2011 Undergraduate Research Competition Program

Coastal Carolina University

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1. **Extroversion/Introversion and Best Friendships**  
Does being extroverted give you a greater closeness to your best friend? This research addresses that question. This will give you a look into the psychology of friendship and how it can be applied in everyday life.  

Nathaniel Maloney

2. **Bright Lights Hurt My Skeyes: Reducing Light Pollution in Conway SC**  
Light pollution is unwanted unnecessary or nuisance light that is the result of poorly designed fixtures in urban centers. Even though it is detrimental to environmental human and economic health light pollution has received little policy attention. This project aims to identify the existence of a light pollution problem in Conway SC determine the aesthetic and economic effectiveness of a policy change and create and establish a lighting ordinance for the city.  

Allison Engeseth

3. **Dietary analysis of nutritional consumption of children aged 9-12 years**  
The prevalence of obesity among children aged 6 to 11 years increased from 6.5% in 1980 to 19.6% in 2008. Healthy diet is essential for weight loss and body weight maintenance. The purpose of this study was to analyze two food day logs by children aged 9-12 at an elementary school in Spring 2011. Analysis of daily nutrient findings will be compared with national recommendations using Diet Analysis Plus 8.0 software.  

Kaile Laurenzo

4. **The Eat Healthy: Play Hard program: A comparison of physical activity and nutritional knowledge pre-post scores among children**  
Low levels of physical activity poor nutritional choices and lack of nutrition knowledge are possible reasons for increases in childhood obesity. This program assessed nutrition knowledge and provided fitness/nutrition education for children ages 9-14. Using a Social Cognitive Theory framework four educational sessions were planned and implemented at a medical clinic and elementary school. Pre-post test results that evaluate changes in nutrition and physical activity knowledge will be provided.  

Alex Ham

5. **Stomach content and fullness comparison between Murrells Inlet and North Inlet Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum) and Lagodon rhomboides (pinfish)**  
Stomach fullness and content trends over time can give insight as to when what and how much fish are eating. The goal of this study was to determine if a difference existed in stomach fullness and content between Murrells Inlet and North Inlet Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum) and Lagodon rhomboides (pinfish). Murrells Inlet’s high level of human development could influence specific diets trophic levels and food webs in each location which ultimately effect fish populations.  

Robert Crimian

6. **Medea Ex Machina: The Myth and Mechanical Reinvention of the Other Scorned**  
Whether discussing Euripides’ Medea or any one of its modern renditions scholars fail to agree on the “essence” of the demigoddess the injustice she faces and the legitimacy of her revenge. In Poetics (335 BCE) Aristotle criticizes the play’s deus ex machina ending and its unconventional hero. However Medea’s complex identity and tragic machination are both explained in Simone de Beauvoir’s The Second Sex (1952) as common consequences of “the myth of woman.”  

Amanda Kraft
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<th>No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Disney Princesses: The Effect of Body Image on Young Girls</td>
<td>The main theoretical perspectives pertaining to this study involve the use of television and movies as instructions for children and that children learn from the content and emulate the behaviors that they observe. Disney animated films are a staple of today's childhood therefore it is an important medium for studying the effects of media on children particularly how the Disney Princesses effect the body image of young girls.</td>
<td>Brittany Lawton</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Age Old Priming’s New Age Purpose: Acceptance of Same-sex Relationships Through Popular Music Videos</td>
<td>An experiment was conducted to measure the priming effect and estimation of occurrence of individuals who view a music video containing same-sex relationship content opposed to a more traditional music video which involves male-female relationships.</td>
<td>Talia Robinson</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Women and the Great War: Mobilization and its Effect on Gender Boundaries in Post-War France</td>
<td>The Great War of 1914-1918 presents a momentary breakdown of traditional gender boundaries ushered in by the mobilization of the entire French society in the prodigious war effort. The shift in women's self-perception was a fundamental effect of the two calamitous world wars of the twentieth century. A central issue of discussion will be the resultant sociopolitical reactions to these changes.</td>
<td>Jeffrey Robinson</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Essential Fatty Acids and Behavior in Rats</td>
<td>This research was conducted to examine the behavioral effects of supplementation with omega-3 fatty acids in rats. Groups were tested on two behavioral apparatus including an elevated plus maze to measure anxiety and a forced swim test to measure depression. Results revealed significantly less depressed and/or anxious behaviors in the fish oil groups compared to the vegetable oil and control groups. Results were discussed in terms of the benefits of essential fatty acids.</td>
<td>Kristi Oxfurth</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Remixing Business Models-Technology &amp; The Future of the Modern Music Industry</td>
<td>This is about the impact of technology on the modern music industry focusing on the illegal music downloads and the ways new artists enter the music industry.</td>
<td>Ryan Brown</td>
</tr>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Is Random Drug Testing of School Athletes An Effective Deterrent in the Fight Against Drug Abuse?</td>
<td>This thesis will address why testing of school athletes should not be allowed from an economical standpoint as well as being a proven deterrent to drug use.</td>
<td>Kelly Cann</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Communication In The Courtroom</td>
<td>This thesis is about the effects of verbal and non-verbal communication of a lawyer on a courtroom. A lawyer’s communication can affect the verdict of a case.</td>
<td>Kathryn Cowles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Businesses Going Green: Legal Compliance Corporate Social Responsibility or Just A Marketing</td>
<td>This thesis’s purpose is to understand what motivates businesses to adopt environmentally friendly practices. The three primary motivational factors explored are legal compliance corporate social responsibility and financial purpose.</td>
<td>Emma Currin</td>
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</table>
15. Christological Iconography - The Study of Symbolism in Religious Artwork
This thesis will investigate the ways contemporary artists use religious iconography in their works and what influences the choices they make regarding how to portray their content.
Amanda El-Tourky

16. Evaluation of the Accuracy of Maximal Heart Rate Prediction Equations
The thesis deals with the inaccuracy of the most commonly used maximal heart rate prediction equation 220-age and how an equation which is both age and modality specific may yield a more accurate prediction of an individual's actual maximal heart rate.
Ashleigh Gaspari

17. Mitochondrial DNA: Inheritance in Bivalves: a Comparative Study Involving the Unique System of Doubly Uniparental Inheritance
Researching the revolutionary new mechanism of doubly uniparental inheritance (DUI) in which organisms inherit mitochondrial DNA from both parents, not just the mother. My research is examining inheritance in *Mytilus edulis*, which consistently expresses DUI, and *Geukensia demissa*, a local species that has had varied results of DUI expression.
Sarah Heishman

18. Density and Distribution of the Long-Spine Sea Urchin at Discovery Bay Jamaica
This thesis is about the population status of the long-spine sea urchin since its mass mortality in 1983. I am researching urchin densities in Jamaica since this time and comparing them with my own results from 2010.
Jessica Keller

19. TIS THE SEASON: SEASONAL ORDERING HABITS
To determine seasonal ordering trends researchers examined menu orders on four non-holiday dates (January April July October) over three years at a Myrtle Beach restaurant. Beef entrees were ordered steadily throughout the seasons with an average of 21.5% of total entrees. Chicken was ordered least in Fall (3.79%) and most in Summer (5.03%). Seafood was more popular in Fall (2.18%) than Summer (1.44%). These trends may reflect tourism influences and possible seasonal dieting.
Casey Rolla

20. The Water Fluoridation Controversy
This thesis addresses the issue of the controversial fluoridation of public water supplies. A survey was completed analyzing patients oral history of cavities and extraction in relation to whether their water supply was fluoridated or not. The results from this research were non-significant but showed a small association favoring un-fluoridated water. Also during this presentation other ethical issues of water fluoridation will be brought up and discussed.
Megan Presutti

21. The Wonder of Wonder
Did you ever wonder about things as a child? Some educators believe that accountability and scripted curricula have caused young children to lose interest in and the ability to wonder. The Senior I EDEC 420 class conducted field research during their three week field experience.
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Three-Dimensional Shelf Ocean Circulation in the Arc-Shaped Long Bay of the Carolinas: Numerical Modeling Results of the Year 2009</td>
<td>A numerical model was used to simulate salinity temperature and ocean circulation in Long Bay for the year 2009. Results contain images and animations produced using MatLab to illustrate the simulated circulation patterns and distribution of physical water properties.</td>
<td>Brian Quigley</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>Education as a Potential Solution to Mitigating the Illegal Wildlife Trade</td>
<td>This thesis looks at the functions of the illegal wildlife trade and whether or not education can have a prevalent effect on reducing this invisible illegal business.</td>
<td>Brooke Donaldson</td>
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<td>24.</td>
<td>The Effect of Xylitol on Normal Oral Bacteria</td>
<td>The purpose of this study will be to investigate the biochemical and structural effects of xylitol on normal oral bacteria and to study the rate of growth inhibition of Streptococcus mutans when exposed to xylitol.</td>
<td>Laura Walters</td>
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<td>25.</td>
<td>The Life of a Camo-Girl</td>
<td>In the past women were tending the home, growing food, and caring for children while men hunted. (Frye 2006) Frye introduces the idea that women now represent one of the largest growing divisions of the hunting world. My research shows women have mixed responses to their active life as female hunters. Would it seem normal that out of 21 million hunters 3360000 are female hunters who are perceived as being androgynous members of society?</td>
<td>Lindsay Osborne</td>
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<td>26.</td>
<td>Implementing a Positive Self-Affirmation Intervention to Reduce the Risk of Stereotype Threat</td>
<td>Reading comprehension was examined as a function of stereotype threat and self-affirmation conditions. College students completed a reading comprehension test after receiving threatening or nonthreatening instructions and engaging or not engaging in a self-affirmation intervention. Results of a 2 x 2 factorial revealed a significant main effect of self-affirmation intervention on reading comprehension scores. The need to consider performance vulnerabilities of some populations and encourage positive interventions is discussed.</td>
<td>Kimberly LaPiene</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>Opportunity Assessment</td>
<td>The research for the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce was conducted to see what factors could increase tourism during the off season. Qualitative and quantitative methodologies were applied to ten defined target segments with 60 surveys completed. The survey questions consisted of lodging arrangements, transportation, frequency of visits, and accompanying parties. Recommendations concerning the most profitable age group and the use of advertising dollars are proven throughout the study.</td>
<td>D'Andrea Amendolea</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Hairstyle Is Everything</td>
<td>This research poses questions on the perception of hairstyles within certain races. The main question is if three hairstyles change the value judgment of a person of three races.</td>
<td>Lillian Martin</td>
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### 29. Whose Child? The Situations and Responsibilities of Infancy Abandonment in China

Many Americans assume a child adopted from China was rescued from a society that didn’t want them. This cultural myth holds truth but is also a greatly skewed understanding regarding biological parents’ feelings towards their baby and China’s to its citizens. This presentation explains the current reasons for mass child abandonment in China compares Chinese and American understandings of human rights and responds to the Western misconception that China does not value its children.

Hannah-Jordan Grippo

### 30. NASA Student Ambassador Program: Mission to Europa

The NASA Student Ambassador Program encourages students to promote science in their local communities. As an ambassador the presenter designed a public display that compares a possible exploration of Jupiter’s moon Europa to deep sea exploration on Earth. Observations of Europa suggest a vast ocean underneath a frozen surface which may be home to extremophile life forms. In this talk the presenter summarize the NASA Ambassador Project including a description of the Europa display.

Kevin Kern

### 31. Evaluation of Downwelling Longwave Radiation from Model Reanalysis Data using Long-term Observations from Israel

A statistical analysis of ECMWF Interim NCEP1 and NCEP2 reanalysis data reveals the accuracy of climate models. Each reanalysis is a model of present and future climate conditions based on past data. Examination of the incoming longwave radiation field used the MATLAB programming environment and observational data obtained from Yatir Forest Israel. It showed that NCEP1 varied significantly more than the others validating the models of the ECMWF Interim and NCEP2 reanalyses.

Theresa King

### 32. Dissolved organic carbon and chromophoric dissolved organic matter cycling within the Nueces Marsh Corpus Christi Texas

Marshes are areas of high primary production which makes accounting for carbon distribution and concentration important. In shallow well-mixed heavily insolated environments resuspended sediments have been shown to release large amounts of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) and chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) when photo bleached. Water and sediment samples were collected between March and August of 2010 in the Nueces Marsh to determine concentration distribution and role of DOC and CDOM in this environment.

Jeffrey Obelcz

### 33. Mercury Concentrations in Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) Feathers from

Previous studies concerning the toxicological risks of Hg focused on aquatic species and seabirds but there has been a growing interest in the bioaccumulation of mercury in terrestrial ecosystems. Loggerhead Shrikes are predatory birds the size of a robin that feeds

Jennifer Aldershoff
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<tr>
<td>Differing Ecoregions of South Carolina</td>
<td>on insects, small lizards, and rodents. Shrike populations have experienced significant decline throughout North America. The objective of this study is to determine levels of total Hg in Loggerhead Shrike tail feathers.</td>
<td>Brandon McCoy</td>
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<td>34. An Unfilled Pail of Water</td>
<td>Zitkala-Ša’s “Impressions of an Indian Childhood” is the most illuminating perspective of American Indian detribalization during the late 1800’s. The amalgamation of traditional Native American and Western European literary forms blurs the distinction between the functions of the two. Ša writes within the genre of autobiography in unapologetic English vividly illuminating acculturation. Literary functions of the Native Americans (who did not develop systems of writing) are best studied through Native American art—primarily pottery making.</td>
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<td>35. Negative Introverts are Creative</td>
<td>The purpose of this study is to find a condition in which negative mood results in better cognitive functioning. The two independent variables are mood positive and negative and personality type introvert and extravert. The design of this study is a two by two between subject design. The main hypothesis is that introverts in a negative mood will perform better than in a positive mood. Results supported the hypothesis.</td>
<td>Paige Naylor</td>
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<td>36. Country Music Research: Socioeconomic Status and Characteristics of Popular Music</td>
<td>This research identifies characteristics of Billboard’s Year End Country Songs as a function of the economic climate. Preliminary analysis of each country song of the year since 1946 reveal that unlike pop songs, which get slower and more somber during recessions in threatening economic times, longer country songs with faster tempos and happier key signatures are more popular. Further analysis will explore all country songs to reach number one on the Billboard weekly charts.</td>
<td>Keith Richard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. The Impact on Small Businesses and Unemployment Rates During the Great Recession of 2007</td>
<td>This thesis is about how the recent recession has had an extreme impact on small businesses and unemployment rates. There is a clear connection between these two subjects in which I am further investigating.</td>
<td>Alyssa Sharples</td>
</tr>
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Coastal Carolina University
Office for Undergraduate Research
2011 Undergraduate Research Competition
Citations by College

College of Science

Department of Biology

Walters, Laura. "The Effect of Xylitol on Normal Oral Bacteria". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Karen Aguirre]

Department of Chemistry/Physics

Applied Physics

Kern, Kevin. "NASA Student Ambassador Program: Mission to Europa". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Louis Rubbo]

Department of Health Promotion

Ham, Alex, Allyson League, Miguel Mendoza and Tom Niemela. "The Eat Healthy: Play Hard program: A Comparison of Physical Activity and Nutritional Knowledge Pre-Post Scores among Children". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

Laurenzo, Kaile. "Dietary Analysis of Nutritional Consumption of Children ages 9-12 Years". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

League, Allyson, Miguel Mendoza, Tom Niemela and Alex Ham. "The Eat Healthy: Play Hard Program: A Comparison of Physical Activity and Nutritional Knowledge Pre-Post Scores among Children". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

Mendoza, Miguel, Tom Niemel, Alex Ham and Allyson League. "The Eat Healthy: Play Hard Program: A Comparison of Physical Activity and Nutritional Knowledge Pre-Post Scores among Children". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina
University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

Niemel, Tom, Alex Ham, Allyson League and Miguel Mendoza. "The Eat Healthy: Play Hard Program: A Comparison of Physical Activity and Nutritional Knowledge Pre-Post Scores among Children". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

Rolla, Casey and Tamara Schultz. "Tis the Season: Seasonal Ordering Habits". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

Schultz, Tamara and Casey Rolla. "Tis the Season: Seasonal Ordering Habits". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sharon Thompson]

**Department of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sports Studies**

Cann, Kelly. "Is Random Drug Testing of School Athletes an Effective Deterrent in the Fight Against Drug Abuse?" 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Colleen McGlone]

Gaspari, Ashleigh. "Evaluation of the Accuracy of Maximal Heart Rate Prediction Equations". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Keira Williams]

**Department of Marine Science**

Aldershoff, Jennifer. "Mercury Concentrations in Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius Ludovicianus Feathers from Differing Eco regions of South Carolina". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Jane Guentzel]

Crimian, Robert. "Stomach Content and Fullness Comparison between Murrells Inlet and North Inlet Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum) and Lagodon rhomboides (pinfish)". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Robert Young]

Heishman, Sarah. "Mitochondrial DNA: Inheritance in Bivalves: a Comparative Study Involving the Unique System of Doubly Uniparental Inheritance". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Michael Pierce]

Keller, Jessica. "Density and Distribution of the Long-Spine Sea Urchin at Discovery Bay, Jamaica". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Erin Burge]
King, Theresa. "Evaluation of Downwelling Longwave Radiation from Model Reanalysis Data using Long-Term Observations from Israel". *First Place* 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: A. Anis]

Martinez, Melissa. "Anthropogenic and Environmental Impacts on Meiofauna in Estuaries". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Eric Koepfler]

Quigley, Brian. "Three-Dimensional Shelf Ocean Circulation in the Arc-Shaped Long Bay of the Carolinas: Numerical Modeling Results of the Year 2009". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Kevin Xu]

**Department of Psychology and Sociology**

Psychology

LaPiene, Kimberly. "Implementing a Positive Self-Affirmation Intervention to Reduce the Risk of Stereotype". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, SC. April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Linda Palm]

Maloney, Nathaniel. "Extroversion/Introversion and Best Friendships". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Joan Piroch]

Naylor, Paige. "Negative Introverts are Creative". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Jong Han Kim]

Oxforth, Kristi. "Essential Fatty Acids and Behavior in Rats". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Joan Piroch]

Richard, Keith. "Country Music Research: Socioeconomic Status and Characteristics of Popular Music". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Jason Eastman]

**Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts**

**Department of Art**

**Art Studio**
El-Tourkey, Amanda. "Christological Iconography - The Study of Symbolism in Religious Artwork". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Elizabeth Howie]

Department of Communication

Cowles, Kathryn. "Communication in the Courtroom". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Wes Fondren]

Lawton, Brittany. "Disney Princesses: The effects of Body Image on Young Girls". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Deborah Breede]

Martin, Lillian. "Hair Style is Everything". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Wes Fondren]

Osborne, Lindsay. "The Life of a Camo-Girl". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Deborah Breede]

Robinson, Talia. "Age Old Priming's New Age Purpose: Acceptance of Same-Sex Relationships through Popular Music Videos". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011.

Department of English

Grippo, Hannah-Jordan. "Whose Child? The Situations and Responsibility of Infancy Abandonment in China". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Min Ye]

Kraft, Amanda. "Medea Ex Machina: The Myth and Mechanical Reinvention of the Other Scorned". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Sara Sanders]

McCoy, Brandon. "An Unfilled Pail of Water". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: D. Turner]

Political Science

Wall College of Business

Department of Marketing and Resort Tourism

Marketing/Management

Marketing
Amendolea, D'Andrea. "Opportunity Assessment". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Michael Latta]

Floyd, Andrea. "How Does Color in Package Design Lead to Emotional Appeal and Consumer Behavior?" 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Carol Megehee]

Department of Management and Decision Sciences

Management
Currin, Emma. "Businesses Going Green: Legal Compliance Corporate Social Responsibility or Just a Marketing Strategy". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Darla Domke-Damonte]

Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics

Business
Sharples, Alyssa. "The Impact on Small Business and Unemployment Rates during the Great Recession of 2007". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Christina Reiser]

University College

Interdisciplinary Studies

Donaldson, Brooke. "Education as a Potential Solution to Mitigating the Illegal Wildlife Trade". 3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University, April 2011. [Faculty Mentor: Kevin Godwin]