is a modern, responsive, and expandable mobile application that provides a seamless experience to control EV charging.

### 4.

#### **Saving Water, Changing Consciousness: A Statistical Analysis of Shower Timers' Effect on**

**UCLA Dorm Water Conservation**

**SAM GELDIN, Thomas Arndt, Audrey Brown, Juan Juaregui, Isabella Mariano,**

**Matthew Reiser, and Erinn Ton**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

Experiments to incentivize water conservation remain widely studied in the context of California's severe drought and the 2020 University of California Carbon Neutrality Initiative. However, less focus has been placed on exploring the effect of feasible university actions to empower students' lifestyle choices. This project sought to determine if the introduction of shower timers into community dorm restrooms coincided with a reduction in reported shower time, a study not yet conducted on UCLA students. To facilitate this study's project development, the research team participated in team building exercises and expanded upon loose agenda items provided by the project consultant. Half of the residential floors in Dykstra Hall received 5-minute shower timers during an annual energy saving competition lasting several weeks, and students on floors with and without the timers self-reported their shower times through an online survey. As expected, students on floors without timers took shorter showers by the end of the test period than students without timers. Despite self-reported volunteer survey bias, results support the housing management's decision to order shower timers for the entire on-campus residential community as a water-saving action. UCLA (or other universities) could

use these results to potentially inform a decision to purchase or provide awareness of personal shower timers for staff and off-campus students, increasing money-saving water conservation during a time of critical drought.

## 5.

### **Limiting the Animal Consumption Choices of College Students**

**KAYLA KARIMI, Brittney Hinton, Jae Yeon Hwang, Keith Shaffer, Matthew Fernandez, Marina Lindsay**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

Individual's choices play a large role in creating and maintaining a sustainable community. In order to do this, sustainable efforts are usually splintered into different sectors, concentrating on behavior change in either water, transportation, energy, etc. However, the consumption of animal products has shown to be strong contributors to many and most of these environmental degradations. Meat, dairy, and egg products have demonstrated to be extremely energy and water intensive, and farming practices demonstrate extremely wasteful production methods. Therefore, an individual's carbon footprint, in multiple spheres, could be extremely reduced by limiting the consumption of these products. Because of this, my group has chosen to combat this issue and focus our project towards encouraging UCLA students to limit their animal consumption through a "21 Day Challenge". Through the medium of a website, we conducted pre-surveys, gave daily challenges on reducing animal products in one's diet and incorporating more sustainable eating methods, and then gave post-surveys. Students communicated through daily comments and pictures, motivated by being entered for a random drawing of a prize. Most students indicated that they did have a diet largely incorporating animal products, but after many students did state they would most likely maintain the sustainable methods learned through the challenge. As facilitator, I guided the team through ideas, logistics, bureaucracy, and other technical issues. By guiding them in their pre-project ope.

## 6.

### **Cramped for Time: Why Don't UCLA Students Ride the Bus?**

**DAVID MYUNG, Anson Lee, Kristen Chui, Isabel Qi, Jonathan Wigman,**

**Matthew Shepard, and Sarah Chiang.**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

After many years of the automobile as the dominant form of transportation, Los Angeles is increasingly recognizing the social, environmental, and economic benefits of public transportation. UCLA students tend to use public transportation at higher rates than the general population, but students often reach off campus events during the week using private automobiles. I led a group of students participating in UCLA's Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program, as a project consultant, to increase public transportation ridership among UCLA's student organizations during off campus events. My role was to help the team strategize and provide guidance during weekly meetings. The team designed a survey, distributed them to 11 student clubs, 7 of which stated that they were willing to try transit. The team aimed to convince those clubs by marketing the social benefits of pubic transportation, and by providing a bus guide to their destinations. After the intervention, one club changed their behavior and walked 20 minutes to reach an off campus activity, but no club used public transit. We found that clubs were generally participating in events that were accessible by transit, but didn't use it because transit

was less convenient and took more time than driving a personal automobile. Future studies might look at how public transportation can be integrated with the campus bus system, and the extent to which travel behavior is influenced by trip distance, pricing, and travel time.

## 7.

### **Remote Sensing Measurements of Nitrous Acid in the Los Angeles Basin From an Elevated Mountain Site**

**ISABEL QI, Ross Cheung, and Jochen Stutz**

**Mentor: Jochen Stutz**

Despite progress towards cleaning air in Los Angeles over the past five decades, the city continues to be one of the regions with the worst smog in the nation. Ozone, which is formed through the hydroxyl radical (OH) driven degradation of hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides, is one of the main pollutants in Los Angeles. Nitrous acid (HONO) is a potentially important source of OH-radicals in the atmosphere. It is thus crucial to quantify its concentrations. Until recently, it was believed that HONO concentrations during the day are too low to be significant. Today, the importance of HONO is realized, but its daytime levels and the OH source strength remain poorly quantified. I hypothesize that daytime HONO concentrations in Los Angeles are higher than previously thought and that HONO is an important source of OH radicals. Here I will present spectroscopic measurements of UV absorption spectra of scattered sunlight at various viewing directions. Slant column densities (SCDs) of HONO were derived by fitting reference spectra of various trace gases to the observed atmospheric spectra using the DOAS technique. The analysis of data over a one month period shows a diurnal pattern in HONO's SCDs with its maximum around noon. Preliminary radiative transfer calculation will be used to convert HONO SCDs to concentrations and to compare them to HONO observations by other instruments. The results will help us better understand ozone formation, make more accurate air pollution models, and create better policies to address ozone pollution.

## 8.

### **Novel Amphiphilic Coating for Fouling Resistant Ultrafiltration Membranes**

**ETHAN RAO, Brian Mcverry and Richard B. Kaner**

**Mentor: Richard B. Kaner**

Industry standard ultrafiltration membranes used for large scale water purification can be coated with a specialized thin, hydrophilic film to reduce the occurrence of biological fouling. Biological fouling consists of the accumulation of biological media such as proteins, polysaccharides, bacteria and other microorganisms on a surface. This phenomena is the primary cause of the significant decline in membrane permeability during usage as the pores that allow water to pass through become blocked by the biological material. Biological fouling is a leading factor in increased operational costs for treatment plants. In this contribution, we discuss the development of a coating applicable to commercial ultrafiltration membranes. An amphiphilic coating is bound to surfaces via simple azide photochemical activation enabling the successful coating of polymers that are used in the fabrication of desalination membranes. Amphiphilic coatings of this nature have demonstrated fouling-resistant properties. The coating can be grafted on current polymers used for ultrafiltration membranes and is industrially scalable. After a simple 2-step synthesis, an azide group is chemically activated with ultraviolet light to

induce rapid polymerization of the network. During the polymerization process, the coating is concurrently grafted to the membrane surface. The syntheses were confirmed by NMR analysis and UV-vis spectroscopy. Additionally, a change in contact angle to approximately 40° was observed on films grafted onto membrane surfaces confirming the completion of the grafting process.

**9.**

**Examining the Effects of the Residential Solar Mandate on New Home Construction and Solar**

**Installations: A Case Study of Lancaster, California**

**MATTHEW J. REISER and Timothy F. Malloy**

**Mentor: Timothy F. Malloy**

On January 1st, 2014 the City of Lancaster in California began enforcing a new ordinance that requires almost all new residential single family homes to come with at least 1 kilowatt of installed solar capacity. This mandate was the first of its kind in the United States and this study is the first to look at the effects of this mandate. To study the effects of this new policy I used municipal permitting data to compare Lancaster new home construction with its demographically similar neighbor, Palmdale, as well as the state as a whole. I also used municipal data to compute the percentage of new homes in Lancaster that came with installed solar panels in the years 2011 to 2014. I have found that overall Lancaster new home construction fell in 2014 while new home construction rose in Palmdale, as well as statewide. The percentage of new homes that came with installed solar capacity also fell in Lancaster in 2014 compared to 2012 and 2013. I am currently conducting semi-structured interviews to better understand these results and see how they were influenced by the mandate. The initial findings suggest that the solar mandate has not increased the adoption of solar power on new homes in Lancaster, which could have implications as other cities in California are considering enacting similar policies.

**10.**

**Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Association with Ozone and PM2.5 Concentrations:**

**A Pilot Study**

**CELESTE J. ROMANO, Beate R. Ritz and Paul M. Ong**

**Mentor: Paul M. Ong**

Environmental issues have been shown to manifest in serious health concerns, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children, who are particularly susceptible to effects of environmental pollutants. Recently published work suggests that children born to women exposed to high levels of air pollutant particles during pregnancy are at significantly higher risk for developing symptoms of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The goal of this study is to test the feasibility and methodology of a larger scale cross sectional study, to substantiate the relationship between ADHD behavior and air pollutant (ozone and PM2.5) exposure during fetal and post-fetal development. The study sites are elementary schools within the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Department of Catholic Schools.

Schoolteachers and parents of children ages 7-10 will complete the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), and parents will complete a supplementary survey that collects demographic data in addition to study-specific questions (e.g. address of past and current residences). Survey response rates are the primary focus; however, to estimate the relative prevalence of ADHD within the sample, scores for each collected SDQ will also be tabulated. If initial review of the completed surveys indicates

that ADHD is sufficiently prevalent, more extensive research will be justified to ascertain any association between ADHD prevalence and ozone and PM2.5 concentrations, as well as the implications for groups at risk for greater exposure.

## **11.**

### **Rethink Your Plastic: A Plastic-Bottle Free UCLA**

**NATALIE SHAHBOL, Alexander Chan, Renata De La Torre, Ethan Rao, Anne Youngdahl**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

Plastic pollution in the ocean by human production and disposal has been increasing since plastics were created during the Industrial Era. Plastics play a role in everyone's lives and are often used for single-use purposes and end up in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, which spans from the West Coast of North America to Japan. Plastic waste can harm marine life in many ways, such as suffocating living animals or appearing as a food source and poisoning animals. Given the large amount of plastic waste generated on UCLA's campus, GC URSP students wanted to change the behavior of UCLA students by raising awareness about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and its harm on marine life. The objective was to reduce single-use plastic bottles by students. We surveyed a lecture class of about 300 students. Each third of the class was shown a different presentation: light, medium, or heavy. Each of these presentations varied from a light mood to a very heavy mood. We measured the impact of our presentations by giving a pre-survey before the presentations and returning to the class two weeks later with a post-survey, each asking about single-use plastic bottle usage. Our pre-survey showed that students use about 2 single-use plastic water bottles per week. Our post-survey showed that students reduced their use of single-use water bottles by 19%. Also, our results indicated that the "medium" presentation had the largest impact on students. We hope our research can continue in order to show that informing people on plastic harm can create real, behavioral changes without much effort.

## **12.**

### **Implications of Mycorrhizal Associations on Drought Resistance of Plants in**

**Southern California Stormwater Biofilters**

**ERINN H. TON, Brandon Winfrey, and Richard Ambrose**

**Mentor: Richard Ambrose**

Currently, California is experiencing a severe drought. Therefore, biofilter systems that use vegetation to filter stormwater runoff should be designed to maximize not just filtration efficiency, but also drought resistance. Mycorrhizal associations, which are mutualistic relationships between fungi and plant roots, have been shown to help plants cope with water stress, but have never been studied in stormwater biofilters. This project aims to determine whether mycorrhizae are present in biofilters, as well as explore the effect of mycorrhizae on drought tolerance of plant species common in biofilters. To determine whether mycorrhizae are associated with plants in these filters, plant surveys and root samples were collected from five Southern California biofilters: Elmer Avenue, Bicknell Avenue, Baldwin Avenue, Jackson Avenue, and Verano Place. Root mass was determined by weighing the roots after washing away attached soil and mycorrhizae abundance was evaluated using the magnified intersections method. An experiment evaluating the performance of different plant species under different drought conditions and varying mycorrhizal associations is planned for Summer 2015. We hypothesize that

plants with mycorrhizae will survive drought conditions longer than plants of the same species without such associations. The results could have implications on which plants are used in biofilters, how long biofilters can be dry before plants cannot recover, and whether mycorrhizae should be managed in biofilters.

**13.**

**Dance and Performance Art as a Mode of Environmental Activism: Choreographing the Natural Environment and Integrating Environmentalism on Stage**

**ANNE E. YOUNGDAHL and Allison B. Carruth**

**Mentor: Allison B. Carruth**

Environmental activists work to spread awareness of environmental challenges and make everyday behaviors and social institutions more sustainable. My project aims to recognize the role of dance and performance art in twenty-first-century environmental activism by focusing on how dance companies, choreographers, and performance venues draw inspiration from and work with environmental problems. Understanding how performances integrate environmental issues and sustainability frameworks can help identify potential opportunities for collaboration between activists, researchers, policymakers, and artists. In order to understand performances' engagements with environmental issues, my project involved synthesizing written materials produced by or about dance companies and performance spaces, as well as analyzing videos of choreography inspired by or concerning environmental issues. The study found that the overarching focus of the performances and dance companies surveyed was on envisioning human relationships with nature. Furthermore, environmental considerations have begun to shape not only choreographic subject matter but also other performance aspects, such as setting and backstage mechanics. The study's examples provide models of how dance and performance artists can incorporate topical environmental concerns into their work and how activists might utilize dance performance as a medium to spread awareness, inspire new thoughts on environmental issues, and encourage environmentally-beneficial behavioral changes.

**14.**

**Climate Change for Climate Control: Indoor Heating Usage at UCLA Targeted Sororities**

**YUYU ZHANG, Bryan Emerson, Zane Karl, Austin Park, Jenny Chieu, Kelly Chen**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

With increasing world population, the demand for energy has been greater than ever before. While renewable energy offers promising future, improving current energy efficiency is more effective than exploration of new technology. I led a group of students participating in UCLA's Grand Challenge Undergraduate Research Scholars Program, a project aimed to maximize indoor heating/cooling efficiency through the use of custom-built monitoring devices. My role was to provide guidance and project strategy during biweekly meetings. The team first visited sororities and distributed pre-surveys, then installed temperature monitors at two sororities, Alpha Phi and Kappa Alpha Theta for four weeks. An intervention about energy efficiency was later lectured to sorority housing mom. A shift in paradigm occurred after data collection. The group originally proposed that decreasing heater temperature was the most effective way to reduce electricity usage, but data indicates that 75% of the heating/cooling usage happens during 12AM-7AM in one house while 25% of the usage occurs in another house at the

same time intervals when people are usually asleep. Our group concluded that the effective way to maximize heating/cooling efficiency is to reduce heater operation time during normal sleep hours instead of decreasing heater temperature. Future studies might expand sample size of sororities surveyed, explore alternative ways to future increase heating/cooling efficiency and study how to render the intervention more effective.

**15.**

**Effect of Limestone and Quartz on Hydration of C3S + C3A + Gypsum**

**CYNTHIA B. HUANG, Tandra Oey, Gabe Falzone, Aditya Kumar and Gaurav Sant**

**Mentor: Gaurav Sant**

Production and use of cement emits about 5% of the world's carbon emissions, contributing to global warming. Cement is a binder of concrete. Using less cement would lower concrete's carbon footprint. Cement can be partially replaced by mineral fillers such as limestone or quartz, accelerating the reaction. This filler effect is hypothesized due to: increased solid surface area, better nucleation and growth on filler surfaces, and/or participation of dissolved ions in the reaction. Prior studies showed preference for limestone over quartz in ordinary portland cement (OPC) at equivalent surface areas, supporting the latter two hypotheses. The main components of OPC, tricalcium silicate (C3S) and tricalcium aluminate (C3A), were used to simplify the reaction. It was hypothesized that limestone would be preferred either due to incorporation of carbonate in hydration products, or due to surface properties. Reaction rate and hydration products were observed using isothermal calorimetry, thermogravimetric analysis, and x-ray diffraction. Both fillers of same surface area in C3S had equal increases in reaction rate; however systems with C3A and limestone had a much higher reaction rate than quartz systems. Carbonate AFm phases from the hydration of C3A and occurrence of carbonate sorption in both systems could not explain limestone's effect, showing that limestone preference is likely due to surface or solution effects. Further studies will test possible effects of carbonate ions in solution and of limestone and quartz surfaces.

---

**1-2pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 2**

---

**1.**

**Functional Expansion of Carbon-Based Supercapacitors**

**ALEXANDER CHAN, Jesse Ko, and Bruce Dunn**

**Mentor: Bruce Dunn**

Supercapacitors offer promising solution to the need for a high-powered energy storage device and have several characteristics which allow it to have unique applications. They can capture and store renewable energy with a non-constant input voltage. Their long life span is suitable for high performance applications, and their high power makes it suitable for very short term energy storage applications that require rapid charge and discharge. This presentation will show the different functional forms that carbon-based supercapacitors can take, including a coin cell, a solar cell charging tandem device and as a pedagogic tool. These devices are offshoots of a supercapacitor developed from solid state synthesis of activated carbon dough and prepared in different functional forms. In this project, we

analyzed various solvents for their use in classroom settings. Moreover, we fitted a supercapacitor prototype using a compact coin cell, demonstrating their potential use in mobile technology. Finally, we connected a solar cell to the supercapacitor to create a tandem device which demonstrates the use of supercapacitors as a potential energy storage device for renewable energy. As a proof of concept, a 1V supercapacitor was produced, which is comparable to the industry standard.

## 2.

### **LabVIEW Program for Lifetime Catalyst Testing in Ammonia Synthesis**

**JENNY CHIEU, Hamarz Aryafar, Gopinath Warrier, and Adrienne Lavine**

**Mentor: Adrienne Lavine**

One limiting factor in the viability of solar power is energy storage. Our project deals with ammonia thermochemical energy storage, which stores energy using the reversible process of ammonia dissociation and synthesis. We are investigating whether the catalyst used during ammonia synthesis can withstand temperatures over 600 degrees Celsius and pressures around 30 Megapascals without degrading. We use a LabVIEW program to record, process, and display the data. The program's main functions are to filter and save the raw data, disable parts of the experiment if parameters exceed safety limits, and provide runtime information in an understandable form. Values calculated from the raw data, such as duty cycle and rate of change, are also displayed, allowing better monitoring of the experiment. Safety is an important feature, with the step by step layout of the program making it clear for the user how to use the program properly. After multiple runs of the experiment, we analyze the amount of ammonia produced to determine if the catalyst's performance has decreased. Ammonia thermochemical energy storage has the potential to be cheaper and more efficient than current energy storage methods, and can therefore help solar power become a major source of usable renewable energy.

## 3.

### **Studying the Effects of Calcium Carbonate, Sodium Carbonate, and Calcium Nitrate on the Compressive Strength of Calcium Aluminate Cement**

**KRISTEN CHUI, Cecilia Vong, Gabriel Falzone, Guillermo Puerta Falla, and Gaurav Sant**

**Mentor: Gaurav Sant**

Calcium aluminate cement (CAC) has rapid strength development and high chemical resistance, both valuable traits for a construction material. Because of its greater early-age strength compared to the common ordinary Portland cement, theoretically, CAC can be used more efficiently, reducing carbon dioxide emissions attributed to its production. However, higher cost and the conversion process prevent widespread use of calcium aluminate. Conversion is the process where initial hydration products convert into denser compounds, thereby increasing the porosity of the paste and decreasing strength. However, this process can be bypassed via the formation of an alternate stable hydrate assemblage allowed by the provision of specific anions (e.g.,  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{CO}_3$ ) into the cement paste mixture. Therefore, this study investigates the effects of calcium carbonate, sodium carbonate, and calcium nitrate admixtures on the compressive strength of CAC mortars. The influence of curing temperature and water saturation are also investigated on samples up to 28 days in age. A significant increase in compressive strength is observed

due to the addition of calcium nitrate, which is attributed to the space-filling properties of the NO<sub>3</sub>-AFm phase. The efficacy of carbonate ions in improving strength is mixed and dependent on admixture dosage, temperature, and salt's cation.

#### 4.

##### **Geographic Influences on the Travel Patterns of College Students**

**MATTHEW P. FERNANDEZ and Brian D. Taylor**

**Mentor: Brian D. Taylor**

Personal travel is changing, especially in cities and among today's youth. New technology, environmental concerns, and demographics have combined to lead many researchers to think that the youth are becoming less reliant upon private vehicles and more open to alternate travel methods. Are young people driving less due to new technologies and changing attitudes, or because they are more likely to live in cities where driving and parking are a chore? One way to view this question is to consider the "natural experiment" of young adults who go away to college in urban areas. Little research exists on the travel habits of today's Millennial Generation, yet understanding emerging trends in travel behavior is essential for planning more efficient infrastructure in the future. I compared the travel habits of UCLA students at home and at school in order to test the hypothesis that young travelers as a whole are becoming less reliant upon cars to get around. I conducted a literature review and analyzed data collected through an online survey of UCLA students created on surveymonkey.com. I am currently comparing my data to the demographics of the UCLA community to ensure that the sample was representative of UCLA, as well as to the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) data to see if the responses are similar for young travelers nationwide. My results will shed light on the new frontier of Millennial travel habits and may help urban planners build more efficient cities, infrastructure, and travel alternatives in the years ahead.

#### 5.

##### **Mapping Solar Installation Locations and the Effects of Their Interactions with Wind Patterns on Surface Erosion**

**KYLE B. HESS and Gregory Okin**

**Mentor: Gregory Okin**

Southern California has become a primary hub for the production of solar energy. However, large-scale photovoltaic solar energy plants built in desert regions of Southern California have been shown to have harmful effects on the ecosystems due to wind erosion. As Southern California moves increasingly towards renewable energy sources, it is important to determine how to reduce the impact solar energy plants have on desert ecosystems. This study examined the relationship between topsoil composition, wind patterns, and solar plant designs to ascertain which arrangement of solar panels and location of solar installations (given wind patterns and topsoil) most reduces their effect on Southern California desert ecosystems. Those areas with more compacted, or dense, soils are expected to experience less wind erosion, and solar panel layouts where the wind comes in contact with the surface of the panel will also minimize erosion. Using Geographic Information Systems, inputting wind pattern and topsoil data will produce a map to determine which locations are most susceptible to wind erosion. Analysis of field data from Sempra Solar in Las Vegas will be used to show which solar installation arrangement best

reduces wind erosion. If results favor particular locations and show that a particular installation design significantly reduces wind erosion, this will allow for recommendations for building future solar installations.

**6.**

**Workplace Grooming Expectations Influencing Product use of Health Risking Hair Care Products in African-American Women**

**BRITTNEY HINTON, Edber Macedo, and Paul Ong**

**Mentor: Paul Ong**

A subgroup of African-American women with “kinky” or “coily” hair may find difficulty achieving dominant workplace grooming expectations such as hair “hanging down”, and other authorized hairstyles. Prejudice and discrimination creates pressure for African-American women to use hair products considered a risk to health to alter phenotypic hair textures and types for adherence to workplace-grooming expectations. As a result of this workplace discrimination, an increased demand for chemical processes may be used to straighten or loosen curl patterns for increased marketability and employment retention. Methods include qualitative oral histories of women, and quantitative surveying of California men and women of all ages. Web-based surveys will be gathered from hair salons and community events with a QR code, along with a random selection of in-person survey’s and focus groups. Surveys are designed to determine the impact the workplace has had on altering hair textures and or types of African-American women hair, by use of chemical hair treatments such as hair relaxers and texturizers, along with hair extensions. Data will also inform if African-American hair textures and types are not determined appropriate in the hair place, which occupations if any are “natural” hairstyles viewed as inappropriate in the workplace, and conditions or professions these hair decisions are more likely to be made.

**7.**

**A Qualitative Investigation of Mobility Experts’ Visions of the Future of Transportation**

**JENNA C. HOOVER, Christina Uittenbogaart and Juan M. Matute**

**Mentor: Juan M. Matute**

Climate change and unstable fuel prices are expected to have a major impact on the transportation systems in large metropolitan areas, especially Los Angeles. In order to plan for a dramatically different future, urban planners need to understand what prospective changes to mobility they should expect. This research project aims to provide guidance to urban planners about the future of transportation by examining and entering into a matrix 19 mobility experts’ visions of the future of transportation in order to identify specific components of the futures they envision. Results indicated that mobility experts are most likely to predict that biking, public transit, walking, driverless cars, and on-demand car sharing will be a part of the transportation system of the future. With this future in mind, we can help Los Angeles’ urban planners determine what predicted technologies and infrastructure will be most pertinent to Los Angeles. From these findings, urban planners will have a baseline understanding of future conditions necessary for developing a transportation system that is resilient to the effects of climate change and changing fuel prices.

8.

**Advantages and Disadvantages of Groundwater Replenishment and New Water Policies in Los Angeles**

**KATI NGUYEN, JUAN JAUREGUI, Bridget Ackeifi, Andrew Liang and Eui-Sung Yi**

**Mentor: Eui-Sung Yi**

The water shortage in Southern California has caused the city of Los Angeles to become dependent on outside water resources. Currently, about 88% of LA's local water supply comes from imported water. Local groundwater fulfills only about 11% of LA's water demand, and recycled water makes up a mere 1%. The purpose of this study was to assess the advantages and disadvantages of using treated wastewater to replenish groundwater basins and how this can be implemented in LA to move the city towards water independence. The research also studied the effect of policies being implemented in different international cities with similar water scarcity issues as Los Angeles. The significance of this research stems from the fact that LA is in the beginning stages of carrying out its own groundwater replenishment project as well as implementing new policies to address the water crisis. The results of this study can provide valuable data for LA to move forward with these plans. The method for collecting data was the aggregation and review of dozens of literary journals, newspaper articles, and government documents. Past and present groundwater replenishment facilities and water policies were researched to analyze their successes and failures. The results suggest that groundwater replenishment can benefit the community by increasing the local water supply and providing cleaner water. To ensure the success of the proposed LA groundwater replenishment project, public discussion needs to be promoted and problems in the planning process need to

9.

**Using Ferrous Fenton Reactions to Calculate the Yield of TAOH**

**ZANE KARL, KEVIN HUYNH, David Gonzalez and Suzanne Paulson**

**Mentor: Suzanne Paulson**

The highly reactive radical OH molecule (OH) is known to influence aerosol aqueous phase chemistry, aerosol aging and oxidative stress, which may underlie many pulmonary diseases associated with air pollution, and the focus of this study was on isolating its production from transition metal air pollution. Due to its short lifetime, OH is incredibly difficult to measure directly. A powerful probe for OH detection, fluorescent 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid (TAOH) is formed from the reaction of Terephthalic acid (TA) with OH. In order to indirectly measure the concentration of OH, we investigated the percent yield of the fluorescent 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid (TAOH). OH radicals were produced via a dark ferrous Fenton system, measured using fluorescence spectroscopic methods, and lastly fit to a chemical kinetics model. Previous studies using a differing experimental procedure found a higher TAOH yield in comparison to the result expected from using a dark ferrous system. Our work found the expected yield of  $TAOH = 22.3\%$  at pH 3.5, and the measure of the second order rate constant for the dark Fenton reaction to be  $(83 \pm 12) M^{-1} s^{-1}$ . Such a yield and quick rate constant reveal that OH is produced in high quantities from heavy metal air pollution and that action should be taken to mitigate its negative effects.

**10.**

**Connecting the Drops: Striving for a Water-Responsible Los Angeles**  
**KEITH MERTAN, Erik C. Porse, Madelyn Glickfeld, and Stephanie Pincetl**  
**Mentor: Stephanie Pincetl**

Access to clean drinking water is standard for most citizens of Los Angeles, but the bureaucracy behind water's distribution in Los Angeles county causes a multitude of problems unseen by the public. This can be illustrated, for example, in the case of groundwater. The 1960s saw a series of adjudications which granted rights to groundwater to individuals and businesses. This created a complex system of water ownership which makes important changes to the system difficult and time consuming. Understanding how this system has changed over the decades is essential when considering the future of urban water planning in Los Angeles County. After analysis of historical water rights we now understand that public entities have slowly gained control of the total groundwater in the area. Since Los Angeles currently relies heavily on imported water which will become less available as we move into the future, these groundwater rights become increasingly important. Using the results of our analysis we attempt to understand how the availability of groundwater will contribute to Los Angeles's need for local water reliance.

**11.**

**Drought Influence on Chlorophyll Fluorescence in Evergreen and Drought Deciduous Plant Species of Southern California**  
**ARIEL K. PEZNER and Ulli Seibt**  
**Mentor: Ulli Seibt**

California's long-term drought and projected future climate change may have serious consequences for the fauna native to Southern California's terrestrial ecosystems. This study aimed to establish baseline data reflecting the status of four species of chaparral and coastal sage plants from the Stunt Ranch Reserve in the Santa Monica Mountains over a period of three months (February to April 2015). Of these species, further divisions were made by plant life strategy, categorizing species as evergreen or drought deciduous. By employing chlorophyll a fluorescence methods, light curves were recorded for two evergreen species, *Heteromeles arbutifolia* and *Quercus berberidifolia*, and two drought deciduous species, *Salvia leucophylla* and *Salvia mellifera*. Samples were also collected and analyzed to determine variation in leaf water content over the experimental period. Preliminary results suggest significant changes in the electron transport rates (ETR), and therefore photosynthetic abilities, of all species studied between sampling dates. The fluctuations in ETR may be attributed to water stress caused by the drought, which led to variation in soil moisture content. However, more testing must be conducted to confirm this trend. As California's drought continues and the temperatures rise, it will become increasingly important to determine the long-term effects of this water stress on California's native plant species.

**12.**

**Investigation of California State Park Programs That Have Successfully Integrated Underserved Populations into Their Respective Parks**

**AMANDA R. MATTES, Vinit Mukhija, Stephen Gibson, and Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris**

**Mentor: Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris**

California state parks were created in 1862 with the intention of providing health, inspiration, and education to residents of California, yet there is a significant portion of the population that is underserved. The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made efforts in the past to increase equitable access to state parks, but unfortunately their efforts generated little success. Because increasing equitable access is a priority for the Department, our project focused on improving their understanding of how to utilize their resources to maximize equality. We conducted a thorough investigation of the current system to understand how the most successful programs came to be. We gathered best outreach practices by completing a literature review, conducted online searches of successful programs and park experts, and interviewed staff members from the case study programs. We found that there was a value of quality over quantity with respect to hiring staff members, and successful program characteristics included initiating training and career opportunities for underprivileged youth and creating meaningful, long-lasting relationships with target populations and other community-based organizations. This information will effectively allow the Department to use their resources while simultaneously providing access to underserved groups. Based on our results, we have many recommendations to the Department including an appreciation of the importance of cultural fluency and sensitivity through staff hiring and training.

**13.**

**System Evaluation for Continuous Chemically Enhanced Seeded Precipitation of Gypsum from Agricultural Drainage Water**

**JONATHAN WIGMAN, Jack Lei, and Yoram Cohen**

**Mentor: Yoram Cohen**

Agricultural drainage water treatment in California's San Joaquin Valley is an area of focus for water conservation and generation in light of California's ongoing drought. The agricultural drainage water has high salt concentrations making it unusable as water for irrigation and improper disposal of it damages soil and water table conditions. Limited water recovery rates and difficult disposal of retentate, the waste water of a reverse osmosis system, due to the inland location make reverse osmosis operation difficult for inland, agricultural conditions. Studies suggest that a chemically enhanced seeded precipitation of gypsum from the water can be introduced as an intermediate between primary and secondary reverse osmosis systems. This will increase the recovery yield of treated water and reduce the volume of retentate disposal. By adopting this model of water treatment system in the San Joaquin Valley, we can predict effective cost reduction and increase the feasibility of water treatment. The goal of this study was to further demonstrate the ability of chemically enhanced seeded precipitation to treat reverse osmosis retentate. A small scale system was built, and here the result of its testing and troubleshooting is presented. We found through our testing thus far that continuous chemically enhanced seeded precipitation can effectively remove antiscalant from the retentate which implies the future development and implementation of the system.

## **2-3pm. Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program Poster Session 3**

---

### **1.**

#### **John Wooden Center Goes Green: Running with the Treadmills**

**AMANDA ARJOON, Keith Mertan, Lilian Chou, Cynthia Huang, An Gao and Kinan Bachour**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

With the increasing number of gym-goers, energy consumption has also increased because gyms require large amounts of electricity to power their exercise machines. By implementing more energy efficient equipment, gyms would be more energy efficient. At UCLA's main gym, the John Wooden Center (JWC), 4 out of 22 treadmills in the strength and conditioning zone do not use electricity but are powered by energy generated by the user during the workout. Preliminary observations showed that these eco-friendly treadmills were not as frequently used as their energy guzzling counterparts. The goal of this project was to increase the usage of the eco-friendly treadmills in JWC by ten percent before the end of Spring Quarter 2015. Through collaboration with the Fitwell Coordinator of JWC, we had a campaign to increase usage and awareness of the treadmills with three interventions in week two of Spring Quarter: re-arrangement to a more visible area, promotional signage, and training for patrons on how to use the eco-friendly treadmills. Incentives were also awarded for participation in the training. To assess the effect of the interventions, we made observations during the first and third week post intervention. We expect that our results will indicate that there was a significant increase in the number of users as well as an increase in average usage time for the eco-friendly treadmills. If this is the case, we will provide JWC with this evidence and encourage them to promote continued use of the equipment.

### **2.**

#### **Fueling Co-Benefits of Climate Change Mitigation and Nutrition**

**KELLY CHEN and Cristina Tirado**

**Mentor: Hilary Godwin**

Despite the importance of developing sustainable methods of nutrition, the relationship between climate change mitigation and nutrition has not been examined as closely as has each individual topic. The creation of climate change mitigation strategies requires an understanding of both social and physical variables in order to co-benefit the nutrition of a population, indicating that there exist methods of creating sustainable eating practices regardless of the socioeconomic status or technological capacity of a population. For this reason, this study investigated the relationship between climate change mitigation and nutrition in relation to the growing demand for biofuels, drawing on previous research performed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The positive correlation between biofuel demand and food prices was demonstrated by shifting trends in crop choice among agrarian communities due to monetary incentives, providing strong proof of the interdependence of climate change mitigation strategies and nutrition that will be integrated into future policy proposals.

**3.**

**The Influence of Exposure to Toxic Facilities on Voting on Environmental Propositions**

**SARAH CHIANG, Stephen Locke and Magali Delmas**

**Mentor: Magali Delmas**

Environmental action begins with legislation, which is why voting decisions from both the public and their representatives is a crucial step adopting policies that ensure California faces a low-carbon future. While it is well-known that certain demographic groups tend to vote in favor of low-carbon legislation more often than others, little is known about the role of local toxic facilities in household voting decisions. Using several datasets from California and the United States EPA, we built on the framework laid out by Holian and Kahn (2014) to estimate the impact of proximity to a toxic facility on the share of pro-environmental votes on Proposition 23. In the preferred specification that controls for household characteristics, political ideology, and county fixed effects, we found that the share of pro-environmental votes was 0.776 percentage points higher in Census block groups that have a toxic facility nearby compared to census block groups that are further from a toxic facility. As a robustness test, additional regressions were estimated that measured the impact of nearby toxic facilities on a non-environmental proposition (legalizing marijuana) and we found no statistically significant correlation between proximity to a toxic facility and the share of yes votes. If registered voters in close proximity to these facilities are able to influence environmental policies with their voting behavior, politicians can target these areas to increase voter turnout and gain support for low-carbon legislation.

**4.**

**Using Clumped Isotope Thermometry to Infer Past Temperatures of Southern California**

**LILIAN CHOU, AUDREY BROWN, John Mering,**

**Will Defliese and Aradhna Tripathi**

**Mentor: Aradhna Tripathi**

While there is a general consensus among scientists that climate change is occurring, more data is needed to analyze the causes of climate change. This research project focuses on the use of carbonate clumped isotope thermometry to reconstruct the paleoclimate, or past climate, of southern California in order to test the accuracy of existing climate models and predict future climate conditions. We used prehistoric carbonate samples from Lake Manix and the La Brea tar pits along with modern bivalve and gastropod samples from Vail Lake, Red Rock Lake, the Colorado River at Yuma, and Owens Lake. These carbonate samples were dissolved in acid to produce CO<sub>2</sub> gas using our mass spectrometer. CO<sub>2</sub> commonly exists as <sup>12</sup>C<sub>16</sub>O<sub>16</sub>O and rarely exists as the heavier isotopic clump, <sup>13</sup>C<sub>18</sub>O<sub>16</sub>O (d47). The ratios of lighter to heavier isotopic clumps were measured in order to calculate the water temperature the bivalves grew in. Higher temperatures tend to yield fewer <sup>13</sup>C-18O bonds than lower temperatures. Using past temperatures of these prehistoric lakes and present temperatures of existing lakes, past hydroclimates of California can be inferred and applied to climate models to predict future hydrology. This research project hopes to contribute to water availability predictions for the southern California region. Additional steps would be to include samples from more regions in Southern California to develop a fuller picture of the past hydroclimate of California.

5.

**Increasing the Public's Engagement with TRI Data through Cal EcoMaps, an Online Mapping Tool  
Charting the Toxic Facilities in Los Angeles County**

**RENATA DE LA TORRE, Anne-Marie Theriault, Christine Kim, Kevin Qiu, Margot Stert,**

**Aanchal Kohli, and Magali Delmas**

**Mentor: Magali Delmas**

The US EPAToxic Release Inventory (TRI) was established to increase the public's awareness of the pollution created by toxic facilities. While TRI has been successful at documenting disposal information for over 650 toxic chemicals across the nation, effective communication of local toxic release trends still remains an issue. The purpose of this project is to provide easily accessible information about the environmental and health impact of TRI facilities to the Los Angeles community and allow them to easily contact such facilities. To achieve this goal, facilities are displayed on an interactive map available on a website and mobile devices: Cal EcoMaps. This project is conducted by a team of undergraduate students in collaboration with the US EPA University Challenge and under the guidance of Professor Delmas. Cal EcoMaps users are able to see information about 156 on profiled facilities from the top five emitting industries based on the amount of toxic releases in Los Angeles County, including facilities in the Primary Metals, Petroleum, Fabricated Metals, and Chemicals Industries. Users are also able to easily contact facilities through a "take action" button that allow them to send emails directly to the facilities. Emphasis was put on the user friendliness of the map, which was pretested with community residents. Cal EcoMaps is available at <http://www.environment.ucla.edu/ccep/calecomaps/index.php>.

6.

**Biodegradation of Perfluoroalkyl Compounds by *Trametes versicolor* and  
Vaults Packaged Enzyme Laccase**

**AN GAO, Meng Wang, Nancy Tseng, and Shaily Mahendra**

**Mentor: Shaily Mahendra**

Perfluoroalkyl compounds (PFCs) are highly stable organic compounds widely used in industrial and commercial applications, especially in surfactants, coatings, and aqueous film-forming foams (AFFFs). AFFFs have been used for several decades to extinguish oil fires, which left the sites with high residual concentration of PFCs in soil and groundwater. White rot fungi are robust organisms that have enormous potential for bioremediation of a variety of toxic chemical pollutants via their enzyme systems. This study will be the first to investigate the capability of *Trametes versicolor* and its enzyme laccase for their capability to biodegrade PFCs. In addition, extracellular laccases will be packaged into nanosized vaults for enhanced catalytic activity and longevity of the enzymes. Biodegradation of PFCs by *Trametes versicolor* cultures and purified laccase samples will be confirmed in the laboratory. We will test the hypothesis that PFC transformation by fungal enzymes is enhanced by packaging these enzymes into vault particles. We previously cultivated *Trametes versicolor* in growth media containing different carbon and nitrogen levels, and measured enzyme activities. Genes coding for laccase were amplified using PCR and sequenced. Recombinant laccase enzymes will be packaged into vaults. PFC biodegradation rates by vaults packaged laccase as well as free laccase enzymes will be measured. The research results will contribute to the development of a sustainable and cost-effective approach for

contaminated site cleanup. We will also generate quantitative data to evaluate specific environmental applications of biotechnology and nanotechnology for a large-scale implementation.

**7.**

**Reptile and Amphibian Biodiversity Survey of the University of California Los Angeles Campus Using Artificial Cover Objects**

**JESSE GARCIA, MARINA LINDSAY and Bradley Shaffer**

**Mentor: Bradley Shaffer**

Conservation efforts rely on accurate biodiversity inventories that are regularly updated. The last biodiversity survey that includes the UCLA campus was conducted in 1958 and has not been updated since. Our study is the first to use GPS and GIS data to map the locations and predict the population sizes of reptile and amphibian species at UCLA. Reptiles and amphibians are predatory species that are linked to both aquatic and terrestrial habitats, and as such, identify the overall ecosystem health of a community. Our research was designed to both gauge present species' population levels as well as provide a baseline for future biodiversity surveys at UCLA. Our team used a GIS-based grid to place 87 Artificial Cover Objects (ACOs) across the habitat gradient found on the UCLA campus. Bi-weekly on a rotating basis, a set of ACOs were flipped to see which species were present and the habitats in which most species occurred. Initial surveys indicated that the most densely vegetated areas yielded greater species diversity compared to highly developed areas. The total surveying process will continue for one to three years, and will include collecting DNA samples for future genetic analysis. Preliminary results suggest that little biodiversity is present; increasing these levels by means of integrating more densely vegetated landscapes into the local area is necessary to attain the Grand Challenges' goal of increasing native biodiversity by the year 2050.

**8.**

**Local Foodies: An Undergraduate Intervention To Encourage More Local Food Purchases Amongst UCLA Faculty**

**AMANDA HOSKINSON, Emily Liang, Jenna Hoover, Kevin Huynh, Amanda Mattes and Jesse Garcia**  
**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

The Grand Challenges Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (GCURSP) group project required a group of undergraduate researchers to devise and implement an intervention to alter a community's behavior in regards to local food. The objective of the intervention was to change the behavior of a demographic in Los Angeles that was detrimental to a sustainability issue. After preliminary research, the Local Foods Group—nicknamed the Local Foodies—worked to change the behaviors of UCLA Faculty that were detrimental to local foods industry. In twelve weeks, the Local Foodies executed two interventions with the objective to encourage UCLA Faculty to buy more products from their closest farmer's market: the UCLA Farmer's Market. The first intervention involved paper ads placed in meeting rooms, offices, and bathrooms where UCLA Faculty were likely to frequent. Few new Faculty were observed to attend the Farmer's Market after this intervention. The second intervention involved having one-to-one conversations with faculty, and offering them a piece of fruit (an apple or clementine) with a flag and reminder about the Farmer's Market. Though there was little change in Faculty purchases at the Farmer's Market, the team speculates that their second intervention has immeasurable effects, such as

heightened Faculty awareness of the Farmer's Market, and higher regard for the Market. These speculated effects have the potential to lead to future purchases, research about which is out of the scope of this research.

**9.**

**Modeling Adsorption of Equilibrium of Phenolic Compounds and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons onto Powdered Activated Carbon In Drinking Water Sources containing Natural Organic Mater**  
**JAEYEON HWANG and Irwin H. Suffet**  
**Mentor: Irwin Suffet**

Phenolic compounds and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) can enter water sources through industrial, agricultural and domestic sources. PAHs also come from runoff from highways from the exhaust of automobiles. Due to their toxicities, these compounds can cause a serious threat to ecology of Santa Monica Bay. Fortunately, phenolic compounds and PAHs can be removed effectively using adsorption onto Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC). In order to be prepared in case of accidental spills and leaks, the adsorption equilibrium of phenol onto PAC in presence of Natural Organic Matter (NOM) was studied. Kinetics and Isotherm curves were developed to study the interaction of phenol and an exemplary PAH, perlyene with NOM as well as the interaction of phenol-NOM and perlyene complexes with PAC. In this study, lower concentration of phenol compared to previous studies was used to model ecological conditons. 25mg/L phenol solution was treated with 40mg/L PAC in order to develop a kinetics curve. 25mg/L phenol solution was treated with 10, 20, 40, 60 and 80mg/L PAC for isotherm tests at constant pH. The kinetics and isotherm curves in presence and absence of NOM in water were compared to study the effect of NOM in the adsorption equilibrium of phenol onto PAC. This study will allow the assessment of effectiveness of treating water with PAC, and the accurate determination of optimal PAC dosage for treatment plants.

**10.**

**Surface Passivation by Phosphonate Coating as a Safe Design Approach for Metal Oxides**  
**ANSON LEE, Ruibin Li, Andre Nel and Tian Xia**  
**Mentor: Tian Xia**

Engineered nanoparticles including metal oxides (MOx) are widely used in products such as cosmetics and sunscreens because of their unique physicochemical properties. However, the properties of MOx nanoparticles that make them desirable could potentially induce toxicity to humans and environment after exposure. Studies have identified dissolution and surface reactivity of MOx play important roles in the toxicity, so it reasonable to design safer materials through modifying these properties to make these materials safer. One approach is to use Ethylenediamine Tetra (EDTMP) as a MOx coating because it can effectively chelate divalent metal ions. Coating MOx nanoparticles with EDTMP reduces the release of metal ions from nanoparticles with decreased toxicity. When EDTMP coated nanoparticles are tested using cell viability assays, they will show less toxicity than non-coated nanoparticles. An in vitro cell experiment was done by treating human cells with dispersed nanoparticles at different concentrations. Results showed that coating MOx nanoparticles with EDTMP decreased cell death compared to the ones treated with uncoated nanoparticles. This suggests that EDTMP-coated nanoparticles can be a novel way for safer design of nanoparticles with reduced cytotoxicity and the results could have implications in

improving the safety profiles of MOx nanoparticles used in many personal products that people use today.

**11.**

**Persistence of Escherichia Coli, Enterococci, and Genetic Markers in Natural Vs. Urban Watersheds**

**ISABELLA MARIANO, AUSTIN PARK, Vanessa Thulsiraj, Amy Zimmer-Faust and Jennifer Jay**

**Mentor: Jennifer Jay**

Studies have shown that runoff from urban regions, areas with impermeable surfaces, contain a high concentration of fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) such as Escherichia coli and enterococci. This study aimed to compare not only water, but the less studied sediment, in natural and urban watersheds following a storm. We hypothesized that if the quality of urban and natural watersheds was compared after a rain event, then both would show high levels of contamination, but only the urban watershed would display pathogenic persistence during dry, ambient weather. We collected 1 L of water and 150 mL by volume of sediment from the natural, non-channelized Topanga Creek and the urban, channelized Chautauqua storm drain, two parallel watersheds located four miles apart. The samples were processed using standard IDEXX and qPCR methods to determine the concentration of FIB and genetic markers. This process was repeated five times over a period of eight days following a storm. Ambient data was collected at least a week and a half after any wet weather. Results showed that FIB concentrations were high in both watersheds immediately after the storm and remained high in the ambient, urban samples. These results suggest there is a persistence of pathogens in channelized storm drains during wet and dry weather, but reasons for this should be further explored. Understanding the impact of urban watersheds on water and sediment quality will help indicate flaws in stormwater management systems and determine possible solutions to improve them.

**12.**

**Establishing The Southern California Biodiversity Atlas Online: Visualizing the Distribution of**

**Endangered Plants in a Changing Climate while Facilitating Conservation**

**EMILY LIANG, GABRIELA A. MORALES, Erin C. Riordan and Thomas W. Gillespie**

**Mentor: Thomas Gillespie**

Biodiversity is the variety of life found on Earth, providing us with clean water, fresh food, and air to breathe. California itself is a biodiversity hotspot, with high levels of endemism and endangerment. It is expected, however, that there will be increased loss of biodiversity in California due to climate change and land development. The purpose of our research is to create an online Biodiversity Atlas of Southern California in order to make information on endangered species in peoples' local surroundings more accessible in a way that facilitates conservation of these species. In order to show others where species should be planted for the future, we shared distribution maps created using the Maxent climate modeling program and Geographic Information Systems. These maps will allow land managers to make calculated decisions for the propagation of native plants while suggesting which areas to avoid development, and in this way, prevent further loss of biodiversity. We are continuing to add to this Biodiversity Atlas as we receive data for more endangered species, increasing its potential of contributing to an effective approach at targeting regional biodiversity preservation and management around the world.

**13.**

**The Role of Social Norms in Motivating Environmental Action**

**SEAN MURPHY, Trevor Dudley, Kati Nguyen, Ariel Pezner, Kyle Hess,  
Gabriela Morales, and Celeste Romano**

**Mentor: Rachel Kennison**

The human population continues to rise as climate change worsens, so it is essential that we reduce our energy usage and water consumption. My group chose to investigate the potential that social norms have in persuading students to take such actions. “Do It in the Dark” is an annual competition held on UCLA’s residential hill where buildings compete with one another to conserve energy and water. Students pledge online to take individual actions to conserve more water and energy, like taking shorter showers. My role as a project consultant was to guide the progress of the project, encourage positive group dynamics, and help the team through any difficulties. To test the role that social norms can play in encouraging students to pledge, our group placed posters directly next to the elevators on each floor. These posters displayed the percentage of students that had pledged on every floor in Sproul Cove and Sproul Landing, allowing students to see how their pledge count compared to other floors. Our study found that the posters did increase the pledge numbers on most floors. These results demonstrated the power that social norms can have in increasing the number of students willing to pledge. This could be a future tool used to expand the number of student pledges the “Do It in the Dark” Competition receives.

**14.**

**Effect of Sea Level Rise on Coastal Salt Marsh C4 Plant Distribution Detected Through Stable Carbon  
and Nitrogen Isotope Analysis**

**KEITH SHAFFER, Lauren Brown and Glen MacDonald**

**Mentor: Glen MacDonald**

With climatic changes caused by anthropogenic activities, accompanying increases in sea level have the ability to change the distribution of vegetation in coastal marsh areas. These changes can affect the wide variety of other species that live in coastal habitats and can also have negative impacts on human economic and recreational interests. As sea levels rise with a warmer global climate, we hypothesize that marsh plants will migrate upwards and inland in response. The history and impacts of past sea level rise were investigated using stable carbon and nitrogen isotopes present in a 100cm sediment core and 30 surface samples from the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge. California marshes have distinctive zones, including a high marsh zone with plants that use the C4 photosynthetic pathway, which leads to a higher ratio of C13/C12 values in the tissues of these plants. The sediment record preserves the past fluctuations in these isotope ratios, which can be used to infer past vegetation changes. Although conclusions are not yet final, we expect to see that high marsh sediments in sites dominated by C4 plants will have higher C13/C12 than low marsh sites, and if there were significant past changes in sea level one would expect to see similar isotope shifts in the core. This study will provide a tool to study marsh dynamics and help determine what further action needs to be taken to protect these fragile ecosystems.

**THURSDAY, MAY 14**

**12-1pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 1**

---

**1.**

**Writing Papers Without Papers: How the Passage of Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) Will Affect the Legal Consciousness of Undocumented Parents**

**RICARDO ENRIQUE ALCARAZ BRISENO**

**Mentor: Leisy Abrego**

On November 20, 2014, President Barack Obama announced an executive order that will affect undocumented parents throughout the United States. This law will qualify undocumented individuals living in the U.S. who are parents of a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident (LPR) with a three-year protection from deportation and an employment authorization permit. This project analyzes the legal consciousness of undocumented immigrants who directly stand to gain from the passage of Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA). Based on participant observation, ethnographic observations, and document analysis in DAPA forums in the Los Angeles region, I examine the legal environment within these informational spaces; to further analyze the concerns attendees have of the implementation of DAPA. The major purpose of this study is to increase awareness of the effectiveness of this law and why it needs to be implemented to benefit the entire undocumented community. Furthermore, I intend to demystify the concept that being undocumented is only a Latina/o issue by acknowledging the different histories, experiences, languages, and cultures of undocumented immigrants. Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) is supposed to come into effect 180 days after its announcement, but there is a current legal standing prevent its implementation. This project will contribute to the conversations regarding the federal case in Texas that temporarily blocked DAPA, and is intending to permanently eliminate it.

**2.**

**Language Access Sin Barreras: Access to Justice in the Los Angeles Superior Court**

**BRYON A. ALVAREZ**

Fluency in the English language is taken for granted; however it is necessary to utilize key resources and navigate complex bureaucracies. A majority of the individuals that walk through the doors of the legal (or court) self-help centers are monolingual Spanish speakers, who need a great amount of assistance in navigating the Los Angeles Superior Court. The purpose of this study is to examine the ability of the court to sufficiently meet the needs of its Limited English Proficiency (LEP) speakers, who represent themselves in court proceedings. I used a mixed-methods approach to understand the issue of language access and how it manifests in the court system. Through intake surveys and interviews I assessed the number of LEP speakers utilizing Stanley Mosk self-help center's resources in the Los Angeles Superior Court and their experiences as non-English speakers in a system dominated by the English language. A policy analysis was conducted using human-centered design framework to evaluate the policies and laws designed to protect the rights of these individuals and gain a comprehensive understanding of how the system has progressed since the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which banned discrimination on the basis of language. Throughout the study, I incorporated the experiences of these individuals to display how

the law has affected their lives. I also hope to demonstrate the ways in which the court is not addressing their needs and the ways it can improve equitable access to justice for everyone.

**3.**

**Anthropological Methods in the Field of Design at Technology Companies: An Ethnographic Study of Non-Anthropologists and Trained Anthropologists Incorporated Into the Design Process**

**JONATHAN CALZADA**

**Mentor: Paul V. Kroskrity**

As the role of anthropology in the 21st century expands, product design companies are increasingly employing anthropological methodologies in an attempt to innovate new products and improve their consumers' experiences (Forsman and Rojas 2011; Kelly and Matthews 2014). This practice follows after the human-centered approach to product design, which places the user at the center of the design process where anthropological research tools are used such as ethnography, ethnomethodology, conversation analysis, and activity theory in order to gain a deeper and richer understanding of these consumer experiences (Wasson 2000; Kelly and Matthews 2014). However, these experiences are influenced by a system of interconnected relationships created around a product that can be subtle and complex subsequently necessitating an inquiry beyond the immediacy of the user-product relationship (Kelly 2014). This project seeks to compare the applications of anthropological methods employed by both anthropologists and non-anthropologists to the conventional use of such methods by anthropologists working on more traditional topics. Additionally a cross-comparison of how anthropological methods are used by both anthropologist and non-anthropologists may provide support for the idea that a new anthropological sub-discipline is emerging, namely "design anthropology" (Gunn, Otto, and Smith 2013). It would then behoove anthropologists to be aware of this sub-discipline and its role in the 21st century.

**4.**

**The Effect of Social Anxiety on Stereotype Confirmation**

**GRACE COLLERY, B.M. Goodale, and M. Shih**

**Mentor: Margaret J. Shih**

Building off prior research demonstrating how social trait anxiety contributes to negative academic performance, we aimed to investigate the potentially moderating effect on stereotype threat (Edwards, J. & Trimble, K. 1992). We predict that participants with higher social anxiety will experience more stereotype threat and consequently confirm more gender stereotypes. In our first study, we examined the correlation between participants' scores on the Leibowitz Social Anxiety Scale and their scores on the Stereotype Confirmation Concern Scale. We found that participants with higher social anxiety are more concerned about confirming stereotypes. There was a marginally significant relationship between social anxiety and actual stereotype confirmation. In the second study, participants with low or high social anxiety took a math test after high or low stereotype threat was induced. We anticipate socially anxious participants will confirm more gender stereotypes under high stereotype threat. Knowing how social anxiety and stereotype threat interact to affect academic performance may help us improve future outcomes for socially anxious individuals.

5.

**Effects of Race on the Reproduction and Growth of the Income Achievement Gap**

**PATRICK CREMIN**

**Mentor: Vilma Ortiz**

The academic achievement gap between students from low-income and high-income backgrounds has widened in the United States with growing income inequality. Whereas studies often focus on achievement gaps based on racial differences, this study analyzes the persistence and growth of the achievement gap between students of ranging socioeconomic status. In addition to growing income inequality, this study explains how the legacy of racial segregation has contributed to the widening test score gap between students from low- and high-income backgrounds. Data from the California Department of Education and U.S. Bureau of the Census are used to measure differences in standardized test scores, median household income, and per-pupil spending between students from two public high schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Using this case study, the project assesses the implications of the widening test score gap on students from different racial and socioeconomic backgrounds as standardized test scores become increasingly important in determining academic success. As educational inequalities grow, broader effects on the social mobility of students are evaluated in order to identify possible consequences of this phenomenon.

6.

**A Hundred Pounds Heavier: Stereotype Threat and the Retention of African-American Males in Systems of Higher Education**

**TRAVIS E. DUMAS and Tyrone C. Howard**

**Mentor: Tyrone C. Howard**

African-Americans are among the lowest retaining demographics within higher education. Within this occurrence Black males suffer from lower retention rates than their female counter-parts. To better understand this disparity this research project will examine whether there is a relationship between Stereotype Threat (being at risk of confirming, as self-characteristic, a negative stereotype about one's group) and retention of Black males in higher education. Surveys will be administered to thirty-five students from the Black Male Institute at UCLA; they will target their experiences with Stereotype Threat. From this pool 6-8 will be selected for in-depth interviews. It is expected that participants will express experiences with negative stereotypes, identifying this as having a negative impact on their academic performance and educational experience. Stereotype Threat will be examined as a means of further understanding how this hampering contributes to the lack of retention that manifests itself in the gap of student representation in systems of higher education. Understanding the impact of Stereotype Threat on African-American males in higher education will enable development of effective action, such as curriculum and empowerment, equipping students of color especially Black males with the skills needed to counter the disparities in higher education.

7.

**Shots of Espresso and Responsibility Around the World: Pros and Cons of Adoption of Corporate Social Responsibility Practices by Starbucks**

**FORTER R. GABRIELA**

**Mentor: Jason Snyder**

From its humble beginnings in Seattle, Starbucks has brewed more than just coffee around the world. It has energized millions with shots of espresso and pumps of syrup, but it has also funded schools, facilitated access to education and medical care, as well as improved employee rights. I am interested in unveiling the positive and negative impacts of these Corporate Social Responsibility practices. My research seeks to investigate if there is a connection between the employee point of view or awareness of CSR and their worker experience. I will be creating an interview survey for Starbucks baristas, associates and executives. How do associates' perspectives on CSR compare to baristas' understandings? And furthermore how do these perspectives relate to their worker experience? I will compare the responses by socioeconomic neighborhoods in Los Angeles. Finally, I will conduct an event study where I will look at certain dates when CSR was implemented, and how it affected the stock prices. I will make graphs showing the relationship between financial progresses over the years as CSR has been practiced. My research will illustrate whether CSR has been a positive or negative business practice for Starbucks. Hopefully, Starbucks' social and environmental awareness will invigorate all coffee consumers to be as progressive as them. Its commitment to social responsibility has set an example for trans-national corporations today.

8.

**Soliciting Donations**

**RAWAN GALAIDOS**

**Mentor: Zsuzsa Berend**

My honors thesis examines how nonprofits use framing to solicit donations online. The methods employed are both quantitative and qualitative. I have yet to form my conclusion.

9.

**Civics in the City: How the DC Statehood Movement Reflects Civic Engagement in the Nation's Capital**

**ANNA M. GARFINK**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

How does the presence of the federal government impact local level civic engagement in Washington, D.C.? I argue that Washington, D.C. demonstrates strong civic participation across many political and community indicators, despite tensions between the local D.C. government and the federal government that cause functional as well as ideological issues in the District. Using interviews, historical and current events, and data on civic participation, I evaluate current civic engagement in D.C. under the assumption that D.C.'s unique status as federal district creates a unique civic culture. The federal government creates many frustrations for residents of the District of Columbia, yet these frustrations are channeled into strong civic organizations and expressions of solidarity for their city, creating a civic culture that is stronger than what is found in many other cities.

**10.**

**Association Between Stress-Related Eating and Drinking With Obesity**

**DIANA E. GONZALEZ and A. Janet Tomiyama**

**Mentor: Ayako Janet Tomiyama**

Some studies have observed that comfort eating behavior may be associated with greater Body Mass Index (BMI). Researchers often operationalize comfort foods with having high-fat, high-calorie qualities, and thus it seems plausible that comfort eating may be one of the many contributions to obesity. Similarly, other studies have shown that alcohol consumption is also a risk factor for obesity. Thus, this study will examine the relationship between eating and drinking alcohol as a result of stress on obesity. Fifty undergraduate female students will have their height and weight measured in the lab and will complete a 6-item Belief in Comfort Eating Scale and the Alcohol Expectancies Questionnaire. We hypothesize that self-reported beliefs that eating food and drinking alcohol will dampen stress will be positively associated with BMI. In conclusion, beliefs that eating and drinking alcohol reduce stress may be a contributing factor in the etiology of overweight and obesity.

**11.**

**“Full Citizenship” as Healing: Recovering from Physical and Emotional Ailments**

**as a Military Veteran of Puerto Rico**

**LUIS A. GONZALEZ**

**Mentor: Akhil Gupta**

Scholars have conducted research on Puerto Rico’s socio-political status and citizenship discrepancies, but have not looked at the effects these phenomena have on distinct social groups on the Island. This study examines citizenship and healthcare disparities faced by United States (US) Armed Forces veterans of Puerto Rico (PR) in comparison to their stateside counterparts. Puerto Ricans have a rich history in the US military that reaches back to World War I. Yet, if Puerto Rican veterans choose to reside in PR they cannot vote in presidential elections and lack representation in Congress. In addition, the Veterans Health Administration in PR does not offer services and equipment equal to other official states, which adversely affects the healing process of service-related ailments like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and physical injuries. This investigation took place in PR during the summer of 2014, and the data was collected through individual life-history interviews. My findings show that veterans of PR are caught in a double-bind; they can freely move stateside and gain equal citizenship rights and medical resources, but they risk severing familial ties, friendships, and the cultural connection to the Island. The US prides itself on being a champion of human rights and democracy, yet the nation fails to recognize veterans of PR as “full citizens.” Through analyses of individual veteran experiences, this study provides a deeper understanding of the Island’s ambiguous status as a territory of the US.

**12.**

**The Healing Journey of Sex Trafficking Survivors**

**KATHERINE HERRERA**

**Mentor: Sharon Traweek**

The narratives of sex trafficking survivors often solely focus on their past victimization and trauma. While these aspects are of vital importance in understanding the nature of sex trafficking, it is time to

highlight the stories of survivors through a lens of empowerment, strength, and hope-to celebrate these individuals for who they are today. This project will focus on the healing journey that sex trafficking survivors have gone through to heal from the trauma that their pimps and life in the commercial sex-industry inflicted upon them. The process of healing will be analyzed as an ongoing journey to self-love, self-respect, and self-care told by the survivors themselves. Service providers that work with victims and survivors will also share their experiences and perspectives on working with these individuals in relation to their healing journey. Many survivors are currently working as advocates to fight against sex trafficking, which is not an easy thing to do. It is time for survivors to share how their healing journey has allowed them to get to this point in their lives. Through a series of interviews, survivors and service providers will give insight to the healing journey of sex trafficking survivors, and the institutional errors of the foster care and criminal justice system when dealing with victims. They will also provide suggestions to improve current social and institutional services so that they can become more effective in working with victims of sex trafficking.

**13.**

**Engaging the Tools for Wellness: Integrative Health as Individual Practice**

**ALEXEA N. HOWARD**

**Mentor: Linda C. Garro**

Integrative health or medicine is the use of healing practices that addresses the “patient’s” mind, body, and spirit. By looking at conceptions of health, the use of medical-pluralistic practices, and agency, this study examines the reasons why individuals participate in integrative health modalities, and the ways they re-situate their understanding of their bodies and health. This project addresses the anthropological gap in knowledge regarding integrative health centers that employ multiple medical systems. The Dharma Health Institute (DHI), located in Los Angeles, CA, specializes in and offers multiple forms of integrative health practices to promote general wellness, prevention, and treatment of medical conditions. At this center, Traditional Chinese Medicine is interwoven with Ayurvedic, Biomedical, and New Age medical practices. Data was collected through participant observation in classes offered at the DHI, and interviews with attendees and instructors of the DHI. This paper demonstrates how general ideas regarding health and the model of health that is upheld by the Dharma Health Institute are taken up by those attending classes and frequenting the center. By analyzing the ways that health is communicated by the founder, instructors, and attendees, I examine how an awareness of the body and mind connection, psychological benefits including hope and a sense of community, as well as a sense of empowerment regarding health, have influenced people to continue using integrated health practices.

**14.**

**U.S Border-Crosser Citizens: Social Mobility in California’s Community College System**

**FELIPE HUICOCHEA**

**Mentor: Hannah C. Appel**

This study investigates the experience of U.S. citizens who grew up and did most of their schooling in Mexico, and then enrolled in Southwestern Community College (SWC, name town and state) for their college education. These students cross the border every day to go SWC, a college located less than ten miles from the border. I will use ethnographic research methods including semi-structured interviews

and participant observation with students, and analyze that data using qualitative methods. Based on ethnographic work with border crosser students from Southwestern College, this project asks, how do these students deal with the rising cost of higher education? If they are looking for the American dream of obtaining social mobility, how do they plan to achieve it? Do they create any resistance in adapting to the new educational system? This research will provide valuable information regarding the ways in which a unique subset of students navigate the educational system and aims to help address the necessities of these students.

**15.**

**Japan at Critical Juncture: Dynamic Changes in the Asia-Pacific Implications of the U.S.-Japan Alliance After the Cold War**

**YUI M. KOMURO**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

The purpose of this research paper is to examine how the special U.S.-Japan security alliance has reinvigorated since the end of the Cold War, when unprecedented security threats changed the dynamics of the Asia-Pacific in the 21st century. The security alliance was originally established at the end of the postwar occupation of Japan as part of U.S. strategy to contain the expansion of communism in Eurasia, bringing into question what new roles the alliance has taken on since 1991. I hypothesize that the current alliance itself between the two countries is a grand pre-emptive strategy to control the increasingly assertive China and the nuclear volatile North Korea. In addition, I theorize that Japan has become increasingly comfortable projecting its military capabilities abroad since WWII. To test my hypothesis, I examine the following key points in the alliance: the Persian Gulf War, the “rise” of China, and the nuclear North Korea. I analyze key joint statements between the U.S. and Japan, analyze changes in public opinion, and track changes in military capabilities, in efforts to get a better understanding of how the alliance has evolved over time. I found that the U.S.- Japan security alliance has increasingly shown solidarity as Japan began to embrace a “forward-leaning defense posture” in recent years. The security alliance has shifted from an imbalanced status to a relatively more equal status as the Asia-Pacific region became increasingly unstable.

**16.**

**Felons and Freedom: The Motivations and Implications of Felony Disenfranchisement**

**MATTHEW D. KORDOWSKI**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

The United States currently disenfranchises 5.85 million citizens with felony convictions. State voting policies vary in restrictiveness and have a dark past including political and racial motivations. This research examines two questions: 1) What are the political motivations behind restrictive felony disenfranchisement laws? and 2) What are the impacts on society of restrictive felony disenfranchisement laws and do these disproportionately affect African-Americans? First, I hypothesized that restrictive policies remain in place because of political incentives to restrict minority voters. Second, I hypothesized that restrictive felony disenfranchisement laws hinder the democratic process while producing negative public safety and social implications that disproportionately affect African-Americans. To test my hypotheses, I performed case studies of eight different states from four different

policy categories. I also conducted expert interviews and reviewed quantitative and qualitative research previously preformed on this topic. I found that Republican states tend to maintain restrictive policies especially apparent in the South. I was able to make a plausible inference that Republican legislatures are incentivized to restrict the African-American vote because they tend to vote for the Democratic Party majority of the time. I also found significant social and public safety implications of restrictive felony disenfranchisement laws that disproportionately affect African-Americans and hinder representation.

**17.**

**Multivariate Insights Into Motion Discrimination With Psychophysically Suppressed MT:  
An fMRI Study**

**DANIEL LIN, Majed Samad, Ben Thompson, and Zili Liu**  
**Mentor: Zili Liu**

Cells in the middle temporal cortex (MT) respond vigorously when visual motion is perceived, but markedly less when motion stimuli move in opposite directions--a phenomenon known as motion opponency. In our motion direction discrimination task, participants indicated whether opponent motion stimuli were tilted clockwise or counter-clockwise on each trial. Across thousands of trials, participants exhibited improved discrimination performance, indicating perceptual learning had occurred. They also performed this task in an fMRI scanner both before and after this perceptual learning. Here, we report results of a state-of-the-art multi-voxel pattern analysis (MVPA) that uses machine learning to decode the motion direction from MT brain activity under motion opponency before and after training. Despite total fMRI signal amount being further reduced following training, decoding accuracy improved from 58.85% to 64.62%. These counterintuitive results support the notion that a reduction in average MT activity corresponds to increased efficiency of encoding motion opponent signals. This shows tremendous promise for approaches aimed at tracking and enhancing the neural markers of learning.

**18.**

**Gang-Affiliated Latina Teen Mothers "Breaking Silence": Resisting Stereotypes**

**Through Familial and Educational Aspirations**

**KATHERINE MALDONADO and Robert C. Romero**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

Latinas have the highest rate of teen pregnancy and are less likely to enroll and pursue a college education. The National Campaign study shows that less than two percent of teen moms graduate from college. Utilizing a critical race analysis, this study examines the experiences of gang affiliated Latina teen mothers to better understand how their experiences shape their identity and educational aspirations. To acknowledge and validate these mothers' narratives, I will conduct six in-depth interviews with teen mothers from South Central, Los Angeles. This methodological approach allows participants to voice their experiential knowledge as teen mothers and provide counter-stories. The community cultural wealth framework will further empower their stories and challenge deficit notions about these women's lived experiences. It is essential to support these teen mothers in fulfilling their educational aspirations in order to help increase the high school and college graduation rates among

this population. This study will provide recommendations on how to better support young Latina mothers and will contribute to the literature on these women's experiences that have been invisible and under-looked in educational research.

**19.**

**Exploring the Association Between Sibling Conflict and Daily Somatic Complaints:**

**The Mediating Role of Self-Worth**

**MICHAEL A. MANZANO, ANA I. ETCHISON, Delana Parker, Rena Repetti,**

**Sunhye Bai, and Theodore Robles**

**Mentor: Rena Repetti**

Stressful family environments negatively influence mental and physical health outcomes in children (Repetti *et al.*, 2002); however, there has been little investigation of the role of siblings in the association (Tucker & Updegraff, 2009). Moreover, emotion processing may be an important pathway through which high conflict family environments affect health problems (Repetti *et al.*, 2002). While much remains to be understood about the critical components of emotion processing, self-worth is known to influence emotion processing strategies (Leary *et al.*, 1995). This study explores the mediating role of global self-worth in the association between arguments with siblings and daily somatic complaints. A sample of 39 children with at least one sibling completed daily diaries on 56 consecutive days, including questions about arguments with siblings and muscles aches and pains, and a one-time measure of perceptions of self, including global self-worth (Self-Perception Profile for Children; Harter, 1985). Having more arguments with siblings on average was correlated with increased reports of daily somatic complaints ( $r = .31, p < .05$ ). However, when controlling for global self-worth ( $r = .20, p = .23$ ), the correlation between sibling conflict and somatic complaints ceased to reach statistical significance. This pattern suggests that emotion processing in general, and self-esteem in particular, may play a role in the link between sibling conflict and minor health problems in children. Future research should further explore the contributions of siblings to children's health and development.

**20.**

**Improving the Integrated Treatment of Co-Morbid Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders in Prison**

**PRIYANKA MEHTA**

**Mentor: David Farabee**

Many prisoners who are diagnosed with a mental illness also are diagnosed with a substance use disorder. There are a variety of psychiatric treatment programs available in prisons across the country, but only a few of these are designed to specifically target a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse. In this study, we analyzed several program evaluations of such prison dual diagnosis treatments. Our first goal was to review and combine their results to determine the general effectiveness of these programs. Our second goal was to use this information coupled with background research to suggest and justify improvements to prison dual diagnosis programs. We focused our analysis on the distinction within mental illness between mood disorders and psychotic disorders. We propose that for prison dual diagnosis treatment programs to be more effective, it is necessary to acknowledge that the differences between types of mental illness extend into substance use and criminality as well, and design programs that specifically focus on one type of mental illness in all

aspects of treatment. With such programs, we might be able to improve treatment for prisoners suffering from dual diagnosis.

**21.**

**Negotiating “Empowerment” through Debt, Shame, and Patriarchy:  
An Ethnography of Microcredit Self-Help Groups in Rural West India**

**MEGAN MORAN**

**Mentor: Akhil Gupta**

This research presents an ethnographic analysis of processes of “women’s empowerment,” or the ways in which individuals strive to access the benefits of economic growth, in microcredit self-help groups (SHG) coordinated by the non-government organization (NGO) Bharata Devi in rural west India. Bharata Devi’s SHGs are designed to “empower” women to fulfill and capitalize upon their preexisting gender role expectations, for example by extending opportunities to engage their skills in entrepreneurial activities, such as cooking, sewing, and making handicrafts. Data was collected through five months of ethnographic research, including interviews and focus groups with over 175 community members, and participant observations of SHG activities and village life while living in the home of an SHG organizer. Analysis focuses on three broader socio-cultural phenomena that affect women’s agency in microcredit SHGs: debt, shame, and patriarchy. While microcredit upholds loans as means to access capital, the debt women incur affects their opportunities in terms of monetary constraints. Bharata Devi SHG organizers employ shame to enforce debt repayment by collateralizing upon preexisting cultural notions of honor. In turn, shame acts as a social constraint on women’s opportunities, often in conflict with social constraints of patriarchy. Ultimately, this ethnography aims to provide a more encompassing view of microcredit by explaining why women have difficulty deriving benefits from participating in microcredit SHGs.

**22.**

**Patterns of Destruction: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Deliberate Mutilation of  
Ancient Statuary from Mesoamerica and Mesopotamia**

**SARA MORRISSET**

**Mentor: Richard Lesure**

Evidence of the deliberate mutilation and destruction of art forms can be found across numerous societies throughout human history. Anthropomorphic statuary from ancient Mesopotamia and Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica serve as case study examples for this cross-cultural analysis of deliberately mutilated images. Based on the investigation of the statuary from both regions, the patterns of mutilation were found to be both culturally specific and cross-culturally shared despite their geographical separation. The specific patterns of intentional modification found on 297 monuments were cataloged and collected from published sources. I propose that a comparison and analysis of the context of the patterns of mutilation between the two regions may suggest that the root of such action can be analyzed through three analytical frameworks: a) the phenomenon being viewed as a pan-human tendency related to cognitive processes, b) as having primarily socio-political underpinnings, and c) via a cultural relativist approach that emphasizes the specificity of regional differences. However, it must be noted that the proposed explanations for the motivation of the deliberate mutilation of statuary may

not be mutually exclusive. This research serves to expand upon scholarly discussion of the reasoning behind the multitude of examples of the deliberate mutilation of statuary found throughout human history and provides a research method that can be used to analyze examples of the deliberate mutilation of statuary of other cultures and time periods.

**23.**

**The Role of Siblings in Shaping Language and Education in Latino Families**

**STEPHANIE NAVARRETE**

**Mentor: Leisy Abrego**

Exposure to the English language is a key factor in a student's adaptation to the education system in the United States. Children born to monolingual parents have a difficult time adapting in school because English is their second language. In Spanish speaking households, however, studies have shown that English learning programs—along with other factors in the home—have improved students' early integration to the language, which has helped make their grade school experiences more feasible. In my research, I will examine one of those factors—siblings. My research expands on the notion that siblings play a crucial role in the development of the language as well as the educational success of their youngest siblings because they are the first exposed to the education system in their respective households. Using their retrospective reflections, I will survey Latino college students who grew up with monolingual parents and English speaking older siblings. I will examine the impact that older siblings have on their youngest siblings' grade school experiences as well as decisions in pursuing higher education. My research hopes to pinpoint the importance of assisting children born to monolingual parents without English speaking siblings in order to provide all students with equitable educational opportunities for higher education.

**24.**

**Decoding Structural Practices that Associate Queer Sexuality with the Spread of STDs**

**OMAR NIETO**

The purpose of my research project is to challenge the assumption that queer people are more at risk for contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), a belief that reflects the dominate heteronormative response to the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s, which is now embedded in STI/STD testing procedures and codified in the language used on screening questionnaires. This framing suggests to heterosexuals that they are not in as much risk for contracting STDs, leading to an under-engagement with testing services—which has significant implications for many groups, particularly for women of color who account for the majority of new HIV infections. As such, I hypothesize that queer people are primarily targeted for STD testing services. I also hypothesize that screening questionnaires will associate "at risk" behaviors with queer sexuality, i.e., through the identification of Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM) as a risk category. I analyzed this association through a mixed-methods approach: STD screening questionnaires from different testing facilities in Los Angeles were obtained for content analysis, and interviews were conducted with STD-testing practitioners to determine if screening practices systematically targeted MSM as an "at risk" population. Quantitative data was used to determine current levels of engagement with testing services in California. Implications from this research might

encourage health practitioners to reframe the way they target STI/STD screening and testing to reach a broader population.

**25.**

**Syrian Refugee-ism in Jordan: Service Provision, Human Vulnerability, and Systemic Crisis in the Hashemite Kingdom**

**GREGOIRE PHILLIPS**

**Mentor: Ronald L. Rogowski**

As civil war, economic turmoil, and political sectarianism displace hundreds of thousands of Syrians annually, host countries continue to struggle in cooperation with international organizations to provide refuge, humanitarian relief, and quality public services to the nearly 3 million refugees currently residing within their borders. This massive influx of people has prompted concerns for the stability of host governments, economies, and societies in the wake of recent economic and political shocks to the region. While much of the contemporary development discourse on the situation focuses on the importance of short-term emergency assistance and humanitarian relief, relatively few discuss the presence of long-term systemic inequalities in effective assistance and service provision among the refugee populations in these states. Primarily focusing on Syrian refugee crisis within the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and utilizing information gathered through over three months of intensive field work, this research seeks to apply a critical analysis of current data within Amartya Sen's human capabilities framework to show how systemic inequalities within the Syrian refugee population affect educational outcomes, why this phenomenon influences trends in human vulnerability, and how systemic gaps in relief and service provision may alter the future landscape of the Syrian nation and the Jordanian government, economy, and society in the turbulent years ahead.

**26.**

**Sustainable Renaissance: A Resurgence of Past Technology**

**MATTHEW J. PLAIA**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

It is no more evident than in our world's current state that alternative forms of sustainable energy are now a necessity to our survival. Fortunately, with the accelerated production of new and innovative technology, as well as the extraordinary advancement and availability of scientific knowledge, it is more promising today for humanity to discover such vital, renewable capabilities. However, one must never forget the shoulders upon which our world's most intelligent and creative minds have stood upon to realize their work, for, occasionally, a new problem's answer may reside in the pursuits of our ancestors. The aim of this research asks whether we hold the potential to decrease financial consumption for non-defense energy efficient innovations by focusing on pre-21st century scientific research, and possible mechanical variations of past technology that could increase energy efficiency. Through an analysis of preexisting patent literature literature and art, together with deliberated mechanical variations of former technology under said evaluation, this research assesses the development of three (3) alternative renewable apparatuses with the potential to supply new forms of electric generation with lower emissions and reduced financial costs.

**27.**

**From the Valley to the UC: The Influence of Parental Involvement in  
Education on Mexicanas' Academic Self Perception**

**MAYRA PUENTE**

**Mentor: Daniel G. Solorzano**

Compared to other areas of California, the Central Valley has exceptionally low UC eligibility rates. The disproportion of these students in the top tier of the public university system is a topic that is generally unexplored in academia. To better understand the underrepresentation of these students in the UC system, my research will center on analyzing how parental involvement in education influences students' understanding of the college choice process. Building off limited existing literature, I will specifically focus on the academic trajectories of low income, first generation high school female students of Mexican descent. Students with this particular identity face additional academic barriers that further serve to complicate their pursuit of higher education. To further comprehend how female students from the Central Valley make sense of higher learning and how their educational pathways are shaped by their parents, I will conduct focused personal interviews with approximately ten female students and administer focus groups with all participants. If parental support is shown to be a significant determinant of students' university attendance, this finding may lead to an implementation of policies at the primary and secondary levels of schooling that will increase Latina and Latino parental participation in school settings, thereby increasing the educational mobility of their children. The expected outcome is an enlarged number of Mexican females from the Central Valley in prestigious public universities.

**28.**

**Queer Collectivity: An Interrogation of the Fictionality of Nations through  
Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things***

**ALEX RAMSEY**

**Mentor: Yogita Goyal**

Though in the Western world, and in particular, the United States, we function within a society which has internalized nationality as an essential component of identity, by observing postcolonial regions which are still constituting their nationalities, such as India, we can recognize "nation" as "imagined community," one that predicates itself upon fictions of collectivity and historical rewriting. Arundhati Roy's novel, *The God of Small Things*, interrogates both the mechanisms and the effects of this fictionality, in the process revealing how competing discourses for Indian national identity reify and strengthen the underlining power discourse of nationality as essential. She illustrates how this underlining discourse often relies on a static gender binary (perceived as normative) and specific boundaries of interpersonal sexual and emotional relationships in order to ground itself. I am arguing that Roy tackles the elite vs. subaltern dichotomy continuously created and concurrently hidden by national construction through a queer temporization of her novel. As a result, Roy suggests that "queer," as an identity which defines itself as orthogonal to any particular definition, can perhaps be used as a productive collective grounding that does not create elite/subaltern divisions but still permits a space for interpersonal strengthening and support.

**29.**

**Looking for Acceptance: An Analysis of Medication Recommendations by Assertion in Primary Care Consultations**  
**ARCHANA REDDY and Tanya Stivers**  
**Mentor: Tanya Stivers**

In Medical Sociology, the study of how physicians recommend treatments to patients during consultations has become a topic of growing interest. Using the method of Conversation Analysis, I analyze video-recorded naturally occurring treatment discussions between patients and their primary-care physicians to understand what conditions the way in which a delivery of a recommendation for treatment is done. In particular, in contrast to the most common way which includes "I'm go to start you on [medication X]," sometimes physicians recommend using assertions such as "[medication X] works well for some people with these symptoms." My analysis shows that assertions work to advocate for a treatment in a way that applies minimal pressure for patient uptake. An assertion essentially functions as a resource for physicians to assess the receptiveness of the patient, while also allowing the patient flexibility to accept or reject the treatment recommendation. The three main environments in which assertions are used include following local resistance of a recommendation by a patient, misalignment of the recommendation with patient indicated desires, and when doctors are laying out a multi-step treatment plan and are working to sway the patient towards a conservative approach. Overall, understanding the framework in which assertions are used provides physicians with a tool to better understand their patients and facilitate patient agreement to a treatment that may be contested.

**30.**

**Emotional Motivations For The Shi'a Mourning Rituals In London**  
**ALI N. SAID**  
**Mentor: Alan P. Fiske**

What has motivated Shi'a Muslims to perform self-beating mourning rituals for the last thirteen centuries? Past research has studied the dynamics of the Shi'a mourning rituals during Ashura (within the holy month of Muharram), which commemorates the martyrdom of Imam Hussein and 72 of his family and companions. In contrast, this research focuses on fieldwork conducted in London on the unstudied mourning rituals that take place for Imam Ali during the holy month of Ramadan. The mourning rituals, which at times can become self-injurious, involve crowds of Shi'a synchronously beating themselves with bare hands to the rhythm of lamentation poetry for the martyred religious figures. Evidence suggests that the aesthetics of the rituals, which include collective chest beating and the singing of lamentation poetry, evoke powerful emotional experiences among Shi'a participants. The communal aesthetics of the rituals cause a sense of awe at the sight of the rituals, love for the religious figures, and "feeling moved." As these positive emotions culminate, mourners experience a cathartic release from negative emotions, by symbolically relating personal distress to the suffering of the religious figures being mourned. This thesis argues that such emotional experiences serve as a motivation for Shi'a to continually participate in these rituals. This in turn strengthens overall social relations amongst Shi'a circles in London, while reaffirming Shi'a identity and spiritual allegiance to the religious figures.

**31.**

**Seeking a Diagnosis for HIV: Understanding the Decision-Making Process**

**MATTHEW A. SATYADI**

**Mentor: Zsuzsa Berend**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 20% of the 1.1 million people living with HIV in the United States are undiagnosed. These individuals who are unaware of their infection are not only underutilizing the care and treatments that are available to them, but may also unknowingly passing the virus onto those around them. One of the biggest challenges in HIV treatment and prevention is getting individuals to obtain a diagnosis, which is the first step in the HIV Care Continuum. This research aims to understand the process of how individuals decide to seek a diagnosis for HIV/AIDS by exploring the sequence of events that led them to their decision. Using interview data and existing sociological frameworks that explain treatment-seeking behavior, this decision-making process can be broken down into a sequence of events, one of which being "illness delay." The length of this delay period is influenced by a variety of factors, the most prominent being HIV-related stigma, and social barriers. Individuals who decide to seek HIV-testing overcome these barriers by relying on their relationships with others and becoming more informed about HIV. By being able to understand how individuals make the decision to seek an HIV diagnosis and how individuals overcome barriers to testing, we work towards making HIV testing easier, providing emotional and social support for concerned individuals, and develop better pathways to diagnosis.

**32.**

**Doctors Without Borders: The Globalization of the Professional Degree**

**ISABELLE R.P. SICO**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

Among the 11.1 million workers employed in health care occupations in the United States in 2010, 1.8 million (16 percent) were foreign born, up 1% from 2006 (McCabe). My research project involves the globalization of professional degrees in the healthcare field particularly in the reciprocity of the Philippine healthcare education system to the American healthcare occupation system. This project will focus on the equivalence of professional medical degrees obtained in the Philippines to its translation in the American healthcare system and the pitfalls and trends of success or otherwise in finding reciprocity between the degree, training, and actual position in both Philippine-born and educated and American-born, Philippine-educated students. Research is conducted to understand the feasibility of an international education implemented into the American healthcare system, and requirements, processes, and professional, financial, personal, and systemic barriers to achievement and eventual outcomes and placement of such forms of achievements through statistical and qualitative evidence. This research will serve as a resource for Philippine educated healthcare workers, their co-workers and patients, and those considering healthcare education in the Philippines to reevaluate education and expectation in the American health care system especially in a world where access to healthcare is rapidly increasing.

**33.**

**HIV/AIDS Prevalence and Healthcare in Baka (Pygmy) Communities of Southeast Cameroon**

**CYRUS S. SINAI**

**Mentor: Hilary Godwin**

The Baka are a semi-nomadic hunter-gatherer peoples indigenous to the rainforests of southeastern Cameroon, estimated to number around 60,000 individuals. As a result of Cameroon's rapid growth of logging and mining industries, many Baka can no longer continue their traditional rainforest livelihoods and have been increasingly moving to sedentary roadside villages where they are in close proximity to neighboring agriculturalist Bantu populations and the roads that logging/mining workers heavily traverse. Previous studies have suggested that the increasing urbanization of Baka populations may be putting these populations at an increased risk for HIV-infection, but this hypothesis has yet to be substantiated with any actual studies. In summer of 2014, clinics and local organizations that have worked with the Baka were interviewed throughout the Boumba-et-Ngoko division of southeast Cameroon. Information was collected on local demographics and health, available HIV statistics, and the various social and economic factors that can influence HIV prevalence in both Baka and Bantu communities. HIV prevalence was generally found to be higher in major towns and truck stops in the region, and sexual contact with neighboring Bantu villagers rather than logging/mining workers was found to be the most significant risk factor for HIV infection amongst the Baka. This study can be useful for identifying future opportunities for improving HIV-Â-related healthcare for both Baka and neighboring Bantu communities in southeast Cameroon.

**34.**

**Changing Foodways in the American South: Examining the Motivations Behind Intergenerational Food Choices in Alabama**

**ALLISON V. SOLOMON-WALES**

**Mentor: Monica L. Smith**

Foodways are a vital part of regional culture and identity, but changes in working hours, perceptions of health, access to convenience foods, and various other factors have affected "traditional" foodways worldwide. This research seeks to discover if these factors are leading to a disappearance of traditional foodways in the American South by conducting participant observation research among women in Birmingham, Alabama. Foodways are the cultural, social and economic practices relating to the production and consumption of food. A loss of these longstanding food traditions in the South would mean the loss of an integral aspect of Southern, and American, culture. John Egerton writes in his canonical book *Southern Food*: "For as long as there has been a South, and people who think of themselves as Southerners, food has been central to the region's image, its personality, and its character." The proposed ethnographic research will examine the complex interrelationships between food preparation and consumption, cultural identity, and structures of family life in middle class Alabama. Specifically, my research examines the preparation and consumption of food as a social practice that enhances kin and social ties and contributes a sense of belonging to Southern society.

**35.**

**Using Mechanical Turk to Assess STEM Perception, Mindset, and Stereotype Vulnerability in Women**  
**SOPHIE MAKO TANAKA and Steve Reise**

**Mentor: Steve Reise**

Promoting STEM majors and careers to women requires an understanding of the factors responsible for the gender gap, including cognitive and affective constructs. This study is interested in how Carol Dweck's theories of intelligence and the concept of stereotype threat relate to women's perception of STEM. Previous research reveals that possessing a growth mindset has been shown to offset some of the academic disadvantages associated with the phenomenon of stereotype threat (Aronson, Fried & Good, 2002). Because stereotype threat is known to impact women's perception of STEM, this research hypothesizes that women who have more positive perceptions of STEM fields will demonstrate below average vulnerability towards stereotype threat and above average tendencies towards a growth mindset. It is also hypothesized that there will be a negative relationship between the women's growth mindset scores and the women's stereotype vulnerability scores. This study involves 200 females from Amazon's Mechanical Turk service, requiring United States residency and a 95% approval rate in order participate in the study. This research will use a demographic questionnaire, a STEM Semantics Survey, Katherine Picho's Social Identities and Attitudes Scale and Dweck's Mindset Scale. This research can be used to design programs that promote STEM to young women in American society.

**36.**

**Getting Real About Mathematics: Student Engagement Through Real-World and Mathematical Problems**

**LAURA TREJO**

The persistent achievement gap continues to document Latinos as not performing well in mathematics. This has consequences for Latino students seeking a higher education, as mathematics is a qualifier to be eligible for gaining admissions into four year universities. Since Latinos are not a homogeneous group and Latino students may have different ways of learning, it is important to understand the effective ways teachers address the different learning styles in their classrooms. This project examines how middle school math teachers are working with Latinos students in applying math to their everyday lives to promote academic success in their classroom. The concept of Community Cultural Wealth is employed to analyze the relationship that the math Common Core State Standards have with culturally relevant mathematics among Latino students. Data will be gathered through interviews of a middle school math teacher, one on one interaction with students, and participant observation in the classroom. The purpose of conducting this research is to understand and identify how learning environments foster students motivations in math, by applying their mathematical knowledge to real world problems. Therefore understanding learning environments in schools where students are able to attain the important knowledge and skills in math is essential in increasing the academic achievement of Latino students and equity in math education.

**37.**

**Sisterhood in the Islamic Caliphate: Self-Appointed Gods, Fabrications of Islamic Law, and  
Governmental Failures**

**MERIMA TRICIC**

**Mentor:**

The purpose of this study is to explore the political and religious dimensions in which certain Islamic sources have been silenced due to the conservative movements occurring within the United States. My hypothesis is that extremist movements against the West have been propagated through the pursuance of anti-modern practices to garner support against the “other” by perpetuating false ideas of representation that permeate Islamic ideologies. It is hypothesized that the lack of strong communication between Bosnian immigrant diasporas within majority Desi/Arab mosques in Western states is one of the causes of the involvement of Bosnian immigrant children with ISIS as “jihadi brides” or “fighters.” This research examines two specific cases of Bosnian immigrant teenage girls who, upon interaction with alternatively conservative ideologies of Islam, left Austria to Syria as brides for ISIS members. Through the examination of identity conflict theories within Bosnian diasporas as well as through the survey of Bosnian American associations within Austria and the United States, this research demonstrates that identity issues related to religion, culture, and ethnicity have had a correlation with families whose children became involved with ISIS. The study will suggest ways in which followers of conservative movements tend to struggle with their social identity within American societies and how such movements force generations to “choose a side” between escalating religious representations.

**38.**

**Asian American Neighborhood Designation**

**TIANJIE WANG**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

I plan to focus on three Asian American neighborhoods, Little Tokyo, Thai Town and Little Bangladesh in Los Angeles. My research includes those three communities history and the process of obtaining official designation.

**39.**

**What is this? Bilingual Children’s Picture Naming in a Naturalistic Setting**

**YUUKI L. YAMAGIWA, Natsuki Atagi, and Catherine M. Sandhofer**

**Mentor: Catherine M. Sandhofer**

Children are adept at naming objects in their environment, but does this apply to bilingual children? Empirical studies show bilinguals respond more slowly in timed picture naming tasks than monolinguals (e.g., Gollan, Montoya, Fennema-Notestine, & Morris, 2005). In contrast, this naturalistic study examined whether bilingualism affects how quickly children are able to name pictures in non-laboratory settings. Monolingual Japanese-speaking parent-child dyads from Japan (n=13) and Japanese-English bilingual dyads from the U.S. (n=10) were videotaped while they talked to each other about pictures in a wordless picture book. Instances of parents asking the question, “What is this?” to their children in Japanese were examined. We analyzed monolingual and bilingual children’s response times to measure how long it took for children to answer their parents’ question and name the pictures. The results from

this naturalistic study show that there is no significant difference in response times between monolingual and bilingual children. However, there was a significant difference between correct and incorrect responses for both monolingual and bilingual children, suggesting that children spend more time responding to parents' questions when they did not recognize the pictures, regardless of the children's language backgrounds. Although these findings counteract previous research literature, this study suggests that parents may be encouraging a bilingual environment and emphasizing the importance of using both languages at home.

**40.**

**Mental Illness, Stigma, and...Advocates?: Identities in Various Circles of the Asian Communities**

**TINA S. YIP**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

Mental illness usually comes with a set of stigmas and preconceived identities about the people with mental illnesses. This is something that is common in the Asian communities. Usually these Asian communities have individuals who are part of various different circles, which helps shape their identities. For example, circles, which involve your immediate family compared to the circle of school peers. In these different circles, the perception of mental illness will vary, based on the culture and language that do occur, which could cause a change in identities. I will be looking into how some members, specifically mental health advocates, of the Asian communities she what was the identity that they had before they were diagnosed. Then I will be looking into how their identity changes after their diagnosis. I will be conducting a series of interviews with some of the mental health advocates in Los Angeles, who are a part of the Asian communities. Then I will be taking these interviews and connecting them to the studies that have looked into Asian American mental illness and how culture affects these identities. An objective of this poster is to help healthcare professionals to gain an understanding of how members of the Asian communities identify and understand mental illness. The significance of this poster will help someone who maybe struggling with mental illness to learn from the experiences of these mental health advocates in the Asian community.

---

**1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 2**

---

**1.**

**Emergent Bilinguals in Secondary Schools: Navigating School Policies and Practices**

**ORLANDO AGRAZ and Magali Campos**

This research project will explore the experiences of emergent bilingual students, specifically students who arrived from a Latin American country during high school. Coined by Ofelia Garcia, the term emergent bilingual removes the negative perceptions often associated with emergent bilingual students. Despite the abundance of research focusing on emergent bilingual students in primary schools, there is a discrepancy on the amount of research produced on emergent bilingual students in secondary schools. As a result, this project is intended to further the understanding of the valuable cultural capital these students' posses as newly arrived immigrants. In addition, this research project aims to explore the methods emergent bilingual students use to navigate school policies and practices. I

will be using Critical Race Theory to analyze the significance of being a student of Latino/a descent in the American educational system. I will also be using a translanguaging lens to better formulate my project without the deficit perceptions that have constantly been geared towards emergent bilingual students. Furthermore, data for this project was gathered through observational research due to the limitations of working with underage students. Lastly, this research is important because emergent bilingual students have the potential of becoming the next generation of leaders, thus making it imperative to fit the needs of these talented students.

## 2.

### **Down to Earth: An Ethnographic Documentary of Urban Gardening in Los Angeles**

**CLAUDIA VARNEY and SANNA ALAS**

**Mentor: Aparna Sharma**

Down to Earth is an ethnographic documentary that centers on two main Los Angeles County sites, and the potential of urban gardening in maintaining spiritual, mental and physical wellness while also building communities. While documentaries including *Food Inc.* (2010) and *The Garden* (2008) have exposed the side effects of industrial food production and local government corruption on growing food within cities, we have chosen to document the ways that urbanites sustain personal connections to the land despite living in Los Angeles. Urban gardeners are part of a broader movement to bring greenery to an urban environment, increase local access to fresh fruits and vegetables (particularly in food deserts), ameliorate health inequities correlated with factors including socioeconomic status and race, and build community through the shared activity of growing food. Our 10-15 minute documentary film focuses chiefly on two locations: Wattles Farm in Hollywood and what will be the Jordan High School Learning Garden, in Watts. The film chronicles students at Jordan High School as they work hard to create their own garden - securing land, securing funding, and getting community input -- to bring together their school and their community. Wattles Farm is one of the oldest gardens in Los Angeles, featuring the oldest avocado grove in the state and a vibrant community, just steps from Hollywood Boulevard.

## 3.

### **Islamic Aesthetics Form Old World and New: Tracing the Mudéjar Balconies of Lima from Iberia, to Peru and Back**

**CHRISTINE E. BECK**

**Mentor: Charlene V. Black**

This paper examines the movement of the late colonial era wooden carved balconies of Lima from Iberia, to the New World and back. With origins in the Islamic world, the existing wooden carved balconies of Southern Spain were ordered destroyed as part of the Inquisition. I investigate the evolution of this architectural symbol and the ways in which it produces meaning across the Atlantic and back. In doing this I delve into the ways this symbol complicates the normal discussions of hybridity in art history. I have conducted my research using both primary resources, such as archival records, as well as contemporary research. My threefold argument pays particular attention to the issues associated with the provenance. I discuss the significance of the balconies in Iberia, their significance when erected in Lima, and finally their significance when they returned to Spain as part of the Ibero-American World

Exhibition of 1929 as emblems of colonial era Peruvian architecture. My argument emphasizes the malleability of symbols as signifiers during the early modern transatlantic era.

**4.**

**A Critical Race Analysis of the Experiences of Latino and Latina Students in K-12 System and Community College**

**ELIZABETH CASTANEDA**

**Mentor: Daniel G. Solorzano**

According to the 2012 Census, 10 out of 100 Latino and Latina students in the United States receive a four-year college degree. However, 90 out of 100 students have not received a bachelor's degree. This means that Latino and Latinas have the lowest baccalaureate attainment rate of any racial and ethnic group in the United States. In addition, out of the 100 students, 42 are pushed out of high school and do not graduate. With the large number of Latino and Latina students being pushed out of high schools, this research investigates the factors that impact the experiences of Latino and Latina students throughout the K-12 system and community college pipeline. I will use Critical Race Theory (CRT) as a theoretical framework to explain these educational disparities. CRT focuses on the role of race and racism within the educational system and its impact on communities of color. The methods I will employ in this study are interviews to further understand my participant's educational experiences. The goal of this study is to capture the voices of students who have not graduated from a four-year college, and to counter the deficit narratives that are written about Latino and Latina students.

**5.**

**Analyzing Women of Color's Experiences of "Street Harassment"**

**NURY A. CHAVEZ**

**Mentor: Leisy Abrego**

Research has overlooked the pervasiveness of "street harassment," instead focusing on sexual harassment in the workplace and academic settings. Although we know that women of color are disproportionately the targets of sexual harassment, research addressing women of color's experiences and how they can differ from those of white women, is lacking. In order to begin to address this gap, I will analyze the experiences of Latinas to examine how the intersections of race and class shape their definitions of "street harassment" and the effects it has on them. I will utilize a combination of qualitative methods and a sample that will consist of eight Latinas between the ages of 18-28 who use public transportation in the Los Angeles area. Each participant will be interviewed individually in order to gain an in-depth understanding of how each interviewee interprets her experiences with "street harassment," and to identify the effects of those experiences. I will also conduct focus groups that will include all of the same eight interviewees, however, the discussion will concentrate on the women's immediate and subsequent responses to their experiences in attempts to expand the analysis of their interpretations of the behavior. This research contributes to the continuous effort to provide a platform for the voices of women of color, and highlight the significance of intersectionalities in formulating comprehensive strategies to cope with and combat sexist oppression.

6.

**The Journey of a Dream: Undocumented Students' Interpretation of  
Immigration Status as a Way of Academic Resilience**

**TERESA CONTRERAS**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

When considering the current immigration dilemma, research often focuses on the consequences on adults and forgets the experiences of the children who are also part of the process. The California educational pipeline shows that out of one hundred elementary non-citizen Latino students only three will obtain an undergraduate degree and less than one will be obtaining a graduate degree. Thus, this research will focus on students who fall under the “undocumented” label and, despite the stressors that come with their legal status, were able to pursue a college education. For this project, a focus on academic resilience will be defined as aspirational capital; students maintain optimistic about their future goals and careers, through the components of academic performance, community involvement, and extracurricular activities. Furthermore, this research will take into consideration how family dynamics play a role in this academic resilience. It will attempt to answer: Does undocumented student's interpretation of their immigration status help create a process of resiliency that motivates them to excel? Does family dynamics have an impact on the way undocumented students demonstrate academic resiliency? Through the method of surveys, fifty undergraduate students at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) will be asked about their resilience and family dynamics. My project will have local and federal implications showing how immigration status and education interconnect and the benefits of a comprehensive immigration reform.

7.

**Irrational Beasts or Sentient Creatures: The Shift in Church Attitudes  
Towards Animals in the High Middle Ages**

**JULIA F. CRISLER**

**Mentor: Naomi Taback**

The Christian Church held conflicting views towards animals throughout the medieval period. In Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, the Church, inspired by passages in the Book of Genesis, generally avoided a discussion of animals and worked to distinguish between men and animals in tales, attempting to remove vestigial pagan influences. However, in the High Middle Ages, Church attitudes shifted and animals were not only re-integrated into the Catholic Church, they were made into an essential part of both the common worshiper's relationship with God and in the Saints' Vitae. The Church even participated in collecting exotic and imaginary animal parts, which were kept and used in much the same way as holy Saints' relics. This new inclusion allowed for people of all social levels to participate in religion in new ways, now calling on saints and the Church to create miracles either through animals or for them. This was so pervasive that many saints even became associated with either a particular animal or animals in general. Saint Francis, in particular, was molded into a compassionate animal lover in order to combat growing heresies during the High Middle Ages, especially the Cathars, who preached against the killing or eating of animals. In these ways, the Catholic Church began incorporating animals, sentient and free-willed, into mainstream religion during the High Middle Ages.

**8.**

**Repairing the Educational Pipeline: Factors Affecting Latino Students' Motivation for Higher Education**

**RENATA FIGUEROA, Linda Taylor, and Howard Adelman**

**Mentor: Howard Adelman**

Various literary sources demonstrate an educational gap between Latino and non-Latino white students when it comes to enrolling in higher education. Thus, showing the formation of an educational pipeline in which Latinos constitute a small percentage of college graduates. This literature review focuses on parental educational involvement, sociocultural factors, and type of school environment, as three main factors that influence Latino students' motivation to pursue higher education after high school. Based on these findings, we provide research-based recommendations that can help school systems facilitate the academic success of their Latino student population. By emphasizing further practice and research, schools can help close the educational gap faced by Latino students and ensure that they are prepared and motivated to obtain a college degree.

**9.**

**Bullying In Schools: A Focus On Victims, Its Effects, and Best Practices For Prevention**

**SELINA FLORES**

**Mentor: Howard Adelman**

Each year, about 3.7 million children engage in bullying, and 3.2 million children are victims of bullying. These statistics demonstrate that schools are ineffective in preventing or reducing bullying. Understanding the possible risk factors of peer victimization and bullying is crucial because it can be very damaging, especially during a time when children are enduring changes in their relationship with others. This literature review underscores that victims of bullying were most often described as unusual (e.g. in terms of different characteristics, disabilities). Perpetrators frequently explained their bullying behavior as intended to exclude unusual people from social groups, enhance feelings of control, and justify themselves as normal. Victimization can have long-term effects, both socially (having few friends throughout high school) and psychologically (being diagnosed with depression). The significance of this project will provide schools with information on this crucial issue in order to take on preventative measures to stop bullying, to establish productive interventions for those already victimized, and to establish a safer school environment.

**10.**

**And Still, We Rise: The Impacts of a Black, Feminist Pedagogy**

**NIA FLOWERS**

**Mentor: Tyrone C. Howard**

A plethora of research is transforming our educational system to incorporate a culturally relevant pedagogy (CRP) for diverse students. However, within CRP, the distinctive experiences of black women are inadvertently lumped together with those of black men. A Black, feminist pedagogy acknowledges the unique intersectionality of race, gender, and class. Because related research is largely theoretical, this study will provide empirical research on Black feminist pedagogy, at a predominately white institution (PWI). Blue University has a course particularly for black women entitled "Empowerment of the Sister" with a curriculum that addresses the specific struggles, histories, and accomplishments of

Black women. This study evaluates the impact that a Black, feminist pedagogy has on the racial and gender identities of collegiate, black women. Specifically, the study seeks to investigate the ways in which this Black, feminist pedagogy is used as means of counter resistance against Eurocentric curriculum. I will collect and analyze the data through interviews with four students, final project analysis, and ethnographic field notes conducted through class observations. The findings from this study may provide an empowering paradigm for black women to assert their agency by redefining their representation through their personal, ethnographic accounts.

**11.**

**Guate-Angeleno: Exploring Localized Identity Formation in  
Héctor Tobar's *The Tattooed Soldier and Translation Nation***

**FANNY GARCIA**

**Mentor: Marissa K. Lopez**

Guatemalan American writer Hector Tobar's books, *The Tattooed Soldier and Translation Nation: Defining a New American Identity* in the Spanish-Speaking United States are considered examples of transnational literature written in the United States because both focus on the increased interconnectivity between Central America and the U.S. and the receding significance of national boundaries between these two countries. During the 1980s U.S. economic and political interventions in Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Honduras caused thousands to immigrate to the U.S. Many of them settled in Los Angeles. This poster explores how both of Tobar's works explore the significance the city of Los Angeles has made in the identity formation of Central Americans considered 1.5 and second generation immigrants. In this thesis, intertwining Guatemalan and Angeleno identity emerges as Guate-Angeleno, an identity characterized by ambivalence about identifying with any nation-state (in particular the U.S.), clandestinidad, a desire to remain invisible to the nation as a survival mechanism, and a sense of rootedness to Los Angeles as a geographical spatial settlement. This new category of identity addresses the limits of transnational identity, which centralizes nation-states and ignores the importance and salience of urban spaces in localized identity formation for 1.5 generation immigrants and second generation Central American immigrants in Los Angeles.

**12.**

**Counter-Stereotypic Exemplars Among Minority Students**

**GISSELL GARCIA**

**Mentor: Jenessa R. Shapiro**

Research to date suggests that exposing majority group members to counter-stereotypical minorities reduces prejudice expression and increases perceptions of inequality. However, counter-stereotypic exemplars may be less effective as interventions when they display success within the stereotyped group (e.g., best GPA amongst Black students) compared to within a stereotyped domain in general (e.g., a Black student with the best GPA in their major). The current research examines how successful minorities are evaluated in the context of other members of their compared groups to the domain in general. Participants read a magazine profile about a Black college senior who was either inducted into a national black undergraduate honor society or a California undergraduate honor society or a White college senior who was either inducted into a national undergraduate honor society or for whom no

information about honor societies was reported. We hypothesize that White targets who are inducted in the general honor society will be rated more favorably than Black targets who are inducted in the general honor society, and that a White target who has not been inducted in an honor society will be rated more favorably than a Black target inducted in a National Black Honor Society. Given that diversity recognition and awards are increasingly common, and indeed are intended as an intervention against bias, understanding how they may negatively influence minority group members will aid the design of the most effective policies and interventions.

**13.**

**A Look into the Lives of Black and Afrikan American Women at Predominantly White Institutions**

**ALEXIA GONZALEZ**

**Mentor: Tyrone C. Howard**

Black and Afrikan American women remain detrimentally underrepresented at predominantly white institutions (PWIs), and have lower persistence rates than their white counterparts. Racism, sexism, and other interlocking systems of oppression create obstacles for Black women at all levels of education. Given that education is a vital factor in determining life quality and upward mobility, the disenfranchisement of Black and Afrikan American women within education needs to be further examined. Therefore, this research seeks to investigate the degree to which racism and sexism affects Black and Afrikan American women's educational experiences at PWIs. This study will employ qualitative methods, specifically individual interviews, focus groups, and observation of UCLA's all Black female "Sister to Sister" Education course, in order to gather primary accounts of these women's experiences. This study will employ the propriety of Critical Race Theory (CRT) and Black Feminist Epistemology (BFE) as theoretical frameworks and methodological tools for examining the disenfranchisement of Black and Afrikan women in higher education. The objective of this work is to illuminate Black women's experiences at systems of higher education whose structures enable and justify vestiges of discrimination. This research is imperative to developing transformative solutions in education that ultimately will create educational environments that endorse more inclusivity, diversity, and equality.

**14.**

**Undocumented and Institutionally Supported: Undocumented Students**

**Negotiating Identity at the University of California**

**MARIA M. GUTIERREZ**

**Mentor: Leisy Abrego**

In 2013, University of California President Janet Napolitano launched a \$5 million dollar initiative to ensure that UC campuses had resource centers available for undocumented students. In 2012, the Undocumented Student Program (USP) was established at UCLA to support undocumented students with their unique needs. It has expanded its services after receiving additional funding from the Napolitano initiative. By using the USP as a case study, this project seeks to understand how institutionally funded resources for undocumented students, resources lacking in some universities, affect the identity formation of the Latina/o undocumented student population in the UC system. Additionally, this project seeks to understand the implications such programs have on undocumented students' sense of campus climate and levels of civic engagement. A Latina/o Critical studies framework

will be used in framing this research and its findings, focusing specifically on migration and identity. For this study, twenty current undocumented, Latina/o, UCLA undergraduate students, utilizing USP services, will be surveyed and five will be selected to participate in an in-depth interview. Finding the effects that USP, and similar programs, have on undocumented student's identity on campuses is critical in understanding the unique challenges they have in higher education. For universities to better serve, retain and advocate to these student's unique needs, not only in California, the findings of this research project are critical.

**15.**

**Asian American Pacific Islander Community Involvement with Mental Health Awareness**

**THAO L. HO**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

We will be looking at why there is a model minority attitude towards Asian Americans, especially when it comes to mental health. AAPIs always have a lower percentage when it comes to utilizing professional mental health services, from a non-AAPI perspective it has always been speculated that they are healthy and not in need of such services. However, when taking the time to understand different AAPI cultures we see that there is a similar stigma towards mental illnesses. For research methods there are non-profit organizations in the Los Angeles area that focus on AAPI mental health and we want to look at their approaches to community outreach and what they are doing to bring an encouraging attitude to AAPIs that are in need of help. Through this research we will be able to see if there has been a shift on how AAPIs are looking at mental health and the steps they are taking towards being more open with finding the help that they might need. Hopefully in the future we will be able to offer more options when it comes to immigrants because of problems like language barriers or for the elderly so they can feel secure in speaking out and finding ways to cope with mental health concerns without having the stress of feeling ashamed.

**16.**

**Effective Dual Language Programs in K-5 Schools**

**CRYSTAL C. KUMTONG**

Many research studies show the benefits of knowing more than one language. Bilingualism is linked to many cognitive and academic benefits, such as better executive functioning skills, better problem solving skills, and more tolerant attitudes towards others. There are some programs that support students learning English in the classroom, such as English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learning (ELL) curriculums, however, how can classrooms actively support students' development of a second language, especially in K-5? This research project aims to identify what dual language programs look like and how they are implemented in the classroom. My question is how can classrooms actively support students' development of a second language, especially in K-5 grades? Through an interview with a teacher and classroom observations of a dual-language, 4th and 5th grade, I will illustrate what this type of classroom looks like in an effort to expand these types of programs. This data will be examined using Critical Race Theory and Yosso's Community Culture Wealth, through linguistic capital and the centrality of experiential knowledge. Effective dual language learning programs

that are implemented early in students' lives are crucial to developing strong second language skills because children are most receptive to language learning during their early years.

**17.**

**The Citizenship Industry: A Sociological Analysis of China-U.S. Birth Tourism**

**CHERRY LAI**

**Mentor: Roger Waldinger**

Birth tourism is a growing phenomenon in which non-immigrant expectant mothers temporarily visit the United States with the goal of giving birth on U.S. soil. I posit that birth tourism is an industry in which different groups of social actors, driven by profit, come together to offer services that facilitate the acquisition of birthright citizenship. Drawing from in-depth interviews conducted with 10 non-immigrant Chinese parents between the 2013-2015 periods, this research offers a small window into the clandestine network of birth tourism. I examine the citizenship industry from the consumer point of view as the first step into understanding the complex conditions and networks of birth tourism. The interviews reflect the individual process of how non-immigrant parents navigate the citizenship industry. Moreover, the collective data reflects the social processes that facilitate and sustain the China-U.S. citizenship industry. The citizenship industry is born out of globalization, China-U.S. social and political relations, legal loopholes, and a sustainable birth tourism network. Moreover, birth tourism is based on the commodification of citizenship. For a small group of class-privileged parents with monetary means, birth tourism is not only available as an affordable alternative around the one-child policy but also a form of luxury consumption.

**18.**

**Policing Gender: Addressing Police Abuse Towards Transwomen of Color in Los Angeles**

**ACES LIRA**

In response to recent attention to police brutality towards communities of color has gained, this research aims to explore the experiences of policing specifically against transwomen of color within different parts of Los Angeles county. Attention to brutality, however, has overlooked the police violence against this community and issues range from sexual violence to transphobic harassment. Ethnographic methods are used to provide perspective on the lived experiences and perceptions of Black and Latina Transwomen and in regards to the interactions and experiences with law enforcement. Interviews conducted with 5-10 transwomen will highlight the shared experiences and commonalities in perceptions that result from interactions with law enforcement for transwomen in Los Angeles. Questions will inquire on any negative encounters the transwomen have had within the past year with regards to physical intimidation, verbal abuse, sexual violence, etc. The intersectional analysis of the policing of transwomen of color can also be used to assess issues of multidimensional oppression, allowing us to identify more appropriate ways to address safety for various marginalized communities. This hopes to expand on the conversations around our increased police state and how it relates to the intersections of gender and race.

**19.**

**Inspire through Super Heroes**

**CARMEN MANCHA**

**Mentor: Christine Vega**

This project will show how a comic book can teach the Prison Industrial Complex and its personal impact on the minority of female students at Institute of Service-Learning, Power, and Intersectional Research (INSPIRE) through testimonios. INSPIRE is a continuation school in Lynwood, CA that creates opportunities for high school pushouts to reengage in the educational system and receive their high school diplomas through implementation of community-centered research, meaningful service-learning projects, and research-based educational programming. The goal of my research is to reveal alternative pedagogies to debunk the banking concept of education, emphasize dialogical based learning, and reveal the healing power of testimonios that can enable a minority group of women with the argumentative skills to transform into active members of society while simultaneously advancing their self-esteem through the legitimization of their testimonios. This research interlaces Paulo Freire's Banking Concept of Education with Michelle Alexander's New Jim Crow Laws and Sonya M. Aleman's "Testimonio as Praxis for a Reimagined Journalism Model and Pedagogy" to explore the implication of adopting a dialogic pedagogy triggered by socially-conscious comic books to understand how alternative forms of knowledge can be disseminated to others. At INSPIRE, I will present Ellen Miller-Mack's *Prisoner of a Hard Life: Women and Their Children* and document the female students' testimonios.

**20.**

**Shabab Music: Databasing the Contemporary Arab Female Voice**

**EMILY MELLEN**

**Mentor: David W. Macfadyen**

In the context of the Arab Spring and recent wars over terrorism and oil, the greater Arab World is of ever increasing global relevance as a test ground for social movements. In the West, there is general indignation over the state of women's rights in certain Arab countries. In this context, this project is a database of somewhat rare English language resources, information, and music of Arab female singers, in particular, contemporary singers of the Beirut indie rock scene and, to contextualize these women, a selection of historical female musical icons, focusing on those from Lebanon. I approach the aforementioned issues of social movements and women's rights from the perspective of a Musicologist and my scope is a particular one: cultural exposure through music. Because of its open accessibility as a website, this database will provide access to resources for both scholars and non-scholars interested in women's issues and music of the Arab World. Access to these resources will help create opportunities for research and potential artistic collaboration, contributing to a necessary move towards understanding of and education on the Arab female voice. In addition, it will contribute to current scholarly conversations desiring to broaden the studies of Musicology (which often only includes Western music) and Ethnomusicology (often a more anthropology-based study of the traditional musics of different cultural groups, and of folk musics in particular) into a more comprehensive and inclusive genre.

**21.**

**Putting the Novel In Graphic Novel: A Redefinition of a Label That Speaks True To the Medium**

**JASON NG**

**Mentor: Brian Stefans**

The graphic novel is a disagreeable term. First of all, it connotes various, and sometimes even misleading, interpretations such as a comic book, a work that is comprised of explicit contents, or more commonly, a graphical version of a novel. But a more pressing issue is how the label still lacks a stable definition even after nearly forty years since Will Eisner popularized the term with the release of his graphic novel: *A Contract with God and other Tenement Stories*. While some may argue that the graphic novel is simply a longer comic book, I believe that there is more to it than just that. And to say that the graphic novel is just a novel that is told with pictures would deny the graphic-based medium the recognition it deserves by ignorantly collapsing it under the literary novel. My thesis will try to alleviate this problem by attempting to establish a more concrete definition for the graphic novel, and one that is fitting for its name.

**22.**

**Fresher Than Fresh Off the Boat: Contemporary Attitudes Towards Asian Americans**

**DENISE PANALIGAN**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

While ethnic minorities continue to be underrepresented in Hollywood, this year has seen a noticeable shift in the increase of diverse shows. This project will focus on the new Asian American sitcom, *Fresh Off the Boat*, and implications regarding its viewership. Using two media theories, the two-step flow theory and the uses and gratification theory, the objective of this project is to contextualize the show as a reflection of community conditions. My case study will be on the character of Jessica Huang, and how her character interprets both the Tiger Mom phenomena popularized by Amy Chua and the quiet, submissive archetype. By looking at related articles, social media platforms, and TV ratings, I will elaborate on how interpretation lends itself to capturing greater society attitudes towards Asian Americans, and Asian American attitudes towards themselves.

**23.**

**Health Care Expansion: Addressing the Eligibility-Enrollment Gap**

**GINA PHILLIPI**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

In 2008, Oregon was able to expand its adult Medicaid program by 10,000 people using a lottery. A year later the state also initiated its goal of insuring every child in Oregon through the creation of the Healthy Kids program, an expansion of the Children's Health Insurance Program to 300% of the Federal Poverty Line. These two expansions were followed soon after by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), making Medicaid expansion even more relevant. Research has been done on the effectiveness of expansion programs, but comparing these programs targeted at different populations but within the same scope gives insightful evidence. This paper examines the intricacies of these programs to compare their structures, outreach strategies and enrollment, providing insight as to effective methods to encourage enrollment. The most

effective strategy utilized was giving targeted outreach grants to community partners. The successes and failures of these programs are lessons for the Medicaid expansions of the ACA.

**24.**

**“Most Fine and Befitting”: The Search for the Tomb of Cleopatra VII, the Last of the Pharaohs**

**M. CLAIRE PLECHA**

**Mentor: Robert Gurval**

The life of Cleopatra, legendary queen and last ruler of Egypt, is shrouded in mystery. Even her final resting place is an enigma, as the exact location and architecture of the mausoleum are unknown. Recently, the Egyptian archaeologist and former Minister of Antiquities, Zahi Hawass, and the Dominican lawyer Kathleen Martinez have been searching to find the mausoleum at a temple of Osiris at Taposiris Magna, outside of Alexandria. Thus far, the search has been inconclusive. The present research aims to investigate the purpose and design of Cleopatra’s mausoleum by closely examining not only the accounts of Cleopatra’s infamous death, but also the relationship between the relevant social, political and religious spheres, the interactions of which were tantamount to Cleopatra’s identity as a ruler and living divinity. The study will begin with a discussion of the tradition of royal burials among the Ptolemaic kings, as well as the contemporary political environment. These factors not only shed light on Cleopatra’s motivations to build her own eternal resting place, but also provide crucial context when considering when and where the monument was constructed. The paper will include a detailed analysis of the historical records of Cleopatra’s death and burial, and examine the manner in which the mausoleum factored into these events. The present study aims to fill the gaps in the existing research by utilizing a more complete, holistic approach, thus bringing the field closer to solving one of the world’s most elusive mysteries.

**25.**

**Economic Freedom in the Workers’ Paradise: The Nature of Perestroika and Its Effects on the Russian People**

**JAMES P. A. RODARTE**

**Mentor: Richard Anderson**

The fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 revealed to the West the true socio-political atmosphere of life behind the Iron Curtain. The Soviet Union underwent radical reform from 1985 to 1991 as Mikhail Gorbachev tried to save the state from collapse. Gorbachev’s alteration of foreign policy may have drawn more attention from foreign publics, but he also aimed to transform the Soviet economy. He intended to reduce the central government’s control of the economy by introducing more economic freedom to the old socialist system. The purpose of this research is to understand how the reforms of *perestroika* altered the Soviet socio-economic structure. Drawing on scholarly articles and books found in academic databases, this study examines the influences of Gorbachev’s reforms on Soviet society. How did *perestroika* affect the political structure of the Soviet Union? What was life like to the average Soviet citizen in European Russia during the 1980s? My research identifies the legacy of *perestroika* that continues to influence modern Russia’s relations with the Western world.

**26.**

**Alpha Mujeres: Exploring the Male Role in the Lives of High Achieving Latinas**

**JASMIN RODRIGUEZ**

**Mentor: Juliet A. Williams**

While men and women have often been forced into stereotypical expectations and social norms, women are becoming more and more empowered. Psychologist Dan Kindlon researches this group of academically and socially engaged girls and refers to them as “Alpha Girls.” While this type of girl oriented work focuses on examining their attributes and their relationships to their mothers, there is a dearth of research focusing specifically on Latinas and the dynamics between these girls and their fathers. Borrowing from Kindlon, my research will refer to high achieving Latinas who are first generation college students, are excelling academically, and show leadership skills as “Alpha Mujeres.” My research will center on how a male role model may have aided or hindered their development into an Alpha Mujer and how this influence has shaped their sense of empowerment. I will take a qualitative approach in an effort to interpret and find commonalities within their interview responses. By gathering these personal interviews, I will search for patterns and cohesions within their narratives. Along with the interviews of these mujeres, I will include interviews of alpha mujeres’ fathers or male role models to examine their awareness of their influence on their daughters. Results could provide insight into the formation of alpha mujeres and potential approaches for future father daughter type relationships in Latino households.

**27.**

**The Entertainment Industry and the Underrepresentation of Mi Gente**

**HOGUER SANCHEZ**

Latinos have long been represented on camera as stereotypical exotic Latinas or gangster types, and there is a dearth of Latinos behind the camera. This is likely attributed to the fact that film is predominantly made by white male producers, directors, and writers. As a first-generation Latino pursuing an entertainment career, my research interrogates why young Latinos do not take interest in the entertainment industry, even when they are one of the biggest consumers. My research argues that the lack of social capital and social networks have prevented Latinos from pursuing a career in entertainment. Working with Youth Speak Collective, a non-profit organization providing the skills, networks, and mentors necessary for underrepresented youth to pursue careers, I will film interviews with former participants of the collective who have struggled yet continue to pursue a career in entertainment. I will also film the interaction between mentors and mentees. Later, I will take field notes to see the effect of social capital, as theorized by Tara Yosso, in founding an industry career. I hypothesize that a lack of social networking discourages Latino youth to pursue a career in entertainment; however, I surmise that programs that cater to Latinos pursuing film and television can close this gap and provide more ethnic diversity in the industry.

**28.**

**Contemporary American Indian Narrative: Cherokees of Los Angeles County**

**EMMA L. SNUGGS**

**Mentor: Duane Champagne**

The Cherokee Nation is the largest tribe of American Indians in the United States. There are 312,000 citizens of the Cherokee Nation and at least 20,000 Cherokees residing in California. By 1980, over fifty percent of American Indians lived in urban areas and today there are an estimated 3,000 Cherokee families in L.A. County. Many Cherokee families have been in the urban area since before the Dust Bowl Era, with more relocating to the city all the time. L.A. County has been referred to as the Urban Indian capitol of the world because of the above average population of American Indians that have migrated to have access and opportunity they couldn't find in rural areas such as reservations and Tribal jurisdictions. Cherokee migration to Los Angeles County has been and continues to be a complicated story of forced removal from place of origin and relocation, natural disaster, opportunity, and agency. In an effort to perpetuate language and cultural practices after relocation Cherokees in L.A. and Cherokee leadership formed Tsalagi L.A. Through deep observation, interviews, and literary review this work will address the void in contemporary American Indian scholarship and look closely at how Cherokee identity and community is maintained in Los Angeles County. Antiquated concepts of Indianess will be challenged in hopes to inform broader audiences, influence policy, and unpack damaging stereotypes.

**29.**

**Ancient Minoan Marine Style Ceramics in the Aegean and Beyond**

**ANNALORA SUGARMAN**

**Mentor: John K. Papadopoulos**

The prehistoric civilization of the Minoans has been shrouded in myth and mystery since its discovery in the early 20th century. While local art presents a rich view of Minoan life, little research has been done to uncover the intricacies of Minoan social and economic distribution. Produced during the pivotal period of the Late Minoan IB (16<sup>th</sup> BCE), Marine Style ceramics have been found in abundance at palatial and provincial sites, as well as points of trade across the Cycladic Islands and mainland Greece. An earlier study comparing Marine Style pottery found on Crete to that found on the mainland, identified distinct differences in the style's application, implying a correlation between formal variation and export. The popularity and prevalence of the Marine Style across ancient borders provides insight into the economic distribution in the ancient Aegean and the extent of Minoan cultural influence in the LM IB period. Utilizing archaeological and art historical theories of value construction and production, I will analyze the distribution of Marine Style vessels from sites across the Aegean. Correlations between vessel types and site locations will allow for a deeper understanding of the ceramics' utilitarian function, their role in social hierarchy, and the site itself. Exploration of these correlations, and further research into the style's formal variation, will result in a more comprehensive understanding of Minoan social division and economic structure.

**30.**

**Lion Dance: the Lost Art**

**ANDY TA**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

Lion dancing have been a part of Chinese culture for thousands of years. There are many origin stories as to where the lion dancing originated from, each of this origin story reflect a different parts of China regions and religions. In many ways the art of lion dancing was invented to reflect our universal human desire to live happier lives. For my research I would like to further analyze on how have the art of lion dance have changed over time; more importantly how these changes reflect the social and historical context. I will be looking closely and analyzing various lion dance performances that happen throughout time and from various regions of the world, with special attention to how the movements of the dancer and the movements of lion over all are used to communicate with the audience. The type of performance that I will be closely observing is called “cheng”; cheng are these puzzles often used as way to test the performer physical and mental state. The performances of these “cheng” have been decreased over the year. For my research I will be studying how these puzzles are designed and the significant of the performance.

**31.**

**Access to and Use of Health Care Services Among Latinos in East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights**

**SHAWN KEITH TRABANINO, Héctor Ernesto Alcalá, Stephanie Lynne Albert, Rosa-Elena Garcia,**

**Deborah C. Glik, Michael Prelip, and Alexander Neil Ortega**

**Mentor: Alex Ortega**

Objective: We examined disparities in access, utilization, and barriers in two neighboring Latino communities in Los Angeles. Methods: Data from household interviews of residents in East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights, California, conducted as part of Proyecto MercadoFRESCO, were used. Binary and multinomial logistic regression assessed the effects of nativity, language spoken at home and insurance status on access, utilization (i.e. practice type and frequency of use) and barriers to health care services. Results: Foreign-born participants were less likely to be insured and more likely to receive care from ambulatory/hospital clinics, versus private offices, than US-born participants. Participants in Spanish-only speaking households were more likely to receive care from ambulatory/hospital clinics than those in English-speaking households. Insurance status was a robust predictor of access and utilization in these predominately Latino communities. Conclusions: Uninsured and foreign born individuals in East Los Angeles and Boyle heights are differentially burdened by lack of access and utilization of care. While the Affordable Care Act may ameliorate disparities, the impact will be limited due to the exclusion of key groups, like the undocumented, from benefits.

**32.**

**Love and Intercultural Marriage in Northern Italy: Examining Native Born Italian Women's Experiences in Intercultural Relationships**

**JESSICA A. TWINEHAM**

**Mentor: Nancy Levine**

What motivates native Italian born females to find love outside their culture? Does culture (a conceptual construct) place pressure on relationships and, if so, through what mechanisms? What, if any, social pressures does the Italian culture place on these relationships? In intercultural courtships and long-term partnerships, what motivates native-born Italian women to participate in such relationships in a location such as Northern Italy, where such intercultural relationships can be both frowned upon and uncommon? Even if the intercultural relationships are tolerated by Italian society, intercultural couples may experience disapproval and resistance during their courtship from members of the community and immediate family members. Through this research, I hope to gain a better understanding of the dynamics and challenges of the love relationships of international couples in Northern Italy. My research will focus on the perceptions and challenges faced by the female partner in the relationship. By exploring the view of the female partner, I hope to ascertain if and how intercultural relationships are affected by prejudices and stereotypes in the Italian culture.

**33.**

**Examining the Experiences First Generation Latina and Latino College Students**

**Encounter at Four-Year Institutions**

**PRICILLA E. VARGAS**

**Mentor: Daniel G. Solorzano**

Increasing enrollment of first generation college students is occurring at four-year universities. However, there is a discrepancy between their enrollment and their graduation rates at four-year institutions. More specifically, the students who are most affected by this discrepancy are first generation college students who identify as Latina and Latino. Campus climate at four-year institutions are uninviting to first generation Latina and Latino college students, which highly influence their low retention and graduation rates. Some academic scholars hold the students responsible for not graduating from four-year universities without acknowledging the students' academic and personal experiences. Therefore, this study seeks to examine how four-year institutions fail to retain and graduate first generation Latina and Latino college students. My research implements Critical Race Theory (CRT) as a theoretical framework. CRT will be utilized to examine the forms of subordination first generation Latina and Latino college students experience in institutions of higher education. I plan to explore and document the educational and personal experiences of first generation Latina and Latino college students through a qualitative study, conducted by formal interviews. The purpose of this scholarship is to improve the campus climate at four-year institutions and increase retention and graduation rates for first generation Latina and Latino college students.

**34.**

**Why Counselors Matter: Social Agents of Change for Undocumented Students**

**BLANCA VILLAGOMEZ**

An estimated 65,000 undocumented high school students graduate every year; however, only 5-10 percent access higher education. McDonough's work reveals that college counseling is one of the three major needs for improving college access for underrepresented students of color. To address this gap, high school counselors must take action as agents of change in advocating and supporting undocumented students. This study will examine the institutional barriers that counselors face when preparing high school undocumented students for college. Data will be collected through participant observations of students, and semi-structured interviews with counselors at a college center in a high school. This research will hopefully create awareness on how improving college high school counseling will have a positive significant impact on college access for undocumented students.

**35.**

**Asian American Intermarriages and How it Affects Their Communities and Families**

**JANE B. VOONG**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

This study examines the trends in Asian American intermarriages and why it has been increasing over recent years. This study will also examine how being in an Asian American intermarriage will affect their communities and families.

**36.**

**Taking it to the Tweets: Black Women, Popular Culture and the Future Implications of Social Media in Public Health**

**AMANDA C. WASHINGTON**

A new wave of media-literate health consumers is increasingly reliant on social media to shape public opinion and perception on a variety of health-related issues. As popular culture and social media tend to go hand-in-hand, culture also plays an active role in shaping overall health and wellness within various communities. Ultimately, the experiences of Black women as a marginalized community have been severely neglected when exploring the relationship between social media and public health. This research attempts to address the growing influence of Black women in American popular culture, and examine the ways in which this—as manifested through social media—may impact a holistic understanding of health and wellness for Black women. Popular Twitter hashtags (words or phrases used to organize and track digital content) are utilized to conduct a thorough content analysis of the ways in which Black women are discussed in social media and how popular culture shapes this discourse. By understanding the relationship between culture and social media I intend to explore the social and cultural implications of being black in America, and examine whether social media-constructed conceptions of race, culture and identity can impact overall health and wellness. Ultimately, this research hopes to demonstrate how truly pervasive popular culture and social media can be into the twenty-first century, and the impact that this may have on the health and wellbeing of marginalized communities.

**37.**

**Street Warriors: Violence Exposure and Complex PTSD Symptoms in the Invisible Youth**

**KAYLIN D. WESLEY**

**Mentor: Alan P. Fiske**

Urban youth are twice as likely to develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as are soldiers returning from active duty. Chronic violence exposure, which many urban youth endure, can cause severe psychological trauma that may lead to expression of Post Traumatic Stress symptoms. Psychological trauma may also complicate or inhibit normal neural and psychosocial development in these youth. In order to examine the relationship between environment and abnormal psychosocial development in African American youth, I ask: What factors make African American youth living in high crime and low income communities disproportionately at risk for exhibiting Complex Post Traumatic Stress symptoms and how does the resulting abnormal psychosocial development affect these youth? I will examine how various sorts of violence affect the behavior of African American youth by using qualitative methods such as semi structured interviews, secondary source interviews, and rap lyrics as oral histories. Interviews and lyrics will be used to examine the extent of violence exposure in participants and to assess self reported psychosocial consequences of this exposure. This research will identify chronic violence exposure as a major risk factor for altered psychosocial development in target African American youth; therefore, demonstrating the need for accessible, policy oriented, intervention strategies that are tailored to alleviate PTSD symptoms specifically in these youth.

**38.**

**Eating Disorders in Asian America: A Social and Cultural Analysis**

**TIFFANY WONG**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

My research will be on eating disorders within the Asian American community. I will analyze the 'model minority' myth and how that causes Asian Americans who suffer from psychological illnesses, such as eating disorders, to be overlooked when it comes to research and medical attention. I will also provide examples from studies that indicate Asian Americans are more likely to suffer from body dissatisfaction. This is problematic because according to studies, body dissatisfaction often leads maladaptive eating behaviors. I will also analyze studies that indicate Asian Americans are highly influenced by the Western perception of beauty and how that may result to the development of an eating disorder. Lastly, I will look into how Asian American culture differences, gender expectations, individual experiences, and social values may contribute to body dissatisfaction and eating disorders. I plan to interview eating disorder specialist and an Asian American who has suffered from an eating disorder. My research is significant because there is little information about eating disorders within the Asian American community and without more information on eating disorders, the false belief that Asian Americans do not suffer from eating disorders will only progress. This negatively affects the population of Asian Americans who actually suffer from eating disorders because much needed research will not be done on the subject and thus, no resources will be provided for them.

## **2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 3**

---

### **1.**

#### **Is It Me or Is It Us? Effects of Self-as-Target and Group-as-Target Stereotype Threat on Transfer**

#### **Students' Working Memory Capacity and Academic Performance**

**ROBYN F. BARRIOS, Gbolahan Olanubi, Ines Jurcevic, and Jenessa R. Shapiro**

**Mentor: Jenessa Shapiro**

Transfer students, undergraduates who transfer from a community college to a four-year university, may feel stereotyped as less intelligent than traditional students, undergraduates who enter a university as freshmen. This stereotype may lead transfer students to underperform on tests of academic ability due to stereotype threat, a distracting concern of confirming a negative stereotype about one's group. Previous research has found that underperformance due to stereotype threat is caused by reduced working memory capacity, the ability to maintain old information while simultaneously operating on new information. The authors examine if operating under different forms of stereotype threat depletes working memory capacity, causing academic underperformance in transfer students. Specifically, the present study is an experimental test of Multi-Threat Framework, a nuanced approach to stereotype threat. That is, whether a stereotype directed toward the individual (self-as-target) or toward one's group (group-as-target) impacts working memory capacity and academic performance differentially. Stereotype threat was manipulated by exposing participants to a test ostensibly diagnostic of personal intelligence (self-as-target), diagnostic of transfer students' intelligence (group-as-target), or non-diagnostic of intelligence (control). Data collection is still in progress. Theoretical background, predicted results, and implications creating appropriate psychological interventions) based on expected results are presented.

### **2.**

#### **Las Vivas de Juárez**

**RUTH BATRES**

**Mentor: Maria C. Pons**

Since 1993, more than eight hundred women have been murdered in Cd. Juárez, along the US Mexican border. The reasons for the abduction and killing of women until now, remains unclear. In this research I take a different approach and focus on the living women of Juárez. I intend to look at the consequences of the crimes on the health of the victims' families, as well as on the survivors. By focusing on the testimonies of victims and families affected directly by the femicides, and comparing these "insider" stories with the "outsider" representations that we see in films and novels, I want to show the difference between official reports by the authorities and media, and what is really happening. There are two main questions that I intend to answer: How is the livelihood of families and victims being impacted by these traumatic experiences, and how do they seek help? The second, how their testimonies or their silence have been interpreted? How have these crimes and victims been represented not only by the media, but also by documentaries, feature films, novels and scholarly articles? Given that this is a pilot study for a much longer research project, I propose to collect the oral histories of two survivors and offer their stories and voices to help us understand the role of corruption, fear, and misogyny in Cd. Juárez.

**3.**

**Oaxacan Indigenous Women: An Analysis of their Access to Maternal Health Care in Los Angeles**

**HEIDI BAUTISTA**

**Mentor: Gaspar Rivera-Salgado**

Indigenous women from Mexico have poor maternal health care due to poverty, lack of education, transportation resources and shortage of culturally competent medical staff in rural areas. Similarly, indigenous women from Oaxaca living in Los Angeles may also experience structural barriers to maternal health care because of their immigration status, poverty, and lack of cultural sensitivity from medical institutions. Thus, my research seeks to examine how indigenous women from Oaxaca living in Los Angeles experience maternal care in different stages such as prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum and childbearing. Mixed methods will be used to analyze health inequities that exist in this population. Five to ten participants from three different generations of women born in the town of Tlacolula, Oaxaca will be recruited from a community group in west Los Angeles. Data will be gathered via surveys and in interviews in the form of storytelling. Both methods will be employed to quantify the number of antenatal care doctor visits and midwife consultations they received during their pregnancies to understand their levels of choice and control in their maternal health experience. My findings will illuminate how women from Oaxaca make sense of and respond to specific barriers in the different stages of maternal care, thus working towards achieving health equity for these indigenous communities in the United States.

**4.**

**The Policy Consequences of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986**

**LETICIA BUSTAMANTE**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

Illegal immigration is a contentious issue in the United States. After years of debate, the federal government has yet to reach a compromise. Meanwhile, illegal immigration affects the lives of millions, regardless of immigration status. It is imperative to understand similar events from the past to have a complete understanding of the present. Consequently, my research will analyze the last bipartisan immigration policy passed, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, commonly referred to as IRCA, which gave legal status to almost two million immigrants. My study is guided by the following question: what were the consequences of IRCA? To develop my research, I will analyze pertinent literature and previous immigration-related laws and policies. This research is significant because IRCA is the only modern-day precedent for immigration reform in the United States. A lot of what is being discussed in Congress in regards to immigration reflects an understanding of IRCA's consequences.

**5.**

**Bilingualism and Cross-Ethnic Friendships in Middle School**

**LUCIA CAMACHO and Jaana Juvonen**

**Mentor: Jaana Juvonen**

This study examines the relationship between cross-ethnic friendships, positive cross-ethnic attitudes, and language spoken at home. It is important to study cross-ethnic friendships since previous studies

have shown that cross-ethnic friendships reduce intergroup discrimination. Studies have also shown a link between additive bilingualism and positive cross-ethnic attitudes. Also, it is important to study the role bilingualism plays in the formation of cross-ethnic friendships due to a rapidly growing bilingual demographic in California public schools. The sample contains students from the largest four pan-ethnic groups (African American, Asian, White, and Latino) and students who speak English only or English and another language at home. The guiding question for this study is if bilingual students have positive cross-cultural attitudes and if they have high proportions of cross-ethnic friendships? Based on previous research, I hypothesize that bilinguals, compared to monolinguals, will have positive cross-ethnic attitudes and higher proportions of cross-ethnic friendships. Results from a 2x2 ANCOVA, controlling for parental education, show that monolingual English speakers formed more cross-ethnic friendships than bilinguals. My results are inconsistent with previous research. Future analyses will control for differing levels of diversity at the schools in our study as well as look at quality of friendships. The results of this study can inform policies that encourage cross-ethnic friendships within public education.

## 6.

### **Looking at Asian American Identity through Food and Practices**

**LUCY M. CHAN**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

So for my project I am looking into the representation of Asian American identity through cultural aspect like food and cultural institutions. I wanted to show how Asian American identity is a mixture of Asian and American, and how the focus has shift for different reasons. An example would be like how assimilation and during times of crisis that Asian American would clam more to their American side and how in shops and restaurants, how it would be more focus on Asian cultures. So for this project, the research methods I am planning to use is looking into the correlation of food and practices in terms of identity. I am also looking into how certain foods we think are Asian or American food is actually created by Asian American and can be categorized as Asian American cuisine. Same with cultural practices that have adopt and become more Americanized. By looking at food and cultural, I am planning to do onsite research like taking picture and conducting interviews. This research is important because it give insight on the changing trends of what Asian American identity has gone through over the years to its current state.

## 7.

### **LAPD: History of Domestic Militarization and the Institutional Reaction to the Watts Upheaval**

**CLINTON A. CLAD-JOHNSON**

**Mentor: Juan Gomez-Quinones**

The Los Angeles Police Department was developed using the models of the East Coast police departments, slave patrols and frontier justice. Policing in Los Angeles was heavily influenced by the ethnic and social divisions in Los Angeles. Throughout the history of the infamous police department there have been numerous incidents of racism, discrimination and political repression of not just ethnic minorities but poor people and the political left. Following a history of militarization and ethnic strife the LAPD's institutional reaction to the Watts Upheaval, known as the Watts Riot or Uprising, was to create

SWAT. Since the creation of SWAT police militarization has spread nationally and this is why an analysis of the historical phenomenon that contextualizes the environment in which the LAPD created SWAT.

**8.**

**In the Barber's Chair: Language Socialization in the Community of Practice at Oakley's Barbershop**

**ALYSSA CROWLEY, CRYSTAL YANEZ, Negin Aminian, and Edwin Sanchez**

**Mentor: Marjorie H. Goodwin**

This research explores the process of language socialization into the community of practice at Oakley's Barbershop in Westwood, California. Building off previous research about language socialization, and relying on participant observation, video recording, and semi-structured interviews, this study shows the processes of socialization during haircuts between clients and barbers through the use of professional vision, embodied action, and directives. Analysis of the data reveals that in the ritual of a haircut, the client and the barber work together to negotiate and create a shared professional vision, and that new clients are socialized into the barbershop community through corrections so they can use the specialized barbershop jargon to demonstrate competency as members of the group. These practices for socialization are found within other communities of professionals and must be learned by the clientele to achieve the negotiated vision. Our research expands the body of work on language socialization, focusing on the professional/client relationship, and demonstrates the function of language as a tool to create community.

**9.**

**Exploring the Role of Self-Worth in Moderating the Association between**

**Peer Problems and Internalizing Symptoms**

**ANA I. ETCHISON, MICHAEL A. MANZANO, Delana M. Parker, Sunhye Bai,**

**Rena L. Repetti, and Theodore F. Robles**

**Mentor: Rena Repetti**

Extant research has shown that troubled peer relationships are linked to poor emotional functioning in children (Hawker & Boulton, 2000). However, there is variability in children's reactions to peer problems, with many children not showing reduced psychosocial functioning. Maintenance of a positive self-concept may protect against the negative mental health consequences of social difficulties in childhood (Mann et al., 2004). The current study investigates self-worth as a moderator of the association between peer problems and internalizing symptoms (i.e. anxiety and depression) in 39 children ages 8-13. Children completed daily diaries over 56 days, as well as one-time measures of perceived competence (Self-Perception Profile for Children; Harter, 1985) and internalizing symptoms (Revised Child Anxiety and Depression Scale; Chorpita et al., 2000). Linear regression analyses with peer problems, global self-worth and their interaction as predictor variables accounted for over a third of the variance in symptoms ( $R^2=0.38$ ,  $F(3,35)=7.08$ ,  $p=.001$ ). More peer problems ( $b=4.18$ ,  $p<.05$ ) and perceptions of lower self-worth ( $b=-.30$ ,  $p=.08$ ) each predicted more internalizing symptoms. Furthermore, the interaction between peer problems and self-worth was also a significant predictor ( $b=-4.12$ ,  $p<.05$ ), such that social difficulties were associated with internalizing symptoms only among the children who reported less self-worth. A strong sense of self-esteem may act as a buffer against the negative mental health effects of peer problems in childhood. Future research should examine potential mechanisms behind the protective role of self-worth.

**10.**

**Community College Students' Social Engagement: Differences by Immigrant Generation and Ethnicity**

**JOSEFINA FLORES, Carola Suarez-Orozco, and Patricia Greenfield**

**Mentor: Patricia Greenfield**

Community colleges (CC) are sites of opportunity; however, the transfer and graduation rates of ethnic minorities show otherwise. Research on social engagement and access to educational resources suggests that differences in social engagement influences this disparity. Ethnic minorities have been found to participate in social activities less often compared to non-ethnic minorities. Having an influence on access to student social networks, it is important to discover student trends in social engagement. Using quantitative survey data from the Research on Immigrants in Community College, (n=646), this research project serves to delineate the relationship between students' social engagement and students' access to resources. Social network theory posits that social engagement is a form of social capital that leads to access to resources. Using this framework, we predict that having high levels of social engagement predict more access to resources, support and satisfaction with one's education in a CC and we predict that this relationship is moderated by immigrant generation and ethnicity. This research may serve to provide insights that will help increase the access to resources and supports for ethnic minority and immigrant community college students. Data have been collected and are currently being analyzed.

**11.**

**Breaking the Silence: The Empowerment of Chicanas Through Poetry**

**YVETTE FLORES**

Chicana narratives are often left out of the classroom and bookstores. When it comes to the presentation of narratives, Women of Color are often excluded from majoritarian stories, or mainstream narratives. The stories of marginalized and oppressed groups are called counter-stories, or counter-narratives. Through counter-storytelling, Chicanas can share their experiences, which include feeling invisible and having self-doubt. This form of counter-narrative creates new knowledge. My research explores poetry, as opposed to other genres, as a form of empowerment for Chicana writers, because poetry allows for less restriction and more affect. It also explores writing circles as a safe space to discuss their writing. I conduct my research at Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural and Bookstore through active participation in a weekly writing circle, field notes, and formal and informal interviews with writers that will better provide me with preliminary findings on the effectiveness of counter-storytelling as a form of resistance. I use the lenses of Critical Race Theory and Chicana Feminism, particularly Gloria Anzaldua's Borderlands theory, which joins multiple cultures and identities together. In my preliminary research, I find that the poetry presented by Chicanas in a writing circle serve as a form of resistance against mainstream narratives. As a poet myself, I hope this research will be used to develop literary methods that will help Chicana writers feel included in mainstream writing through poetry.

**12.**

**Wordsworth and Democratic Poetry: An Analysis of the "Preface"  
and the *Lyrical Ballads* and Its Establishment of an Egalitarian Readership**

**MARIO E. GIRON**

**Mentor: Michael Cohen**

William Wordsworth's "Preface" along with the *Lyrical Ballads* were written during the Romantic era and social upheaval. Scholars, such as Yiu Liu, speculate that Wordsworth was indeed influenced by the ideals of egalitarianism of The French Revolution. Though this seems like a likely hypothesis, not enough evidence can be provided to truly prove this movement as an influence upon him. Since the "Preface" or *Lyrical Ballads* do not have a direct mention of influence from surrounding revolutions there exists one point that needs discussion. Using Yiu Liu's points on "Reevaluating Revolution and Radicalness in the *Lyrical Ballads*" as a foundation for discussion, the "Preface" shows a writing out the poet as the center within poetry and thus creating a more powerful connection with the reader and the poem. The text also reveals a removal of poetic diction and the critic for the sake of "low" - "rustic diction and the central notion of pleasure. Through these, removals, the text reveals the marriage between poetry and prose. With these points the "Preface" along with poems from the *Lyrical Ballads* promotes a poetic upheaval by promoting a more open readership and open interpretation on the definition of poetry, thus creating an egalitarian or democratic poetry.

**13.**

**Counter Narratives: An Anti-Deficit Inquiry into the Lives of Latino/a STEM Achievers**

**ANA KAREN GOMEZ**

**Mentor: Walter R. Allen**

Despite representing the youngest and fastest-growing racial group in the U.S., Latinos are disproportionately underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Of all STEM degrees awarded during the 2012-13 school year, only 8% were awarded to Latinos. Consequently, Latinos comprise less than 2% of the STEM workforce. In seeking to explain why Latinos are underrepresented in STEM, researchers have looked narrowly into their experiences, often finding fault in students' culture and their parents' supposed lack of interest in their education. As a result, a deficit narrative, which problematically disregards the cultural wealth these students possess, has been constructed. My research aims to contribute to the literature being produced to dismantle the prevalent deficit narrative of Latinos in STEM, by documenting cultural wealth factors (i.e. familial capital etc.) that have allowed Latina/o students to persist in STEM majors and towards careers in STEM. I will be employing a mixed methods approach; first I will conduct a survey of UCLA undergraduates who: 1) self-identify as Latino/a; 2) are pursuing a STEM major and career; and 3) have demonstrated achievement in their academic field. Subsequently, I will conduct interviews with six of these students. This research project merits investigation because it will counter the negative discourse that exists and offer explanatory insight to educators, policy makers, and other individuals whose goal it is to increase Latino representation in STEM.

**14.**

**The Civic Engagement of Second-Generation Salvadorans in Los Angeles**

**HECTOR M. GUEVARA**

**Mentor: Leisy Abrego**

El Salvador experienced a civil war between a leftist party and an oppressive right-wing political class between 1979 and 1992. The post civil-war environment in El Salvador embodies an increasing amount of violence and social polarization, which adds to El Salvador's unstable government. The results, a vast migration of Salvadorans, inasmuch that one fifth of Salvadorans reside in the United States. Within this concentration of Salvadoran in the United States, several are involved in their communities. I am interested in researching the motives behind the civic engagement of second-generation Salvadorans ages 18-25 in Los Angeles. I plan on using a qualitative method to interview and develop depictions of the community involvement of second-generation Salvadorans. El Salvador is interconnected with Salvadorans both at home and abroad. The civic engagement of second-generation Salvadorans in Los Angeles demonstrates how there is sense of responsibility that ultimately provides positive results for the Salvadoran community. In this research, civic engagement will be defined broadly to encompass cultural and political awareness as well as the active engagement that Salvadoran have in their communities to promote the well being of Salvadorans transnationally. Ultimately, my research's focus is to gain a better understanding of second-generation Salvadorans and expand the research on the Salvadoran community.

**15.**

**Mexican Ties to Public Health Access for Undocumented Mexican Immigrants in Los Angeles**

**ALEIN HARO**

**Mentor: Ruben Hernandez-Leon**

The undocumented Mexican immigrant population living in the United States faces legal and political barriers that explicitly exclude this population from attaining federal health care services. The Mexican Federal Government provides funding to agencies, such as Ventanilla de Salud (VDS), that work through the Mexican Consulate and facilitate the incorporation of immigrants in the U.S. Healthcare System. I will explore how local agencies in Los Angeles and the Mexican Consulate manage to integrate the undocumented Mexican population in the health care system of L.A. County, despite federal laws that limit their health care access. I will focus on L.A. County not only because it is home to the largest undocumented Mexican immigrant population in the nation, but also because L.A. has the largest Mexican Consulate. Since the initiation of this VDS program in 2003, there has been a collection of statistical data but not much research on the impact of the program. Using a series of interviews and surveys, along with previous statistical data and observations, this study will examine such phenomena as the utilization of the program and whether or not these services allow for integration. Analyzing how this immense population navigates through the health system, and the role of programs such as VDS, can help improve the policy and health framework by which other agencies can assist.

**16.**

**The Impact of Antigay Bias on the Physical Health of Gay Men and Lesbians**

**BRI-ANN M. HERNANDEZ, David J. Lick , Theodore F. Robles, and Kerri Johnson**

**Mentor: Kerri Johnson**

Previous research suggests a negative association between experiences of prejudice and the physical health of lesbians and gay men. A key problem with this conclusion, however, is that prior studies were correlational in nature. This study will be the first to experimentally examine the effects of sexual minority stigma on physical health. Both straight- and gay-identified participants will undergo a “tape-stripping” procedure that disrupts normal skin barrier function. Next, participants will be randomly assigned to view a 5-minute video that either depicts antigay bias (Antigay Bias Condition) or does not depict antigay bias (Non-Antigay Bias Condition). We will measure physical health outcomes based upon transepidermal water loss in the tape-stripped area two hours after skin disruption. We predict that gay and lesbian participants who experience antigay stigma will have delayed skin barrier recovery (i.e., more transepidermal water loss) relative to straight-identified participants. Results will have important theoretical implications for our understanding of the causal impact of antigay stigma on the physical health of gay men and lesbians.

**17.**

**youTHink: Latina Youth Empowerment Through the Development of Critical Consciousness and Transformational Resistance**

**VICTORIA HERNANDEZ and Kimberley Gomez**

**Mentor: Kimberley Gomez**

Latina youth are an underserved demographic in the U.S. lacking the necessary support to navigate their identities within marginalized communities. Few studies within the urban youth development literature have sought to understand how Latinas in urban settings develop their critical consciousness, experience empowerment and various forms of resistance. My research study focuses on Latina youth participants in youTHink, a youth development program that engages Los Angeles area youth of Color in consciousness raising, dialogue and taking action on social issues in their communities. A qualitative research study of the impact of youTHink on Latina students from L.A. will be conducted in order to gain insight into their experiences and the ways they experience development based on their intersectional identities. Data will be collected through program observations, semi-structured individual interviews with seven Latina student participants and a focus group with the same students. This study is informed by research on Critical Youth Empowerment, Social Justice Youth Development and Critical Consciousness from the youth development literature. The gap in the literature is addressed through the racialized and gender conscious theoretical framework of Transformational Resistance. By focusing on Latina experiences with empowerment and development, a gendered and ethnic- specific analysis will be added to the body of research on urban youth development and contribute to the understanding of Latinas in youth development programs.

**18.**

**Bridging the Relationship between Teachers and Parents of English Language Learners:**

**A Case Study of Platicas**

**SABRINA A. JIMENEZ**

The California Language Census reported in 2012-13 that there were about 1.413 million English language learners (ELL) in California. Due to the immense size of the population and their growing place in society, it is imperative that pathways to success are identified and incorporated into these students' education. Parental involvement has shown to improve academic achievement, especially in Latino families. Therefore teachers and parents must work together to support children's positive educational trajectory. Utilizing the framework of Community Cultural Wealth, this research seeks to highlight the contributions of monolingual, Spanish-speaking, immigrant parents to their children's education, despite the language barrier that exists between them and the public schools. Through Platicas between parents and teachers, this study will examine the benefits of bridging communication concerning the academic progress of the student at both formal (school-based) and informal (home-based) levels. The purpose of this study is to examine what teachers and parents expect of each other in terms of supporting the student within their respective capabilities. Simply initiating a conversation between parents and teachers of ELL students will build confidence in the parents, understanding for the teachers, and a better support system for the child that is why I find this work to be important in the field of education.

**19.**

**The Effect of Emotion and Attention on Memory and Response Times on an Elementary Cognitive Task**

**ISABELLA JOHNSTONE, HAJERAH ARIF, DELAVAR SAFARI, and Don Mackay**

**Mentor: Don Mackay**

The present experiment investigated the effects of emotion and attention on word recall and response time on an elementary cognitive task. In a 2 x 2 within-subjects factorial design, 39 UCLA undergraduate students were tested on recall ability of words presented in a capitalization identification task under two emotional conditions, taboo and neutral, and two attentional conditions, attended and unattended. Word recall was measured as the average number of critical words correctly recalled. Participants were also tested on response times identifying the attended (capitalized) word in a series of word pairs, under both the taboo and neutral conditions. We predicted a significant main effect for emotion on word recall and response times, no significant main effect for attention on word recall, and a significant interaction between emotion and attention. As predicted, the results indicate emotion to be significant, as word recall was significantly greater for taboo words than neutral words,  $p < .001$ . Additionally, attention was found to be significant, with word recall significantly greater for attended words than unattended words,  $p = .016$ . Contrary to predictions, no significant interaction was revealed between emotion and attention. Further, emotion did not have a significant main effect on response time. We argue that memory may be improved given the presence of a salient stimulus.

**20.**

**West Coast High School to Higher Education Pipeline: Does it Exist?**

**DESTINY MCLENNAN**

**Mentor: Paul Von Blum**

The prison industrial complex (PIC) serves as the rapid expansion of US inmate population attributed to political influences of private prison corporations supplying goods to companies investing in the PIC. Black students across the country are forced out of the public education system into a life of imprisonment within the US prison industrial complex. Extreme punitive enforcement policies utilized by schools as well as school practices and policies both lead to the school-to-prison pipeline. Urban schools create a prison-like environment with the enforcement of zero-tolerance policies, excessive police force on campus, and the school's infrastructure, exemplified in a large district in California, particularly toward Black students in high school. At West Coast High School, Black enrollment is 69 percent, yet 91 percent of dropouts are Black students. This research will discover how these school policies have affected Black student matriculation from West Coast high to a four-year university, and how they have affected Black student dropout rates. The current study uses three focus groups of five faculty members, ten college-bound upperclassmen, and ten non college-bound upperclassmen, all from West Coast High School, as well as two to four one-on-one interviews of current UCLA students who are graduates of West Coast. The study will show that punitive enforcement, zero-tolerance policies, and excessive police force at West Coast pushes students to a life of imprisonment rather than higher education.

**21.**

**A Study on the Perception of Wealth and Poverty: The Perspective of Low Income Latino Families**

**FRANCES EDITH MELCHOR**

**Mentor: Rashmita S. Mistry**

Previous research on low income people's perceptions of wealth and poverty finds that interpretations of these two terms vary. Generally people conclude that being wealthy means having a great deal of money and high quality items whilst being poor means lacking money for basic needs and low quality items. In order to extend on the interpretations of these terms, research on the perception of wealth and poverty should be conducted in South Central Los Angeles, focusing on the Latina and Latino population, because this area is known to have high rates of poverty. It is important to understand this population's point of view because they will provide different opinions as to how they define wealth and poverty. The current study uses qualitative methods to address the perceptions of wealth and poverty through interviews of 15 immigrant or native born Latina and Latino adult couples in South Central Los Angeles. Participants will be recruited through snowball sampling where participants help recruit future subjects from among their acquaintances. Storytelling method will be used in order to provide a humanized view of Latina and Latino perceptions of wealth and poverty. My research is important because it demystifies the perceptions of wealth and poverty in a low income urban community.

**22.**

**The Criminalization of the Peer-to-Peer File Sharing Community**

**JAMAAL MUWWAKKIL**

**Mentor: Hongyin Tao**

As the internet increasingly becomes a basic utility, the digital age ushers in access to knowledge and information on a scale never before seen in human history. This reality is cast against a shadow of laws designed to protect the rights of intellectual property creators in an attempt to curtail the “theft” of potentially monetized media. Laws such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) continue to gain support, largely due to “anti-piracy” media campaigns, which have resulted in a vilification of the peer-to-peer file sharing community in public perception. But what role does the language used in these campaigns play in the public perception of the peer-to-peer file sharing community? Using corpus linguistics as a methodology and critical discourse analysis as a theoretical framework, I will extract, from the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and “anti-piracy” media, the terms used to refer to the peer-to-peer file sharing community in order to ascertain the intended implications of such language on the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) student body. I will use UCLA as a case study because universities often serve as intermediaries, actively enforcing the provisions of the DMCA on their campuses. Uncovering the role language has played in the negative characterization of the file sharing community at UCLA will help to gain insight into the ways in which other non-virtual communities—such as religious, ethnic and cultural minority groups—are affected.

**23.**

**Visible In Numbers: Support Groups For Undocumented Asian Americans**

**DENISE PANALIGAN, Robert C. Romero, and Kent Wong**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

The dominant framework of immigration as a Latino issue comes at the expense of other ethnic groups. For Asian Americans, microaggressions have fostered the practice of nondisclosure within their undocumented population. This project examines the formation of undocumented Asian American support groups and how they use the intersectional lens of race/ethnicity and immigration status to ensure policy change. Invisibility and lack of information present unique challenges for these individuals, who find themselves between the realities of their ethnic/racial background and the shared complications of life without papers. Through document analysis, ethnographic observations, and interviews, this project will focus on the impact support groups have on these individuals, specifically the construction of their self-identity. Interviews will also ask community-based recommendations for tackling issues and challenges that face undocumented Asian Americans.

**24.**

**Experiences of Black and Latino Males in Two Reentry Programs**

**LIZZ PEREZ**

**Mentor: Jeffrey Prager**

Juvenile reentry in California is a statewide problem. According to the California Juvenile Justice Reentry Partnership, 70 percent of youth re-enter the juvenile system within two years of their release. Most of the youth are men of color with Blacks representing 26 percent and Hispanics representing 56 percent

released from correctional facilities. Given the high number of black and latino male reentry into correctional facilities, the question guiding this study is: What are the experiences of black and latino male who are currently participating in two distinct reentry programs? In this study, I will focus on two specific juvenile reentry programs located in Los Angeles county, the L.A. County Day Reporting Center and New Roads for New Visions. I will use qualitative methods, specifically interviews, of ten Black and Latino men between the ages of 18 to 25. Five participants who are currently attending each program are to be recruited. The purpose of this study is to document the experiences of the youth at each program. This study is significant because through the male's perspectives and experiences we will determine how to effectively serve the needs and improve the quality of reentry programs in order to reduce recidivism rates.

**25.**

**An In-Depth Analysis of the Role Middle Schools Play in Latino Student Achievement**

**BERNARDETTE PINETTA**

**Mentor: Keith L. Camacho**

Only thirteen percent of the U.S. Latino Population holds a four year degree or higher; so it is no surprise that when senior year came, many of my friends who had attended Hawthorne Middle School were unable to go straight to a four year institution. My research focuses on early academic institutions and how they do or do not motivate students to attend a four year college. More specifically, I will focus on Hawthorne Middle School and how it creates a college culture within its Latino student population, so that transitioning eighth graders will have the desire and knowledge to go to college. To understand how middle schools can propel or dispel students from going into higher education, I will draw upon previous research of middle school transitional programs and college culture. I will also conduct a demographic analysis of HMS using DataQuest, a database under the California Department of Education. Since seventy five percent of the students are of Hispanic or Latino heritage, I expect students to be exposed to a college culture similar to schools with high minority students. My findings will show the importance of integrating college exposure programs at the middle school level.

**26.**

**Pang! a Performance Project About Food Insecurity**

**EVA MARIA PINO, Sarah Kirk, Dorothy Dubrule, Daniel Froot**

**Mentor: Daniel Froot**

Food insecurity is the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. This is an issue pervading America. There are some programs, such as Feeding America and government programs, in place to combat this problem, but this problem is not recognized and completely understood by the general public. This study looks into food insecurity in Miami, Cedar Rapids, and South Central Los Angeles by interviewing multiple families: these interviews will be recorded, turned into transcripts, and then into play scripts which will be acted out in a performance project named Pang! This performance project will be performed in theaters in all three cities with ticket prices low enough to be accessible to people of all socio-economic classes. After each performance, a discussion will be held for the audience to talk about their own experiences and to learn further about

food insecurity. Pang! will personalize and inform people about food insecurity in the United States and in their own neighborhoods.

**27.**

**Gender and Travel at Night: An Evaluation of the UCLA Night Van Service and Escort Service**

**MIRIAM J. PINSKI**

**Mentor: Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris**

How universities prevent and mediate issues of sexual assault on college campuses is a hotly contested issue. The University of California, Los Angeles is not immune to the problem of campus sexual harassment and assault. In the summer of 2014, UCLA was included in a list of universities being investigated by the Department of Education for mishandling Title XIV cases. Two primary examples of programs implemented by UCLA to increase the perception of safety on campus is the Night Van service and the Escort service. The purpose of this study is to analyze whether or not these services are effectively increasing perceptions of campus safety at night. Data is drawn from interviews of administrators overseeing the programs and surveys of students utilizing their services. The study examines the strengths and weaknesses of the programs and offers recommendations for their improvement.

**28.**

**Impacts of Native Language Instruction on the English Proficiency of**

**Fifth Grade Spanish-Speaking English Language Learners**

**MARLEN QUINTERO and Alison Bailey**

**Mentor: Alison Bailey**

As a result of Proposition 227 (1998), California public schools have curtailed the use of languages other than English, from their curricula. This exclusion may negatively affect the academic achievement of English Language Learners (ELLs). The proposed research focuses on Spanish-speaking ELLs because they are the majority (84.24%) of ELLs in California public schools. In an attempt to explore the impact that native language instruction has on the reading comprehension of ELL's, this study addresses the following question: How does the incorporation of Spanish-speaking ELL's native language into fifth grade language-arts curriculum impact their English proficiency? The study seeks to examine the academic performance of 40 ELLs; of the 40 participants, 20 will come from an English-only classroom and 20 from a classroom that equally incorporates Spanish and English within its curriculum. Their English reading comprehension will be measured through a verbal summary of a fifth grade reading passage. Based on previous studies, it is hypothesized that more exposure to native language will result in higher levels of English reading comprehension. Findings from this study could propose ways in which educators can transform elementary school curricula for the advancement of ELL's English proficiency. ELL's lack of English proficiency is significant because it results in limited access to core curriculum in middle and high school, which may negatively impact their college readiness.

**29.**

**50 Years Later: A Look into the Current Working Conditions in the Fields**

**KEVIN RIAMBON**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

September 8, 2015, will mark the 50th anniversary of the Delano Grape Strike. To honor this special event, this paper explores the conditions that led to the Delano Grape Strike, the legacy of the Farm Workers Movement, the impact of its legacy on today's workers, and the current working conditions in the fields. Through the research, the paper analyzes the current working conditions in the fields in order to ensure that the workers have proper environment to them to work in. If any issues arise from the research, this paper poses possible solutions that the community can use to address these exposed issues. To collect the experiences of farm workers, specifically Filipino farm workers, this research draws upon literary source, interviews, and surveys that discuss the Filipino farm workers' experiences. The questions posed in the interviews and surveys are questions modeled after the questions that the Filipino Migrant Center used to research the working conditions of the Filipino caregivers in Los Angeles County. In doing this research, this paper hopes to document the history of the Filipino American community in the United States and expand the scholarship surrounding the Filipino American contributions in the Farm Workers Movement, which ultimately combating the continual erasure of my community's history in the United States.

**30.**

**Community Organization Profile: Working With the Los Angeles Restaurant**

**Opportunities Center United**

**ARELI M. RIOS, N. Vargas, Laura Garcia, and Jessica Valadez**

**Mentor: Abel Valenzuela**

The purpose of this study is to give an in depth analysis of the Los Angeles Restaurant Opportunities Center non-profit organization's ability to respond to restaurant worker needs in the greater Los Angeles community; it will be a production of 52.5 hours of community service; this analysis is a small introduction of how ROC-LA functions in the greater Los Angeles community. This study will be broken down into three parts: part one will include a community organization profile, and a SWOT analysis of ROC-LA (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats), part two will be the result of a collaborative work of four UCLA ROC interns who's research questions were: How can the assets identified within our asset map boundaries help heighten ROC-LA's network and ultimately, increase membership? Asset and demographic mapping will be used as tools to answer the question. Part three will extend on part two by analyzing the demographics and assets discussed in section two and will serve to provide feedback of the use of assets based on its geographical location. We will find that ROC-LA has the potential to grow as a community organization by networking with their surrounding assets. This study is important because it points to ways in which an underfunded community organization can continue to expand and grow its resources.

**31.****Democratic Peace Theory: A Social Identity Theory Approach****ALEX RODRIGUEZ****Mentor: Deborah Larson**

The role of Social Identity Theory (SIT), the idea of someone's identification based on the group whom one belongs to, will be explored to propose why the phenomena of Democratic Peace Theory (DPT) exists. Although multiple perspectives can apply to the notion of DPT, SIT will dive at the root of nations who have engaged in war, ranging from dyads of both democratic and autocratic institutions. Selected component of Social Identity Theory will be utilized to apply to real world case studies. To maximize my findings, I will analyze statistical data to identify trends that can solidify DPT through the SIT approach. Additionally, to make inferences that can further my implications of the SIT perspective on DPT, case studies from a selected combination of democratic and nondemocratic conflicts will be critically examined to synthesize respective applications and expand on the idea of general democratic peace. Factors that generate decision-making will include personality of the elite, demographic make-up within the polity, and other contextual factors that shape the course of conflict between two (or more) nations. Implication of findings will be thoroughly discussed to consider other psychological phenomena, such as threat perception, to further elaborate on the theoretical underpinnings of the democratic peace idea. This investigation aims to illuminate on the origin of conflict among nations who engage in warfare.

**32.****Being a Christian in Contemporary Urban China: An Ethnographic Study of  
Urban Educated Christians in Tianjin, China****MENGQING SHANG****Mentor: Christopher J. Throop**

Since China's economic reforms in the 1980s, an increasing number of people have converted to Christianity. Previous research on Christianity in urban China has mainly focused on: its historical development and its overall situation in the contemporary period; the Chinese party-state's political interference in Christians' underground gatherings and activities; and the causes of conversion. However, there are very limited empirical studies on the religious experiences of Chinese Christians. This article aims to fill this gap by investigating the changes that urban educated Christians in Tianjin, China experience after converting to Christianity focusing on three levels: the personal, the interpersonal and the application of Christian morals. Data presented here are drawn from participant observations at Shanxi Road Church (SRC), the largest Protestant church in Tianjin, China, and semi-structured and person-centered interviews conducted with church members of SRC during my ten-week fieldwork in summer 2014. My data suggests that by believing in God and practicing the Christian faith, most people I interviewed have experienced a series of positive changes, though their Christian identity sometimes also brings new dilemmas and struggles. I argue that the change urban educated Chinese Christians experience after conversion is a process of working on themselves towards the Christian ideal and that this course resonates with the process of remaking the moral personhood undertaken by many other Chinese in the post-Mao period.

**33.**

**Transformational Resistance From The Margins: Re-identifying Deviance**

**Among Inner-City Latina/o Youth**

**KIMBERLY M. SORIANO and Daniel G. Solorzano**

**Mentor: Daniel G. Solorzano**

This research project challenges the stigmatization and criminalization attached with untraditional oppositional behavior of inner-city high school Latina/o students. By focusing on Solorzano and Delgado Bernal's self-defeating quantile of the transformative resistance model, this project seeks to explore capital that is gained. To critically facilitate the discussion on oppositional behavior, this project will address the following questions; (1) How do inner-city youth whom are labeled "at-risk" and engage in "deviant" behavior create their own counter-spaces and set of knowledge? (2) Can the characteristics that youth develop change their "deviant" behavior into transformational resistance? This project will be using the framework of Chicana Feminist Epistemology that will enable participants to include their testimonios. Chicana Feminist Epistemology acknowledges the participant's agency and provides context in order to allow them to self-identify important components. Testimonios will ultimately provide a platform to counter deficit perspectives on oppositional behavior within marginalized communities. Students will participate in focus groups that will allow them to dialogue with one another. Semi-structured interviews with students regarding their experiences with "deviant" behavior will provide their testimonios. Understanding oppositional behavior through student's perspectives is an essential step towards decriminalizing youth of color and providing opportunities to validate intellectual youth development.

**34.**

**The Psychosocial Consequences of Weight Discrimination**

**LUISANA SUCHILT, Leah Lessard, and Jaana Juvonen**

**Mentor: Jaana Juvonen**

Although body mass index (BMI) has been consistently linked to negative psychosocial outcomes, less is known about how weight discrimination and BMI norms can predict psychosocial maladjustment. The goal of the current study is to examine how deviation from BMI norm (gender and ethnic group BMI mean - individual BMI) interacts with weight discrimination to affect body image and depression among early adolescents. We hypothesized that weight discrimination would mediate the relationship between BMI deviation and body image as well as depression. In 7th grade, 5,989 ethnically diverse participants completed self-report measures of height, weight, weight discrimination, body image, and depression. Our findings indicate that weight discrimination mediated the relationship between BMI deviation and depression, such that heavier youth were more depressed because they were discriminated for their weight. However, weight discrimination did not mediate, but moderated, the link between BMI deviation and body image. That is, heavier youth were more likely to report low body image only if they experienced weight discrimination. This study underscores the significant role of BMI norms and weight discrimination among adolescents, and highlights the need for intervention programs to support youth who have experienced weight discrimination.

**35.**

**The Emotional Life of Activism: Political Dissonance, Motherhood and  
Intimate Relationships in Apartheid South Africa, 1950-1976**

**ALLY TAPLEY**

**Mentor: Ghislaine E. Lydon**

This thesis proposes to explore how emotions affect political activism. I will discuss the women's movement in South Africa during the 1950s and how women used emotions, such as rage and love, to fuel their engagement in anti-colonial activism. It examines the significance of motherhood in politics based on two historical case studies: The 1956 Women's March in Pretoria and the Soweto Youth Uprising in 1976. The research method for this project primarily consisted of with an emphasis on literature that explains the history of emotions through the experiences of women activists and their emotional responses to political pressures placed upon their most intimate lives. The research method consisted heavily upon primary and secondary sources such as biographies, autobiographies, letters, and any other forms of art produced during and following the Apartheid era.

**36.**

**The Effects of Pre-College Access Programs on Black Senior Students at**

**Alexander Hamilton High School**

**AMEINAH D. THOMAS**

College access has long been an issue plaguing underrepresented communities like Black and Latino students, but especially Black students. The opportunities for Black students to gain access to higher education lack because of the availability, or lack thereof, of various resources like money, proper schooling, and mentorship. Today, there are many foundations and programs that support and encourage students of color in receiving the same opportunities as their privileged counterparts. While programs such as the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) and the Vice-Provost Initiative for Pre-College Scholars (VIPS) at UCLA are available for students, there are still many who go without pre-college program involvement. Using narrative inquiry, snowball sampling, and participant observation, I will gather the needed information to illustrate how the success and failures of Black seniors in high school happens based on their participation or non-participation in a pre-college access program. Through this research I hope to find a concrete answer as to how students that are not involved in college access programs still manage to succeed as well, if not better, than their counterparts that were involved in those programs. Thus, in conducting this research I plan to discover how retention rates of Black students can be better raised and maintained as they pursue college.

**37.**

**Asian America Online: New Spaces and Tools for Representation and Activism**

**DIANA TRAN**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

Generally, pan Asian movements in the U.S. involve Asian Americans joining together to advocate against oppression or to garner support for shared causes. Over the years, however, different environments and methods for promoting Asian Americans sociopolitically and culturally have developed. Movements prior to the late 1990s have tended to stem from colleges and relied on in

person meetings or older forms of media to convey information. Although it appears the movement reached its height in the 1960s, an online Asian American movement has developed in recent years with the proliferation of social media. Within the past decade, social media has transformed the way Asian Americans are representing and mobilizing themselves. The implications of this transformation include more accessible, widespread and creative spaces and tools for visibility or activism as well as new challenges associated with technological developments. Through a comparative approach, methods employed by artists and activists of past movements will be accessed relative to those active on social media today. Sociohistorical and statistical methods will also be employed to convey information on the circumstances and demographics of each period. As new media is becoming an increasingly significant source for receiving and conveying information, these findings may be useful to aspiring Asian American activists interested in what social media platforms are being used to promote Asian American causes, how they are doing so and their relative effectiveness.

**38.**

**Remote Sensing Land Use and Land Change In Pluit Reservoir North Jakarta: Displacing Informal Residences For Commercial Buildings**

**REY M. UMALI**

**Mentor: Helga M. Leitner**

Waduk Pluit where many informal residence face eviction and forced displacement due to the perception that they are interfering with the reservoirs ability to properly mitigate floods. The communities' close proximity to the reservoir and their lack of influence have made it practical for Jakarta officials to place the blame on these informal settlers. As the Jakarta Public Works Agency plans to construct additional flood mitigation pumps, some 17,000 families have been relocated. This project will perform land use and land change analysis using remote sensing tools focusing on the Pluit and the immediate area surrounding the reservoir. Among some of the features that will be focused during the remote sensing analysis will be the change in urban residential density, namely from informal settlements to commercial buildings. Using Landsat images this research will highlight and analyze the displacement of informal residence and the buildings constructed in their place. Furthermore, through remote sensing images, literature, and media review I argue that the force displacement of these communities pave the way for neoliberal policies designed to increase commercial property within this area of the city.

**39.**

**Cross-Generational Differences in Child Behavior and Parent Socialization in China**

**WAI YING VIVIEN YIU, Chan Zhou, Michael Shengtao Wu, and Patricia Greenfield**

**Mentor: Patricia Greenfield**

China, having gone through rapid urbanization and economic reform over the last few decades, is a crucial part of the worldwide sociodemographic trend moving from rural community/Gemeinschaft (e.g., subsistence agricultural economy, low-technology environments) to urban society/Gesellschaft (e.g., commerce, high-technology environments). Changing sociodemographic ecologies shift socializing environments and developmental pathways (Greenfield, 2009). Nineteen grandmothers from Beijing participated in a semi-structured individual interview. They ranked three generations of children at age

4-6 in their families (themselves, their children, and their grandchildren) on curiosity, autonomy, obedience, self-expression, and extraversion. They also ranked three generations of parents in their families (their parents, themselves, and their children) on child-rearing behaviors. We predicted an intergenerational increase in children's curiosity, autonomy, self-expression, and extraversion because these traits are adaptive in *Gesellschaft* environments. Obedience, which is adaptive in *Gemeinschaft* environments, was predicted to decrease across generations. We also expected related changes in reported child-rearing behaviors. Hypotheses were confirmed by preliminary analysis. Results demonstrate an effect of social change on human traits and behaviors, suggesting that the younger generations may exhibit more autonomous traits in adaptation to rapid urbanization and economic development.

**40.**

**Treating Children like Children: The Effects of Harsh Punishments for Juveniles on  
Adult Recidivism and Public Safety**

**JINGXI ZHAI**

**Mentor: James Desveaux**

Children are not adults. However, in the criminal justice system, sometimes they are treated the same as adults due to the nature of their crimes. In the past decade there have been historic opinions regarding the culpability of juveniles by the US Supreme Court that return to the notion that "children are not adults." In 2005, the death penalty was abolished for juveniles. Five years later, life without parole for crimes other than homicide was banned. Most recently in 2012, mandatory life sentences for any crime committed by a juvenile were abolished. Is it truly justice that increased leniency is provided to a teenager and not to a young adult despite committing the same crime? This paper seeks to prove that sentencing for juveniles that prioritize rehabilitation decreases the likelihood of future crime. I hypothesize that harsher punishments for juvenile offenders does not increase public safety and does not decrease recidivism. Based on neuroscience research, statistical data, and current legal precedence, I hypothesize that youth represent a special population with a unique vulnerability to environmental influences that must be protected by the law. The Supreme Court's rulings that remove lifelong sentences for juveniles are a trend that should reduce juvenile and adult crime in the long run.

**41.**

**A Comparison of U.S. and Chinese Mathematics Textbooks and Teaching: Concept Definitions,  
Conceptual Information and Classroom Instructions**

**ZHIHAO ZHAO, Karen B. Givvin, and James W. Stigler**

**Mentor: James W. Stigler**

Cross-cultural differences in mathematics teaching and learning have been identified, as have many elements in teaching systems that might contribute to them (Stigler & Hiebert, 1999). One possible contributor is the degree to which concepts and procedures are emphasized in instruction. Previous research has described the instructional features that correspond with these emphases (Hiebert & Wearne, 1993) and have explored their connection to student learning of mathematics (Rittle-Johnson & Alibali, 1999). Less known is how teachers come to favor one emphasis over another. This study hypothesizes that definitions in mathematics textbooks contribute to different instruction among the

teachers who teach from them. Mathematical definitions in U.S. and Chinese textbooks were coded based on mathematical taxonomy research (Ginther & Henderson, 1966), and U.S. and Hong Kong classroom transcripts were coded to identify how instructors incorporate definitions into their instruction. We hypothesize that differences in definitions in U.S. and Chinese textbooks contribute to the different instructional patterns in classrooms. Implications for different levels of performance across students in the two countries on international assessments will be discussed.

### **3-4pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Poster Session 4**

---

#### **1.**

##### **The Dynamics of Desire: The Disruption of Heterosexual Time in *The Picture of Dorian Gray***

**ERIK ADAMIAN**

**Mentor: Arthur Little**

Oscar Wilde's prominent novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, has been considered a controversial work of literature since its emergence in the Victorian England until today. Indeed, it is not only the themes surrounding dandyism, homosexuality and a satirical representation of the Victorian England that make up the controversial nature of the book; it is Wilde's critique of the inadequacy of a moralistic societal construct in embracing passion and desire that contributes to the significance of the novel. In this paper, I explore the manners in which Wilde defines the relationship between queerness and the heteronormative historical narrative of existence, and more importantly, the disruption of heterosexual time by passion and desire. The inadequacy of the heteronormative framework which is posed as the norm to mankind is still an extremely problematic notion, especially in relation to the dynamics of passion and queer desire. Thus, Wilde's novel still remains relevant to us, who claim to be progressive.

#### **2.**

##### **Self-Determination Theory in a Factory Setting: Mamá y Papá, What Gets You Up in the Morning?**

**YESENIA AGUILAR SILVAN**

**Mentor: Marjorie E. Orellana**

Self-determination theory, or the broad framework for the study of human motivation, has been receiving attention in education, health care, and sports. According to this theory, relatedness, competence, and autonomy are three intrinsic psychological needs that, if met, will lead to optimal human flourishing. If experiencing a sense of belonging, feeling capable of accomplishing a task, and feeling control over one's behaviors, are fulfilled in the workplace, then this will lead to greater satisfaction, performance, and general wellbeing. This raises a question: if the workplace does not meet these needs, what motivates workers to continue working under these settings? By arguing that income or rewards are the only reason for why workers continue working in undesirable settings, we are overlooking the intrinsic motivation experienced in the daily lives of factory workers. In hopes of answering this question and valuing the daily lives of factory workers, this study will examine the perceptions of Latino factory workers on relatedness, competence, and autonomy in the workplace. Surveys and interviews will be used to measure these psychological needs. The surveys and interviews

will reflect Familism, the core social structure guiding Latino families in the U.S., to better assess motivation in Latino factory workers.

**3.**

**Soul Music: Sacred Messages Via Secular Manifestations**

**CEDRIC N. ANDERSON**

**Mentor: James Newton**

The civil rights movement was a social, political, and economic struggle by African Americans in the mid-1950s to the late 1960s to achieve the civil rights promised by the 14th and 15th amendments. The movement ultimately brought about updates in the ordinances and mandates of the federal government regarding discrimination and equality. The movement's success stemmed from nonviolent yet direct action known as civil disobedience. Music played an integral role in the civil rights movement. Songs sung during sit-ins, protests, and freedom rides were from old Negro spirituals, gospel music, and rhythm and blues. Soul music, an artistic blending of R&B's grooves, Gospel's lyrical and vocal styling, and American folk music, became a major aid to the success of the movement. Because it drew from such a spectrum of influences, soul music brought the people together; the people committed to the movement and those who were simply captivated by its unfiltered, emotive sound. Soul music became the national and international voice of the struggle as soul artists wrote songs about the paradoxes of the Jim Crow South and of the pain from the flagrant racism plaguing the American fabric. A careful analysis of Soul music through audio examination, visual representation, and literature research, will expose its artistic and aesthetic influences, social and historical contexts, leading contributors, and consequences which will exude the significance that it had on changing the social, political, and popular landscape of America forever.

**4.**

**Fictional Identities and Narrative Recipes: M.F.K. Fisher's Mid-Century Food Writing**

**LAUREN E. BALL**

**Mentor: Allison B. Carruth**

Recently, literary critics, within the emerging field of food studies, have begun to notice the presence of food in traditional literary texts. In this context, scholars have started to position M.F.K. Fisher's text *The Art of Eating*—a compilation of five previous works published from 1937 to 1949—in the field of literary modernism. Both biographic and literary studies on Fisher have highlighted the experimental writing style that Fisher pioneered in women's food writing at midcentury. Traditionally, scholarship on Fisher investigates either her autobiography or her structural and thematic poetics. However, this study incorporates both kinds of research by engaging with archives of Fisher's personal papers and close readings of her prose as well as data analysis of her recipes in *The Art of Eating*. This thesis examines how Fisher's experiential narratives of food blend the genres of culinary history, autobiographical narrative, and recipes to craft a fictional avatar and voice that Fisher structures through non-linear visions of time and self. By paying close attention to the writing persona that Fisher constructs through the structural poetics of her mid-century texts, I offer two new critical terms: the "fictional Fisher" and the "narrative recipe." These key terms seek to show Fisher as the creator of the new literary genre—the food memoir.

5.

**Determine if Hollywood Emotional Staging is a Problem or an Asset to the Historical Film Genre as Both a Form of Mass Entertainment and an Education Outlet for Historical Authenticity**

**JONATHAN CORIA**

**Mentor: Christine N. Chism**

Film is a form of expression, juggling a variety of audio-visual elements to convey meaning and emotional engagement. A particular genre that falls under this category of filmmaking is the historical drama, where filmmakers adapt source material by borrowing strong narrative and factual elements from historical event; however, filmmakers adapt selectively in favor of effective emotional drive. The historical drama poses an interesting research question, asking how much raw transparency is present from the source material, and how much of it is actually “staged;” and finally, whether or not there exist any ethical problems in this execution of “staged” transparency. I will analyze a selection of historical films, primarily *Schindler’s List*, using film vocabulary, as well as informed and clear interpretive commentary; in order to consider how characters and events are represented in relation to the stylized use of film techniques. Also, I will retrieve interview testimony from present-day scholars who archive and preserve the testimonies of real-life Holocaust survivors at the USC Shoah Foundation. Altogether, my research will conclude whether or not the use of Hollywood emotional staging is a problem or an asset to the historical film genre as both a form of mass entertainment and an educational outlet for historical authenticity.

6.

**Langland’s Just Balance: Arithmetic Equality in Material and Spiritual Economies**

**LIAM B. CRUZ KELLY**

**Mentor: Arvind Thomas**

The B-Text of *Piers Plowman* was written by William Langland in the late 14th century (1377-1379) as an allegorical dream vision. The purpose of this paper is to examine the support for arithmetic justice found in Langland’s depictions of material economies in *Piers Plowman*. The paper contextualizes Langland’s views within the historical economic changes from a feudal society to a profit economy in the late fourteenth century, concluding that the reciprocity of goods for communal benefit is the foundation for Langland’s views on justice. The majority of the economic analysis is drawn from the Confession of Coveytise in Passus V in relation to Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics* and contemporary medieval philosophy. In this passage the author condemns certain principles of exchange in order to support arithmetic equality. The condemnation of the weight manipulation demonstrates a support for the strict equality the scale offers in arithmetic balance. The condemnation of the ale distribution demonstrates a support against the proportional equality of geometric balance. The sacramental context and religious language of these economic exchanges support the connection Langland suggests between the material transactions between men and the spiritual transactions between God and man. I conclude that an understanding of Langland’s justice in the material economics allows for an accurate interpretation of Langland’s justice in the spiritual economies.

7.

**Examining the Associations Between Maternal Criticism, Maternal Warmth, and Child Internalizing Problems**

**DIANE DALLAL, Barbara Caplan, and Bruce Baker**

**Mentor: Bruce Baker**

Maternal criticism demonstrates a robust association with internalizing disorders in adolescence (Frye & Garber, 2005). Though this is likely true for child populations prior to adolescence as well, it is rarely examined. Moreover, although maternal warmth acts as a protective factor for internalizing problems (Operario, Tschann, Flores, & Bridges, 2006), previous studies have not looked at maternal warmth as a moderator of the proposed association between maternal criticism and internalizing. The present study examined the association between maternal criticism and internalizing disorders for 8-year-olds (n=77, 45 male) selected from the UCLA Collaborative Family Study. Mothers spoke about their child in an adapted two-minute speech sample, which was coded for criticism and warmth. Moms also rated child internalizing problems on the Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL, Achenbach & Rescorla, 2001). Preliminary results showed a significant association between maternal criticism and internalizing disorders ( $p=.01$ ). There was no significant moderation by maternal warmth, yet main effects emerged for both warmth ( $p=.01$ ) and criticism ( $p=.04$ ), suggesting each independently relates to child internalizing. Future analyses will examine criticism's influence on distinct internalizing dimensions, as well as assess for gender differences at 8, 9, and 13 years of age. Implications for intervention and prevention efforts will be discussed.

8.

**Baby Jesus in the Balikbayan Box: The Migration of the Santo Nino de Cebu and Its Role Among the Migrant Pilipino and Pilipino-American Population in Los Angeles**

**PAULINA DELA ROSA**

**Mentor: Charlene V. Black**

This research examines the Santo Nino de Cebu, a Pilipino devotional image of the Christ Child, and how its historical and cultural context impact the lives of Pilipino migrants and Pilipino-Americans today. The image was originally European in origin but once it had become transplanted to Philippine grounds via Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, it became increasingly more "Pilipino"—through local stories of miracles—until it had reached the status of local devotional image. Notably, the worship and devotion of the Santo Nino did not stay exclusively European either, and showed aspects of anitism, the pre-colonial Pilipino religious belief in ancestral spirits known as anito. This "Filipinization" of a European devotional image is further contextualized with the subsequent American colonization of the Philippines and its resulting immigration movement. The role of the Santo Nino as a symbol of Pilipino culture to culture-shocked migrant Pilipinos will be assessed through interviews with contemporary Pilipino migrants as well as their children, the generation of Pilipino-Americans that grew up knowing little to nothing about Pilipino culture. The Santo Nino thus not only reminds the migrant Pilipinos of their homeland, but teaches the next generation about the culture they never knew. By studying the Santo Nino de Cebu I wish to address themes of post-colonial mentality through religious visual culture both within and beyond Pilipino/Pilipino-American culture.

**9.**

**Latinas Overcoming Their Criminalization Through Art**

**ASHLEY DUNNAVANT**

**Mentor: Christine Vega**

Literature on the school-to-prison pipeline (STPP) has shown how men of color are affected by incarceration. However, women of color, specifically Latinas, are often overlooked in this discourse. My research argues that Latinas can voice their invisibility in this discourse through art. This project will explore issues faced by Latinas through interviews and observations at Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural and Bookstore, a non-profit center focused on empowering and exposing Latinas to arts and culture. I argue that this location and its programs resist the STPP by getting Latinas to participate in programs promoting gendered unity and involvement in their community. One avenue of research stemming from Tia Chucha's is HOODsisters, an organization promoting community murals by women in the San Fernando Valley. A second avenue of research triggered by Tia Chucha's is the involvement of facilitators who have participated in some of Tia Chucha's programs and return to give back. A third avenue of research is the involvement of the parents of Tia Chucha Latina youth, who bring Latinas to participate in programs as a means to prevent or to stop them from falling into the STPP. My research will show that there is a disparity between community art programs and their success in disrupting the STPP and art programs at low-income schools that receive little funding and community-supporting art endeavors, such as murals.

**10.**

**Pragmatic or Idealistic? Examining Chinese International Students' Major Choice in the U.S. College**

**LEI FENG and Zsuzsa Berend**

**Mentor: Zsuzsa Berend**

The number of Chinese international students has been increases 17.9 percent in the past decade (Open Door Data), which makes them an increasingly influential group in U.S. campuses (Yan & Berliner, 2001). However, while their number is increasing and they also increasingly come from different regions of China, there is a striking uniformity in what these students decide to major on. In 2013, over a half of Chinese international undergraduate students who enrolled in U.S. campus was majoring in Business/Management or engineering, while only 8.2% was majoring in social science and only 1% in humanities, which is much lower than domestic students (Open Doors Data). This study aims to provide an explanation for this pattern. Previous studies have shown that high tuition, Visa status, language barriers and cultural shock are all crucial difficulties that international students face (Feng, 1991; Lin, 1997; Popadiuk, 2004; Xu, 2002). In this study, I intend to examine how these challenges, combined with other socio-cultural factors, affect Chinese international students' major choice. More specifically, I hope to answer the following questions: how international students balance their personal interests and practical factors? How do parental expectations, family background, language barrier and limited future career options due to international status affect their major choice?

**11.****Influences of Migrating to the US: Diet, Responsibilities and  
Occupational Practices of Latina Factory Workers****JOSEFINA FLORES**

Research on the health of first generation immigrants in the U.S. has resulted in two prevailing paradigms, Acculturation Theory and the Immigrant Paradox. Acculturation Theory suggests that over time, first generation immigrants adopt unhealthy habits of American culture. Contrastingly, the Immigrant Paradox suggests that first generation immigrants are healthier than the native U.S. population. Both of these frameworks rely on individual health outcomes to assess trends among first generation immigrants. Lifestyle factors including occupation, family responsibilities, culture and diet of first generation immigrants' health are excluded from both theories. It is crucial to have a better understanding about how these factors relate to immigrant individuals' health. In this study, we will explore how first generation Latina factory workers negotiate health habits such as diet, and exercise. We completed semi-structured interviews with 7-10 Latina factory workers from the San Fernando Valley and used thematic content analysis. We focused on how culture, family responsibilities, and occupation influence decisions about diet and health. We hypothesize that first generation Latina factory workers sacrifice their own health for the well-being of their families. Given the growth of the Latino population in the U.S., individual narratives of Latina workers augment contextual factors beyond health outcomes that define the everyday experiences of first generation immigrants in the U.S.

**12.****The Hallyu Phenomenon: Deconstructing the Appeal Behind Korean Pop Culture****WINNIE GALBADORES****Mentor: Victor Bascara**

The Korean Wave, better known as Hallyu, has become a global phenomenon within the last decade. My research seeks to explore and further deconstruct the reasons as to why Korean Pop has attracted such a diverse amount of people. The current entertainment system in Korea has become responsible for many multi-talented artists, which are referred to most commonly as idols. The manufacturing of idols and the training they receive in not just singing, but also dancing, acting, languages, and more has resulted in a wide variety of people to be attracted to K-pop. Methods such as surveys and in depth interviews will be used in order to support my research that it is not necessarily an individuals' race, ethnicity, gender, or geographical location that affects them in liking K-pop, but is rather the multi-talent that idols achieve. The research I am conducting will focus on fans within California. The results obtained through the surveys and interviews will show that fans of K-pop are attracted to the music, aesthetically pleasing music videos, beautiful looks, and the ability of idols to sing, dance, etc. My research is significant because Hallyu continues to grow within America. One piece of evidence of the growth of K-pop can be supported by the fact that Los Angeles hosts the annual Korean Convention that is now going into its fourth year.

**13.**

**Analyzing the Different Trajectories of DACAmented Undergraduate Students at UCLA**

**MIRIAM GONZALEZ**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is an executive action that President Barack Obama authorized in 2012. DACA grants eligible undocumented applicants who meet a set of criteria with a renewable workers permit, social security number, and relief from being deported. In 2014, adjustments were made to DACA which broadened the pool of eligible undocumented people. Today, more than two years since its authorization, DACA has greatly benefited a large group of undocumented people, especially those in college. This research will share the narratives of DACAmented college students at UCLA. Through interviews I will analyze the experiences of the students who started college with DACA, the students who acquired DACA once already in college, and the students who transferred from a two year college or university with DACA. Furthermore, I will also investigate if being DACAmented has made the students greater advocates for immigrant rights or more compliant with not being a citizen now that they have been granted more rights. This study will challenge the idea that undocumented students share the same experiences. I will show that not every undocumented student follows the same path to college and that DACA has impacted their lives differently. Furthermore, this study will identify the specific needs undocumented students have in order to develop programs that will help them achieve a more successful college career.

**14.**

**The Perceived Effectiveness of Culturally Relevant Pedagogy in Latina/o 7th-12th Grade Students**

**HANNAH HAMLEY**

Culturally Relevant Pedagogy (CRP) as a method of instruction or curriculum implementation has been evaluated by scholars and recommended to teachers as a best teaching practice. Evelyn Young succinctly defines CRP as a teaching practice that bridges the gap between school and students' culture by making a conscious effort to connect the two. The data of Latina/o success in California reveals that only 49.1 percent of Latina/o students graduate high school. Previous studies have examined the theoretical effectiveness of CRP for students of color but few have investigated the praxis of CRP. This study will examine the level of impact that CRP has on the success of 7th to 12th grade Latina/o students in a public Los Angeles school. In this qualitative study, I hope to learn from my interactions with students, interviews with the guidance counselor, field observations and existing literature in order to answer the following question: How do Latina/o middle school and high school students perceive the level of impact of the CRP they receive? This investigation aims to find the CRP model as an effective pedagogical method of instruction for Latina/o students and will add to the research that exists on CRP. This research is important because by focusing on a specific community such as Latina/o and gathering data from the students' perspective, we gain a unique insight into how to better aid students in their educational trajectory.

**15.**

**Immersion? No. Immersion.**

**CATHY HE**

With the passage of California Proposition 227, all California public schools are now required to teach English Language Learner (ELL) students primarily in English, thereby severely limiting bilingual education programs and compelling public schools to solely focus on English Immersion Programs (EIP). This study attempts to evaluate the effectiveness of EIPs by measuring the number of ELL students reclassified as Fluent-English Proficient by the time they reach fifth grade. This will be done by conducting a quantitative analysis of school-level data drawn from the California English Language Development Test, which evaluates students in kindergarten through twelfth grade whose home language is not English, and a case study of ELL students at Nora Sterry Elementary School in Los Angeles. Data will be collected through classroom observations of kindergarten through fifth grade ELL students, and through interviews with ELL teachers and administrators about their perspectives regarding the effectiveness of EIPs in relation to ELL students. While the results of this study are in no way representative of all EIPs in California, these findings can serve as a basis for understanding the unique challenges that ELL students face and how to provide them with improved language instruction programs. As ELLs continue to be the fastest-growing student group in the US, understanding the effectiveness of language instruction programs has significant implications for America's next generation of leaders and thinkers.

**16.**

**People Based Outcomes**

**GUADALUPE A. HERNANDEZ**

Community development is the process by which people come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. This project compares two policies , which focus on poverty, to assess how the framework through which the policy is designed impacts its effectiveness from the perspective of the policy recipients. Community developers and policy makers constantly work to fix different issues impeding development, such as poverty. Poverty is often attributed to individuals and anti- poverty policy is often framed in a way that does not take into account the structural factors that impact the lives of individuals. I propose that a “people-centered” framework should be used when formulating policy written to address poverty. This method, used in constructing community development programs, addresses issues related to individuals, while also addressing larger structural issues that contribute to poverty. I argue that the best way to produce anti-poverty policy is to conduct “people-centered” methods, which engages with people to understand the needs of the community, as opposed to methods, which only look at communities’ needs through statistical figures. Policy outcome effectiveness will be measured through interviews, surveys, and observations of the policy recipients, of two different anti-poverty policies, to better understand the community’s needs. This study will help challenge existing methods of framing policy, in order to help produce policy that is more effective to the communities.

**17.**

**What Makes a Nerd? A Look at the Presentation of Self in Terms of Identification and Membership of  
Sherlock Holmes Fans in Los Angeles and London**

**KAITLYN IRELAND**

**Mentor: Christopher J. Throop**

Sherlock Holmes is one of the most famous detectives who never lived. One change that is emerging within this community is that members are now identifying greater as fans and nerds. Studies have looked at the nerd identity in academic settings, but few have looked closely at how this change in identity has changed from experts in science and technology to experts and fans of a particular subject. Also, with so many different adaptations to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stories (TV shows, movies, books, videogames, etc.) there is now a variety of ways for fans to express their love for and interest in their favorite detective. This study uses information gathered from interviews and observations of women in the Sherlock Holmes fan communities of Los Angeles, California and London, England. It sees how these women are using the variety of new adaptions to create unique nerd identities within the fan community. However, with all these unique expressions of identity, it is harder to coordinate membership within the community and some members are questioning what it truly means to be a nerd. Ultimately, the Sherlock Holmes fan communities discussed in this paper show how nerds have transformed their individual identities and have now focused discrimination in regards to membership within the group to its own members.

**18.**

**Mesoamerican Animal Iconography: Possible Evolution of Frog Symbolism from Early Pre-Classic to  
Late Pre-Classic in the Soconusco Region of Chiapas, Mexico**

**LENA G. JAUREQUI**

**Mentor: Richard Lesure**

Recent research has demonstrated that frog effigies found at the Early Pre-Classic (1800-900 BCE) site of Paso de la Amada, Chiapas could have iconographic similarities to Izapa, a Late Pre-Classic (400 BCE-200 AD) site. The symbolic similarities between the two sites suggest a possible evolution of frog symbolism in the Soconusco region. The archaeological record at Paso de la Amada has demonstrated that frog figurines were excavated in large quantities. Approximately 400 years later at the Late Pre-Classic site of Izapa, depictions of frogs engraved on stelae are found throughout the site. Paso de la Amada and Izapa reveal a cross-cultural evolutionary example of animal symbolism. The effigies excavated at Paso de la Amada have been connected to the symbolic reference of rebirth and water. In examining the depictions of frogs on the stelae found at Izapa, similar symbolic correlations appear when compared to the effigies found at Paso de la Amada such as, rebirth and water. However, with the case of Izapa, we see a heightened symbolic meaning with the frogs. The depictions on the stelae suggest that the frogs are symbols of protection for the jaguar in the underworld. Thus, the iconographic importance of the frog, transforms from the Early Pre-Classic to the Late Pre-Classic, suggesting an evolution of animal iconography in the Soconusco region of Chiapas.

**19.**

**Demographic Profile of STEM Baccalaureates: Across University of California and California State Systems**

**BRIANA JIMENEZ and Daniel G. Solorzano**

**Mentor: Daniel G. Solorzano**

The study compares the attainment of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) baccalaureates across race and gender on a national and state level, specifically focusing on the University of California and California State University systems. Due to increasing globalization and technological innovation in the United States, it is crucial that students of color are adequately prepared to compete in STEM careers. Historically, minorities have been underrepresented in the sciences and mathematics compared to their white counterparts. Researchers reveal that inadequate academic preparation within a student's K-12 education coupled with institutional factors experienced in post-secondary education, result in the exclusion of students of color in STEM majors. Findings in the demographic profile will come from the National Center for Education Statistics and the 2010 California Postsecondary Education Commission. This demographic profile provides a relationship between race/gender and the percentage of students of color receiving baccalaureates in STEM fields. The study explores the need to engage in discussion around retention, curriculum, mentorship, and recruitment to increase the number of students of color in STEM baccalaureates.

**20.**

**Character Breakdown: Original Poetry Written in Response to Feminist Theory, Theater, and Poetry—**

**Ultimately Concerned with the Creation and Destruction of Identities and Performative Entities**

**FAITH KEARNS**

**Mentor: Stephen Yenser**

This creative honors research thesis comprises a series of dramatic monologues, lyrics, sonnets, and confessions that meditate on two primary questions: (1) How are characters, that is, personal identities as well as performative entities, who are built and worn for a myriad of purposes—not the least of which is for the stage—created? and (2) How much control does each speaker have over the creation of his/her/zie's character? The voices contained herein arise from a fertile ground of feminist theory, theatre history, playwrights, poets, and some of this poet's autobiography. Theorist Donna Haraway figures prominently in an essential philosophy of the work: that there is no “true self” buried under past traumas, societal pressures, and neuroses. This work seeks to explore the ways in which these influences and others contribute to what Haraway calls the “assemblage” of the individual. Though the voices are “true” in themselves, they are only as “true” or honest as any other voice one is likely to encounter in literature—let alone on the street. Even the lyrical narrators or the obviously (at least partially) autobiographical speakers are unreliable—perhaps more so than the quickly identifiable first-person “I” in a dramatic monologue. Ultimately, the speakers and characters contained herein, in their various cadences, forms, and expressions do more to elaborate upon the questions than they do to answer them. Rather, each voice works to show a different facet of the trouble in building or breaking down a character.

**21.**

**Vowel Quality in Storytelling Speech: An Exploration of English Corner Vowel Formants**

**EUNICE LIU and IAN FARNKOPF**

**Mentor:**

Previous research has shown that infant-directed speech, or “Motherese,” has an increased triangular vocalic space compared to speech directed to adults. When parents speak to their infants, they pronounce more acoustically extreme vowels to help children differentiate and learn contrasting vowels during language acquisition. In our study, we explored this phenomenon using “storytelling” speech. The first (F1) and second formants (F2) of English corner vowels were graphed to visualize whether there is a greater distance between vowels in storytelling speech. Formants are the amplified harmonics observed in speech. For this study, a male subject was recorded reading a script containing the target words in English. The script was read in normal speech and in storytelling speech, the way a story would be read to a child. Praat, a speech analysis software, was used to collect the F1 and F2 values of the target vowels. Our results indicated that there was only one case where the distance between two vowels was significantly different between normal and storytelling speech. Also, it seemed that repetition of a word did not significantly change the pronunciation of the vowel. Overall, our results seem to suggest that fathers may not enunciate vowels as much as mothers do. This is a significant finding because the effect of Motherese is debated.

**22.**

**College Geared Outreach Programs: Intervention Methods Between High School to College**

**MARIBEL LUNA**

Many college geared outreach programs focus on increasing the number of minority and first generation students who enter higher education by providing a college going culture in order to aid in the transition process. The proportion of college counselors to students differs significantly impacting the student’s access to equity and information. Thus, college-geared outreach programs serve to create equity and access by providing resources that certain students would otherwise not obtain. While college geared outreach programs serve as intervention methods to increase college knowledge, the implementation methods used, such as “At-risk youth” terminology to assess which schools to aid mirrors the “White savior complex,” and stems from deficit thinking which has been put to question by Valencia. Thus, this research project will examine the intervention strategies college geared outreach programs engage in during their aim of aiding in the transition from high school to college particularly for first generation college students. Through qualitative data, such as ethnographic fieldwork and in-depth open ended interviews with college geared outreach program staff, this study will examine the strategies college geared outreach programs engage in while intervening between the transition from high school to college for first generation students. Understanding what intervention strategies college geared outreach programs engage in will help create better strategies for aiding in the transition from high school to college.

**23.**

**Management of Arthritis and the Role of Documentation Status**

**YANELY MARIN and Federica Raia**

**Mentor: Federica Raia**

Undocumented immigrants face various obstacles when it comes to accessing healthcare. Although healthcare policies recently have been implemented in the United States, not only do they fail to include undocumented immigrants, they also make it harder for this population to purchase health insurance. As the rates of chronic illnesses continue to increase in the United States, this can prove to be a serious problem for undocumented immigrants. This study looks into the effect that documentation status has on first generation Latina/o immigrants living with arthritis. Through a mixed methods approach, participants will be given a short questionnaire and participate in in-depth interviews. As the number of Latinas/os living with arthritis in the United States continues to increase, being able to understand how first generation Latina/o immigrants, both documented and undocumented, differ in their experiences living with a chronic illness is essential to highlight. Through listening to the stories first generation Latina/o immigrants have in regards to living with a chronic illness, we can then begin to develop new health care policies that can incorporate this often-neglected population. As a nation that prides itself upon being built of immigrants, and is in the midst of an immigration reform debate, it is important then that we can begin to incorporate the undocumented population.

**24.**

**Transnational “Fem-scapes” in the History, Advocacy, and Films of “Women Make Movies”**

**KATHERINE E. MAXWELL**

**Mentor: Purnima Mankekar**

Entrenched and globalized forms of gender inequality in the media—both behind and in front of the camera—are being addressed by Women Make Movies (WMM), an internationally recognized nonprofit that distributes films made by and about women. Founded in the 1970s in a church basement in New York City, WMM is now the world’s leading distributor of films and videotapes made by and about women. I use WMM’s institutional history as a case study to examine how two women filmmakers examine intersecting issues of globalization: gender and labor as manifested in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, through close analyses of the films *Performing the Border* (1999, dir. Ursula Biemann) and *Senorita Extraviada, Missing Young Woman* (2001, dir. Lourdes Portillo). I analyze these narratives and films using the framework of “-scapes,” proposed by Global Studies theorist and anthropologist Arjun Appadurai. I expand upon his model by analyzing the existence of what I dub “fem-scapes”—the presence and activities of feminist media actors and their artistic outputs, both within and outside of existing global mediascapes. By examining changes in WMM’s institutional flows and the two films of these filmmakers who worked with WMM, I demonstrate their (and WMM’s) broader significance to the study of mass media and its circulation, convey the liminality and marginality of women’s experiences in the context of global processes, and shed light on a movement that aims towards greater participation and consumption of the stories of non-hegemonic identities.

**25.**

**Black Unicorns: The Social Construction of Black Males in American Culture**

**MATTHEW A. MOORE**

**Mentor: Richard A. Yarborough**

This project aims to identify various representations of black male figures in American culture, through the use of African American literature and film from roughly 1960-1980. This time period allows for a historical analysis of literature and film in relation to blaxploitation. Robinson (1998) describes Blaxploitation as a degraded cinema, where it degraded the black actors, writers, and directors who caricatured the black lower class. Although blaxploitation is more associated with film, I will explore how literature can exploit African American social conditions to create entertainment. Analyzing various themes will shed light on how black males are socially constructed through African American literature and film and to what extent literature and film perpetuates these images through current social conditions. Analyzing particular themes through a historical approach will contextualize fictional pieces during its time period and also relate to pivotal moments in modern African American history in an attempt to theorize the perpetuation of these stereotypical images. Emerging themes that will be analyzed are; tokenization, violence towards black males, and interracial relationships. Lastly, I hope to expose how widespread forms of media perpetuate negative racial stereotypes by highlighting deficit representations of African American males in literature and film.

**26.**

**Identity, Assimilation, and Representations of American Judaism in Philip Roth's *American Trilogy***

**TESSA CRYSTAL NATH**

**Mentor: Todd S. Presner**

Roth critics have long acknowledged that the *American Trilogy* elucidates the life of three men whose identities were formed based on their historical time period (the Vietnam War, the McCarthy era, and the Clinton impeachment). What has not been acknowledged is the extent to which the American Jewish community's identity wars of the 40s and 50s influenced the men's lives. A history of self-hatred, anti-Semitism, and fear of a Holocaust in America informs the men's lives as much as their contemporary moment. In the *American Trilogy*, the narrator Nathan Zuckerman writes novels about the lives of three real men after their deaths. In his narration, he reveals that he is actually reexamining his own past through the three men in an attempt to rediscover himself and define his identity. This thesis explores Philip Roth's *American Trilogy* in order to establish a new definition of American Judaism—one that is predicated on choice rather than on birth or religious practice. Roth is an unusual writer for this goal, since he was long regarded as outside the Jewish literary canon and was popularly accused of penning anti-Semitic texts. Nevertheless, I argue that we are able to realize an inclusive definition of American Jewish identity only by allowing the periphery into the centerfold.

**27.**

**William Blake and Learning: An Analysis of His Influence on the Progressive Education Movement**

**ROBIN P. NGUYEN**

**Mentor: Saree Makdisi**

There was a time, at the beginning of the 20th century when historians and educators began distinguishing the difference between an old education and a new one. The former was considered “based on false and wicked idea[s],” while the latter, also known as “progressive education,” was thought as being freer of restraint, child-centered, and holistic (Reese 2). William Blake was among the few mentioned in Reese’s article as a poet who was arguably the most influential literary figure on the new progressive education system. Blake’s poems and artistic pieces address the topics of education and the processes of learning. In my research project, I will be delving into the works of John Locke, specifically his theories on the child and learning, to see if his implications can be seen in Blake’s *Songs of Innocence and Experience*, a compilation of children’s poetry. While studying these two figures, I hope to (1) illustrate the environments in which a child learns best and (2) suggest implications for something, which I will call a “Blakean classroom.” This research project plays a critical role in analyzing the ways in which public education will move forward by looking at individual experiences, which will ultimately contribute to the reconstruction of thought on learning.

**28.**

**What We Secretly Endure: The Obscurity of Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Issues**

**TIMOTHY NGUYEN**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

My study focuses on the major health issues Asian American and Pacific Islanders are currently afflicted with and different causes for each of these illnesses. Through in-depth research I aim to uncover the root causes for why Asian American and Pacific Islanders are susceptible and fall victim to these different health problems. Among the issues I will cover include mental health problems, cancer, heart disease, and even diabetes. One of my main, personal goals is to become more aware of the health problems the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities are facing. I strive to attain more knowledge of what the people in my community experience, and try to utilize what I learn to develop my own way to help them in the future. Therefore a broader, more ambitious objective for my research is to present my findings to the public and hence raise public awareness to galvanize a movement to help the Asian American and Pacific Islander community combat these health issues. My belief is that there is barely enough coverage on health problems Asian Americans endure today, and hope to impact public health practitioners to provide more and better healthcare services for the issues the Asian American and Pacific Islander community endeavors.

**29.**

**Naked in Their Eyes: A Case Study on Sexual Harassment in Amman, Jordan**

**TIRA OKAMOTO**

This research critically examines what kinds of street harassment urban Jordanian women experience and possible ways to reduce harassment. This research’s objective is to determine whether sexual harassment is a culturally accepted norm, unlikely to change, or whether there are signs of support for

greater safety and sovereignty of Jordanian women. This research draws parallels between data collected in interviews and surveys and theories of Orientalism, post-colonialism and feminism. Data collection included interviews with professors at the University of Jordan theorizing sexual harassment; public opinion surveys of students at the University of Jordan; interviews with women living in Amman of various ages, religious backgrounds, and socio-economic backgrounds on their experiences with sexual harassment; and reviews of newspaper articles and other forms of material culture. This research hypothesizes that the prevalence of sexual harassment in Amman perpetuates the idea of Jordanian men “othering” Jordanian women – as in perceiving them as different or “other” rather than the same as men – just as the West “others” the Middle East. Conclusions drawn include sexual harassment in Amman occurs mainly in the form of verbal harassment and that sexual harassment, a representation of the male gaze, “others” victims, much like the West “others” the East. By highlighting the severity of sexual harassment in Amman, this research works to prevent further cases of sexual harassment in Amman and around the world.

**30.**

**Economic & Cultural Development: An Ethnographic Study on Indigenous Communities Through the Lens of Tourism**

**HARVEY PERALTA**

**Mentor: Robert C. Romero**

One of the most fundamental questions and central studies within International Development Studies has been: why is the West rich and the Third World poor? Robert H. Bates tries to answer this question by examining the evolution of capitalism as societies moved from agrarian societies to industrial states. He argues that unlike industrial societies, which foster investment and per capita growth, agrarian societies fail to develop due to their lack of investment, violence, and political power that they uphold. However, I want to challenge his argument by examining whether Agrarian societies are inclined to be successful, both economically and culturally. My research will look closely at Bates approach on agrarian societies by studying two different indigenous communities from Mexico, an agrarian and an industrial society, in order to determine whether agrarian societies are actually more inclined to be less successful than industrial societies. While Bates’ examines his argument through the lens of violence, I will examine this study through the lens of tourism, something that has not been studied before. My research becomes very prominent given the large investment towards Mexico’s tourism industry within the last four years. My research question will aim to answer how tourism has helped and affected the development of the two different societies, both economically and culturally. Furthermore, are agrarian societies inclined to be more successful than industrial societies?

**31.**

**Heidegger and Shelley: Understanding Beauty in the Face of Dasein’s Groundlessness**

**GABRIEL RIVAS**

**Mentor: Kenneth Reinhard**

This study provides a Heideggerian reading of Percy Shelley’s “Alastor” and “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty.” Critics have mostly looked at the philosophical influences on Shelley by emphasizing the impact of David Hume or Plato on his work, but these two perspectives lead to the limited tendency of reading

Shelley as either a seeker of transcendence or as a skeptic. More recent criticism asks us to look beyond Shelley's Platonism, since his work is able to look forward to "more modern materialisms that displace the individual subject as the starting point for speculation, substituting instead the larger, impersonal vistas of our social and natural being," according to Paul Hamilton (166). Despite an appreciation of Shelley's ability to anticipate 20th century thought, there has not been an approach to his work from the perspective of the philosophy of Martin Heidegger. Heidegger, a 20th century German philosopher, develops a framework that does away with the subject-object dichotomy that dominated the age of the Enlightenment and which we can use to provide a different way to look at Shelley's pursuit of Beauty. I will demonstrate with a discussion of Heidegger's notion of the human being, the world, and anxiety towards death that Shelley's work anticipates Heideggerian notions and that Heidegger can help us better understand Shelley.

### **32.**

#### **"Querer Es Poder:" Prospective First Generation Latino/a College Students' Access to Higher Education** **PRISCILLA RUBIO**

Despite efforts to increase college and university entrance rates for first-generation Latino/a students, rates still lag behind the general population. Since Latinos/as are most likely to be the first in their families to attend college, it is important to recognize and understand the barriers they face in high school in order to provide them with the guidance and support they need. This study examines the educational experiences of prospective first-generation Latino/a college students in AVID classes at a public Los Angeles high school. Data will be gathered through classroom observations and through formal and informal semi-structured qualitative interviews with two AVID teachers and one college counselor. The purpose of conducting this research is to identify what elements affect the decision-making process and college aspirations of these students. This project will contribute to the small body of research that examines the factors that affect prospective first-generation Latino/a students' self-perceptions, aspirations, and postsecondary educational goals. It is necessary to know this information in order to determine what improvements should be made to best support those who are most at risk in accessing higher education.

### **33.**

#### **The Los Angeles Do-It-Yourself Music Scene: How Social Networks, Ideology, and the Process of Participation Create a Culture of Exclusivity** **LITAL G. SLOBODSKY**

**Mentor: Zsuzsa Berend**

This study focuses on the Los Angeles Do-It-Yourself (DIY) music scene and examines how social networking, sites such as Facebook, ideology of the DIY ethic, and participation contribute to a complicated system of exclusivity that fosters itself through a shared value of collaboration. How does one become a participant in the music scene? How does social networking play a role in the assimilation of individuals into this subculture and how does it contribute (or not) to the DIY ethic that is shared among participants? Participant observation was used at 8 music shows around L.A., and informal interviews were conducted with individuals there. Becoming a participant in this music scene seems to follow 5 stages: Not-Knowing/Not-Participating, Not-Knowing/Participating, Knowing/Not-Participating,

Knowing/Participating, and Active Participation. In addition to the stages, participation seems to be guided by the social networking that is done at these shows and on social networking sites such as Facebook. This social networking is also a part of a contrast between the ideology of the scene and the actual practice of how to run these shows and handle situations. The Los Angeles music scene has not been studied extensively yet and this study can pave the way to further research regarding how contrasting situations in a close-knit community are handled and how such a vast subculture can manage to keep its exclusivity as well as a sense of collaboration and growth.

**34.**

**Analyzing the impacts of the Student Loan Debt Crisis in the United States and Exploring Possible Legislative Solutions**

**FRANCESCO SOSA**

**Mentor:**

Student loan debt is a serious economic problem in the United States that must be dealt with immediately through public policy measures that help Americans who are struggling to attain an education. According to the New York Federal Reserve, student loan debt has increased to 1.13 trillion dollars and is the largest form of consumer debt outside of mortgages. The Congressional Budget Office 2014 data on federal student loans projects that over the next decade, the interest rates on federal student loans will increase. This means that the federal government will continue generating billions of dollars in profits from student loans. The student loan debt crisis negatively effects our economy because less young Americans are purchasing homes and starting small businesses. This crisis is also effecting elderly Americans, the Government Accountability Office reported that total outstanding federal student debt amongst the elderly was 18.2 billion dollars in 2013. This is detrimental to Americans who rely on their Social Security check to survive since they will have part of their benefits deducted to pay for defaulted federal student loans. This research study is significant because it portrays the negative effects of student loan debt in the United States and provides possible legislative solutions, such as establishing interest rates that are not tied to the ten year Treasury Note, allowing student loans to be refinanced, and updating the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1966.

**35.**

**Engagement in Extracurricular Activities as a Protective Factor Against the Effects of Victimization Among Latina/o Middle School Students**

**STEPHANIE SOTO-LARA**

**Mentor: Sandra Graham**

Research shows that victimization is most prevalent during middle school, where 22% of Latino middle school students are bullied. Although Latino students constitute 74% of the student population in the Los Angeles Unified School District, there are inconsistent findings regarding the victimization of Latino youth. While research suggests that victimized youth are at risk for developing lower sense of school belonging and poor mental health, other studies show that social networks promote positive developmental outcomes. Consequently, little research examines participation in extracurricular activities as a social network that is associated with mental health outcomes. This study aims to bridge this gap by examining how participation in extracurricular activities decreases the effects of

victimization. Survey data from a subsample of Latino students (n=1886) who participated in the UCLA Middle School Diversity Project, a larger ongoing longitudinal study, will be examined. This study examines 1) the relationship between victimization, sense of belonging and mental health outcomes among Latina/o middle school students and; 2) whether participation in extracurricular activities serve as buffers against the negative effects of victimization among Latina/o middle school students. I hypothesize that participation in extracurricular activities work as a protective factor for victimized Latino youth. Findings from this study have implications for researchers and counselors who can provide ways to decrease victimization in schools.

**36.**

**National Collegiate Athletic Association Format in China**

**WALTER TANG**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

Athletics and humanitarianism have been a lifelong passion of mine. Sports have played a major part in my life as an adolescent. Twenty-four years later it is still something that I cannot live without. Therefore, I would love to share this great joy of sports to the world. In my previous Asian American classes I have studied a lot about labor, global economy migrations, and identity influence that sparked my hypothesis of the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletics Association) being a viable program for China. Chinese sport programs often preselect or force youth to join athletic schools. Yet they receive minimal education in history, language arts, math, and science, but in America the NCAA provide a module fit for students to also be athletes. Such a program will allow for a better platform and equal opportunity for all athletes for the future. I would be able to apply my knowledge gained from obtaining a degree in Asian American Studies at UCLA. My hypothesis is that the NCAA program will be highly beneficial in China. This new program will create more athletes and better education.

**37.**

**Letters from a Black Hole: A Spatial Exploration of Grief and Transcendence**

**JAZMYNN VAZQUEZ**

**Mentor: Marissa K. Lopez**

“Letters from a Black Hole” is a collection of poems, prose pieces, paintings, graphic designs, and photographs meant to bring the barrios of Los Angeles, CA to life on the page. Significant themes inform the collection, such as Mexican patriarchy and family dysfunction. However, its central purpose is to explore the nature of grief as both an abstract and physical entity. Throughout the story, the narrator grapples with the death of one of her family members as well as dealing with the grief that plagues the rest of the characters in the narrative. Their grief manifests itself in their dialogue, their mannerisms, their possessions and their geographical location. Further, as the narrative progresses, it becomes apparent that their grief, while molded by its physical properties, embodies the interstellar, which represents the transcendence and power of this grief. Even though the characters’ grief is presented in both a very idiosyncratic and larger-than-life way, the work attempts mainly to evoke a sense of personal and grounded immediacy.

**38.**

**A Miscellaneous Classroom: The Misplacing of Students through Classroom Organization**

**KAREN VILLEGAS**

**Mentor: Patricia C. Gandara**

One factor in student success is accurate student placement into a classroom that addresses his/her particular needs. Sheltered instruction encompasses a set of teaching strategies that are designed to lower the linguistic demand of the lesson without compromising the rigor of the subject matter. The creation of sheltered classrooms is commonly used to help English Language Learners (ELLs) gain access to the core curriculum. One public middle school has incorporated the use of a sheltered classroom for students with special needs. The classroom is highly diverse—a majority of students are ELL, some are newcomers to the school and others have specific learning difficulties. Through interviews with the teacher, principal, and counselor I will focus on the rationale for the classroom composition. I will also observe the organization of the classroom instruction to identify the ways in which it both serves and fails to fulfill the needs of individual students. I will employ ethnographic methods where I will observe certain students to understand how they are organized for instruction and how they navigate this environment and demands of the classroom. I intend to follow these students into the second year of this study to determine how they have progressed and how the experience of this classroom may influence their school adaptation in the following year. The significance of this project lies in describing the ways different classroom organization and teacher practices can meet the needs of some students better than others.

**39.**

**Chinese American Undergraduate Attitudes Toward Affirmative Action and “Anti-Asian Bias”**

**ARTHUR WANG**

**Mentor: Robert T. Teranishi**

This study examines, in detail, the formation of attitudes toward affirmative action among Chinese American undergraduates. Past research and polling indicates that Asian Americans are, on the whole, strongly supportive of affirmative action policies in college admission. Little disaggregated data for Asian American subgroups' attitudes toward affirmative action exists, however. In addition, the degree in which respondents have a proficient understanding of a notoriously complex public policy has been much overlooked. Chinese American students in the Greater Los Angeles area are surveyed ( $n \sim 250$ ) and interviewed ( $n \sim 30$ ) in detail to investigate the degree in which students understand—and misunderstand—affirmative action. The interviewees are selected from the survey pool and asked to explain their positions on the policy and how they formed. Last year's lawsuits against Harvard and the University of North Carolina with Asian plaintiffs in late 2014 and uproar in California by Chinese Americans over a legislative amendment (SCA 5) that would reinstate affirmative action has rekindled the discussion of where Asian Americans stand vis-a-vis the policy, and if the it has created “anti-Asian bias,” a topic of much concern for Chinese Americans. The research findings will have broad implications for policymakers and researchers interested in how viewpoints are shaped and formed by one of the groups most concerned about affirmative action.

**Deconstructing Experiences of Victims and the Gender and Cultural Barriers of Domestic Violence in the Hmong Community to Bridge Understanding and Mobilize Change**

**JENNIFER XIONG**

**Mentor: Victor Bascara**

With recent headlines about the murder-suicide of a Hmong woman and her estranged husband that occurred at a Fresno pediatric clinic on March 31, 2015 the spotlight has been heavy on the Hmong community and domestic violence. Only in recent years has the community and its advocates begun to openly discuss the issue that has long persisted within the culture and community. Talking about domestic violence and abuse is still taboo despite its unfortunate ubiquity in society, in the larger AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) population, and especially in the Hmong community. The trailing reasons for negative domestic violence perceptions and the silence of victims in the Hmong community are the stagnant gender and cultural barriers. In my research, I hope to detail the personal experiences of abuse, discuss the barriers that prevent making effective and widespread community change, analyze efforts that have arisen to mobilize change, and provide a closer look at the prospects of transforming the perception of victims, abusers, and domestic violence as a whole within the Hmong community.

**FRIDAY, MAY 15**

**11am-12pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 1A**

---

**1.**

**A Case For Faith: A Comparison of the Epistemological Stances in Augustine's *The Advantage of Believing* and Plato's *The Republic***

**MEGAN BECK**

**Mentor: Debora K Shuger**

This thesis explores the relationship between faith and reason by comparing the conceptions of “belief” put forth by Augustine and Plato in their respective works. Although *The Advantage of Believing* may be most clearly recognized as a defense of faith and *The Republic* as one of reason, I suggest that the two texts align in revealing the necessity of accepting authority. It appears rather obvious, given its title, that belief remains central to Augustine’s theology, however, as will be illustrated in the discussion that follows, belief also plays a surprisingly important role in Plato’s philosophy. By devoting close attention to difficulties of translation, I reveal three variations of belief in *The Republic*. Though the Greek words doxa and pistis may both be rendered as “belief,” I demonstrate how these terms function as analogs to Augustine’s definitions of opinion and trust. Through a close-reading of Plato’s allegory of the cave, I argue for the existence of a third implied variation of “belief”—one that closely resembles Augustine’s notion of faith. While we might expect the epistemological perspectives of a pagan philosopher and a Christian theologian to differ greatly, Augustine and Plato may have more in common than has hitherto been realized. Ultimately, I argue that for both thinkers, reason alone remains insufficient for arriving at truth. We must first rely upon authority; belief must precede understanding.

2.

**On the Evil Soul: Examining the Ethics of Intention in Famous  
Fictional Villains Through Moral Philosophy**

**ANI KHASHADOORIAN**

**Mentor: Alexander J. Julius**

By examining famous fictional villains, does self-awareness of their evil acts make their actions more horrible, and conversely, does lack of self-awareness of their evil acts make their actions less horrible? In colloquial terms - when people do bad things knowing they are doing bad things, does their self-awareness of their bad behavior make it more worse or less worse behavior? This paper will examine the question through the narratives of popular literary and film villains found in various periods spanning from Greek mythology to contemporary cinema through ethical guidelines set forth in moral philosophy. Accordingly, the philosophical works in examination for "On The Evil Soul" are traditional Kantian moral imperatives from the first half of his *Groundwork of The Metaphysics of Morals*, in tandem with the Aristotle's concept of eudaimonia from *Nicomachean Ethics*.

3.

**Shattered Against My Very Ground: An Examination of the Psychological Nature of Space in *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* and *Mrs. Dalloway***

**AMELIA A. RIBBENS**

**Mentor: Kathleen L. Komar**

My research centers around a paper I wrote last year titled "Shattered Against My Very Ground: An Examination of the Psychological Nature of Space in *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* and *Mrs. Dalloway*." In this paper I examine the construction and perception of space, as it both influences and is influenced by the psychological experience, and the important role this plays in the relationship between the universal and the individual within the text. I argue that in *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* this relationship between psychological experience and space reveals a collapse of the universal into the individual, while in *Mrs. Dalloway* it suggests an opposite collapse of the individual into the universal. In my research I sought to expand upon this analysis, examining the relevance of outside scholarship, biographical context and filmic reinterpretations of the texts in order to better understand the broader significance of these themes within the works. One of the most exciting discoveries made in my research has been the importance of the characters' ability to create narrative to their survival within the text. I have also uncovered some interesting parallels to these themes within the authors own lives, specifically in the influence of space upon their individual psychological experiences and in their perspectives on creating narrative.

4.

**Progression: A Collection of Short Stories**

**GRACE Y. KIM**

**Mentor: Mona E. Simpson**

*Progression* is a short story collection presented as a thesis for the creative English departmental honors. The project itself underwent many revisions and inspirations, such as initially intending to examine common tropes found in folklore and eventually establishing a foundation in Michel Foucault's

concept of heterotopia. The final project, however, deviates from both of these theses. Through the course of the project, each story was conceived seemingly separately from segments of my environment. "Anna's World," for instance, derives its inspiration from Andrew Wyeth's painting "Christina's World," and "Progression" has much closer familial roots and was sparked by a recent loss. This is, in part, why the completed project bears the title it has. Each story has gone in directions I did not dictate. *Progression* is named, thus, because the project was itself a learning process for myself as well as being a culmination of my growth as a writer under UCLA's creative writing program. There are two things I hope to always possess in my writing, and they are empathy for characters and a hopeful, if not necessarily happy, ending. Some of these stories might not seem to have very hopeful endings, but I would argue that, in some way, each one contains a triumph, however great or small. Some slay the great giant of the Philistines, while others are just taking their first steps up a hill.

---

## **11am-12pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 1B**

---

### **1.**

#### **Sexual Health Zine Initiative for California Public Middle and High Schools**

**PHOEBE BROWN and ISABELLE BEAUSANG**

**Mentor: David H. Gere**

In the US, sexual health is the least developed area of education yet arguably the most important. Several performance based programs, such as UCLA's own Sex Squad, have been created to address the lack of effective sexual health education for youth yet we have not found a single example of a visual arts based model that has evoked effective change. Thus far, visual imagery has only been utilized for scare tactics, showing graphic and intimidating pictures of STIs and genitalia, which do not effectively generate behavior change or long-term information retention. In light of all of this, we are proposing the Sexual Health Zine Initiative: an after school program that educates middle school students about sexual health in accordance with California State education standards through near-peer mentorship with high school students and the creation of sexual health zines. Zines are a perfect medium for educational purposes as they allow for flexibility with visual and written content, and they can be cheaply mass-produced and disseminated. Our initiative acknowledges that there are many different lenses through which to learn. Through our program, we hope to shift the ways in which visual imagery and the arts have been used alongside sexual health education to more effectively educate and empower youth about the importance of their own sexual health. Our initiative recognizes the necessity of arts based applications to global health issues in order to approach issues in creative and innovative ways.

### **2.**

#### **Skid Row: Empowerment Through Graffiti Art**

**EVAN EDWARDS**

**Mentor: David H. Gere**

Los Angeles is increasingly becoming a city of haves and have nots. Nowhere is this more evident than in Skid Row, located adjacent to the fashion and arts districts. When people think of art in Downtown LA, they are likely to think of the newly designed Broad Museum, which will exhibit a private collection of

almost 2000 pieces, neatly categorized within the climate-controlled walls of the institution. Outside these walls and less than a mile away a different type of collection is on display. Exposed to elements and scattered throughout the marginalized streets of Skid Row, the socially-conscious graffiti art of Skid Robot is available to the public. This research project centers on the anonymous artist Skid Robot and reviews his projects in Skid Row providing an overview of images created by the artist and analysis of his methods. The presentation also outlines a potential pilot project, created by the author and inspired by Skid Robot, which seeks to foster new climates for empowerment among homeless individuals in the area. Unlike the art that is collected at the Broad Museum, Skid Robot's art is designed to bestow the gift of empowerment.

### 3.

#### **Superstudio and Videotape: Disappearance Through Re-Writing**

**SOHUN KANG**

**Mentor: Sylvia Lavin**

The paper investigated a single U-matic videocassette of Superstudio, currently archived at the Getty Research Institute. It first defined the medium specificity of videotape based on its early history as a transmission medium. Inheriting from its film predecessor, kinescope recordings, videotape was first introduced to the television stations as a portable storage device in the 1950s. Since the magnetic tape was difficult to produce and expensive, the stations had to reuse the tape multiple times. The tape disciplines the users to erase and rewrite the contents and to physically move it to other stations for transmission. Therefore, the medium specificity of videotape is digital nomadism through rewriting. In the second part, I traced down the life of the videocassette from the Getty Archive to Machi studio at Florence. I found some answers for when, where, how was it made, who made it, where it was displayed, and how it was distributed and archived. Based on the archeological findings of the videotape, I argue that the videocassette of Superstudio fundamentally resituated architecture into disappearance. This research is the first incomplete history of the videotape. It established the videotape as central to the production of Superstudio for the first time.

### 4.

#### **From Billboard to Billboards: Towards a Qualitative Model for the Ideal Brand Partnership**

**SEAN W. STEVENS**

**Mentor: Elisabeth C. Le Guin**

The brand partnership, defined here as any joint marketing effort between a corporate brand and a music artist, is a marketing technique used by corporations to embed themselves within popular culture. This paper will defend the brand partnership on ethical and practical grounds, establish normative guidelines that protect the interests of artists and brands as they enter into these joint ventures and demonstrate the efficacy of those guidelines through case studies of effective and ineffective brand partnerships. Partnerships benefit both artists and brands when they provide the cultural relevance and access the brands seek while supporting the artist and protecting their credibility. Through extensive review of scholarship on branding, in depth study of existing partnerships and quantitative surveys that track brand and artist affinity and purchase intent before and after viewing partnered media, it becomes clear that this benefit can be accomplished by carefully matching the qualitative characteristics and

values of the artist with those of the brand, enacting some type of socially responsible action and having the brand maintain an apparent hands off position in terms of what the artist creates for the partnership. As brand partnerships continue to expand in usage, and because they have the potential to greatly impact brands and artists, it becomes exceedingly important to understand the distinctions between effective and ineffective brand partnerships.

---

## **12-1pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 2A**

---

### **1.**

#### **Changes in Climate, Governance, and Society: A Comparative Meta-Analysis of Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategies and Actors in the Nile and Mekong Deltas**

**SAM GELDIN**

**Mentor: Marilyn Raphael**

Despite the unprecedented rate of globally observed sea level rise, strikingly few studies compare the impacts of and mitigation strategies for sea level rise between different nation-states. By exchanging best practices and lessons learned among nations with comparable histories of governance and expected impacts, communities can greatly improve their resiliency to climate-related challenges. Using current available literature, this assessment provides a meta-analysis of sea level adaptation in Egypt and Vietnam, two developing countries with highly populated low-lying deltaic zones. In place of original fieldwork, this analysis consulted scholarly journals, state documents, international agency reports, and nongovernmental publications. Evidence in both Vietnam and Egypt suggests that states, international institutions, development banks, and foreign aid donors could implement more informed adaptation policies related to the following issues: artificial infrastructure, water management, agriculture, aquaculture, and resettlement. This study's results ultimately support greater inclusion of participatory governance as a way to increase the resiliency of local communities in the Nile and Mekong Deltas. The need to further explore governance methods that empower locals, as well as transferrable adaptation policies alternative to Western norms, make this study's framework of transnational analysis a valuable tool to improve all nations' responses to climate impacts.

### **2.**

#### **The Impact of Technology on the Russian Mail Order Bride Industry**

**YEKATERINA S. BELIKOV**

**Mentor: Olga Kagan**

This paper argues that the rapid growth and success of the Russian mail order bride (MOB) industry since the 1990s is dependent on the concurrent timing of the fall of the Soviet Union and the proliferation of computers and the internet. This paper will analyze how the Russian MOB industry has responded to changes in technology, beginning with an examination of the history of the MOB industry, detailing the effects of technology on matchmaking agency websites and money transfer systems. Drawing from content analysis of current online MOB profiles, websites, and agency information, along with personal interviews and a review of statistics and available literature, this paper examines how both MOBs and the MOB industry have responded to changes in the MOB market that have been

brought on by technological innovations. This paper concludes with a prediction of the future growth trajectory of the Russian MOB industry based on expected impacts of the most recent technological innovations in the industry and changes in market forces. This examination will provide evidentiary support as to why the Russian MOB industry has grown at a faster rate than the MOB industry of other regions.

### 3.

#### **Ethical Product Purchasing Motivations in Individualistic and Collectivistic Cultures : A Cross-Cultural Investigation of the U.S. and Korea**

**YERIN YOON**

**Mentor: Steven M. Peterson**

Considering the recent boom of ethical products, significantly less attention has been paid to the motives that drive ethical product purchases, especially regarding cultural factors. With previous research suggesting consumers' tendencies to balance self-interest motives (e.g., price, quality, social-conformity) and value-interest motives (e.g., societal good) when making ethical purchases, the present study investigates the differences between ethical purchasing motives in people from individualistic and those from collectivistic cultural backgrounds. Over 400 participants in the United States and South Korea completed an online survey assessing cultural orientation, desire for identity expression, social trend susceptibility, and personal and social purchasing motives. Due to their heightened acceptance of the inequalities of social groups, individuals from competitive individualistic culture backgrounds more often predict their ethical product purchases to be influenced by social norms and identity expression than those from more horizontally collectivistic backgrounds. Preliminary results indicate this to be supported by the data. Implications of this study will inform how we can utilize the cultural orientation of consumers to reinforce the moral, environmental, and societal benefits of ethical production.

### 4.

#### **An Analysis of Procedural Crime Dramas and Their Relationship With Broadcast News**

**NICOLE NOUR**

**Mentor: Steven M. Peterson**

The impact of violent images in television media on viewers and society has been well documented through empirical research and theory. The present study utilizes quantitative and qualitative content analysis of procedural dramas to identify the frequencies of types of crime, portrayal of crime victims, as well as the correlations of crime drama story arcs to crime news stories broadcast during the same time period. All episodes of five popular procedural crime dramas were coded for the 2007 to 2008 broadcast year and results were compared to news stories broadcast during the same time period by utilizing the UCLA Library Broadcast NewsScape news archive. Preliminary analyses demonstrate a high frequency of crimes committed against white females, primarily involving homicide and forcible rape, yet lower incidence of these types of crimes in news stories. This research will provide evidence for and a deeper understanding of the linkage of crimes portrayed on television and those committed in real life settings, and suggest new directions for research in television and crime.

1.

**Austerity Against Italy: An Analysis of the Effects of EU-Imposed Austerity on the Republic of Italy**

**ROY S. JACKSON**

**Mentor: Thomas J. Harrison**

In 2011, as a response to the Economic Crisis of 2008 and Italy's large debt-to-GDP ratio, the European Union strongly pressured the Italian government to adopt measures of austerity, namely severe budget cuts and tax increases. The belief was that such measures, when implemented in EU member states with weak economies, would minimize the impact of the Great Recession by restoring international creditor and investor faith as well as prevent future economic crises. My argument is that austerity, in seeking to stabilize the Italian economy, has instead had negative effects on Italy's political and sociological realms and its future economic competitiveness. The research design is qualitative, examining Italy's political economy and the effects austerity has had on it, and is supported by data gathered regarding Italy's political economy, as well as the political and sociological impacts of said measures. The conclusion of the research lends strength to the on-going debate of whether Italy should maintain or abandon austerity, and addresses the likely repercussions for both actions.

2.

**Monetary Unionization in Europe: Theoretical and Historical**

**Implications of the Conditions Necessary for Success**

**ZACHARY DE GROOT and Rebecca Emigh**

**Mentor: Rebecca Emigh**

What conditions must be met for international monetary unions to succeed? Although many forms of monetary union have developed throughout history to varying degrees of success, the outbreak of Eurozone debt crisis in 2009 has reinvigorated scholarly interest. We propose that there must be a rigid interplay of economic benefits with common cultural and political foundations. Whereas past literature focuses on the necessity of sustained economic market benefits, culture and politics are necessary for providing a key sense of identity and accountability amongst member nations. We evaluate leading economic, cultural, and political theories by contextualizing them with two historical examples of monetary unions, the Latin Monetary Union (LMU) and the Scandinavian Monetary Union (SMU), and applying the results to the current Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in Europe. Fiscal benefits were more or less maintained for the duration of both unions. Existence of a relatively common culture facilitated the process of unionization in the SMU, though ultimately both experienced cultural fracturing. Lack of strong transnational political institutions to coordinate policies encouraged internal corruption and friction. The results thus confirm a threshold of economic, cultural, and political conditions that must be established and maintained. This spells trouble for the current EMU in Europe who faces challenges in all three regards.

**3.**

**Responsibility to Protect and Russian Foreign Policy: The Dichotomy**

**MELANIE K. DALBY**

**Mentor: Yelena Furman**

Since 2011, a stalemate in the United Nations Security Council revealed irreconcilable policy divides between the U.S. and Russia on the topic of international intervention. The root of the divide lies with a vague international law precedent regarding state sovereignty and international autonomy versus protection of humanitarian rights. An idea has developed in the international community that state sovereignty does not override mass crimes against humanity, thus giving the international community an implicit “responsibility to protect” (R2P) citizens—particularly regarding military intervention. Not surprisingly, Russia and the U.S. have clashed over when R2P legitimizes intervention—in particular, during the conflicts in Kosovo (1999), Georgia (2008), Libya (2011), Syria (2011), and Ukraine (2014). Russia’s approach is contradictory: when Russia protests R2P as a justification for intervention, as with Kosovo, Libya, and Syria, it is on the basis that international forces should not be allowed to overstep political sovereignty with military maneuvers. This allows Russia to defend themselves against unwanted intervention, especially from the U.S. However, when Russia utilizes this responsibility, as with Georgia and Ukraine, it is because Russia’s own brand of intervention has an underlying geopolitical benefit. The lack of a clear legal framework on intervention causes strife between Russia and the U.S. and prevents a proactive international community that truly aims to protect humanitarian rights.

**4.**

**Experiences of Displacement and Nationality of Karen Refugees on the Thailand-Myanmar Border**

**LOGAN LINNANE**

**Mentor: Eric Sheppard**

On the backdrop of the modern world’s longest standing civil war, the ethnic groups of highland Burma have been displaced into neighboring Thailand, establishing a complex of nine refugee camps along the Thailand-Myanmar border. This project focuses specifically on the Ban Mai Nai Soi camp, where there is a majority of the Karen ethnic group, which composes 90% of the population. After decades of relative stability, beginning with the camp’s creation in 1989 and an increase of programs to rehabilitate long-term inhabitants, these settlements are among the few refugee camps worldwide that are almost entirely operated by their inhabitants, instead of by international organizations. Due to the camp’s long-term existence and minimal repatriation of inhabitants back to Myanmar, international aid distributed to the camps has decreased over time. In response to decreased monetary aid, there has been an increase of activity by Community Based Organizations (CBO) established by the Karen people themselves. This project is based on a six weeks of field research on the periphery of the Ban Mai Nai Soi camp engaged with Karen CBOs, specifically educational organizations. My thesis serves to discuss a series of questions addressing Karen migration from Myanmar, and the changing nature of Karen nationality and identity during displacement in Thailand.

## **1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 3A**

---

### **1.**

#### **Crossing the Frame: An Examination of Byzantine Wall Painting**

**LAURA HORAN**

**Mentor: Sharon Gerstel**

In this paper, I will discuss the ways in which Byzantine ecclesiastical painting of the late twelfth century engages the viewer in a form of trans-temporal interaction—one in which the saints and other holy figures painted on the wall escape their confining borders to elicit an emotional and spiritual response from the faithful, who gaze at them in supplication. One of the most vibrant and best-preserved examples of this emotional style of painting is found in Panagia tou Arakos, a church located on the island of Cyprus. This small space, which is painted with a dynamic Late Komnenian program in 1192, forms subject of my research. In my work, I dispute the commonly held misconception that Byzantine church paintings are formal and distant. Through an in-depth analysis of the frescoes of the central bay and a consideration of all previously written sources on the site, I have deconstructed the methods by which the painter of this church, and Byzantine painters overall, created spaces that were both spiritual and worldly, sacred and accessible. In my work, I have in many ways mirrored the work of the painter himself who sought to make the paintings of this church and others like it understandable to the viewer.

### **2.**

#### **Anglo-Saxon Equestrianism: From Hengest and Horsa to the Bayeux Tapestry**

**JULIA F. CRISLER**

**Mentor: Jessica Goldberg**

The horse played a central role in the social and cultural life of Anglo-Saxon England. Although it was not at the center of economic wealth and exchange, (that was reserved for cattle), the horse significantly shaped the lives of the Anglo-Saxons, particularly the elite, from whom much of our documentation is derived. Although it is impossible to document the full range of horse usage that characterized later medieval society in military, agricultural, and labor settings, our sources do record animals of high quality. They reveal a society of equestrianism, one that valued not only horses but the horsemanship and management that was needed to produce a high quality horse stock. This equestrianism is evident in many ways. Horses were important as heriot, war gear gifted to lords, as property for women, for their colors which reflect nutritional management, in a religious setting, and as an influence on international relations with the Vikings and Franks.

### **3.**

#### **Shoulder to Your Shield: Reconstructing the Greek Hoplite at War**

**CHRYSANTHE PANTAGES, KALLI SARKIN, and Kathryn Morgan**

**Mentor: Kathryn Morgan**

Between roughly 500 and 400 BCE, an iconic brand of heavily armed infantryman—the hoplite—dominated the battlefields of Classical Greece. According to Aristotle, these citizen-soldiers rose to prominence with the development of the Greek city-states they served and defended. It is written testimony such as this, coupled with visual representations, which have allowed us to better understand

the arms and armaments of these soldiers including the classic round shield or hoplon. Until recently, scholarship on hoplite warfare has used these sources to focus on hoplites as a unified force acting under a commander. However, modern research emphasizes practical considerations at play for the average hoplite soldier: focus has shifted from general considerations of strategies, casualties, and victories to how these issues affect the individual soldier. Additionally, current research utilizes reenactors in order to physically test theories about the mechanics of hoplite warfare. This experimental research transforms historical data into tangible evidence. By reconstructing Greek battle formations with model shields, we not only contextualize the shield within the larger array of tools at a hoplite's command but also place the soldier within his battle context.

#### 4.

##### **The Persistence of Inca Power: Imperial Inca Architecture at Vitcos**

**SARA MORRISSET**

**Mentor: Stella E. Nair**

Masters of experiential manipulation, the Inca utilized architecture to serve as the physical manifestation of their Imperial ideology. As a strategy to secure their empire, the Inca employed identifiable architectural features to create a highly dynamic and flexible design system. The features of classic Imperial Inca architecture include trapezoidal openings, dominating roofs, battered walls, bonded masonry, and a modular design based on single room structures, also known as a wasi. An example of the use of these architectural elements is at the Inca site of Vitcos in Peru. Although not originally constructed as a capital, Vitcos served as the administrative and imperial center of the Inca court for over 35 years during Spanish occupation. Until now, Vitcos has been considered a colonial site due to its historical use, yet the site remained an Inca Imperial space even after the intrusion of the Spanish. While Vitcos was a prominent site in the later part of the Inca phenomena, there are few direct studies of the site. Vitcos serves as an example of the ability of the Inca to implement the key features of standard Imperial architecture within the larger landscape of their empire. My research contributes to the understanding of the understudied site of Vitcos and how the site serves as an example of how the Inca utilized the manipulation of the senses through Imperial architectural features as well as rituals in order to produce, propagate, and perpetuate Inca rule.

---

## **1-2pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 3B**

---

#### 1.

##### **Website Constructions of Women's Religious Roles in Prayer:**

**Maintenance, Questioning, and Formation**

**SARAH I. DAHNKE**

**Mentor: Carol Ann Bakhos**

Significant scholarship has been done on the portrayal of female religious roles on feminist religious websites. My research builds on this scholarship investigating constructions of female religious roles in prayer in public and private spaces on mainstream religious websites catering to women in the United States. This study calls into question the assumption that mainstream religious websites will continue to

propagate traditional gender roles around private and public prayer. It investigates how globalization has changed the way in which religious institutions engage with their followers through web sites. The Internet has the potential to play a substantial role in the maintenance, questioning, and formation of religious roles. This research builds on the work of scholars in the field of New Media to analyze how female religious roles are presented on religious websites. I evaluate three case studies of the most popular Jewish, Islamic, and Christian websites designed for women followers of those traditions in the United States. They are then set into dialogue with one another as well as with feminist websites from the same religious traditions.

## 2.

### **The Cinematographic Representation of Cuban Women as Empowered and Marginalized Subjects in Post-Soviet Cuban Society**

**JESSICA SANCHEZ**

**Mentor: Jorge Marturano**

Contemporary scholars such as Ana M. Prats Rodriguez have argued that the representation of women post-Cuban revolution in Cuban cinema has changed from one that mostly portrayed the female characters as exotic, sexualized bodies to a new representation of women that focused on relevant issues of society such as social and cultural discrimination, poverty and prostitution. This study builds on this work by examining the post-soviet period, with a particular focus on *Lisanka* (2006) and *Todas iban a ser reinas* (2006), to show that there is a diverse portrayal of women in cinema i.e the revolutionary, the prostitute, and the immigrant, in which the State controls such representations. Therefore, by comparing the representations of women found in *Lisanka* by Daniel Diaz Torres and documentary *Todas iban a ser reinas* by Gustavo Perez this study argues that even though there may be an empowered representation of women in Cuban cinema, these are individuals that continue to occupy a marginalized space in contemporary Cuban society.

## 3.

### **Contextualizing Captivity: Historical Context of Fear in Female Abenaki Captivity Narratives, 1697-1853**

**JILLIAN C. TSACOYEANES**

**Mentor: Ellen C. Dubois and Benjamin Madley**

Between 1697 and 1853, the experiences of white British colonial women captured by the Abenaki inspired the publication of nine captivity narratives. This occurred within the context of colonial warfare, and the Abenaki primarily fought alongside New France and the Iroquois to conduct raids on New England villages. In an attempt to follow the narratives' changing expression of fear in relation to historical context, this paper identifies and examines three phases of Abenaki captivity narrative publication in northern New England. In the first phase, which lasted from 1697 to 1702, Boston clergyman Cotton Mather responded to the threat of Abenaki power by emphasizing religious fear to dehumanize American Indians and encourage British colonists' commitment to Christianity and the colonial project. Between 1728 and 1796, a time of continued Euro-Indian violence, the second phase consisted of narratives with increased input by the former captives themselves, a new focus on the experiences of captive mothers, and emphasis on the Abenakis' redeemable characteristics. Finally, the

third phase lasted from 1839-1853, when historians reprinted Mather's earlier narratives in a new era devoid of Abenaki attacks, in which the same religious fears held new meanings related to religious revival, changing gender roles, and national anxieties about frontier violence. Ultimately, this project underlines the importance of specific historical context as it informs not only narratives' content, but also their impact on their audiences.

4.

**The Struggle Between Feminism and Patriarchy in Mary Wollstonecraft's  
*A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* and *Maria: or The Wrongs of Woman***

**JONATHAN SALINAS**

**Mentor: Felicity A. Nussbaum**

For over two centuries, literary critics have read Mary Wollstonecraft's treatise *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792) (here after *A Vindication*) and unfinished fictional novella *Maria: or, The Wrongs of Woman* (1797) (here after *Maria*) as foundational feminist texts. In this essay, I will examine the equivocal nature of Wollstonecraft's strategies in transforming women's rights. By exploring *A Vindication* and *Maria*, along with Wollstonecraft's journals and relevant historical documents, I elucidate the differences between the two texts, and show how the latter work is antithetical to the feminist views put forth in *Vindication*. I will demonstrate that a paradoxical relationship exists between Wollstonecraft's personal beliefs and her published assessments of women. That is, within the five years that *A Vindication* and *Maria* were written, not only did the women in her texts remain "trapped in the ideology of femininity," but Wollstonecraft herself, the embodiment of the nascent feminist cause, began to espouse some of the very same prejudices associated with the gender discrimination and despotic legal system that she sought to eradicate. More specifically, I demonstrate that the inconsistencies in both *A Vindication* and *Maria* fail to encourage female readers about the possibility of escaping their oppressive circumstances. This essay, in short, explores the ways in which the paradoxes, contradictions, and inconsistencies in Wollstonecraft's work betray an anguished sense of the persistent disparity between an ideal and the reality in a male-dominated society.

---

**2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 4A**

---

1.

**Manipulating Attention to Prevent Context Renewal**

**PATRICK G. HENTSCHEL, Tom J. Barry, Michael Treanor, and Michelle G. Craske**

**Mentor: Michelle G. Craske**

Although exposure therapy is regarded as the the gold-standard treatment protocol for anxiety disorders, it frequently fails to generalize beyond the treatment context. It has been proposed that context renewal, an associative learning effect, may underlie this phenomenon. Renewal refers to the return of fear that commonly occurs when a conditional stimulus (CS) is encountered outside the extinction context. Researchers have theorized that attentional processing during extinction may partially mediate this context-dependent return of fear. Our study uses a human differential conditioning paradigm to test whether instructively redirecting attention away from the surrounding

environment and toward the CS during extinction results in learning that is more context-independent and less vulnerable to relapse. Data collection is underway, and analyses will be based on 30 participants. We will conduct a repeated measures ANOVA to compare the degree of renewal from those in the CS-oriented to those in the context-oriented attention group. We hope to both illuminate the role of attention in extinction and context learning, as well as find a way to enhance the effects of exposure therapy for anxiety disorders.

## 2.

### **Parental Preparation for Bias and Ethnic Pride Among African-American Youth:**

#### **The Role of Same-Ethnic Friends**

**WHITNEY N. AKABIKE**

**Mentor: Jaana Juvonen**

Qualitative studies have shown that compared to other ethnic groups, African American parents talk more with their children about discrimination and racial bias. These parental messages have been shown to help children cope with experiences of discrimination. Less is known about whether parental preparation for bias may influence adolescents to affiliate with same ethnic peers which may in turn relate to their feelings of ethnic identity. We tested this proposed model in a sample of 718 African American sixth graders. We found that more parental preparation for bias at the beginning of middle school predicted more same-ethnic friendships among adolescents, which in turn related to more ethnic pride at the end of the 6th grade year. These results suggest that, with increased racial awareness from parents, forming same ethnic friendships may serve as a protective factors against racially dissonant experiences, but also have an indirect positive effects on adolescents' ethnic development. Whether parental preparation for bias and ethnic pride may come at the consequence of racial self-segregation will be discussed.

## 3.

### **Queer Student of Color Organizations on UCLA's Campus**

**SARAH A. RUDERMAN**

**Mentor: Zsuzsa Berend**

Today, UCLA's LGBT student-run organizations are divided along racial lines, but this was not always the case. What explains this splintering; why do these groups meet separately instead of in a united organization for all queer students? What purpose do these groups serve for their members? To understand the nature of these groups I conducted ethnographic fieldwork for six months. As a participant observer, I sat in on the weekly meetings of two of UCLA's groups for queer students of color, La Familia (LaFa) and Pan Asian Queers (PAQ). I also held an hour-long focus group with each group. My findings show that both LaFa and PAQ serve primarily as support groups for their members who do not take up political action despite their claims. I also found that members use the concept of intersectionality to justify their division across racial lines, but also cite cultural, rather than racial, differences as the main reason they meet specifically with other queer student of their race. The organizational structure these groups adopted differs from the unified nature of most racial and sexual minority rights groups, making them an interesting and relevant population to study. The racial principle for organizing the groups may reflect students' need for support for their private familial issues, which

they think they can expect from other queer students with similar family backgrounds. This research sheds light on the salience of racial/ethnic identity within queer groups and its consequence for organized political action.

4.

**Re-Rootings: Experience, the Senses, and Cultural Identification Among  
Mexican University Students in London**

**GISELLE SANCHEZ**

**Mentor: Christopher J. Throop**

This study focuses on how Mexican students studying in London experience a connection with home through the diverse sensory experiences they seek abroad. Previous studies suggest that longing for the homeland pervades the narratives of permanent migrants when they are unsure of their return home. However, my informants are temporary London residents content with their stay in London and expectant of their return to Mexico. Nevertheless, they experience feelings of longing for diverse aspects of their lives in Mexico that arise within the context of certain tastes, sounds, touches, and sights. Thus, this study utilizes cultural phenomenology to foreground the significance of the senses in the migrant experience. Drawing from Desjarlais' *Sensory Biographies*, which demonstrates the variation of embodied sensory attunements within a culture, my research suggests that, in migrating, individuals reflexively emphasize different senses as they become salient to them while in London. Based on twenty-one interviews and participant observation, my data indicate that the sensory experiences my informants long for abroad include certain food tastes, familiar Spanish music, close personal space as a way of relating, dancing, thermo-sensation, and Spanish language. Through four case studies, I emphasize the role of the senses in the experience of migrating from the familiar by showing how each individual prioritizes these sensory experiences differently thereby impacting the diverse experiences they seek in London.

---

**2-3pm. Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Oral Presentation Session 4B**

---

1.

**Chinese Textbook and Emotional Language**

**NICOLE WETZEL**

**Mentor: Hongyin Tao**

Students attempting to acquire the complex language of Chinese as a foreign language must overcome numerous obstacles such as correctly recognizing, pronouncing, and writing the Chinese characters. However, students sometimes also face a challenge introduced by their own textbooks. This research, based on collections of video clips of films and TV shows, indicates that textbook versions of Chinese language tend to omit an emotional quality. The emotional quality originates from the cultural customs, associations, and constantly negotiated meanings inherently present in Chinese culture. My research illustrates the difference between textbook language and authentic Chinese and suggests ways to improve Chinese language teaching and learning.

## 2.

### **Linguistic Analysis of Numeral Classifier Reduplication in Beijing Mandarin**

**ANN ZENG**

**Mentor: Jessica Rett**

This paper examines Numeral-Classifier Reduplication (NCR) in Beijing Mandarin, a process that takes the numeral and classifier of the subject or object of a sentence, reduplicates it, and moves this reduplicated element between the subject and the verb. This process causes the verbal event to be distributed over (1) the associated noun as well as (2) time, such that “A person walks in” after NCR would be interpreted as “Many people walk in one after another.” Previous work has not been applicable because those analyses do not give correct interpretations and do not deal with the same syntactic structure in terms of the reduplicated element. Therefore, the preliminary analysis composed of three points is as follows, based off of linguistic data elicited from a consultant of native Beijing Mandarin. One, NCR only applies to verbal events that are bound, or have natural endpoints, which corresponds with previous work that indicate the varieties of boundedness and discreteness of verbal events. Two, NCR adjoins to the syntax similar to a manner adverbial because of their similar syntactic distribution. Three, NCR’s distributive interpretation is determined by the adjunction location of the reduplicated element. When NCR attaches in the higher position, distribution can be over the subject or the object, in addition to time; in the lower position, distribution can only be over the object and time. This work constitutes one of the first in-depth look at this phenomena in Mandarin.

## 3.

### **Deontic Modals, Neg-Raising, and Positive Polarity in Japanese**

**FRANK STANISZEWSKI**

**Mentor: Tim Stowell**

Deontic modality expresses permission and obligation, given some set of laws, moral principles, common sense, etc. In English, some deontic modals scope under negation (needn’t, don’t have to), while some scope over negation (mustn’t, shouldn’t, not supposed to). Accounting for these varying scope relations presents an interesting challenge, especially when the observed semantic scope is not reflected in the surface structure. Yamamoto (2001) and others note that in negative sentences, the Japanese deontic modality “beki” (“should”) takes wide scope over clausemate negation, despite its position under negation in the overt syntax. How this wide scope is achieved, however, remains an open question. Using the diagnostic tools introduced in Homer (2011), I show that “beki,” like its English counterpart, “should,” exhibits two key properties that account for its scopal behavior: (1) “Beki” is a Positive Polarity Item (PPI), which can raise past clausemate negation for interpretation, in a way that parallels the behavior of more well known PPIs, like “nanika” (“some”). (2) “Beki” is a Neg-Raising Predicate (NRP). These are predicates like “think” and “want,” that can be interpreted with wide scope over negation, even while remaining within its syntactic domain. In expanding Homer’s analysis to Japanese, I hope to provide new insight into the mechanics of negation in natural language. I also address some puzzling differences between the English examples discussed by Homer and my Japanese data, and suggest possible explanations.

**4.**

**Playing with Language, Experimenting with Identity: An Ethnographic Study of  
Language Ideologies in a German Minority School in Denmark**

**SELENE NAFISI**

**Mentor: Paul V. Kroskrity**

Deutsche Schule Sonderburg (DSS), a German-language school, was historically established as an institution for the maintenance of German minority identity in Denmark. With the onset of European integration and increased globalization, the primary functions of DSS have shifted from maintaining German identity to preparing students for life in an increasingly mobilized border region. While DSS aims to explicitly foster German identity, I argue that the school, which now enrolls students of all backgrounds, increasingly accommodates the interests of its diversified student body. To discern the social functions of DSS, I explore students' and teachers' discursive and practical language ideologies. Through analysis of linguistic devices such as accommodation, code-switching, and code-mixing, I examine how the school has become a unique social space where students demonstrate a "cosmo-lingual" personhood—multilingual identity in which experimentation with languages indexes globalization. At the same time, teachers discursively express the benefits of multilingualism and realign their prescriptive language ideologies to reflect the interests of their students. Data is drawn from a two-month ethnographic study conducted in the forms of participant observation and semi-structured interviews with 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students and their teachers. In the context of increasing globalization and a diversification of the student body, I argue that the school has become a space in which ethnic and national identities are transcended.

---

**3:30-5pm. Closing Reception and Awards Ceremony**

---

Undergraduate Research Achievements  
Presentation of Student Awards

# INDEX OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

## A

ADAMIAN, ERIK, 85  
AGRAZ, ORLANDO, 48  
AGUILAR SILVAN, YESENIA, 85  
AKABIKE, WHITNEY N., 116  
ALAS, SANNA, 49  
ALVA, DANIELLE, 7  
ALVAREZ, BRYON A., 30  
ANDERSON, CEDRIC N., 86  
ARIF, HAJERAH, 74  
ARJOON, AMANDA, 23  
ARNDT, THOMAS, 9

## B

BACH, ALLY, 7  
BACHOUR, KINAN, 9  
BALL, LAUREN E., 86  
BARBOZA, KRISTAL, 7  
BARRIOS, ROBYN F., 66  
BATRES, RUTH, 66  
BAUTISTA, HEIDI, 67  
BEAUSANG, ISABELLE, 106  
BECERRA, ANGELICA, 6  
BECK, CHRISTINE E., 49  
BECK, MEGAN, 104  
BELIKOV, YEKATERINA S., 108  
BROWN, AUDREY, 24  
BROWN, PHOEBE, 106  
BUSTAMANTE, LETICIA, 67

## C

CALZADA, JONATHAN, 31  
CAMACHO, LUCIA, 67  
CASTANEDA, ELIZABETH, 50  
CHAN, ALEXANDER, 16  
CHAN, LUCY M., 68  
CHAVEZ, NURY A., 50  
CHEN, KELLY, 23  
CHIANG, SARAH, 24  
CHIEU, JENNY, 17  
CHO, SEOL, 5

CHOU, LILIAN, 24  
CHUI, KRISTEN, 17  
CLAD-JOHNSON, CLINTON A., 68  
COLLERY, GRACE, 31  
CONTRERAS, TERESA, 51  
CORIA, JONATHAN, 87  
CREMIN, PATRICK, 32  
CRISLER, JULIA F., 51, 112  
CROWLEY, ALYSSA, 69  
CRUZ KELLY, LIAM B., 87

## D

DAHNKE, SARAH I., 113  
DALBY, MELANIE K., 111  
DALLAL, DIANE, 88  
DE GROOT, ZACHARY, 110  
DE LA ROSA, PAULINA, 88  
DE LA TORRE, RENATA, 25  
DIPRESSI, HALEY, 8  
DIRECTO, LAUREL, 7  
DUAN, RAN, 7  
DUMAS, TRAVIS E., 32  
DUNNAVANT, ASHLEY, 89

## E

EDWARDS, EVAN, 106  
ELDER, ANTHONY, 6  
ELDER, ANTHONY, 6  
EMERSON, BRYAN J., 10  
ENRIQUE ALCARAZ BRISENO,  
RICARDO, 30  
ETCHISON, ANA I., 38, 69

## F

FARNKOPF, IAN, 95  
FENG, LEI, 89  
FERIDO, PATRICIA, 5  
FERNANDEZ, MATTHEW P., 18  
FIGUEROA, RENATA, 52  
FLORES, JOSEFINA, 70, 90  
FLORES, SELINA, 52  
FLORES, YVETTE, 70

FLOWERS, NIA, 52

## G

GABRIELA, FORTER R., 33  
GALAIDOS, RAWAN, 33  
GALBADORES, WINNIE, 90  
GAO, AN, 25  
GARCIA, FANNY, 53  
GARCIA, GISSELL, 53  
GARCIA, JESSE, 26  
GARFINK, ANNA M., 33  
GELDIN, SAM, 10, 108  
GIMBER, CHRISTIAN, 8  
GIRON, MARIO E., 71  
GOMEZ, ANA KAREN, 71  
GONZALEZ, ALEXIA, 54  
GONZALEZ, DIANA E., 34  
GONZALEZ, LUIS A., 34  
GONZALEZ, MIRIAM, 91  
GUEVARA, HECTOR M., 72  
GUEY, JOY, 8  
GUTIERREZ, MARIA M., 54

## H

HAMLEY, HANNAH, 91  
HARO, ALEIN, 72  
HE, CATHY, 92  
HENTSCHEL, PATRICK G., 115  
HERNANDEZ, GUADALUPE A., 92  
HERNANDEZ, VICTORIA, 73  
HERRERA, KATHERINE, 34  
HESS, KYLE B., 18  
HINTON, BRITTNEY, 19  
HO, THAO L., 55  
HOOVER, JENNA C., 19  
HORAN, LAURA, 112  
HOSKINSON, AMANDA, 26  
HOWARD, ALEXEA N., 35  
HUANG, CYNTHIA B., 16  
HUICOCHEA, FELIPE, 35  
HUYNH, KEVIN, 20  
HWANG, JAEYEON, 27

**I**

IBRAHIM, AMINAH, 6  
IRELAND, KAITLYN, 93

**J**

JACKSON, ROY S., 110  
JAUREGUI, JUAN, 20  
JAUREQUI, LENA G., 93  
JIMENEZ, BRIANA, 94  
JIMENEZ, SABRINA A., 74  
JOHNSTONE, ISABELLA, 74

**K**

KANG, SOHUN, 107  
KARIMI, KAYLA, 11  
KARL, ZANE, 20  
KEARNS, FAITH, 94  
KHASHADOORIAN, ANI, 105  
KIM, GRACE Y., 105  
KOMURO, YUI M., 36  
KORDOWSKI, MATTHEW D., 36  
KUMTONG, CRYSTAL C., 55  
KUNNATHUPARAMBIL, LINTA, 8

**L**

LAI, CHERRY, 56  
LEE, ANSON, 27  
LIANG, EMILY, 28  
LIN, DANIEL, 37  
LINDSAY, MARINA, 26  
LINNANE, LOGAN, 111  
LIRA, ACES, 56  
LIU, EUNICE, 95  
LOPEZ, JANETH, 6  
LUNA, MARIBEL, 95

**M**

MALDONADO, KATHERINE, 37  
MANCHA, CARMEN, 57  
MANZANO, MICHAEL A., 38, 69  
MARCOS, MATTHEW, 5  
MARCUS, ZIYAD, 6  
MARIANO, ISABELLA, 28  
MARIN, YANELY, 96

MASCHKE, ALENA, 6  
MATTES, AMANDA R., 22  
MAXWELL, KATHERINE E., 96  
MCLENNAN, DESTINY, 75  
MEHTA, PRIYANKA, 38  
MELCHOR, FRANCES EDITH, 75  
MELLEN, EMILY, 57  
MENDEZ, LISA, 6  
MERTAN, KEITH, 21  
MIHOJEVICH, YAZMINE, 5  
MOORE, MATTHEW A., 97  
MORALES, GABRIELA A., 28  
MORAN, MEGAN, 39  
MORISSET, SARA, 39, 113  
MURPHY, SEAN, 29  
MUWWAKKIL, JAMAAL, 76  
MYUNG, DAVID, 11

**N**

NAFISI, SELENE, 119  
NATH, TESSA CRYSTAL, 97  
NAVARRETE, STEPHANIE, 40  
NG, JASON, 58  
NGUYEN, KATI, 20  
NGUYEN, ROBIN P., 98  
NGUYEN, TIMOTHY, 98  
NIETO, OMAR, 40  
NIPPER, BILL, 5

**O**

OJULU, SIGIN, 7  
OJULU, SIGIN, 6  
OKAMOTO, TIRA, 98

**P**

PANALIGAN, DENISE, 58, 76  
PANTAGES, CHRYSANTHE, 112  
PARK, AUSTIN, 28  
PENNA, ROBERT, 7  
PERALTA, HARVEY, 99  
PEREZ, LIZZ, 76  
PEZNER, ARIEL K., 21  
PHILLIPI, GINA, 58  
PHILLIPS, GREGOIRE, 41  
PINETTA, BERNARDETTE, 77  
PINSKI, MIRIAM J., 78  
PLAIA, MATTHEW J., 41

PLASCENCIA, LUCY, 6  
PLECHA, M. CLAIRE, 59  
PUENTE, MAYRA, 42

**Q**

QI, ISABEL, 12  
QUINTERO, MARLEN, 78

**R**

RAMSEY, ALEX, 42  
RAO, ETHAN, 12  
REDDY, ARCHANA, 43  
REGALADO, ALEX, 5  
REISER, MATTHEW J., 13  
RIAMBON, KEVIN, 79  
RIBBENS, AMELIA A., 105  
RIOS, ARELI M., 79  
RIVAS, GABRIEL, 99  
RIVERA-ANAGNOS, ISAURA, 7  
RODARTE, JAMES P. A., 59  
RODRIGUEZ, ALEX, 80  
RODRIGUEZ, JASMIN, 60  
RODRIGUEZ-VEGA, SILVIA, 6  
ROMANO, CELESTE J., 13  
ROSS, SUBI, 5  
RUBIO, PRISCILLA, 100  
RUDERMAN, SARAH A., 116

**S**

SAFARI, DELAVAR, 74  
SAID, ALI N., 43  
SALINAS, JONATHAN, 115  
SANCHEZ, GISELLE, 117  
SANCHEZ, HOGUER, 60  
SANCHEZ, JESSICA, 114  
SANTOS, VLADIMIR, 7  
SARKIN, KALLI, 112  
SATYADI, MATTHEW A., 44  
SCHMITT, TORI, 8  
SCOTT, ANDRENE, 7  
SHAFFER, KEITH, 29  
SHAHBOL, NATALIE, 14  
SHANG, MENGQING, 80  
SICO, ISABELLE R.P., 44  
SINAI, CYRUS S., 45  
SLOBODSKY, LITAL G., 100  
SNUGGS, EMMA L., 61

SOLICHIN, JONATHAN, 8  
SOLOMON-WALES, ALLISON V., 45  
SORIANO, KIMBERLY, 5, 6  
SORIANO, KIMBERLY M., 81  
SOSA, FRANCESCO, 101  
SOTO-LARA, STEPHANIE, 101  
STANISZEWSKI, FRANK, 118  
STEVENS, SEAN W., 107  
SUCHILT, LUISANA, 81  
SUGARMAN, ANNALORA, 61

**T**

TA, ANDY, 62  
TANAKA, SOPHIE MAKO, 46  
TANG, WALTER, 102  
TAPLEY, ALLY, 82  
THOMAS, AMEINAH D., 82  
TOH, LIBIN, 5  
TON, ERINN H., 14  
TRABANINO, SHAWN KEITH, 62  
TRAN, DIANA, 82  
TRAN, SUZANNA, 5  
TREJO, LAURA, 46  
TRICIC, MERIMA, 47  
TSACOYEANES, JILLIAN C., 114

TWINEHAM, JESSICA A., 63

**U**

UMALI, REY M., 83

**V**

VALENZUELA, DIANA, 7  
VARGAS, PRICILLA E., 63  
VARNEY, CLAUDIA, 49  
VAZQUEZ, JAZMYNN, 102  
VILLAGOMEZ, BLANCA, 64  
VILLEGAS, KAREN, 103  
VINSON, LAILA, 7  
VOONG, JANE B., 64

**W**

WADE, KAYLEIGH, 6  
WAITKUWEIT, KEVIN, 7  
WAITKUWEIT, KEVIN, 5  
WANG, ARTHUR, 103  
WANG, TIANJIE, 47  
WASHINGTON, AMANDA C., 64  
WESLEY, KAYLIN D., 65

WETZEL, NICOLE, 117  
WIGMAN, JONATHAN, 22  
WONG, TIFFANY, 65

**X**

XIONG, JENNIFER, 104

**Y**

YAMAGIWA, YUUKI L., 47  
YANEZ, CRYSTAL, 69  
YIP, TINA S., 48  
YIU, WAI YING VIVIEN, 83  
YOON, YERIN, 109  
YOUNGDAHL, ANNE E., 15

**Z**

ZENG, ANN, 118  
ZHAI, JINGXI, 84  
ZHAO, ZHIHAO, 84  
ZHU, LINGYUE, 7