
Niagara University Undergraduate Research Conference



NIAGARA
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Education That Makes a Difference

April 29, 2016
St. Vincent's Hall and Gallagher Center

AGENDA

*Panel Presentations
8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
St. Vincent's Hall*

*Coffee and Danish
8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
St. Vincent's Hall 210 and 310*

*Poster Presentations
1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Upper Level Gallagher Center*

*Lunch for Participants and Faculty Sponsors
11:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Upper Level Gallagher Center*

I want to extend a warm welcome to the 2016 NU Undergraduate Research Conference sponsored by the University Honors Program. Niagara University's dedication to research and academic excellence will be on full display during today's conference. I encourage you to attend as many of the panel and poster presentations as you can in order to show your support for the young scholars in our midst and to learn about the exciting research taking place here at Niagara. I am confident that the presentations will be informative and educational.

I want to thank Ms. Kathy Sydor, administrative coordinator for the honors program, who has done most of the behind-the-scenes work necessary to make this conference a reality. Without her, there would be no conference. Finally, I want to thank all the participants and their sponsors for their hard work. The University Honors Program wishes them all the best in their future research and endeavors.

*Dr. Michael Barnwell
Director, University Honors Program*

PANEL PRESENTATIONS

8:30-11:00 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 407

Professor Mitchell Alegre, Moderator

Business Management

Heather Burley: "Religious Tradition and Sustainable Management in Japan: Examining Theory and Practice"

Dr. Jay Walker, Moderator

Accounting

Justin Flynn: "Breaking the Code: Properly Deciphering Market Volatility"

Business Management

Heather Burley: "Bears and Bulls behind the Wheel: Explaining Trends in Traffic Fatalities through Stock Prices in Japan"

Economics

Mai Ngoc Tran: "ASEAN Effects on Member's Economy Growth"

Economics

Jeffrey Wojtkowski: "Green Energy Initiatives: New Direction or Lost Cause?"

Finance

Lirim Hajrullahu: "Does FIFA Facilitate Underdeveloped Host Countries Economic Growth?"

Finance

Dan Huang: "Econometrics Analysis on Domestic Tourism Revenue in China"

Finance

Daniel Miller: "Update: An Empirical Analysis of the U.S. Fiscal and Monetary Policies Following the Financial Crisis"

Finance

Peter Mrazik: "Bringing Oil to the Party"

Supply Chain

Kevin Lease: "Does Going to Church Influence Cheating?"

8:45 – 9:15 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 301

Dr. William Martin, Moderator

English

Jacob Honan: "Teaching the Free Man How to Praise: History, Politics, and Public Voice in the Poetry of W.H. Auden"

9:00 – 9:30 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 306

Professor Marian Granfield, Moderator

Art History & Museum Studies

Audrey Clark: "Combat Art of the Vietnam War"

9:00 – 9:30 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 212

Dr. Walter Steiner, Moderator

Biology

Steven Foulis: "Systematic Mutagenesis of a Meiotic Recombination Hotspot"

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 305

Dr. Timothy Osberg, Moderator

Psychology

Taylor Edmonds: "Factors Associated with Psychological Help-Seeking Stigma in College Students"

Melissa Leone: "Generalized Anxiety, Social Sensitivity, and Social Networking Usage in College Students"

9:00 – 9:30 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 307

Dr. Kurt Stahura, Moderator

Tourism Management

Marie-Christine Mueller: "Analysis of the Potential of Niagara Falls, New York to Become a MICE Tourism Destination"

9:15 – 10:00 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 215

Dr. Michael Barnwell, Moderator

Julian Sharp: "Failure of Craig's Kalam Cosmological Argument"

9:30 – 10:00 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 211

Dr. Doug Tewksbury, Moderator

Communication Studies

Kristen Cavalleri: "The Mysterious Case of Females in Media: The Progression of Females' Portrayal as Seen through Nancy Drew"

9:30 – 10:00 A.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 301

Dr. Daniel Pinti, Moderator

English

Kathryn Dickie: "Coming Home: Exploring the Haunted Space of the Gothic Graphic Novel"

11:45 – 12:15 P.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 212

Dr. Timothy Lauger and Dr. Dana Radatz, Moderators

Criminal Justice

Rebecca Coleman: "The Roles and Hurdles of Victim Advocates: What are the Perspectives of Victim Advocates on Sexual Assault Victims?"

12:30 – 1:00 P.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 309

Dr. Michael Durfee, Moderator

History

Elisha Teibel: "'A Black Woman's Body was Never Hers Alone' - The Untold Story of Rape and Resistance in the American South"

12:30 – 1:00 P.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 307

Dr. David Reilly, Moderator

International Studies

Steven Randall: "Nuclear Peace in our Time?"

12:30 – 1:00 P.M.

St. Vincent's Hall 306

Dr. Donna Phillips, Moderator

TESOL

Brooke Boutwell: "The Cat in the Hat Gets a Passport: Children Translating Literature for Children"

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics: Dr. Robyn Goacher

Zachariah A. Gernold, Laura D. Brunelle: "Removal of Surface Contaminants from Wood Polymer Composites (WPCs) for Analysis using Time-of-Flight Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (ToF-SIMS)"

Matthew R. Michienzi, Courtney L. Whitney: "Thermogravimetric Analysis of Extracted and Unextracted Lignocellulose after Laccase and Xylanase Treatments"

Christopher Swagler, Emilee Welton, Kevin Lucas, Sarah Gehl: "Determining Sugars in Enzyme-Treated Wood Supernatants: Effect of Buffer on the 3,5-Dinitrosalicylic Acid (DNS) Assay"

Lauren G. DiFonzo, Kathleen C. Lesko: "What Came First? The Black Ink or the Black Ink? That is the Question"

Daniel E. Potoczak, Ciara N. Pitman, James T. Marton, Howard A. Lehman: "HPLC-ESI-MS Sugar Detection: Improving Sensitivity and Checking for Matrix Effects"

Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics: Dr. Mary McCourt

Jennifer Kahj, Thao Huynh: "CholestosomesTM: A Novel Approach of Antibiotic Delivery Against Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus"

Biochemistry, Chemistry Physics: Dr. Luis Sanchez

Samer Isa, Rebecca Ford, Ethan DeCicco: "Studies Toward an Affordable Preparation of D-Vinylglycine"

Emily York, Samer Isa: "Reaction Optimization for the Synthesis of Novel Vinylglycine Derivatives"

Biology: Dr. Peter Butera

Emilia Federice, Nicholas Palisano: "Effects of 17-Alpha-Estradiol on Food Intake, Meal Patterns, and Body Weight in Female Rats"

Biology: Dr. Mark Gallo

Bianca Marrara: "Plasmid Characterization in Staphylococci Isolated from White Tail Deer"

Thomas Raleigh, Mia Byrd, Gabrielle Wind, Haley Parker: "Paenibacillus and its Potential for Antibiotic Production"

Anh Tran: "Cephalosporin Resistant Staphylococcus Strains Obtained from White Tail Deer"

Francesco DiVito, Jeffrey Gansworth: "Isolation of PVC/ISN Gene Homologs from Uncharacterized Pseudomonas Species"

James Smith, Brian Aldrow, Greg Eusano: "Discovery of the PVC Gene in Enterobacteriaceae"

Sonja Opper: "Differentiation of SCCmec Types in Staphylococcus spp. In Non-Clinical Isolates"

Christopher Campomizzi, Matthew Rice, Samantha Sauer: "Isolation of Staphylococcus Bacteriophage"

Adam Siedlecki: "Small Colony Variant Switching Phenomenon in Staphylococci"

Andrea Buitrago, Tavion Williams: "What's on your Showerhead?"

Matthew Lanning: "Phylogenetic Characterization of Plastic Biofilm Communities in the Niagara River"

Eric Ebert, Shawn Warner: "Genomic Analysis of CAS Genes Isolated from Staphylococci in White Tail Deer Populations"

Biology: Dr. Robert Greene

Ashley Jarkowski: "Induction of Apoptosis in CAL-27 and HeLA Cancer Cell Lines Using Berry Extracts"

Korinne Thorne: "Synergistic Effects of Curcumin and Direct Photodynamic Therapy in Cervical and Oral Cancers"

Biology: Dr. Walter Steiner

Steven Foulis: "Systematic Mutagenesis of a Meiotic Recombination Hotspot"

Biology: Dr. Donna Thompson

Melissa Wright: "Differences in Visual Activity in Different Breeds of Goldfish"

Communication Studies: Dr. Mark Barner

Katie Bianchi: "The 9/11 Generation"

Kimberly Milleville: "Save the Sea Otters: A Monterey Bay Aquarium Public Relations Campaign"

Catherine Moynihan: "Mirror Mirror Girls Internalization of Feminine Beauty through their Television Characters"

Communication Studies: Dr. Carrie Teresa

Lucas Koziol: "Shades of Media Reporting"

Communication Studies: Dr. Doug Tewksbury

Chelsea Anderson: "'Oh! Just Text Me!': Motivations for Texting Amongst University Students"

Hayley Beesaw: "Emojis in the Media"

DeAnna Kajfasz: "'Inside Amy Schumer': Female Body Image and Gendered Norms"

Computer and Information Sciences: Dr. Yonghong Tong

Connor Wolfe, Danielle Allan, Rishi Kumar, Joseph Sansone: "Android Wearables"

Colin Monroe: "Mobile Security"

Freddie Liederbach: "Citibike InfoVis"

Danielle Allan: "Smart Campus"

Brett Smith, Megan Baker: "STEM Lab"

Prince Fatunmbi: "NU ITHelpDesk"

Nicholis Bachan: "NU Conference"

Christopher Martin: "Compatible DogApp"

History: Dr. Michael Durfee

Marc Notaro: "The Local and National Roots of Federal Marijuana Prohibition"

Hospitality: Dr. Patricia Millar

Amanda Jacek: "Exploring Consumer Motivation at Small Scale Ski Resorts"

International Studies: Dr. David Reilly

Dustin Schulz: "Democracy and Terrorism"

Charles Shiah: "Racism in America: Implicit Racial Bias in the Criminal Justice System"

Marketing: Dr. Marlo Brown

Alisha West: "Ecommerce Internship: Sheraton at the Falls Hotel"

Marketing: Dr. Peggy Choong

Shannon Chowanec: "The YouTube Giant: The Influence of Paid v. Unpaid Brand Endorsements on Consumer Purchase Intention"

Mathematics: Dr. Marlo Brown

Dakota Morano: "The Numbers Game: The Prediction and Analysis of Baseball Statistics"

Political Science: Dr. Jamie Pimlott

William Doherty: "PACs: Their Influence on the House in the 21st Century"

Joseph Smithyman: "Transcending Borders: Cybersecurity and the European Union"

Katelyn Werner: "The Impact of Biological Weapons on International Relations"

Political Science: Dr. David Reilly

Christina R. Beauvoir: "Linguistic and Cultural Imperialism: Haiti"

Clare Curran: "Characteristics of Citizens and their Involvement in Political Activities"

John W. Gannon: "Democratic and Autocratic States and the Likelihood of International Conflict"

Ryan Hoose: "Because the Pope Says So: Members of Congress and Environmental Policy"

Nataisia Johnson: "Stop and Frisk"

Joelle Marino: "Women in Power: An Analysis of How Effectively Women Lead"

Seunghee Oh: "Social Media Use Among Young People and Political Participation: Does Social Media Increase a Political Participation of Young People?"

Shannon Olsen: "Celebrity Endorsement and Age"

Warren Solomon: "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf: Drones and U.S. Foreign Policy"

Stephanie Vargas: "Ladies in the House and Senate"

Psychology and Gerontology: Dr. Susan Mason

Allison Steger: "Age Differences in Attitudes About Euthanasia"

Psychology: Dr. Susan Mason

Sarah Battaglia: "Parents' Marital Status Affecting Children's Outlook on Marriage"

Psychology: Dr. Timothy Osberg

Taylor Edmonds: "Factors Associated with Psychological Help-Seeking Stigma in College Students"

Miranda Lauher, Courtney Doxbeck: "Mindfulness, Personality, Smartphone Addiction, and Mental Health Among College Students"

Melissa Leone: "Generalized Anxiety, Social Sensitivity, and Social Networking Usage in College Students"

Loren Romano: "Faculty Experiences with Encountering College Student Mental Health Illness: Gender Differences in Referring Students to Campus Mental Health Services"

Kelly Zaky, Nicholas Albano: "Gender Differences in the Correlates of Psychological Help-Seeking Stigma"

Psychology: Dr. Burt Thompson

Melinda Drabant: "The Corrupt Side of Creativity"

Psychology: Dr. Donna Thompson

Lisa Bartolomei-Kelly, Loren Romano, Kelley Biro: "Then and Now: Generational Changes in Cultural Stereotypes About Gender"

Public Health: Dr. Deborah Leonard

Jenna DiMartile, Kelly Derleth, Riley Gorman, Megan Farnham: "Health Habits"

Benjamin Palermo, Andrew Parsnick, Taylor Mager, Enuel Caraballo: "Niagara Falls - A Walkable Community?"

Sophia Smith, Genna Riddle, Jessie Lesinski, Allison Emborsky: "Niagara Falls Population Loss - Impacts on Health and the Economy"

Taylor Sanders, Ellie Markarian, Justice Marshall, Katie Bookmiller: "Drug Abuse in Niagara Falls"

Allan Stanton, Shawn Bouchard, Dylan Pachla, Matt Bell: "Exercise and the Elderly"

Tourism: Dr. Jan van Harsseel

Amanda Micale: "Tourism, Travel and Hospitality 1968-2018 - A 50-Year History of Growth and Innovation"

Tourism: Dr. Kurt Stahura

Carolin Hardt: "The Role of Nationality in Tourist Motivations - A Case of Indian Tourists Visiting Niagara Falls"

Jaclyn Schreiber: "Medical Tourism"