

2017

**Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative
Investigations (URSCI) Exposition**

&

Global Learning Symposium

Wednesday, April 5

Parmer Hall

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW – MORNING

	URSCI 108 Parmer Hall	URSCI 115 Parmer Hall	URSCI 113 Parmer Hall	URSCI 107 Parmer Hall	Posters Parmer Atrium
8:30	<p align="center">Gabriel Neri <i>American Food Apartheid</i></p> <p align="center">Natalie Mirek <i>Influences of a Fortune 500 Company on Society: A Disney Perspective</i></p>	<p align="center">Jacqueline Lara Big picture and Big Ideas: How Self-Transcendence and Time Horizons may influence Academic Performance.</p>	<p align="center">Khyeria Ferguson <i>Dominican University's Marketing Literature: The Media Representation and the Retention of Black Students</i></p>	<p align="center">Catherine Koziol <i>Genomic Annotation and Assembly of the Newly Isolated Rhodococcus Bacteria</i></p>	Fine Arts - Wall Built on Immigrants
9:30	<p align="center">Alexis Kottoulas <i>Communicative Arts: Dante's Paradiso in Text and Sound</i></p>	<p align="center">Adilene Osnaya & Mayra Gaona <i>The Protective Power of Similar Ethnicity: Moderating the Effects of Stereotype-Threat with Latino Students</i></p>	<p align="center">Zachery Sinn, Meghan OKeefe, Manny Garcia, Katie Ratterman and Collette Chucherko <i>History 400 Research Presentations</i></p>	<p align="center">Aleksandra Wojtowicz, Bianca Mena, Elizabeth Sanchez and Raunel Urquiza <i>Community Based Research: Citizen Concerns</i></p>	Apparel Merchandising & Design
10:30	<p align="center">Leticia Vargas <i>Swimming Under Pressure</i></p>	<p align="center">Elizabeth Eaton <i>Shall We Dance?</i></p>	<p align="center">William Schuneman <i>Labor Trafficking; An Ethical and Economical Critique</i></p>	<p align="center">Allison Ernst <i>The Deconstruction of Total Institutional Reinforcement</i></p> <p align="center">Danielle Dibari <i>Creep or Curable?: Restorative Justice for Sex Offenders and Victims</i></p>	Biology
11:30	<p align="center">Ahriel Fuller <i>Colorism: The Divide between Black & Latin Americans in the US</i></p>	<p align="center">Anna Derkacz <i>The Community of the Polish Student Leaders Assembly, Leadership, and Obstacles Surrounding Student Organizations</i></p>	<p align="center">Carlos Bautista <i>The Meaning of the Roman Catholic Mass: Meal or Sacrifice?</i></p>	<p align="center">Amanda Olszowka <i>Summer Marketing Internships in Colorado</i></p> <p align="center">Kelsey Keithly <i>Internship Experience at Nordstrom Corporate</i></p>	Chemistry & Physics

PROGRAM OVERVIEW – AFTERNOON

	URSCI 108 Parmer Hall	URSCI 115 Parmer Hall	URSCI 113 Parmer Hall	URSCI 107 Parmer Hall	Global Learning Symposium 109 Parmer Hall	Posters Parmer Atrium
12:30	<p>Atzimba Rodriguez, Ahriel Fuller and Michael Ocampo</p> <p><i>Round Table: Developing a coalition among people of color</i></p>	<p>Legion Ivory and Alexis Kottoulas</p> <p><i>“In Ore Clauso”: An Experiment of Cross Artistic Communication</i></p>	<p>Lindsay Tocik, Sabrina Class, Jasminum McMullen and Patrick Owoc</p> <p><i>Recreating Dominican's Literary Magazine, Stella Veritatis</i></p>	<p align="center">Amy Do</p> <p><i>Molecular Dynamics Study of the Photodissociation of ICN in Ethanol</i></p>	<p>Jazzine Acevedo, Rachel Kunkel, Abigail Algozino, Faviola Cardenas, Mariana Delgado, Jessica Evans, Mariah Figueroa, Andrea Mondragon, Magali Rebolledo, Dustin Stidmon and Aleksandra Wojtowicz</p> <p><i>Lasting Impressions: Guatemala</i></p>	Psychology
1:30	<p align="center">Alora Schoenhofen</p> <p><i>Underrepresented Students in the University Setting</i></p>	<p align="center">Angelica Flores</p> <p><i>Scattered Thoughts Of A Small Girl: A Poetry Collection</i></p>	<p>Faviola Cardenas, Jayme Martin, Bianca Mena, Hugo Torres, Esther Uriostegui and Raunel Urquiza</p> <p><i>Students Excelling in Excel</i></p>	<p>Rebecca Kelm, Ivette Lechuga and Nicolette Berrospi</p> <p><i>Give a Little, Help a Lot</i></p> <p>Antoine Carter, Teresita Cintora and Emily Rangel</p> <p><i>Overconsumption</i></p> <p>Audra Laird, Natasha Fields and Aaron Sobel</p> <p><i>reDUSign</i></p>	<p>Gillian Madden, DaRisha Heavens, Jocelyn Cano, and Kelly Pompea</p> <p><i>Experiential Learning in Italy and South Africa</i></p>	Business Italian Spanish
2:30	<p>Mazzuchelli Honors Senior Seminar Students</p> <p><i>Justice through Learning: Mazzuchelli Honors & Christ the King building a community project</i></p>	<p align="center">Piotr Sasara</p> <p><i>Writing Drama: "Swan Song"</i></p>	<p align="center">Adam Janusz</p> <p><i>The Importance of Play</i></p>	<p align="center">Students of ELS Learning Center</p> <p><i>Learning Perspectives: International Students in the United States</i></p>	<p align="center">Bruno Fernandez</p> <p><i>International Collaboration at Dominican: Progress report from universities in Ecuador, Mexico, and the United States</i></p>	Political Science Study Abroad Nutrition
3:30	PARMER ATRIUM	ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2017 UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER SCHOLAR PROGRAM (USSP) AWARDS & EXCELLENCE in EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AWARDS				

Degree with Distinction and Honors Projects included in the 2017 URSCI Expo

Carlos Bautista

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *The Beauty of the Roman Catholic Mass: Meal or Sacrifice?*

Academic Discipline: Theology

First Reader: William George

Second Reader: Clodagh Weldon

Presentation location and time: 113 Parmer Hall, 11:30 a.m.

Anna Derkacz

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *The Community of the Polish Student Leaders Assembly*

Academic Discipline: Sociology

First Reader: Michelle VanNatta

Second Reader: Lisa Amoroso

Presentation location and time: 115 Parmer Hall, 11:30 a.m.

Elizabeth Eaton

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *Shall We Dance?*

Academic Discipline: Apparel Merchandising and Design

First Reader: McKinley Johnson

Second Reader: Jose Blanco

Presentation location and time: 115 Parmer Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Angelica Flores

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *Scattered Thoughts of a Small Girl*

Academic Discipline: English

First Reader: Jennifer Stockdale

Second Reader: Gema Ortega

Presentation location and time: 115 Parmer Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Mayra Gaona and Adilene Osnaya

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *The Protective Power of Similar Ethnicity: Moderating the Effect of Stereotype Threat with Latino Students*

Academic Discipline: Psychology

First Reader: Tina Taylor-Ritzler

Second Reader: Tracy Caldwell

Presentation location and time: 115 Parmer Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Catherine Koziol

Honors Project: *Genomic Annotation and Assembly of the Newly Isolated Rhodococcus Bacteria*

Academic Discipline: Microbiology

First Reader: Margaret Jonah

Second Reader: Derrick Hilton

Presentation location and time: 109 Parmer Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Piotr Sasara

Degree with Distinction and Honors Project: *Swan Song*

Academic Discipline: English

First Reader: Warren Green

Second Reader: Maggie Andersen

Presentation location and time: 115 Parmer Hall, 2:30 p.m.

Bluhm Lecture Hall – 108 Parmer Hall

URSCI Oral Presentations

8:30 a.m. | Gabriel Neri

American Food Apartheid

Janice Monti

Food insecurity is a substantially under-analyzed issue in the United States as it currently affects millions of American households within the economic middle and lower classes. This is a result of failing U.S. policies that have led to a limited availability of nutritionally adequate food within lower class and minority neighborhoods across the United States. As a result, this inadequacy of nutritional availability has led families to live on a diet of dense processed food. Although those foods are low-cost in the short-term, the long-term effects of constrained access to

healthy food are the main reasons that ethnic minority and low-income populations suffer from higher rates of obesity, type-2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. This presentation analyzes American food and farming policy, as well as the issue of food deserts, to explain food insecurity and offers suggestions to eliminate the American food apartheid system.

8:30 a.m. | Natalie Mirek

The Influences of a Fortune 500 Company on Society: A Disney Perspective

Janice Monti

This project takes a look at Disney, a Fortune 500 company, and its influences on society. Disney has a major part in American culture and looking at this company through a sociological lens helps us to understand why it has become such a great phenomenon. In order to get a deeper understanding of the Disney influence, this presentation discusses the history of the company, from its humble beginnings to its major success in the 21st century. The components of Disney as a company, who is involved with the company, where the company stands currently among other companies, and the influences of the company outside of the media industry will be examined.

9:30 a.m. | Alexis Kottoulas

Communicative Arts: Dante's Paradiso in Text and Sound

Cacie Willhoft

Examining the theme of pilgrimage as it is illustrated Dante Alighieri's (1265-1321) Vita Nuova and Paradiso, this research explores how the theme of pilgrimage is transcribed into music. First, the Magnificat of Franz Liszt's (1811-1886) Dante Symphony (S.109, premiered 1857; Germany) will be explored as a soundscape which considers the text of Dante's Commedia and expresses it through choral and orchestral sounds. Following this, the pilgrimage will be recreated through my original compositions, works which are innovative as they utilize the original text from both works of literature while seeking to emulate the text's split perspective of pilgrim, narrator, and audience, through form, instrumentation, and use of rhythm.

10:30 a.m. | Leticia Vargas

Swimming Under Pressure

Forrest Davis

With a story that explores the relationship between a father and a daughter, this short film shows the perseverance and resilience of both the father, Mr. Luna, and his daughter, who he supports while she pursues her swimming dreams under uncertain circumstances.

11:30 a.m. | Ahriel Fuller

Colorism: The Divide between Black & Latin Americans in the US

Gema Ortega

Examining the historical and cultural context of Latin America in order to illuminate the current racial divide between Latin and Black Americans in the US, this project argues that centuries of racial construction and suspicion of dark skin in Latin America have contributed to the current colorism taking place between black and brown people in the US. To remove the stigma associated with black identity within Latin American culture, one must look at the history of blackness, colonialism, and mestizaje in Latin America as it contrasts with racial policies, identity constructions, and cultural practices in the U.S.

12:30 p.m. | Atzimba Rodriguez, Ahriel Fuller, Michael Ocampo

Round Table: Developing a coalition among people of color

Gema Ortega

Have you ever asked yourself why minorities fight against each other and not together? Is it prejudice or is there a deeper issue? Students will share personal experiences on why and how different communities of color can come together and support one another on issues concerning both or one group. The presentation will also address why developing a coalition among communities of color is important. How can we as students organize our communities for collective action resulting in social change? How do we advance social justice through cross-cultural collective action?

1:30 p.m. | Alora Schoenhofen

Underrepresented Students in the University Setting

Joyce Shim

This presentation focuses on the graduation rates of first generation college students and students of color, what role race plays in a student's sense of belonging and what supports can be put in place, on the institutional level, to improve the graduations rates of first generation college students and students of color.

2:30 p.m. | Chandler Allen, Melinda Czifrak, Maria Dellanina, Rebecca Dent, Angelica Flores, Mayra Gaona, Nicole Ann Heiberger, Anna Kubik, Emily Lapinski, Valerie Mathes, Adilene Osnaya, Bailey Scianna, Mason Solbrig, and Gregory Vlassov

Justice through Learning: Mazzuchelli Honors & Christ the King building a community project

Michelle Sweeney

Mazzuchelli Honors students in the capacity of their Senior Seminar Project discuss what the Dominican campus and Honors program can do to make our three day summer workshop with high school students from Christ the King high school most effective.

BCTLE – 115 Parmer Hall

URSCI Oral Presentations

8:30 a.m. | Jacqueline Lara

Big picture and Big Ideas: How Self-Transcendence and Time Horizons may influence Academic Performance.

Kathleen O'Connor

This presentation shares research on the influence of students' time horizons and the personality trait of self-transcendence on student performance. This study included a diverse population of students enrolled in Summer and Fall Psychology courses at Triton College in River Forest, Illinois and Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois. Time Horizons and Self-Transcendence was measured using a modified version of the Zimbardo Time Perspective Inventory (ZTPI; Zimbardo & Boyd, 1999). This study is based on previous work done in the exploration of future time perspective and self-transcendence on academic achievement. This work is based on a study in which researchers measured self-transcendence in college students and found students who identified a self-transcendent purpose for learning spent more time on the boring tasks versus pleasurable tasks, and were later found to be less likely to drop out of college (Yeager et al., 2014). The researchers noted limitations regarding investigation of self-regulation strategies. A better understanding of both constructs could help facilitate conversations with students on how to manage and create realistic future educational and broader life goals.

9:30 a.m. | Adilene Osnaya & Mayra Gaona | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

The Protective Power of Similar Ethnicity: Moderating the Effects of Stereotype-Threat with Latino Students

Tina Ritzler

The present study tested two hypotheses. First we hypothesized that, under stereotype threat conditions, Latino participants would perform the same as White participants when instructed by a Latino experimenter but less when instructed by a white experimenter, lending support to the protective power of similar ethnicity. Second, we hypothesized that this finding, if observed, would further be explained by ethnic identity strength, such that Latino participants who have a strong sense of ethnic identification would be more affected by stereotype threat. For these students, performance would be diminished after activation of negative stereotypes about Latinos by a white experimenter. Results revealed no statistically significant interaction between race of participant, race of experimenter, and ethnic identity strength. IRB# 2015-149

10:30 a.m. | Elizabeth Eaton | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

Shall We Dance?

Jose Blanco

Delve into mid-nineteenth century Siam and explore Rodgers' and Hammerstein's masterpiece "The King and I." This project discusses the historical aspects of the musical and analyzes the process of designing costumes for the stage. Researching the history of the musical involves examining the tenuous political situation in Siam, the mystery of the real Anna Leonowens, and a brief history of dress at the time. This research aided in designing costumes for major characters, and the actual construction of two costumes: one of the King's robes, and Anna's ballgown. The presentation discusses the design and construction process and includes a demonstration of the garments.

11:30 a.m. | Anna Derkacz | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

The Community of the Polish Student Leaders Assembly, Leadership, and Obstacles Surrounding Student Organizations

Michelle VanNatta

This project analyzes the development of the new Chicago-based Polish Student Leaders Assembly (PSLA) which brings together the leadership in student Polish clubs around Chicagoland universities and beyond. Since PSLA is an organization based on the unity of community, this paper discusses what makes a community and evaluates the demographics of Polish-student organizations that join the community through a theoretical framework of social exchange theory and shared leadership. In the effort to bridge the obstacles caused by distance and scheduling, this presentation also analyzes the role of partially being an online community to the progress of the group, the generation gap that it is trying to bridge, as well as obstacles that are present in student organizations in general. Through a deep analysis of the problems, this paper also provides recommendations for student organizations in trying to attain better student involvement. At this stage, the organization is in the process of paperwork to incorporate as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3).

12:30 p.m. | Legion Ivory and Alexis Kottoulas

In Ore Clauso: An Experiment of Cross Artistic Communication

Jeffrey Kelly

This project is a multi-work experiment challenging an artist's ability to bridge the gap between conflicting viewpoints within the Fine Arts. Two artists, one painter, one composer, will produce a series of works with absolutely no inspiration other than the work of the other artist. To ensure legitimacy, they will not speak to each other, but will instead allow their art to speak for them. The composer shall share an original piece with the painter, who will in turn produce a painting through her interpretation of the music alone, and share that work with him. The composer will then compose a new piece, share it, and the cycle continues. The artists must project their own perceptions into their and each other's work, while making the simultaneous effort to understand one another. In the end, neither will know how the other truly felt about any of the works until the project is complete.

1:30 p.m. | Angelica Flores | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

Scattered Thoughts Of A Small Girl: A Poetry Collection

Jennifer Stockdale

"Scattered Thoughts Of A Small Girl" is a Poetry Collection that explores the themes of love, self-exploration, childhood, friendships, and feminism. The method and subject matter of the poems were inspired by Confessional poetry. This collection comes to show that although a girl may be small, her scattered thoughts are anything but that.

2:30 p.m. | Piotr Sasara | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

Writing Drama: "Swan Song"

Warren Green

The presentation -- "Swan Song" -- focuses first on a brief history of the project, from its inception, through development to its current form as a full-length, fully realized, original play. This will be followed by a reading of selected scenes from "Swan Song" and, finally, by a question and answer session.

113 Parmer Hall

URSCI Oral Presentations

8:30 a.m. | Khyeria Ferguson

Dominican University's Marketing Literature: The Media Representation and Retention of Black Students

MaDonna Thelen

Mass media has a significant impact on the way people perceive themselves. These media portrayals impact the way people behave, work, interact, and develop their self-esteem. This research project focuses on the media representation of Black students of Dominican University and, how this representation compares to their experiences within the academic institution. In previous protests enacted by Black and/or African-American students, they have expressed uncomfortable and unwelcoming experiences with the university. If the university attempts to appeal to these students through marketing communication mediums, it is imperative to understand where and what the university is lacking. Exposing the differences between the university's media representation and the experiences of Black and/or African-American students enables the university to understand deeper issues---particularly the retention of Black and/or African-American students in addition to, implementing institutional strategies that aid in providing cultural support to Black and/or African-American students.

9:30 a.m. | Zachery Sinn, Meghan OKeefe, Manny Garcia, Katie Ratterman, and Collette Chucherko

History 400 Research Presentations

David Perry

The students from the History Research Seminar class will present their findings on their individual research projects that cover a variety of historical topics and eras. Each student will talk about their research and paper, the process they went through, and what their research led them to uncover. Time for questions will be permitted at the end of the panel.

10:30 a.m. | William Schuneman

Forced Labor: An Ethical and Economical Critique

Kathleen Odell

In this project, I am researching cotton production in Uzbekistan, which is being extracted by means of forced human labor. The discussion is split into four parts. The first part is the basic outline of cotton production in Uzbekistan. Second will be an ethical critique of forced labor. The third section will be the presentation of a different economic model which will propose an end to forced labor. In the final section, policy options that could be implemented to address this problem will be discussed.

11:30 a.m. | Carlos Bautista | Degree with Distinction and Honors Project

The Meaning of the Roman Catholic Mass: Meal or Sacrifice?

William George

Today, the Catholic mass--or Eucharist--is looked upon by many young people as a very organized but also bland ritual. As the Church begins to develop a theology that would help bring these young people back to celebrate the Eucharist, it should be recalled that the mass itself is one of the most beautiful rituals of all of human history. I will discuss my personal experience of the mass as the space where I encounter God and, to borrow biblical imagery, where worshippers witness the Lamb being sacrificed. The theology that the Church has and is developing after the Second Vatican Council stresses that the mass is a meal, a communal meal, as well as a sacrifice, in which everyone can participate and enter into a fellowship with each other. No longer is the sanctuary of churches reserved for the priest alone, but it is there for all. Starting from my own experience, this discussion will explore the similarities and differences between the two theologies, the mass as a sacrifice and the mass as a meal. To engage the theological issues involved, I will (1) compare earlier and revised editions of the Roman Rite for the celebration of the Eucharist; and (2) draw upon observations of actual Eucharistic liturgies at three or four diverse parishes to illustrate the theologies of meal and sacrifice. Which one is better--meal or sacrifice? Which one better reveals God to others? These are the sorts of questions I will explore.

12:30 p.m. | Lindsay Tocik, Sabrina Class, Jasminum McMullen, and Patrick Owoc

Recreating Dominican's Literary Magazine, Stella Veritatis

Maggie Andersen

In the fall semester of 2016, the students of English 335 recreated Dominican's literary magazine, transforming it from *The Eagle* to *Stella Veritatis*. The class worked together to gather, discuss, revise, and accept submissions in poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and drama. A graphic design class is currently composing *Stella Veritatis*'s first issue, themed Interruptions, through developing the overall layout, adding visual art, and creating a logo. Through the collaboration between the courses, *Stella Veritatis* will be proudly released in print this spring (and hopefully accessible online in the future)!

1:30 p.m. | Faviola Cardenas, Jayme Martin, Bianca Mena, Hugo Torres, Esther Uriostegui, and Raunel Urquiza

Students Excelling with ExcEL

Sherri Wick

The Excel Scholarship provided many students the financial support to participate in an experiential learning opportunity. Jayme Martin used her award to fund an internship with Northwestern Mutual. Esther, who is a senior, was able to use the award for her Multicultural Ministry Internship with University Ministry. Bianca used the funds she received to be an intern at the Safe Families organization. Hugo, also a senior, used the award to help cover expenses during his student teaching experience during the fall 2016 semester. Raunel used his funds to cover his transportation and lunch costs for his summer internship at the Roosevelt Institute. Faviola was able to use the award to buy professional attire

and also cover transportation costs to her internship with Hinsdale Bank and Trust. Throughout the presentation, the students will each share their experiences, what they gained from the experiences, and how they grew as young professionals.

2:30 p.m. | Adam Janusz

The Importance of Play

Josephine Sarvis

Research conducted on play in the classroom is growing in the field of education. Even so, the acceptance of play as a scientific topic at times stagnates because of its ambiguous definition. Rather than defining the act of playing as seeking enjoyment, taking part in sport, or representing a character within a production, play must be regarded as the conscious or subconscious authoring of abstractions and the experimentation of these abstractions. By proposing this narrowed definition of play, one derived from experience in the classroom and outside scholarly research, its advantages and their origins can be thoroughly identified. The advantages of abstract experimentation, or play, are based in neural evolution, learning, and meaning making. Play's implementation both in the classroom and beyond represents our largest hopes as learning creatures.

107 Parmer Hall

URSCI Oral Presentations

8:30 a.m. | Catherine Koziol | Honors Project

Genomic Annotation and Assembly of the Newly Isolated Rhodococcus Bacteria

Margaret Jonah

The purpose of this research has been to assemble and annotate the gene sequence of a bacterium isolated from coniferous forest soil near Lake Tahoe, California. Universal primers for 16SrRNA suggested in literature were tested and a forward and reverse primer pair was used to tentatively identify this bacterium as a species of Rhodococcus. Following this, the genome of this bacterium was sequenced by the ACGT company, Wheeling, IL, in the form of 80 nodes of unknown order. In gene annotation, regions of a raw DNA sequence are identified with specific known genes. My project has been to locate the nodes which contain the forward and reverse primers and other genes associated with genes of interest. I have been using BLAST searching to find genes associated with breakdown of industrial pollutants in soil, a property associated with other members of this genus. Genes that can be identified could become the basis for later laboratory experiments.

9:30 a.m. | Aleksandra Wojtowicz, Bianca Mena, Elizabeth Sanchez and Raunel Urquiza

Community Based Research: Citizen Concerns

MaDonna Thelen

This panel of Social Justice and Civic Engagement minors will present Community Based Research projects titled: "Mend the Millennial Voting Gap," "Mental Illness: Locked Up," "HIV & AIDS – a South African Perspective," and "Worker's Rights "Wage Theft." Each student worked with an organization and critically examined a social justice issue that is prevalent at this time in the US.

10:30 a.m. | Allison Ernst

The Deconstruction of Total Institutional Reinforcement

Michelle VanNatta

Many question as to why crime occurs to begin with, however it is just as important to analyze why it continues to occur. There are a variety of theories that can be used to explain both of these aspects of crime, like labeling, conflict and feminist theories, among others. In addition, there are several aspects that play into an individual's life, and these aspects allow for them to make decisions and take certain actions that in the end produce a given outcome. Such aspects include the environment and people they are surrounded by and the ideas that are implemented by these characteristics. Through a review of published empirical research I explore how crime can continue to occur because total institutions, such as schools, prisons and the military, reinforce the social constructions of race and gender. Perhaps with the breakdown of these ideas, we can develop ways of understanding and implementing various forms of deterrence.

10:30 a.m. | Danielle Dibari

Creep or Curable?: Restorative Justice for Sex Offenders and Victims

Michelle VanNatta

Creep or curable? This presentation will provide an analysis of the benefits that Restorative Justice and rehabilitative measures can provide for sex offenders, and most importantly, their victims. Peer - reviewed research on the efficiency of Restorative Justice and rehabilitative options for sex offenders, as well as their victims, revealed that the myths of incurability that follow sex offenders are in need of reexamination and renovation. An examination of the history of the sex offender label and its development within our societal consciousness reveals a number of obstacles to implementing restorative, rather than solely punitive, measures for offenders. However, it is not for the sole benefit of prisoners

that society needs to start considering Restorative Justice options for sex offenders, but instead, for the security and healing of the victims, they leave behind.

11:30 a.m. | Amanda Olszowka

2016 Summer Marketing Internships in Colorado

Richard Calabrese

It all started with the Excel Scholarship and three unpaid internships in Colorado. Up until summer 2016, I was unsure of the path I was going to take after graduation. There were plenty of options, but not enough guidance to help figure it out. In this presentation, I will discuss how, during my internships in Colorado, I harnessed my passion and strengths in marketing and advertising. My passion has fueled my focus in school and pushed me to get another marketing internship to help move forward in my career.

11:30 a.m. | Kelsey Keithly

Internship Experience at Nordstrom Corporate

Paul Simpson

As a senior apparel merchandising student who participated in the Merchandise Buying and Planning summer internship program at the Nordstrom Corporate Headquarters located in Seattle, Washington, I pursued this experience not only because it is the most competitive and prestigious internship program to merchandising students in the U.S, but also because she wanted the opportunity to further expand my skill set and professional capabilities outside the classroom setting. I will be speaking on my experiences over this past summer ranging from the skills, knowledge, and professional guidance that I obtained, and how the ExcEL scholarship helped me to achieve this opportunity.

12:30 p.m. | Amy Do

Molecular Dynamics Study of the Photodissociation of ICN in Ethanol

Nicolas Winter

The influence of solvent on chemical reaction dynamics is a topic of great importance in many areas of science including condensed phase physics, medicine, geology, and industrial chemistry. While photodissociation, the breaking of bonds when hit by light, has been studied in the gas phase, less is known about this type of reaction in solution. In this project, the photodissociation and photoisomerization of ICN in ethanol

was modeled using molecular dynamics simulations. An ethanol-ICN potential energy function that takes into account the different ground and excited state charges and their shift as a function of the reaction coordinate was developed. The simulations provide a detailed microscopic picture of the influence of ethanol on the photodissociation process.

1:30 p.m. | Rebecca Kelm, Ivette Lechuga, and Nicolette Berrospi

Give a Little, Help a Lot

Tracy Jennings

This is a presentation of a “Textiles and the Environment” class project. Clothing waste hurts the environment by contributing to the overuse of resources, the overcrowding of landfills, and the degradation of some economies around the globe. Students will present how they helped to jump-start action in our local community, their experiences helping at New To You and Pacific Garden Mission, and their personal investigations.

1:30 p.m. | Antoine Carter, Teresita Cintora, and Emily Rangel

Overconsumption

Tracy Jennings

Overconsumption of clothing is one result of a fast-paced nation and a global business environment. With extremely low clothing prices, it has become a norm for people to view clothing as disposable opposed to valuable. We will conduct a month long wear test experiment using selvedge jeans. During the process, the jeans will be worn every day and will not be washed. At the end of the month we'll observe any difference from the first wear to the last wear. In addition, a member of our group will wear the same outfit every day for a week. We will conduct a survey of Dominican students and get their thoughts on wearing the same clothes often, repeating outfits, and laundering frequency. Our hope is to get a natural reaction from students about how much clothing people really need and want to maintain their lifestyle. The project contributes to an understanding of the role that fast fashion plays in students' lives and students' attitudes on clothing consumption.

1:30 p.m. | Audra Laird, Natasha Fields, and Aaron Sobel

reDUsign

Tracy Jennings

We will present a project that includes creative, scholarly, and environmental awareness aspects. After collecting several weeks-worth of fabric waste from the fashion lab at Dominican, and documenting the amount of waste created, we have designed a garment that incorporates all the materials. Though it may not be conventionally wearable, the garment draws attention to textile waste at DU and around the globe. To raise

awareness, the garment will be presented at the spring fashion show. Our process and findings are also shown through a photo essay that illustrates an example of a circular economy of textiles. From our investigation we hope to gain greater insight into the textile industry, its waste on a local and global scale, and how we can implement environmental change.

2:30 p.m. | Students of the ELS Learning Center

Aarika Floyd

Learning Perspectives: International Students in the United States

As global engagement becomes a more necessary and employable job skill in the 21st century, understanding and empathy for different cultures becomes an imperative for every university student. This interactive panel will host 5-10 international students from Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, and Eastern Asia. The goal of this panel is to educate and encourage American students. The first part of this interactive panel of students will be spent discussing the education system in students' respective countries, the role of the teacher and the role of the student with corresponding visuals. After this discussion, the panel of students will discuss the threads of similarity among the different education systems. The benefits and challenges of having international students in the university classroom will also be acknowledged. The final aim of this panel is provide DU students with suggestions on how to approach and include international students in their academic and/or personal lives. The session will end with a Q&A from the audience.

109 Parmer Hall

Global Learning Symposium Oral Presentations

12:30 p.m. | Mariana Delgado, Jazzine Acevedo, Rachel Kunkel, Abigail Algozino, Faviola Cardenas, Mariana Delgado, Jessica Evans, Mariah Figueroa, Andrea Mondragon, Magali Rebolledo, Dustin Stidmon, and Aleksandra Wojtowicz

Lasting Impressions: Guatemala

MaDonna Thelen

The Guatemala International Service trip (Study Abroad) will present their lasting impressions of the Mayan culture, the economy of coffee, and relationships created with Guatemalans as part of becoming good global citizens.

1:30 p.m. | Kelly Pompea, Jocelyn Cano, Gillian Madden, and DaRisha Heavens

Experiential Learning in Italy and South Africa

Patrick Homan and Jeffery Cote de Luna

As participants in study abroad programs in Rome, Italy and Stellenbosch, South Africa, we would like to share our insight and experiences with you as recipients of the ExcEL Scholar Award! We experienced nearly everything on our trips from days packed to the brim with several museums and hiking mountains to immersing ourselves in a completely different culture and eating delicious food. We are looking forward to sharing our experience with the community and hopefully assist others in their journey to accessing study abroad programs and the ExcEL scholarship opportunities at Dominican!

2:30 p.m. | Bruno Fernandez

International Collaboration at Dominican: Progress report from universities in Ecuador, Mexico, and the United States

Joyce Shim

The partners from three universities (Universidad Estatal de Milagro, Ecuador, Universidad Autonoma de Aguascalientes, Mexico, Dominican University, USA) get together to discuss their on-going collaboration for the first Master in Social Work Program in Ecuador. The panel will provide a progress report on other activities that have been moving forward such as (1) IASSW (International Association of Schools of Social Work) grants; (2) International conference that took place in Ecuador in January of 2017 where social work professors, researchers, and students in the country connected and shared their resources for empowerment and capacity building; and (3) Future plan for the team and possibilities for more engagement and involvement of students and faculty of participating universities.

PARMER ATRIUM – URSCI Focus on Art Slide Show

Focus on Art Slide Show

Dominican University Annual Juried Student Exhibition

Each year, Dominican University showcases the extraordinary artistic talent of its student body by hosting an Annual Juried Student Exhibition. This annual group show gives students the opportunity to have their artwork shown in the O'Connor Art Gallery and compete for cash prizes. Held each spring semester, it is open to all Dominican students regardless of major, and students may submit up to five works in any medium completed within the last year. After the submission deadline, Dominican University art department faculty select certain works for inclusion in the show, choosing works based on a combination of aesthetic and conceptual merit. After this initial selection, an outside guest juror awards prizes in different categories such as Best in Show, Best Color Photograph and Best Sculpture.

Because the guest curator is usually a prominent local curator, critic or art dealer, the Annual Juried Student Exhibition is a unique opportunity for students to have their work judged by an established and seasoned art world professional. Finally, each Annual Juried Student Exhibition kicks off with an opening night reception, which serves as a celebration of Dominican students' continued excellence in visual art. This year, the

Because the guest curator is usually a prominent local curator, critic or art dealer, the Annual Juried Student Exhibition is a unique opportunity for students to have their work judged by an established and seasoned art world professional. Finally, each Annual Juried Student Exhibition kicks off with an opening night reception, which serves as a celebration of Dominican students' continued excellence in visual art. This year, the 2017 Annual Juried Student Exhibition Awards ceremony took place on Thursday, March 23rd in the O'Connor Art Gallery. The guest juror was Kate Pollasch, a Chicago based curator, art historian, and writer. Her curatorial practice interrogates pre-existing notions of history and normativity through queer tactics, network theory, archival studies, and considerations of affect and digital pedagogy. Pollasch holds a MA in Modern Art History and Theory and an MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the current Director of Collections at the University Club of Chicago and has held positions at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Roger Brown House Museum, Sullivan Galleries, and most recently Rhona Hoffman Gallery. She has lectured at the Chicago History Museum, The Art Institute of Chicago, and The University of Chicago and is a contributing writer for New City, The Seen, and Elite Daily. She was the 2015-2016 Hatch Projects Curatorial Resident with the Chicago Artists Coalition.

Best Painting: Melanie Tassone, "Nude TV"

Best Drawing: Melanie Tassone, "Reclamation"

Best Black and White Photo: Natalie Bobrowska, "Sitting"

Best Color Photo: Kaitlyn Coglianese, "Topsy Turviness"

Best Design: Nicole Gardner, "Bigelow Tea Brand Redesign"

Best Typography: Eric Grosskopf, "Home(s)"

Best Sculpture: Arlet Aguilar "Think 2"

Best use of material: Nicole Gardner, "Bigelow Tea Brand Redesign"

Best of Show: Kaitlyn Coglianese, "Topsy Turviness"

Deans Choice: Jessica Perez, "Jess"

Honorable Mentions:

Painting: Sara Mantello, "William Bailey Master Copy"

Drawing: Ushma Patel, "Portrait of Reagan"

Color Photo: Aleksandra Sakowska, "Stranger with Dog" & Roxanne Guieb, "Classic London"

Black and White Photo: Patrick Owoc, "Tom's"

Sculpture: Iridian Hernandez, "Blue"

PARMER ATRIUM

URSCI Poster Presentations

8:30 a.m. | Fine Arts

Arlet I. Aguilar

Wall built on immigrants

Dave Pabellon

The construction of an interactive wall where viewers are welcomed to add on to the wall by placing a picture or anything that speaks to the world about them being an immigrant or a minority. An artist statement that speak about the artist's experiences as a DACA student will be included as well as flyers that invite other students, DACA or not, to comment on the wall or add their perspective. This artwork that can only come together if people are actively involved will be made for people to find comfort and power in being an immigrant/ minority and ultimately reassure us all that we are one. Assistance with the set-up for this presentation will be provided by Kayla Jackson, Bianca Mena, and Raunel Urquiza, students who traveled to San Diego, California and crossed the border to Tijuana, Mexico as part of the Dominican University "Borderlands" Alternative Break Immersion and wish to lend support to the artist's attempt to raise consciousness about the issues of human need and social justice that surround immigration between borders.

9:30 a.m. | Apparel Design & Merchandising

Quinlan Milne-Rojek

De-masculinizing Menswear

McKinley Johnson

This project will show the process of making a senior collection. For my project I specifically worked with menswear and even more specifically than that, tailored menswear. The premise behind my project was to create four well rounded garments that incorporated the theme of de-masculinizing menswear through silhouette and floral. The floral was done both with embroidery and my statement fabric. The project consists of the ideas and areas considered during the beginning, how these ideas were narrowed down, how I committed to a final inspiration, what the design process looked like, and finally the end result that ties everything together.

Elizabeth Eaton

Heritage

McKinley Johnson

This collection juxtaposes classic silhouettes with dazzling embroidery and daring fabrics, drawing eyes and making the wearer unique in a world of constant competition. “Heritage” is a collection of hand-made formal garments. The inspiration comes from London’s Kenwood House, which was constructed in the 1790s. The architecture styles—a combination of baroque and neoclassical—are both present in the house, as well as in the clothing. The biggest feature of the collection is the embroidery. The patterns were designed based off the décor of the Kenwood House, using motifs found on the ceilings and walls. Each piece was designed in Adobe Illustrator and translated into a unique embroidery pattern. The gold embroidery is combined with the long flowing lines of white chiffon to make the wearer feel elegant, bold, and strong.

Jacquelyn Braun

Inked

McKinley Johnson

Drawing from tribal tattoos, this collection was created to show the elegant, bold, and sleek look that a tattoo brings when worn on the body. With each garment comes specifically placed tattoos to show off the person wearing it. Each women’s piece includes individually, hand-sewn beads or sequence, accompanied with a statement covering piece made from leather, suede or fringe fabric. The men’s piece was crafted to be an interpretation of tattoos in a more abstract way represented by the suede fabric with a hand-made collar length choker. When wearing this collection, you are standing out, not blending in and you are not afraid in doing so. This was a year-long project of constructing clothing using patterning, draping and other design skills and the inspiration and thought process that went into it.

Elena Defeo-Romanucci

London Study Abroad: British Fashion

Melissa Carr

This project travels through history explaining what, throughout the centuries, have influenced the British style. Within the project there are differences and similarities that emerge between British and American fashion. The project depicts these differences and similarities. This independent study was made possible, by my experience in study abroad in London this past fall semester. During this time in London, independent research, and personal experiences were collected and evaluated to depict these American and British fashion style trends. The project gives an overview of the history of fashion, then it dissects each century painting a vivid picture of those trending styles in that era as well as what those influences them.

Gabrielle Faloona

A Ragged Fantasy

McKinley Johnson

A four piece collection of fantasy costumes inspired by classic fairy tales.

Sarah Tinoco

Veracity: A Brand Development of Modern Luxury Outerwear

Melissa Carr

Veracity: (ver-ah-city) is a modern, luxury outerwear brand envisioned over a semester's worth of comprehensive research and creative product and brand development in the apparel course, International Sourcing and Brand Development. The development of Veracity: involved the learnings and simulated activities of market research, designing, sourcing, manufacturing, wholesaling, merchandising and marketing. The idea for Veracity: was conceptualized to fulfill opportunities in the luxury outerwear market. The brand offers luxury coats and jackets manufactured in the United States with the finest leathers and furs from countries that specialize in the fair production of these authentic materials. Veracity's business model is transparent to consumers. Veracity: aims to be truthful about its costs with consumers, which include percentage markups of every coat's total cost which is given back to material manufacturers abroad, and honest labor costs increased to provide living wages for its production workers in the United States.

Megan Hickey

Facade

McKinley Johnson

My senior collection for apparel design is inspired by Roman architecture. During a study abroad trip, I was able to observe Renaissance and Baroque architecture of Roman churches. The facade of many of the churches had different pillars and plasters, which made it challenging to tell what was decorative and what was essential to the structure. This led me to design four garments that would challenge the audience in this way. My garments use fabric manipulation to create this type of illusion and different levels of fabric to purposefully confuse the audience.

Allison Bunag

Contrast

McKinley Johnson

Contrast was inspired by traditional Chinese wear. The inspiration came from seeing Chinese paintings of royalty and stills of everyday life. The purpose of this collection was to take apart and tactfully transform Chinese traditional wear into something new and fresh. This was not a West meets East interpretation but a juxtaposition between tradition and now. Fashion has always had a fascination with moving forward and redesigning the past to now and Contrast shows that through the silhouettes, color choice, and construction. Chinese inspired designs or fashions always echo the past but this collection rearranges the concept and presents something different.

Jacque Wallaert

Ethereal

McKinley Johnson

Ethereal is the title of my 2017 collection. It is defined as extremely light and delicate in a way that seems almost too perfect for this world. This definition was chosen in correlation with my inspiration and the mood the collection evokes. Inspiration is drawn from the ability of flowers to remain perfectly beautiful despite their many imperfections. Every garment is entirely constructed of remnant materials, vintage fabrics, scraps, and unwanted garments. The purpose is to raise awareness on the apparel industry's contribution to waste and pollution. It is also a great way to give forgotten fabrics a new life, one outside of a landfill. The ethereal collection is intended for the kind-hearted free spirit. It is a sustainable concept that evokes dainty femininity and an additional flare to the expected. Our planet keeps us alive, we must remember to show it our gratitude.

Amy Diaz-Hablich

EBA Creations: The Development Process of an Up-cycling Brand

Melissa Carr

Brand Development goes far beyond creating a functional good or service. It is about examining and developing a comprehensive merchandise plan for a product, with perspectives on the consumer, manufacturer, and retailer. As a merchandiser, my assignment was to create my own brand and brand image. EBA Creations is all about recycling used bicycle chains and creating wearable art, for every consumer to enjoy. It is a small family business that creates, designs, and constructs hand-made jewelry. EBA Creations strives to inspire customers, by showing them the beauty of creating art through up-cycling. Throughout my process I was able to examine the product development process and study of the roles of manufacturing, wholesaling, and retailing.

10:30 a.m. | Biology

Brandon Guerrero

Electric Stimulation of Muscles for Treatment of Major Pain

Margaret Jonah

This is a presentation on electric stimulation of muscles as a treatment for major and chronic pain, a technique I learned during my internship at the Vital Rehabilitation physical therapy clinic. In this method, electrodes are placed on muscle areas, wherever the patient has pain. The muscle is stimulated for an average of 15 minutes, using whatever voltage the patient can easily tolerate. I will report on my experience with patients for whom the positive effects of this treatment was seen immediately, with patients showing increased mobility and reporting pain relief.

Erica Rocha

Plant species diversity along elevation gradients of a California subalpine ecosystem

Christopher Anderson

As one of the 20 national undergraduates of the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars, I conducted a research project focusing on plant biodiversity. Specifically, the change of plant species richness and total plant abundance were observed along elevations of the White Mountains of California. Mountains are unique in that climate and vegetation changes along elevations. This allows us to study the effects of temperature change on plant communities. If we understand how climate change effects plants, we can learn to manage and protect plant ecosystems. Here, plant biodiversity was determined by sampling plants on South-facing dolomite slopes ranging in elevation on the subalpine ecosystem. The

results show that both plant abundance and species richness increases with elevation. This suggests that climate change is causing more favorable conditions for plants in higher elevations. If lower elevations become less favorable, then more plants may shift upslope affecting the range and distribution of plants.

Crystal Castillo & Brianda Aguilar

Fish Fraud

Irina Calin-Jageman

The aim of our experiments was to utilize DNA sequence analysis to test the accuracy of grocery store fish labeling. Fish mislabeling is a big problem in the USA and we wanted to test samples obtained in our own community. We present our findings here.

Leticia Perez & Melissa Nguyen

The Big Fish Mystery

Irina Calin-Jageman

Within the past few years, there has been a growing concern over whether the different types of fish purchased are mislabeled or not. Fish mislabeling is a significant concern for consumers since many mislabeled fish are actually cheaper types of fish. According to a study conducted by Oceana from 2010-2012, 33% of fish tested nationwide were actually impostors. In Chicago, 32% of Ocean's fish samples were products of fish fraud. Fish are mislabeled in various places, from restaurants to grocery stores. However, it was found that 74% of fish sold at sushi vendors nationwide are mislabeled. Therefore, the objective of this experiment was to determine if red snapper and tuna, two commonly mislabeled fish, sold at sushi vendors, restaurants, and grocery stores within the Chicagoland area were correctly labeled or not. Correct genetic identification of the fish was done by extracting, amplifying, purifying, and sequencing and bioinformatics analysis of the mitochondrial CO1 gene.

Claudia Radek & Sylvia Karpio

Is Umami Really Yummy?

Irina Calin-Jageman

The objective of this experiment is to determine commercial fish labeling accuracy. The work was based on a study done by the Oceana organization that revealed a high degree of fraud in the seafood industry. Using methods such as DNA purification, PCR, sequencing, and bioinformatic analysis (BLAST, PubMed, Clustal Omega) we examined fish samples obtained from two restaurants.

Michelle Muntaner & Anna Matyszewski

Who are you gonna call? Fishbusters

Irina Calin-Jageman

Seafood restaurants have become highly popular throughout the years, with consumers reading menu items, intending to receive the fish ordered, but in many cases this does not occur due to fish mislabeling. There has been a rise in the amount of restaurants and markets which have had mislabeled their fish and sold it to consumers. As a result, consumers are always not eating the fish they intended to purchase which could potentially be detrimental to their health. Oceana, a conservation organization, released an article which reported that tuna and red snapper are among the most commonly mislabeled fish. In our Molecular and Cellular Biology class, we conducted an experiment to determine whether local fish selling restaurants/markets are mislabeling their items.

Jasmyn Hardin

Can a chemical in garlic increase lifespan in worms?

Pliny Smith

We are testing the effects of genes that control the rate of aging in combination with antioxidant chemicals in the nematode, *Caenorhabditis elegans*. Previous results have demonstrated that dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethyl sulfone, and dimethyl sulfide will increase the longevity of *C. elegans*. Our current research is a continuation of the previous research. We are currently testing the interactions with the gene *daf-16* and the chemicals dimethyl sulfide, a pro-oxidant called juglone, and diallyl disulfide. DAF-16 is the FoxO transcription factor that is responsible for genetic regulation of many pro-longevity genes in the worms. Our hypothesis states that dimethyl sulfide and other related compounds will increase lifespan of wild type worms, but will not increase the lifespan of the short-lived *daf-16* worm strain due to upregulation of stress-response genes. We are testing both wild type and *daf-16* worms under the same conditions to compare the results.

Brenda Silva and Magali Rebolledo

Bait-and-Switch

Irina Calin-Jageman

Throughout the years, consumers have trusted stores and restaurants to accurately label fish products. Companies are expected to go through a control process and are required to follow regulations on fishing and fish distribution. This experiment was conducted to verify if fish are being sold as their label depicts. It is not necessarily known where the mislabeling takes place in the distribution process. This is an important issue because certain fish can affect people differently, especially those with fish allergies. Clients have the right to know what they are purchasing and consuming. Using sequence analysis, the data showed that half of the fish that purchased were mislabeled.

Alexia Ortiz

Something Fishy in Your Sushi

Irina Calin-Jageman

In the Biology course 352 we tested the true identity of fish from a variety of restaurants and grocery stores. This work was based on a study performed by Oceana in which about 1,215 from around 670 different locations were collected and the DNA of the fish was analyzed to determine the correct fish type and compare to what it was marketed as in order to detect fraudulent fish. In lab my group tested three fish samples from three different locations to analyze and detect whether they had been improperly labeled. The COX1 gene was the target of our DNA analysis because it is known to be highly conserved among each species. Using the COX1 gene would produce reliable data to process and identify the true genus species of our three fish samples.

Francesca Millare and Athira Jacob

Name that Fish

Irina Calin-Jageman

DNA based investigation, by Ocean Conservation Organization Ocean, last year showed that one-third, more than 1,200 fish tested in the U.S. were not truthfully labeled according to the U.S. Food and Drug administration guidelines. According to the 2013 study, 93% of fish labeled as red snapper were found to be species other than *Lutjanus campechanus*. The purpose of our experiment was to compare the DNA of fish samples from different grocery stores and restaurants by isolating and analyzing the CO1 gene from Ocean Perch and Red Snapper.

11:30 a.m. | Chemistry

Ewelina Dwojak

The Prospective of Gene Therapy

Daniela Andrei

Gene therapy allows for the correction or replacement of defective genes that cause genetic disorders, cancer, and chronic infectious diseases. The use of physical and chemical approaches to transport a gene delivery vector into target cells with less harm is the future of this concept. Viral genomes were developed as a form of gene transfer along with recombinant DNA technology. The safety concerns of viral genomes arose and even though they were great at transducing cells, toxicity became a problem. The future obstacles include a better understanding of the cellular and in vivo barriers in gene transfer. As well as development of a non-viral system which can eliminate the harm and be effective. In regards to cancer, combinatorial therapy is the goal of clinical advancement; gene therapy could work alongside existing treatment options. Essentially, progress in gene therapy can lead to a breakthrough within medical research.

Gabriel Moreno

Quantum Chemical Models of Relative Acid Strength

Nicolas Winter

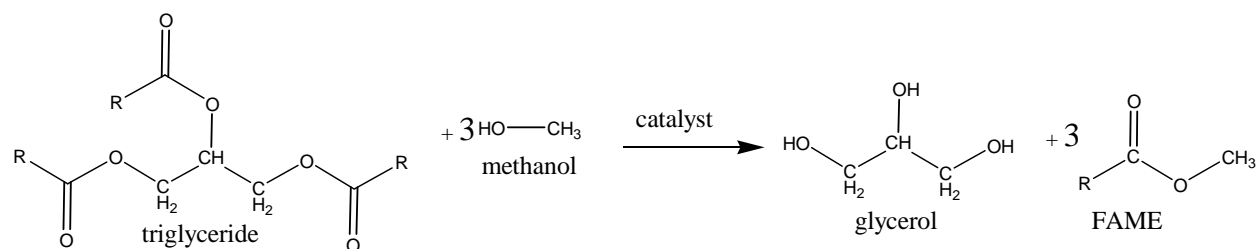
Acid strength is given by the energetics of deprotonation. Another possible measure of acid strength is the degree of the positive charge in the alpha acidic hydrogen as measured by the electrostatic potential. This measurement offers an advantage over the calculation of reaction energy, in that only the acid needs to be considered. The equilibrium geometries and associated electrostatic potential maps of nitric acid, sulfuric acid, acetic acid, ethanol, and various carboxylic acids are computed using Hartree-Fock quantum chemical calculations. Computational results are compared to experimental pKa values to determine the correlation between acid strength and electrostatic potential.

Athira Jacob

An Environmentally Friendly Method for Biodiesel Production

J. Brent Friesen

Biodiesel is an eco-friendly alternative diesel fuel derived from vegetable oils. Biodiesel consists of methyl esters with long hydrocarbon chains called fatty acid methyl esters or FAMES. The aim of this work was to develop a green method of biodiesel production by transesterification. Four different catalysts that facilitated the conversion of vegetable oil into FAMES were tested. Transesterification with potassium carbonate in methanol was unsuccessful. A strong base, potassium hydroxide, in methanol worked well but was environmentally undesirable. Sulfuric acid, was successful, but not eco-friendly. Finally, an enzyme (lipase) catalyzed transesterification in aqueous methanol. Three commercial lipase formulations were tested with some success. Thin Layer Chromatography, Infra-Red Spectroscopy, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, Gas Chromatography, and Refractive Index were analytical methods that were used to monitor the reactions and determine if the reaction was effective. The results from this project were used to develop a three-week Organic Chemistry laboratory sequence.



11:30 a.m. | Physics

Christopher Vazquez

Synthesis of 4-(2-Aminophenoxy)-1,8-naphthalic anhydride

Joseph Sagerer

K27 is a compound used in high energy physics experiments, chosen for its fluorescence and wavelength shifting properties in the form of either; a bright green dye applied to wavelength shifting fibers, or as plastic extruded scintillators. Unfortunately there are no current chemical suppliers with K27 readily available, so K27 synthesis research proceeded. Since there are several chemical pathways to synthesize K27 it was decided that our research would be to look at one of the precursors of the compound under the IUPAC name 4-(2-Aminophenoxy)-1,8-naphthalic anhydride. This project investigates the pathways of synthesizing said anhydride by SN1 reaction from both; 4-chloro-1,8-naphthalic anhydride and its 4-bromo counterpart, while also testing the effects of several solvents; DMSO, Acetonitrile, and Methoxy ethanol on the product formation. This research will allow the possibility of K27 reproduction for future high energy physics experiments at labs such as Fermilab.

Jose Rangel

Prototype cosmic-ray muon tracker

Joseph Sagerer

The objective of this project is to develop a multi-directional cosmic-ray tracker which involves high voltage detector hardware along with data analysis to interpret the output. The detector being constructed makes use of light created when muons pass through scintillating material to reconstruct the paths of muons with the purpose of creating an image. The project is currently in the prototype stage as the focus is being dedicated to the calibration of the hardware. The current effort is going into data analytics to synchronize and optimize all the electrical components of the detector. The ultimate goal of the final project is to create a detector to scan through the walls of pyramids to discover hidden chambers.

12:30 p.m. | Psychology

Paulina Aguirre, Brett Barich, Kimberly Lopez, and Marbelin Molina

The relationship of gender and humor on attractiveness

Tina Ritzler

Prior research has shown that attractiveness is influenced by a variety of characteristics. One of these characteristics may be humor, but humor in potential partners varies according to gender. This study was carried out to see if humor and gender had an effect on attractiveness. This was conducted through humor and gender manipulations, using the Desirability Scale (Durante, Li, & Haselton, 2008). This study was administered in a controlled setting where an online survey was completed by the students of Dominican University. The results demonstrated that gender and humor had no effect on attractiveness. Although this study did not replicate, prior research by McGee and Shelvin (2009) showed effects of gender and humor on attractiveness. Our study shows the importance of replication and makes suggestions for future research on the relationship between gender, humor and attractiveness.

Emily Rathbone, Maria Martinez, Gabrielle Huxhold, and Ashley Kamionka

Academic Self-Efficacy and Grit Get the Grades

Kathleen O'Connor

The personality traits of grit and academic self-efficacy have an effect on level of academic achievement. Grit is the ability for a student to achieve a long-term academic goal if they have a great deal of persistence and commitment. Academic self-efficacy is the student's belief in themselves and their confidence that they can achieve a high academic goal. This study shows what the relationships between grit and academic achievement and academic self-efficacy and academic achievement mean. It does this by having participants, in this study Dominican University undergraduates over 18, take an online survey. This survey contained questions that coincide with each variable. The results of the survey indicate having high grit or high academic self-efficacy does in fact contribute to high academic achievement. This means that students who display great persistence and passion, and motivation and confidence will be able to achieve high academic goals.

Alexander Garcia, Jacqueline Juarez, Adan Valle-Lopez

The Effect of Color on Perceived Attractiveness

Tina Ritzler

Past research has found that different colors have different meanings and that the color red may represent love and passion. The current study replicated Elliot et al. (2010), which shows that the color red is related to perceived attraction. In our research, participants from Dominican University were presented a photo of a person either wearing red or white and asked to rate their attractiveness on a 7-point scale. We hypothesized that participants would rate individuals wearing red higher than participants would rate individuals wearing white.

Noelle Flores and Vanessa Guillen

Awareness of a Post-Test and the Impact on the Testing-Effect

Jason Pych

The "testing effect" is a phenomenon in which periodically testing over material that is repeatedly studied facilitates later recall relative to simply studying. The purpose of the current study was to investigate how awareness of a post-test may impact the testing-effect. Researchers hypothesized that participants in the repeated testing condition, who were aware of the post-test, would outperform those in the other conditions. Participants were recruited through convenience sampling, and consisted of male and female adults (N=58) between the ages of 18 and 27. Participants were placed in a repeated study condition or repeated testing condition, in which they were either aware or unaware of a post-test. Participants studied 20 words individually presented on a PowerPoint presentation. The repeated testing aware group remembered more on the post-test compared to the other conditions. Awareness had no effect on post-test. Limitations of the outcomes may have been due

to sample size, inability to randomly assign into groups, and limited time to collect data. Researchers will also discuss the shortcomings of the procedure, as well as what we have learned from the experience. Changes in procedure should be considered for future research, in addition to more research on awareness of a post-test on the testing effect.

Jacqueline Lara

Big picture and Big Ideas: How Self-Transcendence and Time Horizons may influence Academic Performance.

Kathleen O'Connor

This present research examined the influence of student's time horizons and the personality trait of self-transcendence on student performance. This study included a diverse population of students (N = 95) enrolled in Summer and Fall Psychology courses at Triton College in River Forest, Illinois and Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois. Time Horizons and Self-Transcendence was measured using a modified version of the Zimbardo Time Perspective Inventory (ZTPI; Zimbardo & Boyd, 1999). This study is based on previous work done in the exploration of future time perspective and self-transcendence on academic achievement. This work is based on a study in which researchers measured self-transcendence in college students and found students who identified a self-transcendent purpose for learning spent more time on the boring tasks versus pleasurable tasks, and were later found to be less likely to drop out of college (Yeager et al., 2014). The researchers noted limitations regarding investigation of self-regulation strategies. A better understanding of both constructs could help facilitate conversations with students in how to manage and create realistic future educational and broader life goals. The study anticipated a correlation among student levels of self-transcend purposes for learning, time perspectives, and academic performance.

Valentina Moyao

Education: A Path Towards Women Empowerment

Tina Ritzler

The current study used data compiled from UNICEF to analyze the relationship between school enrollment, domestic violence attitudes, and the amount of women married before the age of 18. A correlational analysis on SPSS between the three variables was conducted in order to assess the relationship between education, teen marriage, and ideas on domestic violence. The results from the statistical analyses provided insight into the power of education as a possible mechanism for women's empowerment. Awareness and understanding of the effect each of these variables has on one another can generate questions regarding whether education effects the views of women, or whether women's views

affect their educational involvement. Significant results provide essential information that can aid women on their path toward empowerment and liberalization.

Mayra Gaona, Marco Meneses, and Adilene Osnaya

The Effects of Cues on Long-Term Retention

Jason Pych

Research has shown that different methods combined with repeated testing enhance long-term retention. The purpose of this study was to investigate if studying with cues along with repeated testing with cues would improve long-term retention. This study took place in two parts. Those who chose to participate were randomly assigned to two of four conditions: study with no cue; testing with no cue, studying with cue; testing with cue, study with cue; testing with no cue, and studying with no cue; testing with cue. During session 1, the materials given for participants to study were two lists of words followed by two recall tests. During session 2, one week later, participants were given a final free recall test. Overall, results were not consistent with previous research. There was no significant relationship between cues and long-term retention. In addition to our findings, we will discuss the different complications that can arise while conducting research.

Mayra Gaona, Josselin Lopez, and Adilene Osnaya

Understanding How Framing Racial Inequality Affects Racial Attitudes

Tina Taylor-Ritzler

The purpose of this study is to replicate Powell, Branscombe, and Schmitt (2005), which explores the framing of inequality in terms of “White Privilege (in-group privilege)” and “Black Disadvantage (outgroup disadvantage).” Our objective is to add to the evidence about whether racist attitudes can be altered by the way in which racial inequality is framed. More specifically, we are testing the hypothesis that viewing racial inequality in terms of white or in-group privilege leads to higher collective guilt, which can help resolve the major social problem of racism. We conducted two studies to examine the relationship between racial inequality framing and racist attitudes with collective guilt as a mediator. We expect results to be consistent with previous findings indicating that participants in the White privilege condition experience higher collective guilt and consequently have less racist attitudes. Further, the higher the collective guilt, the less identified participants might feel with their in-group. The implications of the results for talking and teaching about racial inequality are discussed.

Sean Korbas and Barbara Berent

Understanding Factors Related to Work Motivation

Tina Taylor-Ritzler

The present research investigated what factors of the work environment are perceived as being most important towards participants' motivation. The factors and survey model used were an extension from research by Lindner (1998). The participants in the current study were selected from a population of college students from a small, liberal arts university. Factors were measured by ranking and rating fourteen factors. Past research has found that interesting work and good wages have contributed the most towards individual's motivation. We predicted that the current study would yield similar results. By replicating Lindner's research, we look to add further results that can be used for comparison with other research. Further research will be needed in which these factors may be manipulated to further understand and make causal conclusions about the relationship between the factors that are related to work motivation.

Sydney Glenn

The Effects of a Student Panel on What It Means to Struggle in College

Tina Taylor-Ritzler and Kathleen O'Connor

Research has indicated that college students benefit when they understand that everyone struggles in college in some way (Stephens, Hamedani & Destin, 2016). This understanding is theorized to help students reinterpret what it means to struggle in college so that when they struggle, be it academically, socially or financially, they understand that they are not alone and that facing and coping with challenges is a normal part of the college experience (Yeager et al., 2016). The present study was conducted to see how a group of college freshmen experienced a student panel, where a diverse panel of successful junior and senior college students talked explicitly about challenges and triumphs in their transitions to and years in college. Qualitative coding of post-panel essays written by freshmen participants assessed whether or not students reported the goals of the panel, which were that experiences in college matter, that everyone struggles in some way, and that university resources can help when students struggle. The implications of the findings are discussed.

1:30 p.m. | Business

Esther Uriostegui

Brexit: More Than Just A British Event

Anne Drougas

On June 23, 2016, the people of the United Kingdom voted to exit the European Union. While the long-term effects of Brexit cannot yet be determined, the United States remains one of the largest investors in the United Kingdom, with \$590 billion invested across the banking, manufacturing, and real estate sectors. This poster examines the potential impact of Brexit on the financial relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States.

Madalynn Zanoni

Brexit and The Republic of Ireland

Anne Drougas

After gaining independence in 1921, the Republic of Ireland became geographically segregated from the rest of Europe, forcing them to create strong trade and regional agreements with the United Kingdom. Brexit, the colloquial nickname for the “British Exit” from the European Union on June 23rd, 2016, caused international speculation and tension. It also placed trade and immigration agreements between the UK and the Republic of Ireland in jeopardy. This poster investigates the impact of Brexit on trade, foreign direct investment and travel with the Republic of Ireland.

1:30 p.m. | Spanish

Beatriz Leyva

Can I Afford to Study Abroad?

Rogelia Ibarra

As we know, college is expensive. It’s stressful enough worrying about how to pay for tuition, books, and personal expenses without the added factors of living alone in a strange country where your dominant language may not be the common one spoken. Studying abroad can be scary, especially when you feel you do not have the financial means to do so. It is an incredible experience that should not be limited to financially elite students. I thought studying abroad was a luxury I could not attain. By applying to several scholarships and working multiple jobs, my dream became a reality. I studied the semester of Fall 2016 in Salamanca, Spain where I had the opportunity to travel to several other countries across Europe and learned so much about other cultures and myself. Learn how, you too, can afford the privileges of an international education.

Jasmine Watson

How studying abroad changed my life

Rogelia Ibarra

My study abroad experience was lifechanging. Studying abroad opened my eyes to different ways of life. The relaxed attitude of Spain encouraged me to take advantage of life and take chances. The people I was surrounded by were very positive and they embraced my background which made me feel confident in myself. There were many aspects of my trip that influenced my future career goals. My professors and classes, my stay with a host family, my trips, and my application processes for both the Gilman and ExcEL scholarships all impacted my life.

1:30 p.m. | Italian

Cory Griffin

Italian Trade Agency Internship

Veena Carlson

"Agenzia per la promozione all'estero e l'internazionalizzazione delle imprese italiane." The Italian Trade Agency is a government organization that promotes the internationalization of Italian companies. ITA provides information, support, and advice to Italian and foreign companies. I completed an internship in the Chicago office this spring. In this presentation, I will discuss what I was able to learn about some of these companies by collecting and organizing data. I spent much of my time at ITA helping in the editorial sector, where I was able to learn about several Italian publishers and agents.

2:30 p.m. | Nutrition

Shulamis Rouzaud

How to Grow a Plant Breeder and Researcher

Paul Simpson

My poster will showcase my internship with Spence Farm Foundation. This internship was made possible by the ExcEL Scholar Award. Spence Farm Foundation is an organization that educates food and healthcare professionals on the "hows" and "whys" of making our food system more sustainable. This is accomplished through immersive programming, such as Bread Camp, Chef Camp, and our Cookwell classes. As an intern, I

assist with the foundation's core programs and administrative functions. Specifically, I work on program development for Chef Camp and Bread Camp, writing blog posts on the connection between food, farm, and health, planning and implementing the annual Harvest Feast fundraiser, and searching for applicable research, including the science, marketing, and curriculum that are integrated into the educational programming. As a result of my experience, I plan on becoming a PhD, MPH, RD, and work as a plant breeder and researcher.

2:30 p.m. | Political Science

Amanda Ybarra

The Importance of Individual Perspective in Crises: Genocide

Patrick Homan

This project in the the format of a poster presentation is based on a long form essay on the necessity and impact of individual perspective on the outcome of global crises. My work focused on Lt. Gen. Romeo Dallaire and his perspective as the UN Force Commander for the UN mission in Rwanda in 1994.

2:30 p.m. | Study Abroad

Vantayshia Knox

Semester-in-London: 20th and 21st Centuries Historical Dress Tutorial

Jose Blanco

This Project is an overview of my experience studying abroad in London as an Apparel Merchandising student. With the supervision of Jose Blanco, a Dominican Apparel department faculty member, and Catherine Fuller, my overseas British mentor, I participated in a fashion tutorial furthering my understanding of the historic development of dress and fashion in the Twentieth and early Twenty-First centuries. Through visiting multiple museums and fashion exhibits in London along with independent research I was also able to identify current fashion trend forecasting methodologies and will be presenting fashion trend forecasts for the fall season of 2017. There will also be additional information on financing and applying for the Gilman Scholarship for studying abroad.

Parmer Atrium- Joint Reception URSCI Expo and the Global Learning Symposium

3:30 p.m. Announcement of 2017 URSCI Undergraduate Summer Scholarship Program (USSP) Awards and Excellence in Experiential Learning (ExcEL) Scholar Awards: RCAS Dean Jeffrey Carlson

Undergraduate Research Opportunities at Dominican University

The office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Investigations (URSCI) builds upon the instruction in information literacy and research methods undergraduates receive through the core curriculum and the major field, and seeks to enhance the spirit and practice of inquiry occurring already across the curriculum. URSCI promotes undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research in all disciplines, offering students opportunities to engage in scholarly activities that go beyond regular class assignments, and administers a variety of initiatives to support undergraduate students involved in such scholarly projects. If you have questions about these opportunities, contact David M. Perry, PhD, Director of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Investigations, at dperry@dom.edu

Students can earn course credit for working with a faculty mentor on a research project or creative investigation that is completed independently—not as part of a class assignment. To learn more about special opportunities URSCI makes available to students, including the Undergraduate Research Support Award (URSA), the Undergraduate Research Assistantship Program (URAP), and the Undergraduate Summer Scholar Program (USSP), please visit dom.edu/ursci.

University Honors: Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science

Through the Honors program, honors students can complete an honors project and non-honors students can complete a degree with distinction project in their major field.

Degree with Distinction Projects

The project leading to a degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science with Distinction in their major gives high achieving students in their junior and senior years the opportunity to study independently and understand the nature of scholarship and creativity in a particular field. Generally, students attempting the Degree with Distinction begin working on the project in the first semester of their junior year. Students work closely with a first reader from their discipline who will help guide the project and recommend a second reader for the project; the director of the Distinction Project Process recommends the project to the Honors Committee for approval. The project is completed in the spring of the student's senior year.

Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible: junior status and a cumulative grade point average of 3.30 in the field of the project and an overall grade point average of 3.0. If the student's proposal is accepted, it is recommended that the student take ENGL 345 Advanced Academic Writing as a part of the project. Exemption from this requirement is possible at the discretion of the course instructor. Detailed deadlines as well as guides for writing a proposal and project guides for both students and faculty mentors are available in the Distinction Project Canvas Classroom, or from the directors of the Honors Program.

Honors Projects

Students in the Honors Program may elect to complete a Distinction Project or honors coursework leading to a bachelor's degree with university honors. The process for completing the project is the same as for the Degree with Distinction.

Global Learning Opportunities at Dominican University

The Center for Global Peace through Commerce (CGPC) offers programming that focuses on how social and business entrepreneurship can be a force for global good. The CGPC promotes internships in international economic development, corporate social responsibility, and anti-poverty efforts. To learn more, visit <http://www.dom.edu/gpcommerce/index.html> or contact Professors Liz Collier and Kathleen Odell, Co-Directors of the CGPC.

The Office for Community-based Learning (CBL)

The Office for Community-based Learning (CBL) allows students to engage in integrative cross-cultural learning experiences both within and across national borders through CBL courses, service-learning study abroad, organized service, and research that addresses community needs. To learn more, visit <http://www.dom.edu/service> or contact MaDonna Thelen, Director, CBL.

Study Abroad

The Study Abroad Office encourages students to spend time outside U.S. borders in both faculty led travel courses and semester or year programs in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe. To learn more, visit the <http://www.dom.edu/departments/studyabroad/index.html> or contact Sue Ponremy, director of International Studies.

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science, which publishes the international online journal, *World Libraries*, prepares students to understand libraries as agents of local and global socio-economic development. The School of Professional and Continuing Studies' MA in Conflict Resolution is a one-of-a-kind, interdisciplinary program for those committed to working for peace and justice.

The Excellence in Experiential Learning (ExcEL) Scholar Awards Program

The ExcEL Scholar Awards offers support to Dominican University students who have specific plans for study abroad and other hands-on learning experiences and are seeking funds to bridge the gap between the cost of those experiences and their current financial means. Students are invited to apply for up to \$2000 to fund study abroad, study away, or alternative break immersion program fees; stipends that cover living expenses for unpaid internships or research projects; travel-related expenses, or research project materials.

Since the launch of the program in the spring of 2016, 33 Scholar Awards have been given to Dominican University undergraduate students and we will be awarding several more students this at the conclusion of the Expo and Symposium. Today, several of them – including **Jazzine Acevedo, Jocelyn Cano, Faviola Cardenas, Elizabeth Eaton, DaRisha Heavens, Adam Janusz, Kelsey Keithly, Gillian Madden, Bianca Mena, Amanda Olszowka, Kelly Pompea, Shulamis Rouzaud, Esther Uriostegui, and Raunel Urquiza** – are sharing the experiences they enjoyed with the help of the ExcEL Scholar Awards. If you are a student with hopes of pursuing your own research, internship, community-based learning, study away, or study abroad experience, please take advantage of the ExcEL Scholar Awards program to make those hopes a reality.

Acknowledgements

The office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Investigations (URSCI) and the Academic Enrichment Center (AEC) would like to thank all of the faculty sponsors for their work with the undergraduate students participating in the URSCI Exposition and the Global Learning Symposium. The encouragement given to the students makes it possible for them to engage in inspired scholarly endeavors that take them beyond the classroom walls. We also express our appreciation to the session moderators for volunteering their time to make this exposition a success. Besides the faculty sponsors who moderated their own student / departmental oral and panel presentations, we would like to thank all of those who volunteered to help today.

We extend our gratitude to the faculty members who released their Parmer Hall classrooms for the day's presentations: Christopher Anderson, Alyssa Braun, Amartya Chakrabarti, Hippolyte Datte, Sophia Duffy, Brent Friesen, Christopher Galloway, Gerald Gulley, Derrick Hilton, Carsi Hughes, Margaret Jonah, Mariusz Kosla, Louis Scannicchio, Pliny Andrews Smith, Paula Sochacki, Aliza Steurer, Demirhan Tunc, Marion Weedermann, Nicolas Winter, and Aaron Zerhusen. We appreciate your generosity and support of our efforts to promote student research, experiential learning, and global engagement.

We wish to express sincere thanks to Pete Peterson in the Office of Information Technology and Becky Lopez in the Office of Marketing and Communications, for their help in processing applications and preparing the URSCI and GLS program. We thank AEC Graphic Design assistant Lupe Juarez for the attractive promotional materials she designed for both the Expo and the Symposium.

We thank Alison Healy, AEC Office Manager, for her painstaking and efficient work on the publication for the Expo and Symposium. Our appreciation also goes to Dave Carlson, Scheduling and Events Services, for his inestimable help in the Expo and Symposium organization and set-up, and to Claressa Padilla, Dominican University Dining Services Catering Director, for the day's refreshments.

We would like to acknowledge the faculty members of the Honors Committee for all they do to promote undergraduate scholarship at Dominican University.

We would also like to recognize the members of the URSCI RCAS Committee who give so generously of their time to ensure the continued excellence of URSCI initiatives: David Perry, URSCI Chair, and faculty committee members Daniel Anderson, Jose Blanco, Anjali Chaudhry, Molly Mansfield, Janice Monti, Kathleen Mullaney, and Sara Quinn

Finally, we thank Rosary College of Arts and Sciences Dean Jeffrey Carlson, Associate Provost David Krause, Provost Jeffrey Breese, and President Donna Carroll for their ongoing generous support of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Investigations and Academic Enrichment Center initiatives at Dominican University.

For more information, please see the URSCI page at <http://www.dom.edu/ursci/expo> and the Academic Enrichment Center page at <http://www.dom.edu/aec> .