2-12-2009

2009 Undergraduate Research Competition Program

Coastal Carolina University

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What: Each session will include an 8–10 minute presentation by an undergraduate student followed by 5–7 minutes of Q&A.

How: Each session will be judged based on the criteria listed on the Celebration website. Judges will be Coastal Carolina University faculty. Refer to www.coastal.edu/inquiry/2009/competition.html for evaluative criteria.

Where: All undergraduate research competition sessions will be scheduled in two small case study rooms, Wall 318 and 322 with follow-up display of related posters (where applicable and agreeable to the presenters) in Wall 319 and 321.

When: See schedule of times below. All sessions are scheduled back-to-back.

The top three ranked presentations will be awarded $500, $300 and $100. Award recognition will take place briefly before the Conference’s Closing Session at 2:30pm in WHEL Auditorium. All are invited.

Thursday, February 12, 2009

8:50 am - 9:10 am  [WALL 322]  
Hoover, Candace  
The Little Mermaid: A Study of Women Under the Sea

9:10 am – 9:30 am  [WALL 318]  
Wall, Jean (Ginny)  
Beyond Bibbity Bobbity Boo: A Look at What the Fairy Godmother Means in a Modern Retelling of Cinderella

9:10 am – 9:30 am  [WALL 322]  
Riedinger, Eric  
‘Puss in Boots’ and Puss the Usurper

9:30 am – 9:50 am  [WALL 318]  
DeMarco, Eric  
From Elephants to Gravity Waves: Dick Reed’s Story of the Ceaseless Winds

9:30 am – 9:50 am  [WALL 322]  
Doring, Brian and Robertson, Sam  
Stories from Condominium Owners in Myrtle Beach: Effects of the Economy and Modernization of Properties on Occupancy Rates

9:50 am – 10:10 am  [WALL 322]  
Broadwater, Holly and Xantos, John  
Smoking Bans Affecting College Student Behaviors Toward Restaurants and Bars

9:50 am – 10:10 am  [WALL 322]  
Horton, Nicole and Stankiewicz, Frankie  
Ashes2Art: Digital Reconstructions of Ancient Monuments

10:10 am – 10:30 am  [WALL 318]  
Grippo, Hannah  
Anno’s Africa

10:10 am – 10:30 am  [WALL 322]  
Hutchins, Patrick  
The Little Things in Life: An undergraduate discovery

10:30 am – 10:50 am  [WALL 322]  
Kelly, Erin  
Is our environment fighting viruses?

10:30 am – 10:50 am  [WALL 322]  
Folger, Gabrielle and Renchen, Jeff  
The Effect of Submerged Groundwater Springs on Nutrient and Salinity Dynamics in Discovery Bay, Jamaica
11:10 am – 11:30 am  [WALL 318]
Mullens, Dustin
Construction of Yeast Strains Containing Ure2p Gene Deletions

11:10 am – 11:30 am  [WALL 322]
Hendrix, Kerry
Heterosexualizing of Lesbian Romance

11:30 am – 11:50 am  [WALL 318]
Green, Jessica
Deism and Humanism in “Watchmen”

11:30 am – 11:50 am  [WALL 322]
Pierce, Lisa; Shaughnessy, Paddy; and Perian, Liz
Tourism Destinations in Comparison to Myrtle Beach

11:50 am – 12:10 pm  [WALL 318]
Birnbaum, Brittany
Effects of Yoga Practice on Eating Disordered Behavior

11:50 am – 12:10 pm  [WALL 322]
Sexton, Sarah
Identification of Aquatic Hypomycetes Using Molecular Techniques

12:10 pm – 12:30 pm  [WALL 318]
Sheppard, Allison; Ruby, Sarah; and Counahan, Maura
What Affect do Telemarketers and Off Property Consultants (OPC), have on Guest Expectations and Satisfaction?

12:10 pm – 12:30 pm  [WALL 322]
Stankiewicz, Francis
Recovering Horry’s Lost History from the Surface to the Depths

12:30 pm – 12:50 pm  [WALL 318]
Williams, Jessica and Collins, Ross
The Effect of Upscale Lodging on the Image of Myrtle Beach

12:30 pm – 12:50 pm  [WALL 322]
Zourdos, Cari and Sellers, Andrew
Urchins and Algae: The Ongoing Saga

12:50 pm – 1:10 pm  [WALL 322]
Bogart, Shannon
Student’s Perceived Parenting Styles & Their Later Romantic Attachment Style

1:10 pm – 1:30 pm  [WALL 318]
Hammond, Amelia
Mary’s Wedding

1:10 pm – 1:30 pm  [WALL 322]
Stang, Lindsay
The Effect Of A Phytoplankton Maximum On The Trophic Food Chain Of The Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops Truncatus) In North Inlet, South Carolina

1:30 pm – 1:50 pm  [WALL 318]
Mozingo, Chelsey
Contribution of Candida Albicans to the Synthesis of the Volatile Organic Compound Ethanol in Putrefied Bodies

1:30 pm – 1:50 pm  [WALL 322]
Totten, Frances
The Relationship of Phytoplankton Concentrations to Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops Truncatus) Feeding Behavior in Winyah Bay, South Carolina

1:50 pm – 2:10 pm  [WALL 318]
Banks, Tobias
Identification of Potentially Pathogenic Yeast Species in Seagull Guano by Molecular Techniques

1:50 pm – 2:10 pm  [WALL 322]
Bohrer, Lauren
Fish Habitat Usage of Caribbean Coral Reefs in Discovery Bay, Jamaica

2:10 pm – 2:30 pm  [WALL 318]
Thornton, Steven
Effects of Phytoplankton Concentration on Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) Prey Availability

2:10 pm – 2:30 pm  [WALL 322]
Eurell, Heather
Ignorance is Not Always Bliss’: Uncertainty Reduction Theory Through ‘Coming of Age’ Films

2:30 pm – 2:50 pm  [WALL 318]
Daniels, Tristan
Space Opera: The Genre of Hope
UnderGraduate Research Competition [UGR]

2:30 pm – 2:50 pm  [WALL 322]
McShane, Michael
Modern Sophistry: On the ‘Economization’ of Education

2:50 pm – 3:10 pm  [WALL 318]
Cyr, Kate
Twilight: a relatable read

2:50 pm – 3:10 pm  [WALL 322]
Marinaccio, Michael
The Apology of Sidney

3:10 pm – 3:30 pm  [WALL 322]
Thompson, Katie
The Obelisk: Symbols of Roman Masculinity

3:30 pm – 3:50 pm  [WALL 322]
Brawley, Nikki
Authentic Assessment versus Traditional Assessment: A Comparative Study

3:30 pm – 3:50 pm  [WALL 318]*
and 3:50 pm – 4:10 pm  [WALL 318/322]*
and 4:10 pm – 4:30 pm  [WALL 318/322]*
*[Students from Dr. Navin’s History course: TBA]
Stories from Colonial America

The top three ranked presentations will be awarded $500, $300 and $100. Award recognition will take place briefly before the Conference’s Closing Session at 2:30pm in WHEL Auditorium. All are invited.
8:50am – 9:10am Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. John Yannessa, Dr. Julinna Oxley  
**Birnbaum, Brittany** Effects of Yoga Practice on Eating Disordered Behavior  
In a limited number of studies, yoga practice has been linked to fewer symptoms of eating disorders. The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of yoga on depression, anxiety, body image, and eating attitudes among undergraduate students. Results will be analyzed and discussed.

8:50am-9:10am Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Dan Ennis  
**Hoover, Candace** The Little Mermaid: A Study of Women Under the Sea  
Fairy tales are stories we tell ourselves to satisfy basic cultural needs.

9:10am-9:30am Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Dan Ennis, Dr. Julinna Oxley  
**Wall, Jean (Ginny)** Beyond Bibbity Bobbity Boo: A Look at What the Fairy Godmother Means in a Modern Retelling of Cinderella  
Fairy tales are stories we tell ourselves to satisfy basic cultural needs.

9:10am-9:30am Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Barb Norvell  
**Riedinger, Eric** ‘Puss in Boots’ and Puss in Usurper  
Fairy tales are stories we tell ourselves to satisfy basic cultural needs.

9:30am-9:50am Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Darlene Slusher  
**DeMarco, Eric** From Elephants to Gravity Waves: Dick Reed’s Story of the Ceaseless Winds  
In honor of the late University of Washington Professor, Dick Reed, a tale of lifelong discovery pertaining to the changing climate will be shared. The presented research analyzes recent meteorological data in parallel to Reed’s discovery and discusses the mechanisms that fuel a mode of climate variability.

9:30am-9:50am Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Taylor Damonte  
**Doring, Brian and Robertson, Sam** Stories from Condominium Owners in Myrtle Beach: Effects of the Economy and Modernization of Properties on the Occupancy Rates  
Today’s economic situation prevents people who own condominiums in the area to renovate their units up to the new standards of chain hotels. This inability to update the units has caused the amount of rentals to decrease in condo rentals. This presentation will discuss the importance of providing modernized rooms in the condo rental industry. The presenters will analyze the reasons why condos in the Myrtle Beach area are not being updated and the implication of current economy.

9:50am-10:10am Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Kevin Xu, Dr. Rob Young  
**Folger, Gabriele and Renchen, Jeff** The Effects of Submerged Groundwater Springs on Nutrient and Salinity Dynamics in Discovery Bay, Jamaica  
The coral reefs of Discovery Bay, Jamaica have experienced a phase shift from coral to macroalgal dominated communities due to numerous processes such as the mass mortality of Diadema antillarum, overfishing and nutrient input from groundwater springs. This study focused on the effects of groundwater input on nutrient and salinity dynamics in relation to macroalgal coverage.

9:50am-10:10am Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. John Yannessa, Dr. Sherer Royce  
**Broadwater, Holly and Xantos, John** Smoking Bans Affecting College Students Behaviors Towards Restaurants and Bars  
Many restaurants and bars are implementing smoking bans, whether it be a state or city law or just a change in atmosphere. We attempt to study how this affects a college student's willingness to go to a restaurant or bar that has a smoking ban in effect.

10:10am-10:30am Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Nick Twigg, Dr. Russell Vaden  
**Grippo, Hannah** Anno’s Africa  
Learn the story of Anno's Africa- a creative arts education project for aids, orphan, street, and soldier kids in Africa set up by the family of the poet/musician Anno Birkin, who was killed at age 20. This is to give kids -no matter what the lifespan- a chance to express themselves and follow their dreams.
10:10am-10:30am Wall 322 JUDGES: Casey Schacher
Horton, Nicole, and Stankiewicz, Frankie
Ashes2Arts: Digital Reconstructions of Ancient Monuments
Ashes2Art is an innovative interdisciplinary and inter-university collaborative project that combines art history, archaeology, web design, virtual environments and video animation with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Students will discuss their work and their travel to archaeological sites in Greece to conduct research.

10:30am-10:50am Wall 318 JUDGES: Dr. Rob Young
Hutchins, Patrick
Beneficial microbes and the Coral Immune system
Microbes play an important role in the health of corals, and coral health is vital to the health of tropical ecosystems. Many microbes have been shown to cause disease in corals. However, in my study I show evidence that there may be three-species mutualism involving coral, algae, and beneficial bacteria.

10:30am-10:50am Wall 322 JUDGES: Dr. Darlene Slusher, Dr. Sherer Royce
Kelly, Erin
Is our environment fighting viruses?
Bacteriophages are a special class of viruses that only infect bacteria. They are ubiquitous in every environment and serve a valuable role in controlling microbial balance. Soil and water samples from Horry County have been collected and tested for the presence of a specific virus (coliphage) that infects E. coli, a ubiquitous bacterium found almost everywhere. If the bacteria are present in the environment, then the virus should also be present, as they are important in the overall control of the E. coli population.

10:50am-11:10am Wall 322 JUDGES: Dr. Terry Pettijohn, Dr. Michael Pierce
Mc Gee, Sheena
Operantly Conditioned Behavior in a Group of Cockroaches, Periplaneta Americana
Escape times between grouped and individual cockroaches, Periplaneta Americana, were examined using a discriminative cue and noxious stimulus to elicit an escape response. The researcher hypothesized that operant conditioning would occur faster for grouped animals. Data did not support this hypothesis. Results were discussed as related to the literature.

11:10am-11:30am Wall 318 JUDGES: __________________, __________________
Mullens, Dustin
Construction of Yeast Strains Containing Ure2p Gene Deletions
Prions, short for proteinaceous infectious particles, are responsible for Mad Cow disease and related illnesses in humans. The yeast, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, contains three known proteins: Sup35p, Rnq1p, and Ure2p, capable of forming prions. Like mammalian prions, yeast prions manipulate normal proteins to convert to the misfolded form. Unlike mammalian prions, however, prions in yeast are not fatal, only causing phenotypic changes that can be easily identified. Ure2p is a globular protein containing an N-terminal region critical for prion formation, and a flexible C-terminal region responsible for nitrogen regulation. We have constructed Ure2p mutants containing deletions in the C-terminal region. This region is believed to influence the formation of prions in an indirect way since it has been shown there is no direct interaction between the two domains. These mutants will be tested to determine if they are capable of forming prions.

11:30am-11:50am Wall 318 JUDGES: __________________, _________________
Green, Jessica
Deism and Humanism in “Watchmen”
Students from ENGL 300, the fall Popular Fiction class, will present their research projects. After studying classic genres (romance, western, science fiction, horror, etc.), these students investigated a particular subgenre of popular fiction.

11:30am-11:50am Wall 322 JUDGES: Dr. Nick Twigg
Pierce, Lisa; Shaughnessy, Paddy; and Perian, Liz
Tourism Destinations in Comparison to Myrtle Beach
The purpose of this study is to identify the different expectations of tourists when considering several factors relating to the traveler’s destination. More specifically, we will answer the following research questions; What are tourists’ (singles, couples, and families) expectations of pricing of hotels, location, variety of restaurants, entertainment, and beach appearance for Myrtle Beach compared to Virginia Beach, Outer Banks, Laguna Beach, and Miami Beach?

11:50am-12:10pm Wall 322 JUDGES: Dr. Kevin Xu, Dr. Philip Whalen
Sexton, Sarah
Identification of Aquatic Hypomycetes Using Molecular Techniques
Aquatic Hyphomycetes are a fungal group important in the degradation of leaf detritus in streams and rivers. These fungi are typically identified by morphological structures such as spore shape and spore bearing structures. This research demonstrates the utility of molecular techniques for the identification of fungi that are difficult to grow or stimulate spore production from.
12:10pm-12:30pm Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Nick Twigg
Sheppard, Allison; Rub, Sarah; and Counahan, Maura What Affect do Telemarketors and Off Property Consultants (OPC), have on Guest Expectations and Satisfaction?
We want to understand the advantages and disadvantages of booking a package tour through OPCs and telemarketers. Sandie’s Beech Review said, “The city itself has become a tourist destination because of all it provides. A beautiful oceanfront area, with plenty to do for the couple, for the family or for the business getaway is what Myrtle Beach, South Carolina is.”

12:10pm-12:30pm Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. John Reilly
Stankiewicz, Francis Recovering Horry’s Lost History from the Surface to the Depths
Horry County is an area rich in history but has been overcome by the county's modern major industry, tourism. This project is working to push through that barrier and bring Horry’s forgotten history to the surface, history dealing with various aspects such as Indian grounds, past revolutionary war camps, sailing vessels that reach up to Conway and the local commerce. The student will recount research experience such as techniques, influences that inspired the study, the bumps along the way, and on going research. This project combines interdisciplinary studies such as history, archaeology, GIS, scuba diving, chemistry, computer science and design.

12:30pm-12:50pm Wall 318  JUDGES:__________________, ____________________
Williams, Jessica and Collins, Ross The Effect of Upscale Lodging on the Image of Myrtle Beach
This study will look at the image of Myrtle Beach. It will ultimately determine if the existing and more recently added upscale lodging facilities have impacted the overall image of Myrtle Beach. The primary subjects of the study will be the middle-to high-income travelers. The research will be conducted through a web based survey.

12:30pm-12:50pm Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Rob Young, Dr. Jane Guentzel
Zourdos, Cari and Sellers, Andrew Urchins and Algae: The Ongoing Saga
The relationship between the relentless algae and the grazing sea urchins on the Jamaican coral reef will be explained. Come learn about the effect the urchins have on the health of the reefs, and what the reefs are telling us by disappearing.

12:50pm-1:10pm Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Nick Twigg
Johns, Brian Steps to Success: What We Can Learn From Big Business
Honors students research their unique interests for intellectual exploration through the Honors Thesis. This opportunity will allow them to share those findings and experiences

12:50pm-1:10pm Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Terry Pettijohn, Dr. Russell Vaden
Bogart, Shannon Student’s Perceived Parenting Styles & Their Later Romantic Attachment Style
Honors students research their unique interests for intellectual exploration through the Honors Thesis. This opportunity will allow them to share those findings and experiences.

1:10pm-1:30pm Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Patti Edwards, Dr. Philip Whalen
Hammond, Amelia Mary’s Wedding
Honors students research their unique interests for intellectual exploration through the Honors Thesis. This opportunity will allow them to share those findings and experiences.

1:10pm-1:30pm Wall 322  JUDGES: Dr. Kevin Xu
Stang, Lindsay The Effect Of A Phytoplankton Maximum On The Trophic Food Chain Of The Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops Truncatus) In North Inlet, South Carolina
Research presentations and publications are formal stories relaying an accurate account of how scientific information is acquired and interpreted.

1:30pm-1:50pm Wall 318  JUDGES: Dr. Darlene Slusher
Mozingo, Chelsey Contribution of Candida Albicans to the Synthesis of the Volatile Organic Compound Ethanol in Putrefied Bodies
Research presentations and publications are formal stories relaying an accurate account of how scientific information is acquired and interpreted.
Hendrix, Kerry

Heterosexualizing of Lesbian Romance

Students from ENGL 300, the fall Popular Fiction class, will present their research projects. After studying classic genres (romance, western, science fiction, horror, etc.), these students investigated a particular subgenre of popular fiction.

Banks, Tobias

Identification of Potentially Pathogenic Yeast Species in Seagull Guano by Molecular Techniques

Research presentations and publications are formal stories relaying an accurate account of how scientific information is acquired and interpreted.

Bohrer, Lauren

Fish Habitat Usage of Caribbean Coral Reefs in Discovery Bay, Jamaica

Research presentations and publications are formal stories relaying an accurate account of how scientific information is acquired and interpreted.

Thornton, Steven

Effects of Phytoplankton Concentrations to Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops Truncatus) Prey Availability

Research presentations and publications are formal stories relaying an accurate account of how scientific information is acquired and interpreted.

Eurell, Heather

Ignorance is Not Always Bliss’: Uncertainty Reduction Theory Through ‘Coming of Age’ Films

Honors students pursue their individual passions for intellectual exploration through the Honors Senior Thesis. This session allows them the opportunity to share these passions with their colleagues.

Daniels, Tristan

Space Opera: The Genre of Hope

Students from ENGL 300, the fall Popular Fiction class, will present their research projects. After studying classic genres (romance, western, science fiction, horror, etc.), these students investigated a particular subgenre of popular fiction.

McShane, Michael

Modern Sophistry: On the ‘Economization’ of Education

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Cyr, Kate

Twilight: a relatable read

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The Apology of Sidney

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Thompson, Katie

The Obelisk: Symbols of Roman Masculinity

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Brawley, Nikki

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