

**Symposium for Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative
Achievement**

Thursday, April 18, 2024

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

8:00 AM Registration

8:30 AM Welcome from the President

Robert M. Smith Student Center Ballroom

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

12:30 PM – 1:45 PM

Accounting, Economics & Finance

Is AI in Finance Ethical?

Presenter: Conner Hamilton

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lua Augustin

Emotional Buying: Color Psychology in Advertising

Presenter: Taylor Schultz

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lua Augustin

Biology

Validation of Crayfish Hemolymph Glucose Measurement Using a Point-Of-Care Glucometer

Presenters: Natasha Davis and Anna Greer

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Falso

A Survey of Intestinal Parasites in Well-Cared for Horses at a Local Equestrian Facility

Presenters: Meriele DeCicco and Qiuke Pebly

Faculty & Staff Sponsors: Dr. Wayne Forbes and Ms. Courtney Gramlich

Impact of Native vs. Non-Native Litter on Earthworm Foraging Activities

Presenter: John Gargas III

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Cory Shoemaker

Biology (cont'd)

Critical Thermal Maximum in Semiterrestrial Fiddler Crabs and Aquatic Long-Clawed Hermit Crabs

Presenter: Erin Melcher
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Cory Shoemaker

Utilizing RNA-seq to Understand the Molecular Effects of Sublethal Concentrations of imidacloprid in the Human Cell Lines SHSY5Y and MCF7

Presenters: Ashton Reposky and Lia Slifkin
Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Martin Buckley, Dr. Miranda Falso, and Dr. Stacy Hrizo

Toxicity of the Rare Earth Elements Towards Bacteria

Presenters: Emily Roble and Isabella Bearer
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christopher Maltman

Taxonomic Classification T9W2-O, A Bacterium Isolated from the Roots of the Aquatic Plant *Salvinia minima*

Presenter: Katelyn Sparks
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christopher Maltman

Taxonomic Classification T5W1, A Bacterium Isolated from the Roots of the Aquatic Plant *Spirodela polyrhiza*

Presenters: Karlie Vandeborne
Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Christopher Maltman and Dr. George Lengyel

Assessment of HSP70 and HSP90 Protein Expression in Human Neuronal Cells Exposed to Imidacloprid

Presenter: Melana Vaughn
Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Stacy Hrizo, Dr. Miranda Falso, and Dr. Martin Buckley

Chemistry

Studying the Behavior of Holmium and Its Interactions with a Multi-Dentate Ligand to Model Analogous Behavior in Bacteria

Presenter: Krysta Frankowski
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Thaddeus Boron

FAME Analysis of Bacterium Isolated from an Acid Mine Drainage Stream

Presenter: Nathan Guy
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. George Lengyel

Chemistry (cont'd)

Potential Novel Pharmacological Approaches for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

Presenter: Jesse Kaufman
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ashley Loe

Using a Synthetic Ligand to Model Holmium-Binding by Bacteria

Presenter: Cameron Pagley
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Thaddeus Boron

Electrochemically Induced Iron Uptake by Recombinant H-Chain Ferritin

Presenter: Hanna Ruland
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Donald Zapien

Computer Science

Blockchain Technology for Decentralized Crowdsourced Data Analytics

Presenter: Tyler Powell
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Nitin Sukhija

Counseling & Development

College Counselor Burnout and Differentiation of Self: Preliminary Findings

Presenter: Emily Grimes and Megan Gallo
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Messina

Dance

Fusing Street and Contemporary Dance Styles

Presenter: Samantha Oliver
Faculty Sponsor: Mrs. Lindsay Viatori

The Advantages of Yoga as a Movement Exercise for Women of All Ages

Presenters: Gabrielle Pfeifer and Samantha Oliver
Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Melissa Teodoro

Dance (cont'd)

Dancing Through the Curriculum: Incorporating Dance into Elementary School Programs

Presenter: Amelia Risser
Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Melissa Teodoro

Elementary Education/Early Childhood

Fostering Global Perspectives in Pre-Service Teachers Through International Student Research

Presenters: Dylin Keener, Heaven Jacoway, and Ariana Daniels
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Enoch Nkana

History

Strategy 21: The Challenges of Bringing Pittsburgh into the 21st Century

Presenter: Andrew Ciavarino
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. William Bergmann

The Unconventional Diplomacy between Empress Dowager Cixi and Katharine Carl

Presenter: Emily Frantz
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Melissa Ford

Music

SRU Symphonic Wind Ensemble Library Diversification

Presenter: Ian Phelps
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jonathan Helmick

Nonprofit Management, Empowerment and Diversity Studies

Wolf Creek Fieldwork

Presenters: Alana Colvin, Zachary Coletti, and Brock Esenwein
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mustafa Casson

The Winter Warrior: What's a Kid To Do?

Presenter: Lajada Myers
Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Susan Bowser

Occupational Therapy

School-Based Mental Health Promotion and Prevention by Occupational Therapy Students

Presenters: Aubree Ferek, Valerie Latessa, Alyssa Bittner, and Carlee Haser

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Miranda Virone

Investigating Factors that Impacted Success of Students from Marginalized Communities

Presenter: Elysse Rogers

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Reichl

Parks & Conservation

Meaning Making at Croydon Creek Nature Center

Presenters: Laura Fawks Lapole and Makenzie Hale

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Rebecca Thomas

Physical Health & Education

Bench Press: Maximal Strength- vs. Velocity-Based Training with High Resistance

Presenter: Mitchell McCleary

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Istvan Kovacs

Physical Therapy

The Role of Tooth Germs in Jaw Osteogenesis in Primates

Presenter: Lauren Gordley

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Timothy Smith

Diversity of Skin Tone Representation in Textbooks Used in DPT Courses

Presenters: Victoria Hudson and Brandon Yeropoli

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Joseph Fiedor

Physics & Engineering

Observing Distant Black Holes with JWST

Presenters: Jaden Boyle and Morgan Franos

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Krishna Mukherjee

Physics & Engineering (cont'd)

Early Universe Discoveries with JWST

Presenters: Ben Crocker and Samantha Grazioli
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Krishna Mukherjee

Experimental Study on Erosion of Opposing Bank at the Confluence of a Culvert and a Channel

Presenters: Karah Donahey and Christian Torres
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sajad Hamidi

Enhancing STEAM Education in Rural Pennsylvania: The KiP Educational Classroom and Makerspace Project

Presenter: Amina Tandukar
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Robabeh Jazaei

The Influence of Synthetic and Steel Fibers on Concrete's Mechanical Characteristics

Presenters: Amina Tandukar, Brayden Underwood and Amber Maurer
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Robabeh Jazaei

Brown Dwarfs

Presenters: Madison Warner and Alexia Piel
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Krishna Mukherjee

Psychology

The Association Between Psychological Strain and Depression in Collegiate Student Athletes

Presenters: Isabella Bartoletti and Rebecca Martin
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Willford

*Sign Tracking in Female Japanese Quail (*Coturnix japonica*)*

Presenters: Katelyn Evans, Hannah Cruz, Paige Mitsko, and Alyssa Toscano
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Beth Ann Rice

The Association Between Sleep Patterns and Self-Esteem

Presenter: Erin Glasier
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Beth Ann Rice

Psychology (cont'd)

Associations Among Photographic Social Media and Body Image

Presenter: Jacob Harvey

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Catherine Massey

Anxiety and Body Image are Associated with Weight Concerns in College Students

Presenter: Tatiana Henry

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Willford

The Association Between Smoking and Anxiety in College Students

Presenter: Ruth Hughes

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Willford

Previous History of Physical Abuse is Associated with Suicidal Ideation in College Students

Presenters: Isaac Myers and Philip Lehman

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Willford

The Association Between Insomnia and Academic Performance in College Students

Presenter: Alexandria Roddy

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Willford

The Impact of Mindfulness Practices on Positive and Negative Moods: A Pilot Study

Presenter: Abbey Sheppard

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Catherine Massey

Public Health

Awareness and Perception of Lifestyle Risk Factors for Cancer among College Students at Slippery Rock University

Presenters: Megan Pine, Breea Gray and Allie Rennette

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Adaeze Aroh

Recreational Therapy

Is Education Enough? Using Seated Yoga and Education for Falls Prevention Intervention for Older Adults

Presenters: Leanne Digman, Madison Setto, and Riley Page

Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Betsy Kemeny and Dr. Heather Bright

Special Education

Special Education Pre-Service Teachers' Perceptions of School-Based Mindfulness Practices

Presenter: Jenna Jones

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Katie Leckenby

Strategic Communication & Media

Connecting the Campus and Community through Storytelling

Presenters: Sarah Anderson and James Cressman

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Brittany Fleming

A Case Study on Designing a Big Game Hunter Fitness & Nutrition – Tracking App

Presenter: Kelly Capestrani

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Douglas Strahler

Public Relations Case Study: The First Americans Museum's Grand Opening

Presenter: Eliana Durham

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Peiritsch

"Glass Half Full News" by Got Milk

Presenters: Danielle Ferguson and Lana Wallace

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Peiritsch

FedEx Takes Control of the Holidays: "Shipathon"

Presenter: Hannah Gentilo

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Peiritsch

A Case Study on an App Facilitating Nonprofit Volunteer Engagement

Presenter: Harley Wolfgang

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Douglas Strahler