Learning
Creating
Observing

Bright Ideas Among the Stars

WRHC 40th Annual Conference

April 11-13, 2013

Northern Arizona University
High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff, AZ
Drury Inn and Suites
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Welcome to the 2013 Western Regional Honors Council Conference

It is my privilege to welcome you to Flagstaff and Northern Arizona University for the WRHC’s 40th annual conference.

The coordinating committee and I believe that this conference is one that will stimulate your interest, spark your creativity, and have you talking about Flagstaff and this conference for the next several years.

The presentation proposals were impressive in both their depth and breadth. Session topics cover a wide variety—from literature to politics, from popular culture to history, from science and mathematics to the arts, from environmentalism to education. A number of sessions also will cover the administrative side of Honors, showcasing both successful programs and newly implemented ideas alike.

Our conference would not be complete without some activities in addition to the outstanding presentation sessions. The conference begins Thursday evening with our Flagstaff As-Text project, orienting you to our city of Flagstaff. Who lives here? What do the people who live here do? What is Flagstaff really like? Our Welcome Session officially kicks-off the conference with Bryan Bates, an archaeoastronomer who will discuss the astronomy of Native Southwestern Cultures.

On Friday evening, join the Scribendi staff for their reception beginning at 5 p.m. with some light refreshments, and then be sure to go to our Lowell Observatory excursion. Buses leave from the Conference Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. and will run continuously between the observatory and the Conference Center about every 10 minutes until 9 p.m. A special presentation, open exhibits, and an open telescope are highlights of this visit. Let’s hope for clear skies!

The poster session from 8-10:30 a.m. Saturday morning is another must see, as close to 40 students present their ideas and research in the ‘pre-function’ hallway outside of the Humphreys room in the conference center. The conference concludes with our keynote speaker, Ken Herkenhoff, a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey here in Flagstaff. Ken has been involved in instrumentation and mapping of the Mars rover projects and will talk about what we can learn from such ventures as well as determine future direction.

This year’s conference is well-represented by both community colleges and four-year colleges and universities; by public and private institutions; and by both Honors programs and colleges—some quite new and others that have been in existence for decades.

I look forward to sharing our conference center, our beautiful NAU campus and Flagstaff community, and our bright ideas with you over the next few days. Please stop by our conference registration table in the conference center if you run into any questions you need answered about Flagstaff, if you are looking for a restaurant that serves great local fare, or if you just want to chat for a bit.

Glenn Hansen, Conference Coordinator
General Information

WRHC REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION TABLE
Please check in with the WRHC Registration and Information Table to obtain your conference badge, program, and other conference materials.

Thursday night registration will occur in the Drury Inn and Suites. Friday and Saturday Registration will take place in the High Country Conference Center Lobby.

Staff and Conference Volunteers will be available at the WRHC Registration and Information Table throughout the conference to answer your questions about Flagstaff or Northern Arizona or assist with conference-related matters.

CONFERENCE BADGES & LUNCHEON TICKETS
Conference attendees must wear their official conference badges to be admitted to conference events, including all meals, all sessions, and all special venues. Badges and luncheon tickets are provided with the conference registration materials you receive at check-in at the WRHC Registration and Information Table. Badges and luncheon tickets may not be transferred. Replacing lost badges requires an additional fee of $50.00 that must be paid at the time the badge is replaced. Should your travel plans cause you to miss the luncheon, we request that you return your lunch tickets at your earliest convenience so we have an accurate count of attendees for serving purposes.

PARKING
Parking is provided at no cost to conference attendees. Be sure to take a ticket at the gate to the parking garage adjacent to the conference center. This ticket MUST be validated by the conference center staff at the front desk in order to permit your vehicle to exit without a fee. Please be sure to validate your parking ticket early. Each ticket must be validated for exit at no charge.

SOCIAL NETWORKING
For updates on the conference, follow us on Twitter @WRHC2013. Friend the conference on Facebook for updates too!

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION
In the event of an emergency at the conference site, please dial the front desk at 928-523-9521 or dial 911.

A/V
Should problems arise with A/V equipment, call or text 928-275-2327 for assistance. It is recommended if using A/V equipment for you presentation, you test your presentation ahead of time. Rooms will be open through breakfasts, breaks, and lunch.

ABOUT THE WRHC
The Western Regional Honors Council (WRHC) is a professional organization of faculty, administrators, and students dedicated to the promotion and advancement of undergraduate honors education. The WRHC represents honors programs in universities across the Western region.

The objective of this council shall be the promotion and advancement of honors and similar programs in Western colleges and universities.
About NAU and Flagstaff

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
Northern Arizona University has a student population of about 26,000 at its main campus in Flagstaff, in on-line degree programs, and at over 35 sites across the state.

NAU combines the features and benefits of a large institution with a personal touch that has been its special hallmark for decades. Carefully balancing teaching, research, and service, NAU caters to both its dedicated scholars as well as its students, whose success the university takes very seriously.

NAU emphasizes undergraduate education, but you will also find a wide range of graduate programs and research that extend to such national concerns as forest health and bioterrorism. In addition, NAU has carefully integrated on-campus education with distance learning, forming seamless avenues for students to earn degrees.

FLAGSTAFF
Flagstaff is a friendly city with a population of about 57,000. It is nestled at the base of the majestic San Francisco Peaks—about 140 miles north of Phoenix at the intersection of Interstate 17 and Interstate 40.

With its elevation of 7,000 feet and four-season climate, Flagstaff is ideal for year-round outdoor activities.

Nearby attractions include the Grand Canyon, Lowell Observatory, Oak Creek Canyon, Sedona, Monument Valley, Sunset Crater, Meteor Crater, and Arizona Snowbowl. More information about area attractions and things to do in Flagstaff is available at the WRHC Registration and Information Table.

HIGH COUNTRY CONFERENCE CENTER
For your convenience, a business center is located on the first floor. The business center provides conference attendees with fax and internet capabilities. Limited printing is available in the Business Center. Should you need more copies than allotted in the Business Center, the conference center main desk can also provide additional print copies at $0.10 per copy. Also, the entire conference center is set up with wireless internet.
Special Conference 
Events and Features

FLAGSTAFF-AS-TEXT
Conference attendees will have the chance to get to know Flagstaff by participating in a Flagstaff-as-Text experience beginning at 4:00pm on Thursday, April 11. Pick up more information at the WRHC Registration and Information Table in the Drury Inn and Suites O’Learly Room.

WELCOME SESSION
Join us as we formally kick off our conference during the continental breakfast on Friday. Breakfast is available at 7:30am and remarks begin at 8:00. Bryan Bates, archaeoastronomer, will discuss the astronomy of Native Southwestern Cultures.

SCRIBENDI RECEPTION
The annual Scribendi Reception will be held at 5:00 pm on Friday, April 12 in the Humphreys Ballroom. Please plan to attend to celebrate the accomplishments of the students throughout our region who will be published in this year’s edition of Scribendi. Congratulations to this year’s award winners:

Adrian Carcione Grace Ryan
Carlie Derouin Matt Ryder
Ariel Peterson Enid Spitz

LOWELL OBSERVATORY VISIT
Meet busses at Hight Country Conference Center beginning at 6:30pm. Busses depart for, and return from, Lowell Observatory every 10 minutes. Last bus from Lowell leaves at 9pm.

NCHC POSTER SESSION
The Poster Session has been scheduled for Saturday, April 12 from 8:00-10:30am in the Prefunction Hallway. Sponsored by NCHC.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Ken Herkenhoff, geologist with the United States Geological Survey will be speaking on “Mars Rovers: Past, Present and Future” at the luncheon on Saturday, April 12 from 12:30-2:00pm.
Welcome Speaker

Bryan Bates

While living on the Navajo Reservation, Bryan began watching the skies and sharing his experience with Navajo kids, who then shared their sky stories with him. This sparked his interest in the astronomy of native societies. When working at a therapeutic high school in Idaho, he and his students reconstructed a full-scale model of Stonehenge. At Wupatki National Monument, he recovered the significance of an ancestral Puebloan calendar wall which he will share with us today. He continued with research on Fajada Butte at Chaco Canyon National Historical Park, confirming the lunar standstill shadows on the “Sun Dagger” site.

Chair of the 7th Oxford International Conference on Archaeoastronomy (2004), Bryan was also the co-editor of the conference proceedings *Viewing the Sky through Past & Present Culture* and later co-editor of the 2010 edition of *Journal of Astronomy in Culture* covering both technical research aspects and research results on archaeoastronomy in the Southwest. Most recently, he contributed to the *Handbook on Archaeoastronomy*, a worldwide review of cultural astronomy, with an article on research results and techniques related to rock art.

As his “regular job”, Bryan teaches Archaeoastronomy, Biology, Chemistry and Environmental Science at Coconino Community College. During the summer, Bryan is an interpretive naturalist *National Geographic* (designated “Expert Naturalist”, 2008), Smithsonian (“Expert”, 2011) National Wildlife Federation, the American Association for Advancement of Science, and numerous other organizations. He is a nominee for the VIOLA awards “Outstanding Science Instructor.” Currently, he is involved with Flagstaff Festival of Science, the Friends of Flagstaff Future’s water subcommittee to address issues related to reclaimed water and potential ecological health effects. He is also a science advisor to US Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ).

Bryan lives in a 2-story, recycling solar hogan that he designed and built with his wife Barbara and their daughter. His interest lies in helping others enjoy and explore life. That’s why he chooses to be part of the greatest profession—teaching.
Ken Herkenhoff has been interested in photography since he was a child, and now specializes in imaging Mars. His love of the outdoors led him to study geology and earn a Bachelor’s degree in that subject at the University of California, Berkeley in 1981. After working for a few months in a geostatistics group at Fluor Mining and Metals, he returned to school to study planetary science at Caltech. He recalibrated the Mariner 9 cameras and used the improved images to study the south polar layered deposits on Mars, which are thought to record climate variations on Mars that are similar to ice ages on Earth. He earned a doctorate in Planetary Sciences at Caltech in 1989.

Ken was a post-doctoral researcher at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena for two years, where he continued geologic mapping of the south polar region of Mars and studied the photometry of Mars and its satellites. He was hired as a research scientist at JPL in 1991 and became involved in several planetary missions, including Mars Observer, Cassini, and Mars Pathfinder. The success of Mars Pathfinder and its Sojourner rover led to his involvement in the Mars Exploration Rover missions as science lead for the Microscopic Imagers. These larger rovers landed on Mars in January 2004; Opportunity continues to explore Mars today. In 1998 he moved from JPL to the U. S. Geological Survey’s Astrogeology Science Center in Flagstaff, Arizona, where he currently works as a research geologist. Ken is a Co-Investigator on the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter mission, serving as Polar Geology science theme lead. He is also a Co-Investigator on the Mars Science Laboratory Mastcam/MAHLI/MARDI and ChemCam science teams; MSL landed on August 5, 2012 and is now exploring Gale crater on Mars.

Ken has published over 120 papers and over 150 abstracts as first or co-author on various topics including the impact origin of Upheaval Dome (Utah), light scattering in Mars’ atmosphere, and Phobos photometry. But most of his work has focused on the design, calibration, and operation of cameras on Mars spacecraft.
MAPS

High Country Conference Center
Conference Schedule at-a-glance

Thursday, April 11, 2013

3:00-7:00 pm  Registration Drury Inn and Suites
4:00-5:30 pm  Flagstaff-As-Text Experience

Friday, April 12, 2013

7:00 am-4:00 pm  Registration continues, Conference Center Lobby
7:30-10:30 am  Continental Breakfast
8:00-8:30 am  Welcome Session
8:40-9:30 am  Presentation Session 1
9:40-10:30 am  Presentation Session 2
10:40-11:30 am  Presentation Session 3
11:30 am-1:00 pm  Lunch on Your Own
1:00-1:50 pm  Presentation Session 4
2:00-2:50 pm  Presentation Session 5
3:00-3:50 pm  Presentation Session 6
4:00-4:50 pm  Presentation Session 7
5:00-6:30  Scribendi Reception
7:00-9:00 pm  Dinner on Your Own

Lowell Observatory, buses depart Conference Center beginning at 6:30

Saturday, April 13, 2013

7:30-11:00 am  Registration continues
7:30-10:30 am  Continental Breakfast
8:00-10:30 am  Poster Session
8:30-9:20 am  WRHC Business Meeting
9:30-10:20 am  Presentation Session 8
10:30-11:20 am  Presentation Session 9
11:30 am-12:20 pm  Presentation Session 10
12:30-2:00 pm  Luncheon with Keynote Speaker, Conference Closing
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Humphreys</th>
<th>Doyle</th>
<th>Rees</th>
<th>Agassiz</th>
<th>Fremont</th>
<th>O'Leary</th>
<th>Kendrick</th>
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<td>7:30-10:30</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
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<td>8:00-8:30</td>
<td>Conference Welcome and Opening Speaker</td>
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<td>8:40-9:30</td>
<td>New Wedding Bells: How One Organization Changed the Face of Gay Rights in Argentina</td>
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<td>11:30-1:00</td>
<td>Lunch On Your Own</td>
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<td>1:00-1:50</td>
<td>Dangerous But Worthwhile: An Archetypal Analysis of J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit and The Lord of The Rings</td>
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<td>2:00-2:50</td>
<td>Bond Girls, Bond Villains, and Bond, James Bond: The Issue Behind the Icons (2:00-3:50)</td>
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### Friday

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<td>4:00-4:50</td>
<td>Honors Pathways: A Bright Option for Completing Honors</td>
<td>Detecting Water Contaminants Using Spectral Analysis</td>
<td>The Human Cost of Cheap Coal</td>
<td>A Question of Question: The Effect of Methodology and Structure on Critical Literary Analysis</td>
<td>The Beginnings of Mathematical Deduction by Induction</td>
<td>Exploring a Link Between Vaccines and Autism</td>
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#### 5:00-6:30
- **Scribendi Reception—Humphreys Ballroom**
- **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**

### Saturday

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<th>Kendrick</th>
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<td>7:30-8:30</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Poster Session (Humphreys Room and Pre-Function hallway)</td>
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<td>8:00-10:30</td>
<td>WHRC Business Meeting (Fremont Room)</td>
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<td>9:30-10:20</td>
<td>Malicious JavaScript in Cyberspace</td>
<td>Just Once: A Public Service Tragedy</td>
<td>Interdisciplinarily Beyond the Classroom</td>
<td>The War on Sex</td>
<td>The Holocaust Project</td>
<td>The Impact Stress has on Fine Motor Skills and Reaction Time</td>
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<td>11:30-12:20</td>
<td>What a Feminist Looks Like</td>
<td>The Rise of Communism in Vietnam</td>
<td>Science and Art: Amazingly Improbable: A Retrospective of Women in DC Comics</td>
<td>Get Involved: Learn, Create, and Learn the World Outside the Classroom</td>
<td>The Rare Earth Hypothesis: Searching for Life Outside Our Home Planet</td>
<td>Children’s Use of the Scientific Method and if Technology Hinders this Process</td>
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<td>12:30-2:00</td>
<td>LUNCH and KEYNOTE SPEAKER — HUMPHREYS ROOM</td>
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Friday, April 12, 2013
session one: 8:40-9:30 am

Shirley Gutierrez, Central Arizona College  
*Vaquera Rover*

Kendrick

The vaquera rover is a robot created to simulate the rovers sent into space. It is about five feet in length and about three feet in width, made of welded medal and assembled using rivets and nails. It currently has four motors and two battery sources.

ShawnaLee Washam, Aims Community College  
*Brilliant Bursts And Black Holes: Genesis Of Honors Work In A Community College*

O’Leary

Additional Presenter: Desiree McConnell

Honors work at Aims Community College involves deeper faculty–student conversation outside of the classroom and student engagement in local or broad/regional community activities that focus on either service learning, leadership, or expanded research. Examples of our Honors Contract, star student projects, and efforts at engaging students/faculty will be presented.

Corey Polster, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
*Beyond Mere Deterministic Modeling, The Random-Walk And The Foundational Mathematics Of Randomness*

Fremont

Science and mathematics are not limited to describing deterministic processes; rather math, with proper effort, can be appropriated to yield a model, for random behavior too. The random walk is among the simplest of such models yet it is still fairly cumbersome, thus this presentation will seek to make accessible some interesting esoteric results that come from statistical modeling of time–related processes.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session one: 8:40-9:30 am

Kyle Bishop, Southern Utah University
*30 Days Of Experiential Education*
Agassiz

Additional Presenters: Jacob Anderson, Austin Clark, Adrianne Cottam, Laurel Jefferies

My recent Honors English composition course asked students to embark on 30–day long lifestyle experiments. To learn more about a topic or debate they were concurrently researching, the students changed their behavior and kept careful track of their results, using journals and video logs. Each had results that directly affected their understanding of the material, sometimes confirming their secondary research, but not always. Ultimately, we want to demonstrate how practical, experiential learning needs to be considered in addition to traditional book learning and secondary research.

Jacob Anderson, Southern Utah University
*A Vegan Enlightening*
Agassiz

Following Morgan Spurlock’s concept of *Super-Size Me*, I spent thirty days trying to consume only vegan foods to try and improve my diet, experimenting whether veganism is a logical lifestyle for college students. My efforts revealed how expenses and availability of vegan food are issues in Cedar City.

Austin Clark, Southern Utah University
*The Significance Of Music*
Agassiz

I immersed myself in music for 30 days in which I conducted an experiment to understand how different types of music altered my mood and whether listening to music helped or hurt my studying. I wanted to implement this experiment because of debates over the credibility of Mozart’s effects on work habits.
Adrianne Cottam, Southern Utah University
*My Beliefs Affect What?*
Agassiz

How much does religion affect day-to-day life? In order to find out I spent 30 days testing religious my own religious beliefs. The goal was to test how other aspects of my life changed as religious activity increased. The results show religion affects more than faith and prayers.

Laurel Jefferies, Southern Utah University
*It Really Does Matter: My Ideas And Gained Knowledge Of Appreciation And The Lack Thereof In Our Society*
Agassiz

For 30 days, I wrote hand-written letters of appreciation to people on my university’s campus. I did this because I have come to the realization (before and during the project) that our society doesn’t know how to show appreciation and many of its problems arise from this.

Seth Donahue, Flathead Valley Community College
*The Effects Of Killing On Soldiers*
Rees

Shoot to kill. This is what the modern-day infantryman is trained to do, and this skill is executed with a grisly precision. The military knows how to train killers. But at what cost is a soldier created from everyday young men and women?

Andrew Hart, Flathead Valley Community College
*Private Military Corporations: A Threat To American Democracy*
Rees

The conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have brought into the spotlight the possible implications of the privatization of warfare. With modern conflicts having evolved to include the business models of large, for-profit mercenary corporations, the monopoly of force that has been traditionally wielded by sovereign nations is under threat.
Annalise Gardella, University of Nevada, Reno
New Wedding Bells Ring: How One Organization Changed The Face Of Gay Rights In Argentina

Doyle

This presentation provides a history of the gay rights movement in Argentina. It focuses on the lead organization in the gay rights movement in Argentina, the Federación Argentina LGBT (FALGBT), and how this organization worked to influence public opinion prior to the passage of gay marriage in 2010.

Andrew Levine, Western Wyoming Community College

Love Beyond Being: The Importance Of Reciprocation In Fostering True Love

Doyle

Love is considered to be one of man's greatest emotions, and true love has been the subject of poems, novels, discussions, movies, and the arts. However, true love may be something different from mere attraction between two people. Come and learn what poets and philosophers have had to say about the nature of love, and how you can foster true love relationships through reciprocity.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session two: 9:40-10:30 am

Brianne Ryan, Central Arizona College
_Raising Cultural Awareness Through American Tribal Style Belly Dancing_

Kendrick

Through non-verbal communication methods, this research aims to raise cultural awareness and acceptance worldwide of certain cultural practices. Over one million tribal people are losing their land and way of life due to outside circumstances. By using the American Tribal Style form of belly dance, one can determine the basis of raising cultural awareness.

Sandra Gentsch, Mesa Community College
_Skeletal Muscle Protein Metabolism_

O’Leary

Protein is a macronutrient required for life and has gained popularity in literature due to our ability to regulate the amount of intake through diet, and thus regulate rates of synthesis and breakdown. However, current recommendations require further evaluation when observed in conjunction with the myriad variables that contribute to protein’s metabolism and may change these rates.
George Mariz, Western Washington University
*East/West/Is One Better Or Best*
Fremont
Additional Presenters: Nicole Jennings, Tobias Osterhaug, Claire Tyler, Kayla Thomas

Highly competitive private colleges and universities, e.g., the Ivy League, are known for their superb academic quality. Do they offer a discernibly better education than an honors program? The members of this panel will recount their experiences in an honors program on the West Coast and will discuss whether or not one of these private institutions might have offered them a better opportunity for higher education or affected their job prospects. They will share their own individual definitions of academic success and success more generally – definitions formed in and by their collaborative, not competitive honors experiences.

Timothy Morrise, Southern Utah University
*Coming Closer To Islam*
Agassiz
Additional Presenter: Chelsea Kimpton

Embracing Diversity: An Economic Approach

This presentation explores diversity and the effects of culture on diversity. In conjunction with a series of interviews comes a look at how, through the lens of economic game theory analysis, universities can come to recognize the importance of fostering diversity and multicultural understanding in their academic environments.

Inshallah and God Bless

This presentation is about how one student for set out to live as a practicing Muslim for thirty days. She notes, “I experienced the food, the culture, the ideas, their beliefs, and the most challenging: their society. By learning about a culture completely opposite to mine, I saw we were more the same than different.”
Friday, April 12, 2013
session two: 9:40-10:30 am

Matthew Altman, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College
Making Interdisciplinary Courses Work: Strategies For Honors College Directors
Rees

Using Central Washington University’s honors curriculum as a touchstone, I explore both the benefits and challenges of administering a program of interdisciplinary courses. I also discuss a variety of strategies to facilitate their development by honors faculty, and to encourage chairs and administrators to support such a program.

Darien Ripple, Chandler Gilbert Community College
Chandler Gilbert Community College Environmental Technology Center: A Sense Of Place
Rees
Additional Presenters: Kendra Stanger

This paper will focus on a variety of honors projects that have extended over several semesters at the Chandler Gilbert Community College Environmental Technology Center (ETC). The ETC is a two-acre evolving outdoor laboratory designed for students to practice and apply theories connected to courses.

Brenna Pritchard, Metropolitan State University of Denver
The Study Of German War Guilt Over Time
Doyle

This presentation examines of academic opinion on German war guilt in World War I from the Treaty of Versailles to the 21st Century, concluding with an identification of German Unification as a pivotal event on the path to the Great War.
This paper explores the problem of insufficiently recognized culturally traumatic events -- for example, genocide, undisclosed release of toxins, internment of Japanese Americans -- and what can be done to heal the community after a traumatic event. It draws conclusions based on an analysis of works of philosophy, psychology, history, and fiction.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session three: 10:40-11:30 am

Jessica Terry, Central Arizona College
*Military Related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)*

Kendrick

Post–Traumatic Stress Disorder stems from a traumatic event where the sufferer re–experiences the negative event and endures multiple physical and psychological symptoms which impact his or her quality of life. This project explores the therapies and medications that help people cope with the disorder.

Scott Barks, Colorado Mesa University
*Cambodia: History And Tragedy Of The Sex Trade*

O’Leary

The Southeast Asian country of Cambodia has become accustomed to oppression in its severely marred history. Under tyranny of the Khmer Rouge following the Vietnam War, Cambodians lived in terror. That era, along with the introduction of communist ideology, has led to Cambodia’s largest contemporary social problem—the sex trade.

Austin Evans, University of New Mexico
*The Publication Process: Regional Arts Journals In Action*

Fremont

Additional Presenter: Amy Sullivan, Rebecca Henderson, Sara Crespin, Josh Catalano

Regional arts journals play important roles in the celebration of undergraduate creativity and expression. Join Scribendi and the CU Honors Journal as editors outline their respective submission processes, evaluation techniques, daily logistics, operating costs, fundraising, and the many benefits that these creative publications offer their communities.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session three: 10:40-11:30 am

Nicole Connolly, Chapman University
Dumb, Expensive Kids: The Failures Of The U.S. Public Education System
Agassiz

The United States can learn much from Finland when it comes to public education. The students face less time in school, less homework, and less testing, yet consistently rate first in the world in math, reading, and science proficiency. How can the U.S. make this success its own?

Madeline Friend, Northern Arizona University
Experiential Education: The Tipping Point Between Learning And Truly Understanding
Agassiz

Experiential education — also known as field-based learning, service learning, and hands-on learning — incorporates a multitude of disciplines and encompasses a multi-faceted approach to education. Through this interactive presentation, I highlight and utilize experiential methods in order to encourage educators, learners, and the public on the value of holistic pedagogy.

Malori Crossley, Southern Utah University
Storyboarding Huck Finn: Teaching Theme And Plot Via Instagram
Rees

Is it possible to engage students and use social media in the classroom today to create an effective, engaging academic learning environment? Yes! Come learn about the possibilities that social networking can provide in the classroom for students and teachers. Think beyond the black and white textbook—think in full-color Instagram.
Jennifer Raby, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
*Adolescent Truancy And Juvenile Delinquency: Testing Differential Oppression Theory*  
Doyle  
This study will focus on testing Robert Regoli and John Hewitt’s theory of differential oppression in an attempt to understand habitual truancy as a rational response to systemic repression via the warehousing of students in our education system.

Scott Perkins, Central Washing University William O. Douglas Honors College  
*Secondary Deviance*  
Doyle  
The U.S. has a recidivism problem. Many believe it is due to labels we attach to criminals. Such disintegrative shaming causes offenders to believe they can only be criminals and reoffend. I explore how labeling theory affects recidivism in criminals and how Reintegrative Shaming Theory is effective in reducing crime.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session four: 1:00-1:50 pm

Larissa Amador-Quinonez, Central Arizona College
Women’s Wear: What Goes Around Comes Around
Kendrick

The purpose of this project is to prove that a fashion cycle exists within women’s fashion and to figure out on average how many years it takes a trend to reappear. The cycle will begin with 1950’s women’s fashion. A fashion show using clothes from a thrift store will be the method used to prove the hypothesis.

Celia Lopez-Chavez, University of New Mexico
Discovering The Beat, Looking At The Southern Star: A Collaboration Across Hemispheres In A Latin American Music Course
O’Leary
Additional Presenter: Javier Lorenzo, Julia Youngs

It takes a semester to Tango! Classroom, cyberspace, and the field are the three learning spaces in this seminar that explore influences and elements in Latin American music in an interdisciplinary context. The collaboration of teachers across hemispheres makes it possible and the field study in Argentina puts all in perspective.

Fiorella Grandi, Washington State University
The Universe House: Exploring The Connection Between Science And The Arts.
Fremont

How do science and literature, the twin passions of the presenter, grapple with life, universe, and what it means to be human? “The Universe House,” the product of an Honors College short story course, follows the lives of a researcher and a writer involved in this perpetual dichotomy between science and the arts.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session four: 1:00-1:50 pm

Hal Bewley, Metropolitan State University of Denver
*Lingua Franca: The Soft Power And Cultural Benefits Of English As A Global Language*
Agassiz

With English being the Lingua Franca in today's shrinking world, what are the cultural and soft power (non-military) benefits to the United States and other English speaking countries? An examination of the rise of the English language as a world language and what it means for the future.

Peter Gibbins, Metropolitan State University of Denver
*Gandhian Civil Disobedience: Undermining The State With Peace*
Agassiz

This presentation examines Gandhian Civil Disobedience and how it relates to traditionally accepted philosophies on civil disobedience, namely the trial and death of Socrates and the model presented by John Rawls in his Theory of Social Justice. In many respects, these views don’t fully address what Gandhi was attempting.

Maryellen Diotte, California State University, Fullerton
*Rediscovery Of The American Literary Canon Through American Literature Anthologies*
Rees

American literature anthologies serve as a site for debate about the American literary canon. This collection of authors and their works that best represent American literature has changed as anthologies evolved throughout the years. I will examine early American literature anthologies and show how anthologization affects the canon's development.
Rochelle Rudd, Southern Utah University  
*Mythology And Western America*  
Rees  

As a young nation, America has been driven to create its own mythology. This drive is evident in America’s fascination with the Old West in art, literature, and entertainment. This presentation explores this mythologizing of the West, focusing on the era between the Civil War and World War II.

Alec Schmidt, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College  
*Social Science And The Law: The Influence Of Psychology And Criminology On The Eighth Amendment Jurisprudence Of The U.S. Supreme Court*  
Doyle  

The presentation examines the influence of social science on eighth amendment jurisprudence of the U.S. Supreme Court. The research suggests that while there is an influence of social science, there is also a lack of influence. This presents a conflict between empiricism and ideology that is discussed.

Glee Larsen, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College  
*Gesture Use By Free-Living Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes) Related To Partner Attentional State*  
Doyle  

Additional Presenter: Tracy L. Campion  

This study examined whether free–living chimpanzees adjusted their gestural communication according to whether their partner, another chimpanzee, was attentive or inattentive. Gestures can be auditory, tactile, or visual. Results indicate that the chimpanzees changed the type of gesture they used depending on the gaze (attentiveness) of the communicative partner.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session four: 1:00-1:50 pm

Mark Thomas, Azusa Pacific University
Dangerous But Worthwhile: An Archetypal Analysis Of J.R.R Tolkien’s The Hobbit And The Lord Of The Rings
Humphreys

Millions have loved reading J.R.R. Tolkien's work and seeing it made into incredible films. But does scholarly study help or hinder a reader experience Tolkien’s inherently complex world? This presentation argues that, through source-criticism and careful study, the reader can more deeply understand the story and participate in extemporaneous literary community.

Cristiana Wilcoxon, Chapman University
Harry Potter As A Global Business Phenomenon
Humphreys

With over 400 million copies sold, J.K. Rowling’s influential Harry Potter series did more than promote literacy—it changed the whole business of print publishing by demonstrating the power of word-of-mouth marketing in an online world.
Jordan Brunner, Central Arizona College  
*Modeling A Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) In Afghanistan*

Kendrick  
Additional Presenter: Desiree McConnell

The purpose of this project is to establish a blueprint for a government agency, modeled on the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), which will seek to regulate domestic agricultural markets in Afghanistan while simultaneously providing credit and financial support to farmers who are responsible for the products in these markets.

Margo Chavez-Charles, University of New Mexico  
*Interwoven Cultures*

O'Leary  
Additional Presenter: Julia Anderson

Interwoven Cultures: Examining the Connections between Systems of Inequality is a student teaching project designed by professor Margo Chavez-Charles and senior Julia Anderson, incorporating what they each felt were some of the most important but least discussed topics in social justice in Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Communications, and Peace Studies.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session five: 2:00-2:50 pm

Abdelrhman Mohamed, Washington State University
*The Energy Challenge: A Bioelectrochemical Engineering Perspective*
Fremont

Research in renewable energy focuses on new energy sources and development of energy-efficient alternatives to existing technologies. Microbial fuel cells allow inexpensive bioprocessing of wastewater and provide a power source for long-duration applications. Bio-electrochemical systems allow storing energy in chemical bonds, solving transport and storage challenges associated with electrical energy.

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Olivia Hirschey, Central Washington University
William O. Douglas Honors College
*Comparing The Role Of Humor In Eastern And Western Religions*
Agassiz

This paper compares the use of humor between religions in the East and the West. Humor is shown in these religions through their stories, myths, celebrations, and rituals. Overall, all of the religions considered share similarities in their acceptance of laughter in religion, whereas the distinction lies in which religion rejects laughter where the others do not.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session five: 2:00-2:50 pm

Jesse Hegstrom Oakey, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College
*The Human Nature Of Dogmatism*

Agassiz

Dogmatism is a fascinating and often misunderstood aspect of human nature – but is it a cultural inevitability? How does dogmatic belief arise, and is it a sign of stupidity? This presentation will try to define dogmatism, and then show how understanding it can help to combat and break it down.

Katie Walters, Colorado Mesa University
*Beauty And The Suitor: Examining Lady Montague’s Writing*

Rees

In this presentation, I will offer a close examination of several works by Lady Mary Wortley Montague. This examination will provide a lens, or a way of viewing her poem “Saturday; The Small-Pox,” as critiquing rather than condoning a woman’s lack of agency within her role in society.

Kristen Hair, Southern Utah University
*Sexuality And The Virgin Queen: The Gender Styling And Two Almost Marriages Of Elizabeth I*

Rees

Elizabeth’s courtships reveal a woman who wanted marriage but through her indecision failed to achieve matrimony. Ever the opportunist, she then fashioned herself the Virgin Queen and this image came to define her reign.

Diego Romero and Rebeca Herrera, Chapman University
*Conceiving Political Participation Among Indigenous People: The Achi And Ixil Of Guatemala*

Doyle

This project focuses attention on the determinants of political socialization uncovered and analyzed in our two in-country case studies in order to explain the results of Guatemala’s 2011 presidential election, which was won by a former, high-ranking military officer associated with civilian massacres of indigenous peoples during that country’s protracted armed conflict.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session five and six: 2:00-3:50 pm

Anne Scott, Northern Arizona University
*Bond Girls, Bond Villains, And “Bond, James Bond”: The Issues Behind The Icons*
Humphreys

*note: this is a double session
Additional Presenter: Johanna Saucedo, Margaret Landis Amanda Robinson, David Scandura Colton Ames, Alexis Rigoni Michelle Webber, Ryan Monahan

Bond films have entertained people for fifty years. This presentation shows how cultural, political, gender, and ethnic stereotypes shape the Bond Girl, Bond Villain, and Bond himself both in the films and in Ian Fleming’s novels. The presentation also illustrates that these representations have changed in response to audience taste and sensibilities.

Michelle Webber, Northern Arizona University
*The Perverse: Sociopathic Tendencies Of The Bond Villain*
Humphreys

I will be discussing the emphasis of the sadistic and the sociopathic as means to characterize Bond villains. Their lack of human compassion presents a fascinating dichotomy of depicting good versus evil, minimizing Bond’s flaws in comparison and, in essence, championing Bond as the clear hero.

Alexis Rigoni, Northern Arizona University
*Black Claws, Orange Sunburns, And White Cats: A Catalogue Of Villainous Props*
Humphreys

Bond films and novels revel in outrageous props for their villains, so bizarre that one might dismiss the villains as outlandish and ridiculous. However, this perverseness comes to symbolize quintessential evil and things that go bump in the night. Props from several Bond novels and films will be analyzed with this thesis in mind.
(Bond Girls, Bond Villains, And “Bond, James Bond” Continued)

David Scandura, Northern Arizona University
Raoul Silva: Reinventing Evil In Skyfall
Humphreys

Among its many reinterpretations of the James Bond franchise, Skyfall also brought a new villain to the franchise unlike any we have seen before: Raoul Silva. Javier Bardem’s thrilling performance creates a new Bond villain altogether; a villain with an intriguing past, a complex personality, and a personal vendetta that will shake James Bond’s world to the core.

Johanna Saucedo, Northern Arizona University
Bond Girl Or Bond Animal?
Humphreys

Ian Fleming tends to associate animalistic or instinctive behaviors and qualities with women in his espionage novels From Russia, With Love, Dr. No, and Goldfinger. In the films adaptations, their behaviors are reduced to the point where the Bond Girls are purely bodies present for Bond’s enjoyment.

Amanda Robinson, Northern Arizona University
Bond Girl Backstories
Humphreys

This segment of the larger Bond presentation deals specifically with the backstories of the Bond girls, what it reveals about their film personas (especially the early films), and what it reveals about Bond and his time period as the Bond Girl character is changed.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session five and six: 2:00-3:50 pm

(Bond Girls, Bond Villians, And “Bond, James Bond” Continued)

Margaret Landis, Northern Arizona University
Lesbian Bond Girls: Bond’s Greatest Challenge And Conquest
Humphreys

Lesbian Bond girls appear in many of the Fleming novels, but are portrayed much differently in the early Bond films. This difference in portrayal highlights differences in sensibility of the audience as well as reflecting the gendered narratives of the time.

Colton Ames, Northern Arizona University
M, Q, Moneypenny, and Leiter: Bond’s Close Associates
Humphreys

As a secret agent whose covert operations span the decades, James Bond requires the help of a network of scientists, associates, and other intelligence officers to accomplish his top secret goals. M., Q., Miss Moneypenny, and Felix Leiter all aid Agent 007, and Bond could certainly not pull off his daunting feats of espionage without their help. We see that not only do they do their work for Queen and Country, but they also do it for their sense of companionship with Bond, James Bond.

Ryan Monahan, Northern Arizona University
The James Bond Theme Song
Humphreys

Today, the music of the Bond films is synonymous with espionage and adventure. What started off as simple scoring to veritable ‘B’ movies has evolved into sweeping musical scores and iconic themes. What musical motifs are hidden within the scores? Why is Bond’s theme song so iconic? We’ll explore these issues in a short presentation as part of our Bond, James Bond segment.
Mayra Gutierrez, Central Arizona College
*The Relationship Between Hispanic Voters’ Behaviors And Campaigns In The 2012 Elections*

Kendrick

Diversity in politics has the power to influence the fate of minority groups as well as the success of society as a whole. This venture examines if efforts from social-political campaigns have affected the Hispanic/Latino voter turnout and their voting behavior in regard to Arizona's 2012 November elections.

Sean Miller, University of Wyoming
*Frat Boys, Slampieces, Sororitates Oh My! : Effects Of Media Societal Archetypes On Fraternal Organizations At Omega University*

Fremont

This presentation will discuss media influence i.e. television and film on fraternity and sorority member’s image and stereotypes. Presentation will discuss interview process, excerpts from interview questions, and will have a Q&A session after the presentation.

Laura Hatch, Brigham Young University
*Dürer's Window: The Renaissance Problem Of Seeing The World Through Perspective-Colored Glasses*

Agassiz

I am studying the philosophical implications of linear perspective in Renaissance art. Linear perspective has long been understood by artists and theorists as a specific artistic technique, but my research is an exploration of what linear perspective represents in terms of how human beings construct and represent knowledge.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session six: 3:00-3:50 pm

Phoebe Gildea, Chapman University
Death, Resurrection, And The Power Of Music
Agassiz

The power of music was exalted in ancient Greece; this is shown in the Orpheus myth, in which music even conquers death. Come explore resurrection mythologies, from Persephone to Buffy, then focus on Orpheus and discover the role resurrection mythology played in the evolution of music, especially early Italian opera.

Kayla Carr, Western Wyoming Community College
Deja Vu: It’s Not Just Spooky Weirdness. It’s That And More!
Rees

Have you ever gotten that really funny feeling in your head that maybe, you’ve seen all of this before? Well, you’re not alone! Hundreds of thousands of people experience *déjà vu*. Hindus think the experience is a vision from a past life, while neurobiologists view it as a warning sign to an oncoming epileptic seizure. My presentation offers a wealth of knowledge from both perspectives so that you can decide for yourself which you think to be most true.

Hannah Winward, Western Wyoming Community College Honors Program
Your Subconscious Mind: The Undiscovered Country
Rees

Have you ever wondered what’s beneath the fabric of your conscious mind? What is the “thing” that is our subconscious? Is there anything we can do to change it? Come see how your subconscious affects everything from where you live and how you act to whom you date and marry.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session six: 3:00-3:50 pm

Daniel Villanueva, University of Nevada, Reno
*The Honors Fye: A Four-Year Perspective*

Doyle

Additional Presenters: Leanne Howard, Ivon Padilla–Rodriguez, Jacqueline Cope, Paul Ward

This panel introduces student perspectives on immediate and long-term benefits of the first-year seminar at UNR’s Honors Program. Presentations include transition to college expectations and culture, developing campus connections, service in the community, creation of e-portfolios and preparation for international study, competitive fellowships, and admission to graduate programs.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session seven: 4:00-4:50 pm

Marianna Leros, Central Arizona College
Examining A Link Between Vaccines And Autism
Kendrick
Is there a link between childhood vaccines and the recent statistical spike of occurrence of the neuro–developmental disorder called autism? This research project examined this question in further detail to inform the general public about how childhood vaccine schedules can actually put our children in danger of autism.

Christy Ailman, Azusa Pacific University
The Beginnings Of Mathematical Deduction By Induction
O’Leary
In this presentation I will argue that an Aristotelian perspective on the problem of deduction is more accurate than a Platonic perspective due to recent scholarship on the beginnings of Greek Mathematics. I will be looking closely at the influence of literature and science in Greek Mathematics.

Robert Durborow, Southern Utah University
A Question Of Question: The Effect Of Methodology And Structure On Critical Literary Analysis
Fremont
This discussion explores the questions which may be posed by specific theoretical methods and their effect on the literary analysis of a specific work.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session seven: 4:00-4:50 pm

Colleen Fitzgerrell, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
The Human Cost Of Cheap Coal
Agassiz
A presentation and discussion on the respiratory health effects of living near a coal strip-mining operation, focusing on the Black Mesa region of the Hopi and Navajo reservations.

Katie Marascio, University of Arizona
(Local) Food For Thought
Agassiz
The methods of food production on the Colorado Plateau have changed dramatically over time. Through these changes, an increased interest in cheaper practices ushered our modern food industry into a sustainability crisis. In order to address current problems, I examined the evolution of our past food industry.

Tanner Morrison, Flathead Valley Community College
Detecting Water Contaminants Using Spectral Analysis
Rees
Additional Presenter: Louis Grisez
This presentation will describe the research behind, and the fabrication of, a spectrometer designed to detect and identify water contaminates and impurities. This device will compete in the National Student Solar Spectrograph Competition in Bozeman, Montana in May, 2013.
Friday, April 12, 2013
session seven: 4:00-4:50 pm

Tyler Rasmussen, Flathead Valley Community College
*Designer Genes - Friend Or Foe?*
Rees
Reports about “frankenfoods” and tumor–inducing GMOs surface regularly. Backlash to genetic engineering has been ardent and vociferous. But this issue goes beyond media hype. Designer Genes — Friend or Foe? delineates the benefits and burdens of gene–splicing technology and proceeds to examine these consequences in light of three ethical theories.

Glenn Hansen, Northern Arizona University
*Honors Pathways: A Bright Option For Completing Honors*
Doyle
Additional Presenter: Kelcy Kain
A year and a half ago, the NAU Honors Program implemented a new curriculum requiring students attend out–of–class events in order to complete Honors requirements. Rationale, examples, tracking, obstacles, and effectiveness of this requirement will be presented.

Jessica Cassleman, Washington State University
*Trials And Tribulations Of A New Curriculum: The Rewards Five Years After*
Doyle
Additional Presenter: Kim Andersen
In 2008 the WSU Honors College introduced a new curriculum, the first major change since 1960. The new curriculum resulted in administrative challenges as the new set of requirements worked their way into the system. In this session we invite discussion of the difficulties and rewards occasioned by such changes.
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<td>Stability Goal: A Retrospective of Women in DC Comics</td>
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Saturday, April 13, 2013
poster session: 8:00-10:30 am

Desiree McConnell, Aims Community College
A Budding Honors Star

Joining an honors-level class is a great transition from taking general courses at Aims Community College. I will present my personal experience of the Honors Program, illustrate the benefits of collegiality, display several pieces of work, and show the process of transferring a two-year honors degree to an esteemed university.

Christopher Cronkite, Azusa Pacific University
Examining The Binding Specificity Of The Transcription Factor REST To The PAHL Domain Of Msin3

REST is a transcription factor responsible for repressing neuronal genes in non-neuronal cells. Mutated forms of REST have been implicated in Huntington’s disease, neuroblastomas, and other neurodegenerative diseases. Through a study of the binding specificity of REST to Msin3, it is possible to further our knowledge of artificial transcription gene regulators.

Jonathan Monson, Azusa Pacific University
“Faith Attribution: Correspondence Bias And Faith As A Defense Mechanism”

This experiment explored how the Correspondence Bias relates to belief attribution. I investigated the connection between religious faith and defense mechanisms in individual and interpersonal perception. The study suggests that participants are less likely to view their own faith as defense mechanism while perceiving that of others to be one.
Elizabeth Berrigan, Chapman University

Schwinger’s Finite Quantum Kinematics And Aharonov’s Dynamical Non-Locality Concept

Schwinger’s finite formalism of quantum mechanics and its use in diverse applications such as quantum optics and condensed matter are briefly reviewed, advancing the idea that these finite methods are particularly important to study Aharonov’s concept of quantum dynamical non-locality. These methods will be applied to describe the Aharonov–Bohm effect.

Kayla Camacho, Chapman University

Living Life In The In-Between: The Literature Of Post-Colonial Nigeria

This poster focuses on the developing reflexive approach to National Identity in post-colonial Nigeria seen in the fictional literary works of contemporary native authors. Through the re-appropriation of ancient customs and mythologies, these authors imagine modern Nigerian identity as one in a state of transition between colonialism and post-colonialism.

Cristiana Wilcoxon, Chapman University

Hometown Tourism: A Photographic How-To

Not all students have the financial means to study abroad. This poster is both a fine arts photography series documenting the culturally significant locations within the presenter’s own home region and an instructional guide on how fellow students can examine their current location through a more well-informed lens.

Julie Ackley, Colorado Mesa University

The Perfect Storm: Dynamic Influences On Health Behaviors In America

A “perfect storm” of social and economic factors facilitates the way Americans are literally eating themselves to death. This presentation focuses on various diet, mobility, and cultural edicts of several generations, utilizing a biopsychosocial approach. Offered are innovative projects addressing individual empowerment and food choices that affect well-being and vitality.
Terrence Lewis, Estrella Mountain Community College

*College Student Knowledge On The Causes Of Stuttering*

This experiment is being used to determine what students know about the causes of stuttering. There were twenty randomly-selected students surveyed for this purpose. Also being explained in this presentation will be a multitude of theories that play key roles in finding the direct cause of stuttering.

Kayla Wright, Northern Arizona University

*Sir Paul Nurse’s Discoveries On The Regulation Of The Cell Cycle*

This presentation analyzes Sir Paul Nurse’s “Cyclin Dependent Kinases and Cell Cycle Control,” and the sources used that led to the discovery of the proteins kinase and cyclin, which regulate the cell cycle. This discovery will go on to contribute to cancer cell cycle research.

Rianne Gibson, Northern Arizona University

*Honors GURUS*

Additonal Presenters: Colton Ames, David Ridlen, David Scandura, Rebecca Hayes

Guides to University Retention and Undergraduate Success –GURUS– are liaisons between the faculty and students in the Honors first year reading and writing seminars. GURUS provide a variety of support for faculty and students alike. GURUS is an ongoing, student-driven organization to make sure first year students succeed in Honors.

Alyssa Brown, Southern Utah University

*Assessing The Accuracy And Validity Of Early Astronomer Sketches Of The Satellites Of Jupiter*

Additonal Presenter: Fern Hardin

I used mathematical techniques to convert dates on which sketches were made to Julian Calendar dates, then utilized date in a mathematical equation to determine the location of the central meridian of the satellite and compare images of the satellites to the sketches, examining them for determining features and their locations.
Saturday, April 13, 2013
poster session: 8:00-10:30 am

Hannah Foss, University of Alaska Fairbanks
*The Griz Of Oz: Experimentation With Bridging Culture And Language Barriers*

This presentation investigates the interplay of animation and viewer, with the means of creating a film that bridges culture and language barriers through the use of universal film elements.

Bryant Hopkins, University of Alaska Fairbanks
*Phylogenetic Applications For Comparing United States Senators*

My research uses phylogenetic tree inference techniques to determine whether the relationship between United States Senators is tree-like, and more importantly, whether this relationship demonstrates a high level of partisanship among the members.

Moriah Hunstiger, University of Alaska Fairbanks
*Determination Of Binding Constants Of An Adenosine Meisenheimer Complex With Gamma- Cyclodextrin By UV And LIF Capillary Electrophoresis*

Adenosine (Ado) easily forms a Meisenheimer complex with Trinitrobenzenesulfonic acid (TNP-Ado) and exhibits UV and fluorescence properties. Determinations of the binding constant of an Adenosine Meisenheimer complex with gamma-cyclodextrin were found using UV and LIF capillary electropherhesis. These binding constants will be used to optimize detection limits in future studies.
Ashley Strauch, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Perceptions Of Alcohol Use Among Alaskan College Students

This study examines the reasons that college students fall into patterns of problem drinking, which may vary by racial group. Here, we endeavor to examine whether implicit racial biases are affecting the perceptions of problem drinking and student progression to alcoholism.

Daniela Wilner, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Genotypic Adaptation And Phenotypic Plasticity In The Torrent Duck (Merganetta armata): Dealing With Hypobaric Hypoxia In The Andes

Hypobaric hypoxia is a major challenge that animals face in high-altitude environments. Different species react and respond differently to this environment. Research reported emphasizes the interaction of phenotypic plasticity and genotypic adaptation in ways that Torrent Ducks (Merganetta armata) deal with hypobaric hypoxia.

Abdelrhman Mohamed, Washington State University
The Energy Challenge: A Bioelectrochemical Engineering Perspective

Research in renewable energy focuses on new energy sources and development of energy-efficient alternatives to existing technologies. Microbial fuel cells allow inexpensive bioprocessing of wastewater, and provide a power source for long-duration applications. Bioelectrochemical systems allow storing energy in chemical bonds, solving transport and storage challenges associated with electrical energy.
Brenda McMillan, Weber State University
*Lost In The Cost: A Benefit Resource Discussion For Seniors*

This project included designing an easy-to-use pamphlet with County, State and Federal benefit information, presenting information to over 100 seniors at Senior Centers, and helping to incorporating it into Davis County and medical offices to assist individuals with personal benefit access information.

Boston Workman, Weber State University
*A Growing Sensation: The Rebirth Of Farmers’ Markets In America*

Where in the world has your banana been? The global food system we participate in has removed social interaction and accountability from transactions regarding one of the most important decisions we make: What we eat. Where did our food come from and how do we become conscious consumers?

Hailey Wright, Weber State University
*Green Roof Technology: A University Model For Community Sustainability*

Green Roof Technology is a sustainable building practice that combines architecture with living plants. Benefits include energy savings, temperature stabilization, better storm water management, and cleaner air quality. A cost–benefit analysis will demonstrate Green roofs as a viable solution for new and existing structures, even in the arid Western U.S.A.

Edward Ford, Western Wyoming Community College

*Love Lives*

Additional Presenter: Cody Greenwald

Love Letters: Ever written one? Ever received one? Come find out about a creative initiative that seeks to inspire a writing community by encouraging individuals to compose words of love on a vintage Olympia SM–9 manual portable typewriter. Come hear what your feelings sound like with the stamp–to–ink–ribbon–slam.
Saturday, April 13, 2013
poster session: 8:00-10:30 am

Jesse Walters, Central Washington William O. Douglas Honors College
Modeling The Metamorphic History Of Ultra High Pressure Rocks: Western China

The goal of this project was to use a thermodynamic modeling program, in conjunction with compositional and microscope analyses to develop a pressure-temperature history of a metamorphic rock from Western China. Results from this project have implications for pre-existing tectonic models of metamorphism at the sample location.
Saturday, April 13, 2013
session eight: 9:30-10:20am

Cole McClary, Central Arizona College
*The Impact Stress Has On Fine Motor Skills And Reaction Time*
Kendrick

What physiological effects do dangerous encounters have on our bodies? The research looks specifically at how stress affects fine motor skills and reaction times when the parasympathetic nervous system takes over during a fight-or-flight response. This field of research has played a vital role in our species’ survival.

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Tierra Stimson, Cochise College
*The Holocaust Project*
O’Leary

Additional Presenter: Bruce McKellar, Lorraine Kirk, Iva Hodges

Students from Cochise College conducted research about The Holocaust, prejudice, and discrimination. They presented their research findings, including strategies for reducing discrimination, to their community. Before and after the presentations, attendees’ knowledge about discrimination was surveyed. Results showed that there was an increase in knowledge from pre-to post-presentation.
Cody Greenwald, Western Wyoming Community College
The War On Sex
Fremont

America has declared war on sex. This presentation addresses the social dysfunctions that arise from the exclusive teaching of sexual abstinence in many educational systems and other cultural groups. In particular, it focuses on teachings that encourage young women to pledge a celibate life until marriage, which results in many sex-based stereotypes of both men and women.

Clay Thomas, Chapman University
Interdisciplinarity Beyond The Classroom
Agassiz

Additional Presenter: Hazel Naylor

How can an interdisciplinary education, a staple among honors programs and liberal arts curricula, transform students' everyday lives beyond the academy?
Rick Wysocki, Chapman University
Direct Action: Taking Responsibility For Your Education
Agassiz

This presentation deals with the benefits, difficulties, and successes of putting on a student-led course. “Anchoring Biases and Marginal Thinkers” was designed to analyze less accepted philosophies of understanding such as anarchism, communism, and ethical egoism, and to interpret rhetoric that attempts to marginalize them. These philosophies—anarchism, communism, and ethical egoism—structure the course, allowing the student to evaluate his or her reaction and to contextualize each theory in its historical place. The presentation will synthesize both anecdotal experience and critical methodology in its discussion of the topic.

Natalie Clayton, Colorado Mesa University
Just Once: A Public Service Tragedy
Rees

Just Once is a public service commercial produced by the anti-drug campaign, Montana Meth Project. Although its sensationalized drama and graphic nature contribute to its measurable efficacy, its true success lies in the completion of Aristotle's tragic narrative arc and the powerful cathartic effect that follows — all in thirty seconds.

Sarah Elliott, Colorado Mesa University
Family-Friendly Workplaces; Why America Doesn't Measure Up
Rees

The United States falls behind other countries in providing workplaces that both respond to the changing socioeconomic needs of its employees, and also provide family-friendly work environments. This research explores the role of politics, childcare for working parents, the significance of reforming after-school programs, and modification of benefits for employees in creating good workspaces.
Saturday, April 13, 2013
session eight: 9:30-10:20 am

Nathan Yee, University of Arizona
*Malicious Javascript In Cybersecurity*

Doyle

Cybersecurity is becoming increasingly relevant in our everyday lives, yet it isn’t receiving the attention it deserves. By researching how web-delivered Javascript malware, or malicious software, is used in today’s cyber warfare, I analyze live samples of malicious JavaScript code from my spam folder and malware databases.

Markie Stratton, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College
*Being Mexican-American: A Literary Analysis Of The Life Of Mexican Immigrants To The United States*

Doyle

I will explore the consequences of immigrants’ assimilation into United States culture. Some social pressures, such as the English only movement, imply that for immigrants to be welcome here, they must assimilate themselves completely. In order to be accepted, immigrants are forced to shed their culture and to become “Americanized.”
Aline Kraus, Central Arizona College  
*A Comparison Of Treatment Options For Adhd: Neurofeedback Vs. Ritalin*  
Kendrick  
This research project compares and contrasts two possible treatment options for children with ADHD, neurofeedback and Ritalin. The project utilizes the following methods of gathering data, library research, interviews, and a survey that is given to parents of elementary school children.

Danica Wixom, Washington State University  
*Cultural Expressions Of Grief Through Art*  
Fremont  
Both grief and art are culturally defined. The work of Marc Chagall, Frida Kahlo, and Motoi Yamamoto reflect each artist’s cultural perspective of death. The presenter uses her own artwork to express her personal experience of loss, interpreting her grief within the context of the American Protestant culture.

Haley Oram, Azusa Pacific University  
*Judeo-Español: The Resilience Of Jewish Spanish In Modern Culture*  
Agassiz  
Judeo–Español, the Spanish dialect of the Jewish diaspora, is a hybrid language that formed after the Jews were expelled from the Ottoman Empire in 1492. This presentation will discuss the linguistically unique language of Judeo–Español and its place in the world today.
Saturday, April 13, 2013
session nine: 10:30-11:20 am

Brian Aras, Central Washington University William O. Douglas Honors College
*Language And Visigoth Law: Their Impact On The Sea Commerce Of Medieval Spain*

Agassiz
How did the evolution of Spanish from Latin influence the sea commerce of medieval Spain? This presentation will examine the development of the Spanish language as it emerged from archaic dialects, and it will discuss the impact this development had on Visigothic law and the maritime commerce of medieval Spain.

Wolf Gumerman, Northern Arizona University
*Life Changing: The Grand Canyon Semester*

Rees
Additional Presenters: Jacob Fillion, Robyn Martin, Katie Marascio, Madeline Friend, Colleen Fitzgerrell

The Grand Canyon Semester offered a life-changing immersion into the landscapes, cultures, and politics of the Grand Canyon region. Students from across the U.S. used natural science, social science, and humanities to investigate this iconic landscape; yet, some of the most powerful outcomes were the students’ masterfully creative activities.
Hannah Brinton, Flathead Valley Community College
*The Ethics Of Assisted Suicide: An International Comparison*
Doyle

Additional Presenter: Andrea Kavert

Does a person have the right to decide when he or she dies? This presentation will consider the different legal and ethical approaches surrounding the topic of physician assisted suicide. Policies and laws within the United States, Switzerland, and the Netherlands will be discussed.

Shima Shiehzadegan, Mesa Community College
*Hospital Preparedness In The Wake Of Natural Disasters*
Doyle

Hospitals are supposed to be the most prepared, self-sustained, and reliable places in the event of an emergency. However, hospital emergency systems have failed repeatedly during recent natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina. So, what went wrong and how can we prevent such catastrophic losses in the future?
Saturday, April 13, 2013
session ten: 11:40-12:30pm

Jacqueline Waasdorp, Central Arizona College
Children’s Use Of The Scientific Method And If Technology Hinders This Process
Kendrick

The ability to use the scientific method is critical for a person to function in life, even with simple daily tasks. It’s something that is taught repeatedly throughout the school years and everyone recognizes the phrase, but is technology taking America’s children away from understanding and using this vital process?

Mariah Himstedt, Western Wyoming Community College Honors Program
The Rare Earth Hypothesis: Searching For Life Outside Of Our Home Planet
O’Leary

So, you worship movies like War of the Worlds and read all the articles saying “UFO Sighting” and wonder if it’s all real. Come learn about the Rare Earth hypothesis and what it says about the unlikelihood of intelligent life outside Earth and the fascinating science of the vast universe.

Leah Espinoza, California State University, Fullerton
Get Involved: Learn, Create, And Observe The World Outside The Classroom
Fremont

Additional Presenters: Kris Choe, Kathy Ly, Amanda Nogaki, Natalia Banateanu

Starting with the 2012-2013 academic year, Cal State Fullerton’s University Honors Program revived the Honors Students Activities Council, which was created to form a community among honors students. By combining social, community service, and academic events, HSAC strives to encourage honors students to grow as scholars and as people.
Lindsey Bright, Dominican University of California
*Scantily Clad And Anatomically Improbable: A Retrospective Of Women In DC Comics*

Agassiz

Examining the development of longstanding female characters in DC Comics reveals the stereotyping and undermining of women as strong characters over their 73-year history. This presentation singles out the most recognizable characters and places their evolutions in historical context, from reactionary Senate hearings to open letters from female fans.

Andrew Kobylarz, Colorado Mesa University
*The Rise Of Communism In Vietnam*

Rees

The Vietnam War has been viewed in U.S. education through a highly-Americanized lens, leaving the precursors relatively untold. It is the goal of this presentation to analyze Franco-Vietnamese relations and the growth of communism in the region, tracing its effects on both the colonizers and the colonized.

Matthew Baird, Central Washington University
*William O. Douglas Honors College*
*The USSR and China: Enemies of Marxism*

Rees

It is acceptable in Western cultures to consider the alleged Communist regimes to be Marxist, but Marx would have recoiled from the USSR and China. Comparing Marxism with alleged Communist nations shows that China and the USSR never followed Marx, but merely used him to hide their true intentions.
Hannah Romero, Western Wyoming Community College Honors Program

*What A Feminist Looks Like*

Doyle

Would you consider yourself a feminist? Perhaps you think that to be a feminist, you have to be a radical man-hater, or at least female. Can someone be a feminist if he or she is a parent, a religious person, or male? Come learn the complexities and surprising areas of common ground found within feminism.
In Memorium: Everett Ramsay

Everett (Akam) Ramsay, a senior lecturer for the Honors Program and the First-Year Seminar Program, died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2012, due to complications from a bicycle accident on Lake Mary Road in Flagstaff. He was 65.

A road cyclist, skate skier, rock climber and fly fisherman, Dr. Ramsay pursued his life with vigor and passion.

Born Feb. 22, 1947, in Germany and raised in France, Dr. Ramsay brought with him an awareness of the larger world. He earned his B.S. and an M.A. in political science from South Dakota State University. He also earned an M.A. and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Rochester. He was a history professor from 1991–2009 at Casper College in Wyoming, where he also founded and was director of the Veritas Honors Institute.

He authored the book Transnational America: Cultural Pluralist Thought in the 20th Century (Rowman and Littlefield, 2002), as well as some scholarly articles. He had been working on a book about George Orwell, the British novelist of Animal Farm and 1984.

In 2008, Dr. Ramsay married Anne Scott, professor of English and Honors professor, who called him “a loyal and loving husband and a great stepfather.”

Dr. Ramsay came to NAU in 2009 to teach for the Honors Program and moved the hearts and minds of his students through such courses as The Search for American Identity, Humanity and Inhumanity, and Systems of War and Peace, among others.

He thrived in the academy through his passions for teaching, discussing current events and connecting with his students and colleagues.

“Ev was a true gentleman and scholar who was well grounded in so many complex areas and disciplines,” said Wolf Gumerman, director of the Honors Program. “The depth and care that he put into his teaching was truly remarkable.”

Such careful attention is reflected in the feedback several students shared in the 2011 survey of NAU sophomores, where he was cited as a “great educator” who encouraged critical thinking.

“He pushed students, but he also was so caring—not just about their learning but about them personally,” Gumerman said.

Dr. Ramsay is survived by his wife, Anne Scott, and her son, Gavin; his beautiful daughter, Faye Lane; two sisters, Beth Dixon and Suzanne Delyons; and three grandchildren.
ATTENDING INSTITUTIONS

Aims Community College
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Western Washington University
Western Wyoming Community College
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The staff at the High Country Conference Center; and finally,

The students, faculty members, and mentors at all of the colleges and universities represented at this conference, for YOUR dedication to make an honors education relevant and meaningful both now and in the future.
Experience and Study in the Grand Canyon and Surrounding Region

Grand Canyon Semester
Natural and Cultural Landscapes of the Southwest

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For more information please contact Angie Moline at Angie.Moline@nau.edu
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