5-15-2015

2015 Honors Student Conference: Spotlight on Research and Creativity

DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Honors Program Staff

Rose Spalding, Director
Nancy Grossman, Associate Director
Jennifer Kosco, Assistant Director
Briana Briscoe, Program Assistant

Honors Student Conference

Spotlight on Research and Creativity

DePaul University Honors Program

Friday, May 15, 2015
Student Center
Honors Conference Committee

Kevin Doherty, Communication (Honors Program Graduate)
Cathy Elias, Music
Nancy Grossman, Honors Program
Peter Hastings, Computer Science
Gregory Hutter, Music
Yevgenia Kashina, Mathematics
Laura Kina, History of Art & Architecture
Jennifer Kosco, Honors Program
Doug Long, First Year Programs
Helen Marlborough, Retired Honors Program Director
Jason Martin, Journalism
Yuki Miyamoto, Religious Studies
Christopher Mount, Religious Studies
Kristina Pouliot, Student Representative
Michael Raleigh, Writing, Rhetoric & Discourse
Bob Rotenberg, Anthropology
Jason Schneider, Writing, Rhetoric & Discourse
Rose Spalding, Honors Program Director
Phillip Stalley, Political Science
Valentina Tikoff, History
Chris Worthman, Education

6:00-6:50

**C3—GLOBALIZATION, EXCLUSION & IMMIGRATION**
Senior Thesis Presentations
6:00-6:50 – Room 380
Faculty Moderator: Phillip Stalley

Connor Kreger U.S. Immigration Policy
Thesis Director: Rose Spalding
Faculty Reader: Susana Martinez

Sara Mahoney Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement
Thesis Director: Kathryn Ibata-Arens
Faculty Reader: Phillip Stalley

Lukas Shadair UAV Proliferation in Latin American States
Thesis Director: Gil Gott
Faculty Reader: John Karam

Shaza Loutfi Radical Muslims: The Emergence of Political Divisions within the Muslim-American Community
Thesis Director: Molly Andolina
Faculty Reader: Scott Hibbard

Matthew Von Nida The Security of Europe’s Migrant Labor Market: An Analysis of Europeanization and Migration
Thesis Director: Kathleen Arnold
Faculty Reader: Shiera Malik

6:00-6:50

**C4—THE WRITTEN WORD**
Senior Thesis Presentations
6:00-6:50 – Room 324
Faculty Moderator: Jason Schneider

Savana Martin Undefeated: Writing as a Source of Hope
Thesis Director: Michele McCoy
Faculty Reader: Leah Neubauer

Katherine Martin The Role of Texts in Writing Center Tutoring
Thesis Director: Darsie Bowden
Faculty Reader: Michael Moore

Madeline Woods Wired Literacies: The Future of Libraries in the Digital Age
Thesis Director: Jason Kalin
Faculty Reader: Nichole Pinkard

Alexis Bugajski Hay Fever: An Exploration in Literature, Theatre, and Advertising
Thesis Director: Rebecca Cameron
Faculty Reader: Lauri Dietz

Micki Burton Resident Mr. Darcys: The Alternative British Masculinity in Hollywood Cinema
Thesis Director: Allison McCracken
Faculty Reader: Jennifer Conary
A Message from the Director

Welcome to the second Honors Student Conference: Spotlight on Research and Creativity. Over sixty students from the DePaul University Honors Programs will present their exciting and original work at this conference. Presentations will feature innovative arguments, distinctive interpretations, and ambitious research findings developed over the course of the year. Our conference allows the presenters to share what they’ve learned with a broad audience of fellow students, faculty, staff, family and friends. Thank you for joining us to cheer them on!

This conference showcases the work of forty-two outstanding Honors Program seniors who have taken “the road less traveled” and opted to complete their senior capstone requirement by producing a thesis. Honors thesis projects involve independent research and writing conducted across two quarters under the close supervision of a thesis director and a faculty reader. These innovative projects have been designed by some of our most visionary and ambitious honors seniors. Thesis students draw on questions, theories, frameworks, and ideas that emanate from their course work, and then add inspiration and fresh insight to produce original projects that expand our collective horizons.

In addition, nineteen other Honors students took up the challenge of applying for admission to the conference. They submitted some of their best work to the Honors Conference Selection Committee and met the benchmark for high-quality creative and scholarly work. Their projects have been organized into a series of panels and poster sessions moderated by Honors faculty. Please join us in also celebrating their fine work.

On behalf of the students whose work is featured at this conference, I want to thank the many DePaul faculty mentors who have given generously of their time and worked closely with the presenters to develop these exciting projects. Honors Program staff members Nancy Grossman, Jennifer Kosco, and Briana Briscoe deserve a special note of thanks for carrying out all of the behind-the-scenes work required to plan and organize an event of this magnitude, and doing it with such professionalism and grace. Finally, I want to thank interim Dean Lucy Rinehart, College of Liberal Arts and Social Science, for her enthusiastic support for this initiative.

Offering my heartfelt congratulations to all,
Rose Spalding
Professor, Political Science
Director, University Honors Program
### Honors Program:
#### Student Conference Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanna Alshaikh</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Islamic World Studies and Arabic Studies</td>
<td>B3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Anaza</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>International Studies and Arabic Studies</td>
<td>B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amelia Augustine</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Baigelman</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Environmental Studies</td>
<td>C2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Becerril</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>International Studies and Anthropology</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Bencomo</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Arabic Studies and Political Studies</td>
<td>C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Beuerlein</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Graphic Design</td>
<td>A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Bouche</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Boutros</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>Peace, Justice, &amp; Conflict Studies</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Brazen</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Bugajski</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>English and Public Relations &amp; Advertising</td>
<td>C4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip Burns</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micki Burton</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>C4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larena Code</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Music Education</td>
<td>B2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Creek</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avery Cunningham</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayla DeCant</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>A5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer DePoorter</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>English and Journalism</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carley Dubinski</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spencer Everett</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Physics and Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabel Flores</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Forloine</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Management</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makenzi Fricker</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>History of Art &amp; Architecture and Anthropology</td>
<td>A5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Fronckiel</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>A3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mallory Garrison</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Public Relations &amp; Advertising and Marketing</td>
<td>C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Grecco</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>C2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areej Hamdan</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>International Studies and Economics</td>
<td>C1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dane Hansen</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>C2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Harding</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences and Sociology</td>
<td>B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Jedry</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>French and English</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5:00-5:50

#### B3—RELIGIOUS CONSIDERATIONS

**Senior Thesis Presentations**

**5:00-5:50 — Room 380**

**Faculty Moderator:** Yuki Miyamoto

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Thesis Title</th>
<th>Thesis Director</th>
<th>Faculty Reader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanna Alshaikh</td>
<td>On the Erasure of Palestinian-Jewish Identity</td>
<td>John Karam</td>
<td>Khaled Keshk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsten Lopez</td>
<td>Ele a sen d’ume: Negotiating Human-Animal Boundaries in the Lais de France</td>
<td>Karen Scott</td>
<td>Jane Baxter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Morley</td>
<td>Father Edward McKenna’s Activism and Postconciliar Liturgical Contributions, 1958-1990</td>
<td>Christopher Tirres</td>
<td>Valentina Tikoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer McDunn</td>
<td>The Meaning of Christian Hymns in Light of the Teachings of the Bible</td>
<td>Steve Balderston</td>
<td>Katherine Brucher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B4—NEGOTIATING DEVELOPMENT & COLONIALITY

**Senior Thesis Presentations**

**5:00-5:50 — Room 324**

**Faculty Moderator:** Gene Beiriger

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Thesis Title</th>
<th>Thesis Director</th>
<th>Faculty Reader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Anaza</td>
<td>‘Knowing’ Africa: Corruption, Development, and Anticolonial Thought</td>
<td>Shiera Malik</td>
<td>Clement Adibe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amelia Augustine</td>
<td>Representations in Russian-Language Media in the Baltic States</td>
<td>Jason Schneider</td>
<td>Laura Urbaszewski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Brazen</td>
<td>Rural Poverty Reduction: Chile from 1970 to 1990</td>
<td>Rose Spalding</td>
<td>Gabriella Bucci</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Harding</td>
<td>Advertising Organic</td>
<td>Deena Weinstein</td>
<td>Catherine May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Witry</td>
<td>Reading the Post-Soviet Political Geography: Moving Beyond an East-West Binary</td>
<td>Shiera Malik</td>
<td>Alex Papadopoulus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5:00-5:50

**B1—STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS**
5:00-5:50 – Room 316
Faculty Moderator: Chris Mount

**Angela Bouche**
High-Altitude Balloon Platform for Determining Regional Uptake of Carbon Dioxide over Agricultural Landscapes
Instructor: Mark Potosnak

**Emily Creek**
Films in Malta: How an Up-and-Coming Industry is Affecting Multilayered Facets of Gozitan and Maltese Communities
Instructor: Ginger Hofman

**Spencer Everett**
Detection of Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations in the Matter Power Spectrum
Instructor: Jesus Pando

**Zoe Krey**
Let Them Eat Bread: Bread and Circuses as a Superficial Means of Appeasement in Ancient Rome
Instructor: Elena Boeck

**Melanie Markay**
Gender and its Role in Race Relations
Instructor: Laura Kina

**Courtney Schum**
Confusion and Allure: “Exotic Beauty” and Mixed Race, a Photography Subject
Instructor: Laura Kina

**B2—FINDING VOICE**
Senior Thesis Presentations
5:00-5:50 – Room 325
Faculty Moderator: Gregory Hutter

**Larena Code**
Finding My Voice: A Hip-Hop Music Curriculum for Students of Diverse Backgrounds
Thesis Director: Horace Hall
Faculty Reader: Deborah Peot

**Robert Lark**
What Have We Learned? The Future of Music Education
Thesis Director: Erica Neidlinger
Faculty Reader: Horace Hall

**Dan Letchinger**
Compression: A Creative Understanding
Thesis Director: Jeff Kowalkowski
Faculty Reader: Horace Hall

**Nick Meryhew**
Anarchism Unfolding: The Politics of Improvisation
Thesis Director: Maria Acosta
Faculty Reader: Michael Lewanski

Connor Kreger, *Senior – International Studies – C3*
Zoe Krey, *Sophomore – Political Science and Public Relations & Advertising – B1*
Robert Lark, *Senior – Music Education – B2*
Seamus Leahy, *Senior – Media Cinema Studies – A4*
Dan Letchinger, *Senior – Public Relations & Advertising – B2*
Matthew Lithgow, *Senior – International Studies and Geography – C2*
Kirsten Lopez, *Senior – Anthropology – B3*
Shaza Loutfi, *Senior – Political Science and French – C3*
Sara Mahoney, *Senior – Political Science – C3*
Melanie Markay, *Senior – Finance – B1*
Savana Martin, *Senior – Health Sciences – C4*
Katherine Martin, *Senior – Writing, Rhetoric & Discourse – C4*
Jennifer McDunn, *Senior – Music Performance and Music Education – B3*
Joanna Mendoza, *Senior – Finance and Management – A3*
Nick Meryhew, *Senior – Music Performance – B2*
Yasmin Mitchel, *Freshman – Dramaturgy – A1*
Matthew Morley, *Senior – History and English – B3*
Kristina Pedersen, *Senior – Art, Media & Design – A5*
Kay Peterson, *Senior – Political Science – A1*
Lukas Shadair, *Senior – International Studies – C3*
Courtney Schum, *Junior – Costume Design – B1*
Samuel Schwindt, *Sophomore – Philosophy and Anthropology – A1*
Adam Syvertsen, *Senior – English – A1*
Kaitlynn Tracy, *Senior – Physics – C2*
Cynthia Toscano, *Sophomore – Intercultural Communication – C1*
Jessica Vodnik, *Senior – Communication & Media – A5*
Randi Vollrath, *Senior – Psychology and Economics – A3*
Matthew Von Nida, *Senior – International Studies – C3*
Stacey Wagner, *Senior – Mathematical Sciences – A5*
Sean Witry, *Senior – International Studies – B4*
Madeline Woods, *Senior – Writing, Rhetoric, & Discourse – C4*
Conference Schedule at a Glance

**3:00-3:30**  
**Registration** – Student Center, Third Floor

**3:40-3:50**  
**Welcoming Remarks** – Room 325  
Rose Spalding, Director, University Honors Program  
Lucy Rinehart, Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

**4:00-7:00**  
All student posters on display – Room 314  
Refreshments – Third Floor Lobby

**4:00-4:50**  
**Student Paper Panels**  
A1: Literary Experiences – Room 312  
A2: Social Constructions – Room 313  
**Senior Thesis Presentations**  
A3: Entrepreneurial Innovation – Room 325  
A4: Creativity & Imagination – Room 380  
A5: Representations – Room 324

**5:00-5:50**  
**Posters Presentations**  
B1: Student Poster Presentations – Room 316  
**Senior Thesis Presentations**  
B2: Finding Voice – Room 325  
B3: Religious Considerations – Room 380  
B4: Negotiating Development & Coloniality – Room 324

**6:00-6:50**  
**Student Paper Panel**  
C1: Economic and Geopolitical Debates – Room 312  
**Senior Thesis Presentations**  
C2: Science & Sustainability – Room 325  
C3: Globalization, Exclusion & Immigration – Room 380  
C4: The Written Word – Room 324

**4:00-4:50**  
**A5—REPRESENTATIONS**  
Senior Thesis Presentations  
4:00-4:50 – Room 324  
Faculty Moderator: Laura Kina

Makenzi Fricker  
**The City Lived**  
Thesis Director: Mark Pohlad  
Faculty Reader: Cheryl Bachand

Kayla DeCant  
**The Language of Rape Culture**  
Thesis Director: Bob Rotenberg  
Faculty Reader: Monika Black

Kristina Pedersen  
**Art Is Over: A Manifesto**  
Thesis Director: Zack Ostrowski  
Faculty Reader: Greg Scott

Jessica Vodnik  
**The Fleece of their Flock: Homespun and the American Identity**  
Thesis Director: Amy Tyson  
Faculty Reader: John Burton

Stacey Wagner  
**A Colonial-Medical Continuum: Understanding the Emergence and Enforcement of the Gender Binary**  
Thesis Director: Heather Rakes  
Faculty Reader: Robin Mitchell
**A3—ENTREPRENEURIAL INNOVATION**  
Senior Thesis Presentations  
4:00-4:50 – Room 325  
Faculty Moderator: Peter Hastings

Carley Dubinski  
*How the Digital Market is Changing Anti-Trust*  
Thesis Director: Gabriella Bucci  
Faculty Reader: Gil Gott

Kevin Fronckiel  
*I nnovation Among Creative Business Enterprises*  
Thesis Director: Terri Lonier  
Faculty Reader: Mary Vermillion

Nicole Beuerlein  
*Creating Clarity: Safer Edible Product Packaging Initiative*  
Thesis Director: Dolores Wilber  
Faculty Reader: Amy Schwartz

Joanna Mendoza  
*Intrinsic Value of Socially Responsible Investing*  
Thesis Director: Ali Fatemi  
Faculty Reader: Sanjay Deshmukh

Randy Vollrath  
*A Retrospective Analysis of a Short-Term Social T-Shirt Venture*  
Thesis Director: Patrick Murphy  
Faculty Reader: Terri Lonier

**A4—CREATIVEITY & IMAGINATION**  
Senior Thesis Presentations  
4:00-4:50 – Room 380  
Faculty Moderator: Bob Rotenberg

Avery Cunningham  
*Titans and Men: A Novel*  
Thesis Director: Rebecca Johns-Trissler  
Faculty Reader: Megan Heffernan

Jennifer DePoorter  
*The Boy on my Bus: A Novella*  
Thesis Director: Nancy Grossman  
Faculty Reader: Kathryn Grant

Isabel Flores  
*Fishing For Monsters: A Novella*  
Thesis Director: David Welch  
Faculty Reader: Richard Jones

Seamus Leahy  
*Dal Segno (From the Sign On)*  
Thesis Director: Robert Steel  
Faculty Reader: Timothy Peternel

**Schedule of Conference Sessions**

**A1—LITERARY EXPERIENCES**  
Student Paper Presentations  
4:00-4:50 – Room 312  
Faculty Moderator: Helen Marlborough

Samuel Schwindt  
*Gay Harlem: The Homosexual Subculture of the Harlem Renaissance*  
Instructor: Leah Lopez

Adam Syvertsen  
*The European American: Hawthorne and the Early Nineteenth Century American Identity*  
Instructor: Marcy Dinius

Kay Peterson  
*Representations of Interracial Marriage Through Film: Exploring “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” and “Our Family Wedding”*  
Instructor: Laura Kina

Yasmin Mitchel  
*Thomas Kyd: “The Spanish Tragedy” – The First of its Kind*  
Instructor: William O’Connor

Elena Becerril  
*James Luna: The Romantization of the American Indian*  
Instructor: Laura Kina

**A2—SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONS: MORALITY, LEGALITY, & MORTALITY**  
Student Paper Presentations  
4:00-4:50 – Room 313  
Faculty Moderator: Michael Raleigh

Alexandria Boutros  
*Still Separated and Still Not Equal: The Effects of Early Education on the School to Prison Pipeline*  
Instructor: Michael Raleigh

Philip Burns  
*Marijuana Criminalization: Moral Imperative or Monetary Woe?*  
Instructor: Martha Martinez

Alexander Forloine  
*The Preservation of Memory: From Memorials to Memoirs – The Different Ways in Which Memories Are Kept Alive*  
Instructor: Gene Beiriger

Jordan Jedry  
*Funerary Practices in Pagan Rome*  
Instructor: Elena Boeck