

SEVENTH ANNUAL
**RESEARCH
SYMPOSIUM**

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018
BRENAU DOWNTOWN CENTER | GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA





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HISTORY AND VISION FOR THE BRENAU UNIVERSITY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Brenau University Research Symposium has its roots in both the College of Health Sciences and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Research celebrations. In 2009, the College of Health Sciences began to host a research poster presentation after its graduate hooding event each April. The events were held in the Burd Center or Trustee Library. Phi Kappa Phi continued its focus on supporting both undergraduate and graduate research by hosting research poster events near graduation.

In 2012, the College of Health Sciences hosted the first Brenau University Research Symposium, which was open to all but focused primarily on both undergraduate and graduate research within the college. With the advent of the Sidney O. Smith Jr. Graduate School, it seemed time appropriate to pull all the research events being held in April into a university-wide research event. In 2013 the Research Symposium held its inaugural university-wide event. The keynote address was shared by all colleges and featured a faculty presenter from each. The topic was novel approaches to problems in health care. Over 60 papers were presented representing disciplines from across the university.

The seventh annual Brenau University Research Symposium features undergraduate, graduate and faculty papers from three colleges and spans disciplines as diverse as education, clinical psychology, art and cross-cultural awareness. This year, as Brenau celebrates its 140th anniversary, the theme of the symposium is “Quality: A Quest for Truth and a Basis for Action” and will open with a roundtable discussion featuring professors from each college talking about the concept of “Searching for Truth in the Presence of Bias and in a World of Misinformation.” The 98 participants submitted 58 abstracts that have been divided into concurrent sessions to facilitate discussions across a wide range of topics.



PLENARY SESSION

SEARCHING FOR TRUTH IN THE PRESENCE OF BIAS AND IN A WORLD OF MISINFORMATION

THEATER ON THE SQUARE 12-12:55 P.M.

This year, the symposium opens with a roundtable discussion focusing on the search for truth in the current climate of misinformation and among both personal and societal bias. Five presenters, representing the Trustee Library and each of the four colleges at Brenau, will discuss this issue from their unique viewpoints, drawing on their experiences and research.

SPEAKERS



Kim Boyd, *Research Librarian, Brenau Trustee Library*

Kimberly Boyd is the head of Research and Instructional Services for the Brenau Trustee Library. She holds an MLIS from Valdosta State University and undergraduate degrees in psychology and women's studies from Georgia State University. Boyd serves on the Georgia Library Association Executive Board and has received the McJenkin-Rheay Award, which is given to librarians early in their careers in recognition of innovation in the profession, and the GLA Team Award for her work on the national Carterette Series Webinars. Boyd directs the library instruction program for both online and on-ground students across all of Brenau's campuses and has a passion for enabling student success through the teaching of information literacy.



Dr. Robert Cantu, *Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, Ivester College of Health Sciences*

Dr. Robert "Bob" Cantu joined the Brenau physical therapy faculty in August 2015. He has been practicing

physical therapy since 1979, and has been involved in the physical therapy continuing education arena since 1988. He has holds a bachelor's degree in physical therapy, a Master of Medical Science in physical therapy, a Master of Business Administration, and an Ed.D. concentrating on health care education and organizational leadership. His doctoral work was heavily influenced by his experience functioning in both the clinical and business arenas of the physical therapy industry and his involvement in growing and managing a physical therapy business in Georgia. A specific research interest of his is ethics in physical therapy practice and, specifically, the ethical dynamics that occur at the interface of clinical practice and business administration.



Dr. Heather C. Hollimon, *Associate Professor of Political Science, College of Fine Arts & Humanities*

Dr. Hollimon is the director of the history/political science major, coordinator of the gender studies minor and academic director of first year experience at Brenau. She has been teaching at Brenau since graduating from Penn State University with a Ph.D. in political science and a graduate certificate in women's studies.



Dr. David J. Miller, *Professor of Health Care Management, College of Business & Mass Communication*

Dr. Miller currently serves as professor and lead faculty

for the MBA in health care management and the B.S. in health care administration at Brenau University. Previously, he served on the medical school faculties of Emory University and the University of Pittsburgh as associate professor of psychiatry and cardiothoracic surgery. He is an executive associate at the Brookings Institute in Washington, D.C., and a graduate of the VA's Healthcare Leadership Institute. He was named in the 2016 Atlanta Business Chronicle's "Who's Who in Georgia Education" list and is also a member of the Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners and serves as vice chairman on the county board of health.



Dr. Bryan P. Sorohan, *Professor of Education, College of Education*

Bryan Sorohan is currently a professor of education at Brenau University. He received

a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1985, an M.Ed. in social studies education from North Georgia College and State University in 1991 and a Ph.D. in middle school education from the University of Georgia in 2003. Bryan began his career as a teacher in the Early Adolescent Unit of Charter Peachtree Psychiatric Hospital in Dunwoody, Georgia, then went on to teach seventh- and eighth-grade social studies for five years at South Forsyth Middle School in Cumming, Georgia. He currently teaches courses at Brenau in social studies methods, instructional technology, instructional design and educational foundations. His research interests are service learning, middle grades teacher preparation, international education and educational policy.

MODERATOR



Dr. James Taylor, *Assistant Professor of Management, College of Business and Mass Communication*

Dr. James Taylor earned his Ph.D. in technology management (quality systems) from Indiana State University in 2014, an MBA from The University of Chicago in 1990, and a BSME (honors) from Tri-State University, Angola, Indiana, in 1983. He is a certified Six Sigma Master Black Belt. His research interests include

quantitative methods and process improvement, especially Six Sigma. He has been a member of the American Society for Quality since 1997 and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers since 1984. He worked for 30 years in industry, including in such areas as engineering, account management, project management, quality management and process improvement. He continues with a process-improvement training and consulting practice, with clients that include Bosch, IMS Gear, Kubota, and ZF.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM AT A GLANCE

PLENARY SESSION

Theatre on the Square
12-12:55 p.m.

Join representatives from each of Brenau's four colleges and Trustee Library for a discussion focusing on the search for truth in the current climate of misinformation and among both personal and societal bias.

POSTERS 1 – 5 p.m., Atrium

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1 – 4:55 p.m.

1 – 1:55 p.m.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Meeting Room A

BACTERIA

Meeting Room B

SHAKESPEARE PANEL

Meeting Room C

PRINTMAKING

PT 122

CORPORATE WORKPLACE

PT 127

2 – 2:55 p.m.

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS

Meeting Room A

SELF-AWARENESS

Meeting Room B

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION

Meeting Room C

APPLIED ART

PT 122

LEGALITY ISSUES

PT 127

3 – 3:55 p.m.

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES

Meeting Room A

ADOLESCENCE

Meeting Room B

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Meeting Room C

FASHION DESIGN

PT 122

SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

PT 127

4 – 4:55 p.m.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

Meeting Room A

HONORS PANEL

Meeting Room B

CULTURAL AWARENESS

Meeting Room C

SESSIONS BY ROOM

Meeting Room A

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

1 – 1:55 p.m.

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS

2 – 2:55 p.m.

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES

3 – 3:55 p.m.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

4 – 4:55 p.m.

PT 122

PRINTMAKING

1 – 1:55 p.m.

APPLIED ART

2 – 2:55 p.m.

FASHION DESIGN

3 – 3:55 p.m.

Meeting Room B

BACTERIA

1 – 1:55 p.m.

SELF-AWARENESS

2 – 2:55 p.m.

ADOLESCENCE

3 – 3:55 p.m.

HONORS PANEL

4 – 4:55 p.m.

PT 127

CORPORATE WORKPLACE

1 – 1:55 p.m.

LEGALITY ISSUES

2 – 2:55 p.m.

SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

3 – 3:55 p.m.

Meeting Room C

SHAKESPEARE PANEL

1 – 1:55 p.m.

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION

2 – 2:55 p.m.

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

3 – 3:55 p.m.

CULTURAL AWARENESS

4 – 4:55 p.m.

POSTERS

POSTERS *1-5 p.m., Atrium*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Single Limb Robotic Knee Orthosis Use as Adjunct to Interventions for a Patient with Significant Single Limb Sensory Ataxia and Severe Motor Spasm

AUTHORS: Dr. Christy Brimmer and Dr. Beth Sasso

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Ataxia is a complex movement disorder that is often difficult for physical therapists to treat. Sensory ataxia may result from damage to various parts of the nervous system, including afferent portions of peripheral nerve roots or the dorsal column of the spinal cord. This case involves a 64-year-old male with severe sensory ataxia and motor spasm secondary to posterior epidural hematoma causing spinal cord compression. After multiple weeks of therapy, he remained unsafe for ambulation and dependent on a wheelchair for locomotion. Use of a single limb intention-based robotic knee orthosis on his involved lower extremity for three weeks was added to his therapy regimen. The primary activities using the robotic knee orthosis were focused on standing balance and gait skills. Over the course of the three weeks, the client was able to increase his gait distances from less than 100 feet with the assistance of two people to more than 1,000 feet with supervision. After three weeks of intervention, he was able to ambulate 400 feet with a rolling walker and the assistance of one person. Notable pre- and post-outcome measure testing with Tinetti Performance Oriented Mobility Assessment and 10-meter walk test revealed significant improvements. Evidence supports the use of treatment strategies for ataxia that reduce the complexity of movement by limiting the degrees of freedom or stabilizing the limb's movement activity. Reducing ataxic movement and facilitating normal movement over the course of the three-week addition of the robotic limb orthosis may have contributed to these clinically important changes.

POSTERS *1-5 p.m., Atrium*

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Prevalence Rates of Eating Disorders in Transgender Women

AUTHORS: Eliana Gross and Denise Sunga

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Bonnie Kin

ABSTRACT:

Eating disorders are a major public health issue, affecting over 30 million individuals of all ages, ethnicities and genders. Anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa are two prevalent disorders with approximately a 10-to-1 female-to-male ratio. Multiple risk factors have been identified that contribute to the development of eating disorders, including dieting cultures, pressure to conform to cultural beauty standards, internalized thin idealization, body dissatisfaction and increased anxiety. This information is beneficial in order to better recognize and manage eating disorders. However, much of the current literature focuses on cisgender individuals suffering from eating disorders, leaving a gap of information regarding transgender individuals who may also suffer from eating disorders. With an increased awareness of the transgender community, understanding the prevalence of eating disorders can aid in better recognizing and managing eating disorders within this community. Additionally, knowledge about specific risk factors related to being transgender in addition to the risk factors related to eating disorders would add to the current literature. This study will use the Transgender Congruence Scale, the Eating Disorder Examination Questionnaire and the Social Appearance Anxiety Scale to determine if there is a difference in the prevalence rates of eating disorders between cisgender and transgender women, the relationship between gender congruence and eating disorders and the relationship between levels of anxiety and eating disorders within the cisgender and transgender communities.

POSTERS *1-5 p.m., Atrium*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Enhancing Outcomes in Pediatric Physical Therapy with Psychologically Informed Practice

AUTHOR: Dr. Stacey J. Hoffman

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

The area of psychologically informed physical therapy is developing more rapidly as multidisciplinary care has become more common. Many psychologically based interventions have been found to be effective in treating a variety of challenges seen in patients who are also treated by physical therapists. However, until recently, the majority of these interventions have been implemented by psychologists.

An area of PT where psychologically informed interventions have been lacking is pediatrics. Many children with developmental disabilities or orthopedic impairments require PT to help maximize function, independence and mobility. Children with developmental disabilities may also have impaired cognitive abilities and a higher incidence of negative behavior that can interfere with PT. Negative behaviors such as tantrums and noncompliance can often prevent the therapist from implementing a treatment program and thus impede the process of PT. Yet without PT, these children are at increased risk for progression of their disabilities and immobility, as well as further impairment of their social development.

The present study trained physical therapists to utilize psychologically informed interventions to deal more effectively with children who exhibit disruptive behavior problems during PT sessions. A multiple-baseline design was used with two therapists and four children in an inpatient children's hospital and two therapists and three children in an outpatient setting. Results indicated that physical therapists learned the behavior therapy techniques and incorporated these skills into their daily PT session. The intervention was rated positive by all therapists.

POSTERS *1-5 p.m., Atrium*

FACULTY AND GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Spanish Version of the Fear of Daily Activities Questionnaires in Nicaraguan Patients with Low-Back Pain. A pilot study.

AUTHORS: Dr. Fredy Solis, Israel Branford, Josefa Conrado and Mark Bishop

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Freddy Mora Solis

ABSTRACT:

The fear of daily activities questionnaire (FDAQ) was developed and validated in the English language to aid planning interventions for patients with low-back pain (LBP). The purpose of this study was to translate, culturally adapt and test the comprehensibility of the FDAQ in people with LBP in Nicaragua. Translation and back translation was done blindly and independently by two bilingual physical therapists. This study reports on data from the pilot phase from 38 participants (age=47±16; F=29) who completed the translated version of the FDAQ and measures (Oswestry disability index, Rolland-Morris questionnaire, fear avoidance belief questionnaire) previously validated in Spanish. Participants were recruited from four centers that provide physical therapy services in the city of Managua. SPSS-24 was used for all analyses. Internal consistency of the 10 translated items from the FDAQ were analyzed using Cronbach's alpha. Pearson's correlation was used to examine the association among the total score from the FDAQ with the Oswestry, Roland-Morris and fear avoidance beliefs questionnaire. Results from this investigation revealed internal consistency (Cronbach's alpha=0.895) of the FDAQ. Strong correlations of the total percentage of the FDAQ with Roland-Morris ($r=0.706$, $p<0.001$), and Oswestry ($r=0.529$, $p=0.001$) were found. Nonetheless, the correlation with fear avoidance belief questionnaire was $r=0.061$; $p>0.05$. In summary, the Spanish version of the FDAQ has good internal consistency and strong correlations with previously translated versions of measures of disability. Results suggest that the FDAQ could potentially be implemented in the Spanish-speaking population with LBP to design graded exposure interventions in patients with high levels of fear of daily living. Ongoing work will validate these relationships in a large clinical cohort.

POSTERS *1-5 p.m., Atrium*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

History of Lace

AUTHOR: Rachel Ward

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

PROJECT FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Charity Armstead

ABSTRACT:

The focus of my research will be the history and origin of different types of laces, specifically needle lace and bobbin lace. While focusing on each individual lace, I will discuss its history, where it was created, how it was/is used and what makes that type of lace unique. I plan to create my own lace, as well to get a first-person perspective of the craft, while talking to people who create lace within groups/associations.

ADOLESCENCE

ADOLESCENCE 3-3:15 p.m., Meeting Room B

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Together We Run

AUTHOR: Dr. Tammy Buck

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Adolescents with disabilities are at risk for health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and depression, and these diseases are associated with decreased physical activity. The typical adolescent with disability does not participate in the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day and instead spends a great deal of time in sedentary activities.

Together We Run, a program designed by a pediatric physical therapist, promotes health, wellness and physical activities for adolescents who are disabled and their families. Together We Run, a 10-week intervention designed to prepare adolescents with disabilities for a 5K race, follows the FITTE principles: frequency, intensity, time, type and enjoyment. Each adolescent participates in weekly group training sessions and follows an individualized home plan. The intervention is designed to increase the time spent in physical activity, as well as to increase functional walking capacity. Peer and adult volunteers walk and run with each participant to ensure safety and to promote motivation for both training and racing.

The Six Minute Walk Test was completed pre- and post-intervention, along with a program assessment. Eighteen adolescents with disabilities, 15 family members and 32 volunteers successfully completed the 5K race. Participant, family member and volunteer comments reflect satisfaction with the intervention and a desire to continue the program. Statistical analysis of the Six Minute Walk Test is not complete at this time, but preliminary results indicate the program was successful in increasing the distance on the Six Minute Walk Test.

ADOLESCENCE 3:20-3:35 *p.m.*, Meeting Room B

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Effects of Internet Addiction and Concurrent Psychosocial Problems on the Daily Functioning and Wellness of Teenagers

AUTHORS: Frank Gorriz, Pablo Faundez and Leslie Small

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Gary Bauman

ABSTRACT:

While there are beneficial uses for the internet, internet usage can become problematic for users when it interferes with their daily functioning and wellness, particularly if internet usage becomes an addiction. Current research across Europe and Asia suggests that internet addiction can serve as a contributing factor in the development of symptomatology associated with depression, anxiety and other concurrent psychosocial problems in adolescents. We hope to further develop this line of research on internet addiction and concurrent psychosocial problems on adolescents within the United States. This research can be utilized to create treatment modalities that will address depression and anxiety in teenagers and target the harmful impact of internet addiction on daily functioning. This study can also be utilized by school counselors to increase awareness about the effects of internet addiction on teenagers to eventually create preventative measures against internet addiction and its effects on daily functioning.

ADOLESCENCE 3:40-3:55 p.m., Meeting Room B

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Observing the Effects of Collaborative Learning on Attitudes of Middle School Aged Adolescents Participating in a Fatal Vision Goggles Impaired and Distracted Driving Prevention Program

AUTHORS: Paulette Kennedy, Rebecca Kim and Timothy Pierce-Tomlin

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Julie Battle

ABSTRACT:

Impaired driving and distracted driving are dangerous and pervasive problems in the United States. Previously used adolescent intervention programs (e.g., DARE, MADD) aimed at deterring risky driving behaviors have been unsuccessful in changing attitudes toward impaired driving. Programs to reduce texting and driving are also not associated with decreased distracted driving accidents and fatalities. Fatal vision goggles (FVGs) interventions, in which participants experience, while sober, the limits of their impaired physiology, have been shown to be effective in encouraging healthy attitudes toward drinking and driving in college-aged populations; however, FVGs have not been researched with younger adolescents. In addition, little research is available on programs aimed at changing attitudes toward texting and driving. Education and developmental research suggest that peer influence can increase the impact of prevention programs. The current study aims to examine the effectiveness of a program using FVGs and texting conditions plus a collaborative learning component on attitudes of eighth graders toward drinking and driving and texting and driving. Approximately 65 students will be randomly assigned to one of four sequences of conditions involving wearing FVGs and texting while riding a pedal go-kart through an obstacle course. Students will then participate in a collaborative learning discussion. Pretest and posttest measures on attitudes toward drinking and driving and texting and driving will be administered. It is expected that participants will demonstrate healthy attitude changes and that the program with a collaborative learning component will be more effective in changing attitudes than previously tested programs without this component.

APPLIED ART

APPLIED ART 2-2:15 p.m., PT 122

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Quality, Subject and Beauty in Hank Virgona's "Urinal"

AUTHOR: Jennifer Benitez

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Kasie Alt

ABSTRACT:

This paper will explore and analyze Hank Virgona's 1976 piece "Urinal" by examining how the quality of a subject raises questions about issues in beauty. Virgona's piece is exhibited in the Manhattan Gallery at the Brenau Downtown Center in Gainesville, Georgia. This gallery contains a significant number of artworks with subject matters that range from portraits to abstract elements. What is eye catching about "Urinal" is the fact that the focal point of the piece is a peculiar object. Through formal qualities and techniques, an object that would normally be considered less than refined is now subject for art. By doing this, Virgona sets up a discussion on the definition of quality subject and what standards define beauty in artworks.

APPLIED ART 2-2:35 *p.m.*, PT 122

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Pop Art Today

AUTHOR: Jasmine Holt

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Claudia Wilburn

ABSTRACT:

Jasmine Holt has researched the history of and work created by the pop art movement. She was inspired by artists Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Allan D’Arcangelo, Keith Haring and Richard Hamilton. As a part of this research she produced a collection work inspired by pop art. The designs she created include three stickers, a skate deck, a grip tape and a multimedia collage, all in honor of her friend Jacob Ray, who passed away in fall 2017. All of the pieces in the series are focused on pop culture and interpreted by what is current in pop culture today.

APPLIED ART 2:40-2:55 p.m., PT 122

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION
Textile Identification for Everyday Wear

AUTHOR: Jordyn De La Rosa

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Charity Armstead

ABSTRACT:

Many people purchase clothing without understanding the fibers and textiles that go into creating their garments. Through the analysis of textiles found in thrifted clothing, I will demonstrate how anyone can test and identify the characteristics of what they are wearing every day.

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION *2-2:15 p.m., Meeting Room C*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Power Rangers, Super Sentai and Conscious/Subversive Hybridity in Media Texts

AUTHOR: Dr. Ian Peters

COLLEGE: Business & Mass Communication

DEPARTMENT: Mass Communication

ABSTRACT:

This paper examines Power Rangers and Super Sentai through the concepts of hybridity and localization in Japanese and American popular texts. Whereas Japanese TV/film texts were previously always altered for international audiences, this has lessened with their increased visibility and popularity. However, this process has not been eliminated entirely. Significant portions of Saban's Power Rangers footage are adapted from the Toei Super Sentai franchise, where its Japanese origin is obscured for American domestic audiences. Neither wholly American nor Japanese, entertainment franchises like Power Rangers embody the merging of previous global media practices with the present. They also simultaneously function as both reminders of a past where "foreign" media was considered an undesirable product, and of modern media convergence where their national origin is no longer absent from media consumption in the internet world. Building on the work of Colin Hoskins/Rolf Mirus, Koichi Iwabuchi, Henry Jenkins, Anne Allison and Arjun Appadurai, this study argues that examples of this nature need to become more significant in contemporary media studies discourse. Conscious hybridity, rather than subversive, has changed the way we look at media texts on consumptive, economic, and industrial levels, and understanding its function in a convergent media landscape is more vital than ever.

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION *2:20-2:35 p.m., Meeting Room C*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

How to Do Global Ethics in a Diversified, Pluralistic World

AUTHOR: Dr. James Sennett

COLLEGE: Business & Mass Communication

DEPARTMENT: Business Administration

ABSTRACT:

The 21st century is the century of globalization. The most important and influential aspects of our lives — government, business, social interaction, etc. — all have unmistakable and essential international elements. Isolationism on any level is long dead.

Successful global interaction requires some agreement among nations and cultures regarding proper behavior for that interaction. Global ethics is, therefore, a growing concern and a topic of much discussion, speculation and controversy. After all, the differences in values, norms, concerns, mores, and acceptable behaviors among cultures are apparent and pervasive. How do we make moral judgments intended to apply across national and cultural borders when pluralism and diversification rule our cultural awareness?

In this presentation I will offer the beginning of an answer to this question grounded in two claims that I will defend: 1, There is much more cross-cultural agreement on moral principles than the popular picture of global diversity would suggest; and 2, successful, mutually beneficial globalization requires a multinational recognition of and adherence to just such universal moral principles.

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION *2:40-2:55 p.m., Meeting Room C*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

European Christian Missionaries and the Colonization of India

AUTHOR: Elizabeth Summerall

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Gnimbin Ouattara

ABSTRACT:

Although the relationship between Christianity and colonization is complex and not uniform across the world, it has been argued in the case of Africa that Christian missionaries sought the help of their colonial governments to advance their mission work. In the words of Elizabeth Isichei, “Missionaries [in Africa] naturally hoped that the area where they worked would be colonized by their own nations.” How was the case of India?

This paper investigates how European Christian missionaries participated in the colonization of India. It focuses on the missionaries from England, the Netherlands and Portugal. It argues that these missionaries lived their own lives in India but also participated in the colonization of India by serving as middlemen and women for their respective governments. The paper proves this argument by demonstrating how these missionaries lived their own lives in India but also served the colonial interests of their respective governments and those of the private interests of their respective countries.

BACTERIA

BACTERIA 1-1:15 p.m., Meeting Room B

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

A Comparative Phenotypic Analysis of Bacteria Collected from Elastic Hair Bands Worn on the Wrist

AUTHORS: Taylor Bennett and Savannah Blalock

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Mathematics & Science

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Jessi Shrout

ABSTRACT:

Studies show that wrist watches, bracelets and wrist-worn activity trackers can harbor both harmless bacterial populations as well as bacterial pathogens. In case studies, skin irritation and bacterial skin infections have resulted from prolonged contact. Additionally, bacteria on such items have been shown to be potential sources of nosocomial, or hospital-acquired, infections when worn by health care personnel. Based on this information, in this study we sought to determine if elastic hair bands worn on the wrist could also be a source of potentially pathogenic bacteria. We conducted a phenotypic analysis comparing bacterial growth from two different types of hair elastics worn on the wrists of 30 Brenau University students continuously for one week. A cloth-covered elastic hair band was worn on one wrist, and a cloth-free, rubber hair band was worn on the other wrist of the same individual. Full conclusions are not available at the writing of this abstract, but we predict the cloth-covered elastic hair bands will produce more bacterial colonies when plated on petri dishes containing solid growth medium. Outcomes from this experiment could lead to precautions for prolonged use of these common items.

BACTERIA 1:20-1:35 p.m., Meeting Room B

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Effect of Hypoxic Conditions on the Growth of Bacterial Species Escherichia Coli

AUTHORS: Emma Jaczko and Sarah Frey

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Mathematics & Science

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Jessi Shrout

ABSTRACT:

An increasing number of bacterial species are becoming resistant to available antibiotics. This development can lead to once simple infections becoming deadly. It is therefore necessary to develop new and different methods to inhibit these bacteria. The bacterial species *Escherichia coli* is a common nosocomial (hospital-acquired) and community-acquired infection treated by various antibiotics such as β -lactams, fluoroquinolones, aminoglycosides and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole. While drug resistant *E. coli* is most frequently seen in developing countries, the pathogen affects travelers as well as the food exported from those countries. As a result of resistant strains becoming more prevalent, it is increasingly important to find new, non-antibiotic ways to inhibit the growth of *E. coli*. In this study, we will determine how hypoxic, or low-oxygen, environments affect *E. coli* growth.

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS *2-2:15 p.m., Meeting Room A*

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Redefining Assisted Living for Generation X

AUTHOR: Sandra Dunham

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Interior Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lynn M. Jones

ABSTRACT:

This study examines the factors that contribute to the process of the elderly transitioning into assisted living facilities. Literature has affirmed that the process can be difficult. The study will investigate the effects of how the transition process affects residents based upon their generational background, particularly Generation X. As a result of examining the differences and similarities of the Generation X population, it is expected that the findings will help to create an assisted living facility that will be more suitable and accommodating for the incoming generation, based upon their needs, desires and wants.

Particularly, the investigation will address how Generation X's lifestyle affects the design of the current assisted living model and what Generation X's preferences are on the interior design of assisted living facilities for their future use.

The researcher anticipates that the implications of this study will contribute to the future interior design of assisted living facilities, and that it will highlight the importance of tailoring said facilities based on the incoming generation's lifestyle.

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS 2:20-2:35 p.m., Meeting Room A

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Caregiver Frailty

AUTHORS: Dr. Jeananne Elkins, Ashley Langston, Dr. Jonathan Flacker and Dr. Patricia Griffiths

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Introduction: Many people who are older are informal caregivers to a family member/ friend and provide assistance for activities of daily living/instrumental activities of daily living. Informal caregiving is the largest part of long-term services and supports in the United States. Nearly 14 percent of adults who are older are frail. Moreover, frailty increases the vulnerability of people to long-term decreases in function from minor illnesses. Little is known about frailty in informal caregivers.

We correlate self-reported fitness and self-reported health using data from “The Development of a Brief Caregiving Stress Syndrome to Improve Geriatric Outcomes” a VA GRECC Advanced Fellowship project (paper in process) to utilize the Groningen Frailty Index (GFI).

Method: We correlate self-reported fitness and self-reported health using data from “The Development of a Brief Caregiving Stress Syndrome to Improve Geriatric Outcomes,” a VA GRECC Advanced Fellowship project (paper in process), to utilize the Groningen Frailty Index (GFI). Second, we perform a secondary data analysis using publicly available data from the REACH II intervention with 670 participants across the U.S.

Results: Self-reported fitness and self-reported health have a correlation of 0.827 with a p-value of 0.001 (n=16); thus, we complete the secondary assessment of frailty for participants in REACH II using the GFI. Between 61 percent and 64 percent of REACH II caregivers were frail on the day of study consent. Frail caregivers and their care recipient had less emergency room use and fewer overnight hospitalizations in the time preceding the REACH intervention.

Discussion/conclusion: Frailty was more prevalent in the REACH II caregivers than the general population. Successful evidence-based interventions have shown promise in reversing frailty. Future projects include a multidisciplinary frailty intervention for caregivers, a survey of caregivers to understand the ADL training they require and investigation of the similarities and differences of caregiving stress syndrome and frailty.

CARE OF OLDER ADULTS *2:40-2:55 p.m., Meeting Room A*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Using a Community Fall Prevention Expo to Enhance Knowledge and Awareness of Fall Prevention Programming in Georgia

AUTHORS: Dr. Kay Graham and Professor Lisa Howard

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: School of Occupational Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Best practice for fall prevention should reflect coordination between the community and medical centers such as through the use of the Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) tool kit. However, fall-prevention efforts often occur in silos with health professionals unaware of community-based programming. Using a template developed by the Georgia Fall Prevention Coalition, a partnership between Legacy Link Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Brenau University and NGMC sought to increase knowledge and collaboration regarding fall prevention. Prior to the event, relevant stations and content were identified. Stations were staffed with professionals from community agencies (i.e., emergency responders and local AAA), the university (occupational therapy, physical therapy and nursing students), and the hospital (nurse educators, care coordinators and rehabilitation professionals). All professionals and students were asked to complete pre- and post-event surveys about their knowledge and awareness of community-based fall prevention programs available in the area. In addition, a short educational piece about STEADI was included at the end of the pre-event survey. There were large increases in both the students' and professionals' awareness of and intent to refer to agencies and programs following the Fall Prevention Expo. This collaborative event provided natural education opportunities and experiences that resulted in increased knowledge, awareness and expected use of existing fall-prevention programming as well as the STEADI tool kit. Future directions include establishment of the Fall Prevention Expo as an annual event and further collaboration through the development of a regional fall-prevention coalition modeled after the state coalition.

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES *3-3:15 p.m., Meeting Room A*

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Creating a Cognitive Profile of School-Age Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder - High Functioning

AUTHORS: Laura Barrett, Tomeki Davis and Madison Longchamp

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Josh Hall

ABSTRACT:

Current diagnostic criteria for autism spectrum disorder, high-functioning (ASD-HF) is unreliable and highly variable. Autism spectrum disorder is accepted by the mental health and medical fields as being particularly heterogeneous. Differences in diagnosis between clinicians has contributed to the heightened rate of misdiagnosis and repeated failure to formulate a definitive profile for ASD-HF because varying interpretations and diagnoses by clinicians impede the reliability and validity of research efforts. This study aims to add to the body of research on these core characteristics of ASD-HF in grade and secondary school-age children by assessing the visual-spatial, visual and auditory memory and social skills profiles of individuals with ASD-HF in hopes of aiding in the creation of a standardized set of measurements that indicate the presence of ASD-HF. By measuring specific functional characteristics in individuals being assessed for ASD-HF, clinicians can be offered a quantitative and standardized form of measurement that may indicate the presence of this disorder. It is the hope this may aid in homogenizing the diagnosis of ASD-HF and limit the dependence on clinician interpretation.

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES 3:20-3:35 p.m., Meeting Room A

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Memory Impairments of Individuals Experiencing ADHD-I and ADHD-C Symptoms: The Impact and Importance

AUTHORS: Emily Reiner, Ashley Brewer, Savannah Martin and Cayley Sweatman

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Josh Hall

ABSTRACT:

The current body of research suggests symptoms of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) negatively impacts various memory functions. However, a gap exists in the literature regarding the visual and auditory memory capabilities of children with ADHD. The current study examines the memory profiles of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, predominantly inattentive presentation (ADHD-I) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, combined presentation (ADHD-C), bridging the gap so teachers, parents and rehabilitative providers can tailor treatments and teaching methods for these students. Archival data from neuropsychological assessment batteries administered to children ages 9-16 in a mid-sized multicultural school system in Northeast Georgia will be utilized. The data include assessments from 2006-2017 and will be coded according to gender, age, race/ethnicity, diagnosis (ADHD-I or ADHD-C) and assessment scores. The current study aims to explore the following hypotheses:

- The ADHD-I group will demonstrate statistically significant deficits on measures of immediate visual and immediate auditory memory when compared to the ADHD-C group.
- The ADHD-I group will demonstrate statistically significant deficits on measures of immediate auditory memory when compared to measures of delayed auditory memory.
- The ADHD-C group will demonstrate statistically significant levels of variability across auditory memory learning trials when compared to the ADHD-I group.

COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES 3:40-3:55 p.m., Meeting Room A

FACULTY AND GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Sensory Changes Following Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy Post-Stroke

AUTHORS: Dr. Kathye Light and Ansley Faulk

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Kathye Light

ABSTRACT:

Constraint-induced movement therapy (CIMT) for rehabilitation post-stroke is an established intervention for the treatment of upper-extremity recovery. The improvement in motor function following the intense treatment of two weeks of CIMT is well documented in the research literature. The purpose of this study was to examine the cutaneous sensation of the index and small fingers of the paretic hand in subjects trained with two weeks of intense CIMT and to explore the relationship of sensory return to the amount of motor recovery in fine motor skills of the hand.

Methods:

Subjects: Sixty-six subjects who had a stroke at least nine months before the study were recruited

Intervention: Two weeks of standardized CIMT

Outcome measures: Wolf Motor Function Test (WMFT) and cutaneous sensation of the mid-palmar surface of the index and small fingers.

Statistical Analysis: Chi-square of frequency of change in sensation, T-test comparisons of pre-post testing, Pearson correlations.

Results:

Sensation improved in a significant number of subjects both for the small finger and the index finger. Further improvement was noted at the four-month follow-up. Improvements in sensation for the index finger was significantly correlated to the time required to pick up a paper clip (p.05). This was not the finding for the small finger with no significance. Sensory improvement was not correlated to changes in grip strength scores.

Conclusion:

Cutaneous sensation changes with standard CIMT training in the fingers that are used for the specific tasks that are being performed.

C O R P O R A T E W O R K P L A C E

CORPORATE WORKPLACE 1-1:15 p.m., PT 127

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Using Rooftop Gardens to Recruit and Retain the Millennial Workforce

AUTHOR: Hannah Patel

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Interior Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lynn M. Jones

ABSTRACT:

The millennial generation is taking the workplace by storm and businesses are being forced to adapt and keep up with their growing demands (“Facing the Millennial Wave,” 2015). Amenities, mobile workplaces, collaborative designs and focus on wellness and sustainability are among the most common changes companies are addressing. Rooftop gardens are a great amenity that could address many of the millennials’ workplace expectations, but thus far many companies have not implemented this resource. The purpose of this study is to determine if rooftop gardens are an attractive amenity that can enhance recruitment and retention of the millennial workforce.

The study is a qualitative research study that will use interviews of millennial employees as its primary data source. Secondly, observations of work environments will be collected from each interviewees’ employer during a tour of the office that follows each interview. A maximum of 10 individual interviews with millennials working in urban areas in the Southeastern United States, with different opportunities for outdoor access at work, will be conducted. The data will be analyzed by using coding to sort into categories to obtain themes. Additionally, triangulation will be conducted to show credibility, dependability and transferability. Findings from this study will be presented at the spring symposium.

CORPORATE WORKPLACE 1:20-1:35 p.m., PT 127

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Causality in the Sector Level VIX and VIX Futures Market

AUTHOR: Dr. Arun Narayanasamy

COLLEGE: Business & Mass Communication

DEPARTMENT: Business Administration

ABSTRACT:

This paper studies the price discovery and informational efficiency of the VIX on Standard & Poor's 500 spot and futures market. Additionally, this paper explores the price discovery and informational efficiency mechanism between the VIX on S&P 500 futures and VIX on the spot of the nine specific sectors that comprise S&P 500. While previous studies use a linear Engle-Granger cointegration test with an error correction mechanism and find evidence of price discovery in the futures market, this analysis shows bidirectional causality between the spot S&P 500 VIX, the nine sector-specific spot VIX and VIX futures prices, suggesting that both spot and futures prices react simultaneously to new information, thus providing further evidence supporting information efficiency. This paper also shows evidence of long-term linkages between the futures market and the nine specific sectors. These findings have significant implications for hedging and portfolio-rebalancing decisions.

CORPORATE WORKPLACE *1:40-1:55 p.m., PT 127*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Social Capital and Research and Development Intensity

AUTHOR: Dr. Humnath Panta

COLLEGE: Business & Mass Communication

DEPARTMENT: Business Administration

ABSTRACT:

We study the effect of social capital on research and development expenditures of the firms in the United States. Companies located in high social capital areas tend to be more risk averse and spend less on research and development activities as compared to the firms located areas with less social capital. Managers who come from high social capital areas are more socially responsible, thus they choose less risky projects. In other words, they prefer fewer expenditures on risky research and development activities.

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES 3-3:15 p.m., Meeting Room C

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Individualism Versus Collectivism: Misconceptions About Family Values in China and the U.S.

AUTHOR: Yingcai Chen

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

Family is valued as the basic unit of human society. Correspondingly, family values are viewed as the core of the study of cultural values. Family values influence an individual's thoughts and beliefs, thereby affecting behaviors. This presentation will examine the misconceptions surrounding family values from the perspective of a Chinese student studying in the United States. Originally, this author held the opinion that American families value individualism, whereas Chinese families value collectivism. However, after observing American families and objectively evaluating Chinese culture, the family dynamics are much more complex than original stereotypes suggested.

While collectivism is certainly central to the Chinese family values, Confucianism is not as prevalent as it once was. Older generations hold to the maxim, "Whilst thy father and mother are living, do not wander afar," but things like the development of high-speed train have refreshed our concept about "wander afar." Younger generations focus more on the following sentence from Confucius: "If thou must travel, hold a set course."

Before the author arrived in the U.S., she assumed that Americans do not value family as much as they value personal freedom. However, a year of living in the U.S. demonstrates there are many differences and similarities in our family values, and that several shocking misconceptions exist. This presentation will analyze family values from different aspects, including how family members are named, common family structures, and social and cultural customs under family values.

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES 3:20-3:35 p.m., Meeting Room C

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

A Comparison of Chinese and U.S. Education Systems

AUTHOR: Gaoyang Su

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

In the 21st century, multicultural education has attracted worldwide attention. In 2015, the British Broadcasting Corporation released the documentary series, “Are Our Kids Tough Enough? Chinese School.” The original intention of the BBC’s experiment, which placed Chinese teachers and their methods in British classrooms, was to test the effectiveness of Chinese methods. The documentary also shows the views of the British educational system and consumers on the differences between countries. Chinese-style schools arouse heated discussion and reflection on education systems in China and the U.K. The attention of the U.K. and other western countries is due to the excellent performance of Chinese students on Programme for International Student Assessment test. Of course, the results of a test do not solely determine which country’s education system is better. When American education is compared to Chinese education, two distinct types of education methods are found in schools. How could the education methods at school be so different? What attitude should we take when facing the difference? This paper will show the current situation of education in both countries, explain the reasons for differences at school, and offer the author’s opinion on the effectiveness of both from the viewpoint of an international student.

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES *3:40-3:55 p.m., Meeting Room C*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Diverse Family Attitudes on Education

AUTHOR: Zhiqin Ye

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

There is an old saying in Chinese: “If you just feed without teaching, that is the father’s fault.” This indicates how important the family’s role is in a child’s education. Certainly, there are many cultural differences affecting familial attitudes toward education, and it is easy for these attitudes to be misunderstood by those who are from different cultural backgrounds. Some critics suggest Chinese family attitudes toward education are more strict and stressful because Chinese children have more homework and less free time compared to the American families.

In order to better understand the family education attitudes trend in different societies, this presentation will set up the examples of Chinese families and American families. On the one hand, I will analyze the specific aspects of their different family education attitudes. On the other hand, I will analyze the rationality of the differences, which are closely related to the society and culture background, to figure out the misunderstandings. Finally, I will offer research on the phenomenon of craze interest in studying abroad. It shows the new trend of family education attitudes that families tend to be more open and accept more cultures under the trend of globalization.

CULTURAL AWARENESS

CULTURAL AWARENESS *4-4:15 p.m., Meeting Room C*

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Acculturative Stress and Cognitive Appraisals of Stress as Predictors of Cross-Cultural Adaptation among International Students

AUTHORS: Nicole Caldwell, Leandra Prempeh and Bryan Thomas

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. John Christopher

ABSTRACT:

Over the past decade, the United States has seen a significant increase in its international student population. This influx has led researchers to inquire about the effects of acculturation on international students and how it differs from the experiences of non-international students. For an international student to successfully adjust to a new culture, they must not only overcome typical academic stressors like their peers, but also stress related to the acculturation process. To make this possible, international students must have the resources available to assist them in adjusting to the new country, and they must perceive that these resources are adequate enough to help with their transition. This study will analyze how international students adapt to the norms of their host country and their perceived ability to cope with the demands of attending school in another culture by examining the relationships between acculturative stress, perceptions of control over stress and life satisfaction. The sample is expected to consist of 300-500 international students currently attending school at a large, urban university in Lithuania, a private university, and a large, urban university in the Southeastern region of the U.S. This study will help researchers and college officials develop and refine programs, such as International Student Support Services, which aim to alleviate the stressors of the international college transition. Future research may observe the effects of acculturation across different cultures and how characteristics of a student's home culture influences their adaptation, which are limitations to this study.

CULTURAL AWARENESS *4:20-4:35 p.m., Meeting Room C*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Do You Really Mean What You Think?: Exploring Unconscious Prejudices in Thinking and Language

AUTHOR: Jiajia Tao

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

Do you control your language or does your language control you? Why are your thoughts different from others? How do you know if there is any prejudice in your language or thoughts? Prejudice is inherent in human nature, but it often hides behind the consciousness and escapes from the language. If language constitutes the world, it's important to consider who manipulates language. Culture? Stereotypes? Conformance bias? Society? If one does not realize why they say what they are saying before saying it, the world is likely to be controlled by those who are good at playing language tricks. Lope de Vega points out that unconscious prejudices in our daily language are from our rationalization accumulation. There are three basic rationalizations: denial, victim-blaming and avoidance. These help people distinguish which way they or others are thinking unconsciously and avoid some prejudices in language and thoughts when showing opinions and solutions to a problem. Besides, as the information age is developing, the angles of thinking are more various, too. William Perry's continuum of moral reasoning shows four modes of people's thinking: dualism, multiplicity, relativism and commitment. Which one do you belong to? Which one do you want to be? If we don't control our language and the modes of thinking, they will control us. The goal of this speech is to turn unconscious prejudices to conscious rethinking and then to unconscious justice and objectivity.

CULTURAL AWARENESS 4:40-4:55 p.m., Meeting Room C

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Ubuntu: Psychology of Conflict and a Basis for Action

AUTHORS: Jamie Zheng, Lacey Ciejek, Jessica Jarrett, Diamond Wood and Jasmine Rolle

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Mary Lou Frank

ABSTRACT:

The word “Ubuntu” comes from one of the Bantu dialects of Africa and means, “I am because of you” (Manda, 2009). This concept has evolved into an African philosophy for peace through the efforts of individuals such as Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. It represents the centrality of community and connection. To understand the psychology underlying the conflicts that keep us from this oneness, we will focus on core issues that divide us, such as gender and race. We will use the philosophy of Ubuntu as a lens to discuss the psychology of conflict resolution and the psychological impact of differences that affect our relationships. We will start the presentation by addressing the philosophy of Ubuntu and its history. We will then examine the issues that divide us. Conflict is rooted in differences, with race and gender being some of the most divisive issues. We will focus on how we develop our gender (Downing & Roush, 1985; Edley & Wetherell, 2001) and racial identities (Helms, 1995). We will conclude by demonstrating the impact of Ubuntu and mediation on reconciling conflicts and how accepting difference can help build a deeper understanding within our communities.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

EDUCATION AND HEALTH *1-1:15 p.m., Meeting Room A*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

More Than a Name: Using the Framework of Mechanistic Reasoning to Move Beyond Taxonomies in Occupational Therapists' Clinical Reasoning

AUTHOR: Dr. Laura Carpenter

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: School of Occupational Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Historically, the literature in occupational therapy has focused on describing and labeling different types of clinical reasoning. This has been important and fruitful work that has helped the profession grow. The current dissertation research sought to build on that foundation by exploring the cognitive strategies used by occupational therapists when they engaged in clinical reasoning. Mechanistic reasoning emphasizes identification of underlying causal mechanisms in scientific domains (e.g., biology). Aspects of this scientific thinking, such as forward and backward chaining, overlap with diagnostic thinking observed in physicians. This cross-case analysis used an analytical framework grounded in mechanistic reasoning and influenced by the medical cognition literature. Twenty occupational therapists participated in semi-structured interviews discussing two vignettes, with questions designed to elicit participants' clinical reasoning. Participants also created cognitive representations to support their answers. The independent variables for this study were years of experience (less than 10 or 10 or more) and practice setting (school system or outpatient pediatrics). Overall results indicated that participants demonstrated aspects of mechanistic reasoning in similar ways, primarily in the form of rule-based thinking and identification of relevant structures or components. There was a small positive correlation between years of experience and use of rule-based thinking, as well as significantly increased application of contextual rules for the school system participants. This study provides a cognitive representation of occupational therapists' clinical reasoning through the lens of mechanistic reasoning. This model provides a framework for occupational therapy educators to implement when teaching pre-service occupational therapists.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH *1:20-1:35 p.m., Meeting Room A*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Establishing Faculty Interrater Reliability for Nursing Students' Skills Rubric

AUTHORS: Professor Sandra Davis, Professor Sheral Page and Dr. Sandra Allen

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: School of Nursing

ABSTRACT:

Teaching nursing students fundamental skills along with rating students' step-by-step skills performance on low-fidelity mannequins using grading rubrics are common approaches to evaluate nursing skills acquisition. For nursing students to progress to clinical experiences, successful skill completion is required. Since skill acquisition is essential to patient care, safety and outcomes, nursing faculty must achieve inter-rater reliability in rating skills performance. The consistency methodology for observational skills performance was utilized to compute an index agreement among faculty observers. Percent agreement by chance was estimated to be 50 percent. The percent agreement to ensure inter-rater reliability for faculty was 90 percent or higher.

The research question was, "Will the establishment of an inter-rater reliability process impact nursing faculty skills rating beyond the percent agreement achieved by chance to 90 percent or higher?"

Using Benner's novice to expert theory, these faculty assumptions existed:

- Each faculty member was proficient in basic skills performance.
- Each faculty member wanted to provide the best instruction possible.
- Each faculty member wanted to fairly evaluate students' skills and examine students' ability to practice safely and think critically.

Quasi-experimental design was used. Five skills were evaluated.

Methodology included skills videos pre-assessment and skill demonstration by a faculty expert with pre-determined errors. Skills rubrics were standardized. Score ranges and Pearson correlation were calculated. Nursing faculty attaining consistency in rating skills strengthened faculty's objectivity to promote student success and confidence.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH *1:40-1:55 p.m., Meeting Room A*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Map to Happiness: Promoting Health and Well-Being for Children

AUTHOR: Dr. Louise Dunn

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: School of Occupational Therapy

ABSTRACT:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) developed Healthy People 2020 to address health promotion and disease prevention. A major goal of HHS is to “... promote quality of life, healthy development, and healthy behaviors across all life stages” (HHS, 2010, p. 5). Focusing on health and well-being versus deficits emphasizes understanding factors that increase quality of life for children, such as social-emotional development, social competence and positive engagement in everyday activities (Bazyk et al., 2015; Munns, Forde, Krouzecky, & Shields, 2015). Health care professionals, such as occupational therapists, can collaborate with schools and communities to provide programs that promote health and well-being for children (Bazyk et al., 2015; Munns et al., 2015).

The Map to Happiness program was developed in association with the School of Education, which sponsors the Real Interactive Summer-learning Experience (RISE) program. Its purpose was to promote quality of life, specifically health and well-being, for children in the RISE program. These children are from the lower socioeconomic status strata and most are Hispanic. Social and cultural disparities put many of these children at risk for poorer educational outcomes and poorer health and well-being. At the end of the Map to Happiness program, the children reported significantly more enjoyment in activities. Observational analyses showed gains in self-efficacy, social engagement and collaborative problem solving among the children. Caregivers did not report significant changes in their children’s health and well-being.

FASHION DESIGN

FASHION DESIGN *3-3:15 p.m., PT 122*

FACULTY AND UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Alternative Applications in Fashion Design

AUTHORS: Jordyn De La Rosa and Professor Lori Gann-Smith

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lori Gann-Smith

ABSTRACT:

The term “fashion design” most often conjures images of couture fashion and runway designers in people’s minds. In this session, we will show how skills learned in fashion design can be used to create costumes and clothing for dogs.

FASHION DESIGN 3:20-3:35 *p.m.*, PT 122

FACULTY AND UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Block Printing Surface Design for Fashion

AUTHORS: Professor Lori Gann-Smith, Alexandria Nause and Kendy Manzano

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lori Gann-Smith

ABSTRACT:

Various surface design techniques are used in fashion design to create custom yardage and embellishments that become part of the fabric used for garment or accessory construction. This session will be a workshop demonstration of the block printing technique.

FASHION DESIGN *3:40-3:55 p.m., PT 122*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Screen Printed Surface Design for Fashion

AUTHORS: Kendy Manzano and Alexandria Nause

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lori Gann-Smith

ABSTRACT:

Various surface design techniques are used in fashion design to create custom yardage and embellishments that become part of the fabric used for garment or accessory construction. This session will be a workshop demonstration of the screen printing technique.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES 4-4:15 p.m., Meeting Room A

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Shoulder Problems for Therapists (and Assisters) in Hippotherapy

AUTHOR: Megan Bullins

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Mathematics & Science

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Mary Shotwell

ABSTRACT:

Hippotherapy is “the use of the movement of the horse as a strategy by physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists to address impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities in patients with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction. This strategy is used as part of an integrated treatment program to achieve functional outcomes” (Berek, 2013).

While walking on the side of the horse and ensuring safety for the patient, the therapist and assistant (or sidewalker), prop their arm on the patient’s thigh to help stabilize while there is movement of the horse and while doing the occupational therapy. This requires the humerus to be at an unnatural angle, not factoring in the pressure and weight that is bared in that one session, depending on whether the patient is stable or unstable (special needs, cerebral palsy, etc). This can also cause unnatural pressure against the humerus and shoulder socket, causing shoulder problems. The hippotherapy is also done while walking on uneven ground.

Berek, D. M. (2013). Hippotherapy. Salem Press Encyclopedia.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES 4:20-4:35 p.m., Meeting Room A

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Active Cycle of Breathing Technique: A Physical Therapy Intervention for Post Laparoscopic Shoulder Tip Pain

AUTHORS: Dr. Jeananne Elkins and Lania Alberts

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Purpose/Aim: Surgery and the resulting pain is a risk factor for long term opioid use. Post laparoscopic shoulder tip pain (PLSP) affects about 35-80 percent of patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery. The pain is often debilitating with moderate to severe intensity and can last from 72 hours to five weeks post laparoscopic surgery (Kreindler et al., 2014, Tsai et al., 2011).

Method: We recruited 108 participants experiencing PLSP into a pragmatic random controlled trial with an intervention group receiving active cycle of breathing technique (ACBT) and a control group receiving the usual chest physiotherapy. Each participant received treatment on Day 1 and Day 2 following laparoscopic surgery. Participants received a follow-up call at three weeks to determine how long the PLSP lasted. We used tests in STATA 13 to test our hypotheses.

Results: The pain lasted from 21 days in the intervention group to 35 days in the control group. This result affirms our hypothesis with a p-value of 0.04. The mean of the days pain lasted was 5.08 in the intervention group and 8.22 in the control group.

Discussion and conclusion: ACBT can reduce the days PLSP lasts. ACBT is a natural technique with minimal risk. Future work in the U.S. is focused on using ACBT to decrease the prescription of opioid medications for PLSP. Future work will include a control group receiving no intervention to fully test the hypotheses.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES 4:40-4:55 p.m., Meeting Room A

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Knee Osteoarthritis: A Cadaver's Call to Prediction and Prevention

AUTHOR: Dr. James Lewis

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most commonly diagnosed disease in general practice with knee osteoarthritis affecting 40 percent and 47 percent of all men and women, respectively. Recent cadaver dissection of knee joints revealed various stages of knee osteoarthritis, raising the clinical question of whether this condition can be predicted or prevented.

Subjects: Six cadaver knee-joint dissections by first-year doctor of physical therapy (DPT) students.

Methods and materials: Functional Anatomy/Kinesiology II (PT 911) is a course taught at the Brenau University (BU) DPT program for the first-year students. Joint dissection occurs in small groups using a case study perspective. Students work in small groups and are required to research a clinical question relative to discovered pathology in one of the dissected joints. Literature review was performed on recent research focusing on predicting and/or preventing knee OA, which had a high prevalence in several cadavers. Two DPT student groups presented their dissection findings on knee OA, which was followed by presentation of the literature review in the annual BU Physical Therapy Continuing Education Seminar in December 2017.

Conclusions: Dissection findings expedite the importance of appreciating pathology in tissues as to engage in appropriate clinical correlation in hopes to improve outcomes in patients. The significant discovery of various stages of knee OA encouraged literature review, which revealed a predictive model to engage this disease with potential early evaluative and intervention options.

HONORS PANEL

HONORS PANEL *4-4:10 p.m., Meeting Room B*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Analysis of: Investigating the Presence of Chronic Pain in Lower Socioeconomic Status Patients with Mental Health Conditions in a Primary Care Clinic

AUTHOR: Mason Garland

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Mathematics & Science

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Debra Dobkins

ABSTRACT:

An estimated 30-54 percent of chronic pain patients suffer from a co-existing mental health illness. This relationship is often termed bidirectional. This study was conducted in a primary care clinic that treats the indigent population in Hall County. Examination of these individuals of low socioeconomic status reveals inequalities in access to resources as well as issues related to management of their medical conditions. This lower social standing is measured by a combination of education, income and occupation. Over the course of 21 days, we conducted a single-center retrospective study with a total of 30 participants. Understanding the bidirectional model, as mentioned above, we set out to determine if patients suffering from mental health issues and their associated chronic pain conditions have actually been diagnosed and treated. We also wanted to ascertain how these patients perceive the relationship between their mental health illness and their chronic pain condition. Our hypothesis is that chronic pain often goes undiagnosed and untreated in patients with a mental health diagnosis due to socioeconomic barriers. Analysis serves to ascertain the importance of this study in the community and academic literature. Future efforts to improve the co-morbidity of mental health and chronic pain in the indigent population in primary care clinics are considered.

HONORS PANEL *4:15-4:25 p.m., Meeting Room B*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Truth About the Southern Belle: Taking Action Against Old Contradictions

AUTHOR: Kyle Gomez-Leineweber

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Debra Dobkins

ABSTRACT:

With the idea of the “Southern belle” comes a slew of expectations and pressures. Left unanalyzed and on the surface, it would be relatively easy for one to assume that the life of a belle was always carefree and comfortable. Indeed, for many, life was rather luxurious. However, as not all the South was covered with magnolia trees and old plantation homes, nor were the lives of all Southern belles totally jubilant. In fact, as this project seeks to reveal, the pressures put upon Southern women were unrealistic and oftentimes contradictory. Moreover, when these women inevitably failed to meet these impossible expectations, they regularly faced abuse — both physically and emotionally — at the hands of lovers, family members and whole communities. Those who refused to conform were treated even more harshly and severely. Stuck in a culture that cared more for the keeping up of appearances than true happiness, many would turn to unhealthy vices or fall into deep depressions. This project seeks to use three classic films and their portrayals of iconic protagonists to discuss the truth about the clashing expectations, impossible burdens, difficult trials and unhelpful stereotypes of the Southern belle and will examine how these old ideals still impact Southern society today.

HONORS PANEL *4:30-4:40 p.m., Meeting Room B*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

University-Level Education in America and China: How It Impacts an International Student

AUTHOR: Erin Henderson

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Mathematics & Science

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Debra Dobkins

ABSTRACT:

Education programs differ from culture to culture, and this may be in quality, quantity, focus, materials or perhaps any other number of factors. By the end of the 2018 spring semester, Brenau University will have completed its second academic year hosting students from Anhui Normal University in China. In the “2+2” program, these students complete their first two years of university at Anhui Normal and their second two at Brenau. This research presentation highlights information attained via interviews with the Chinese 2+2 students and through personal observation. It focuses on the student’s perception of education, the impacts of these educations, and highlights the pros and cons of both education systems through the eyes of students who have experienced both.

HONORS PANEL *4:45-4:55 p.m., Meeting Room B*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Identifying the Gaps: Peer Rejection and Aggressive Behaviors Among Adolescents

AUTHOR: Kaleigh McIntyre

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Debra Dobkins

ABSTRACT:

The perception of a child to his or her peers can have a profound impact on many areas of development. More specifically, peer rejection, including exclusion from social groups, isolation, verbal insults and overall peer disapproval, can disrupt typical social and psychological development. Peer rejection could have consequences such as depression, lack of self-esteem and difficulty adjusting to various social settings. Aggressive behaviors, including kicking, pushing, spitting, hitting, threatening and bullying, can have consequences such as difficulties in school, negative peer perception and a lack of emotional regulation. The literature suggests that there is a significant relationship between peer rejection and aggressive behaviors in the child that has experienced rejection but directionality has not yet been determined. Without understanding the root of this relationship, it is difficult to form potential solutions for the negative effects. Future research studies should attempt to better understand the relationship between peer rejection and aggression so that potential solutions can be formed with the goal to regulate these effects.

LEGALITY ISSUES

LEGALITY ISSUES 2-2:15 p.m., PT 127

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Medicare Fraud and Abuse in Skilled Nursing Facilities: The Problem of Using Patient Rehabilitation Potential as a Basis for Reimbursement

AUTHOR: Dr. Roberto Cantu

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Physical Therapy

ABSTRACT:

Total Medicare reimbursement for patients in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) is largely determined by the rehabilitation potential of the patient: the greater the rehabilitation potential of the patient, the greater the total reimbursement to the SNF for that patient. Patients with low rehabilitation potential often need greater allocation of personnel resources, but Medicare reimbursement for these patients is lower. As a result, administrative personnel in this setting often encourage physical therapists (PTs) to assign patients to unrealistically high rehabilitation potential categories in order to boost reimbursement.

This has been identified as a source of moral distress and low perception of workplace ethics for physical therapists. Additionally, fraudulent billing of PT services in SNFs has been identified by the Department of Justice (DOJ) as an ongoing and widespread problem, and the DOJ has investigated and successfully prosecuted many SNFs for Medicare fraud.

This presentation outlines the structure of Medicare reimbursement in SNFs, the potential for abuse within that structure, and the ethical and moral dilemmas that physical therapists face in attempting to care for their patients. Discussion will center on potential solutions for this problem.

LEGALITY ISSUES 2:20-2:35 p.m., PT 127

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Laundering “Dirty Money”: Is It a Rational Choice?

AUTHOR: Dr. Fassil Fanta

COLLEGE: Business & Mass Communication

DEPARTMENT: Business Administration

ABSTRACT:

This paper presents a two-period model of money-in-the-utility-function to investigate the impact of anti-money laundering policy on crime. Our two-period model reveals that an increase in labor wage in the legal sector unambiguously decreases labor hours allocated for illegal sector. However, the crime-reducing impact of anti-money laundry regulation and the probability of the agent to be caught require both parameters should be above some thresholds. These thresholds are a function of the marginal rate of substitution of “dirty” money for consumption and the responsiveness (elasticity) of illegal income to the policy parameter. Higher threshold implies the need for stringent anti-money laundering policy. Therefore, the marginal rate of substitution between “dirty” money and consumption and the elasticity of illegal income to the policy parameter are the key in governing the formulation of the anti-money laundry policy.

LEGALITY ISSUES 2:40-2:55 p.m., PT 127

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Personality Trait Differences Between Marijuana, Alcohol and Other Substance Users

AUTHORS: Arika Lane and Claire Gordijn

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Gary Bauman

ABSTRACT:

Substance use is increasing in the U.S. population in large part due to an increase in marijuana usage. With marijuana becoming legal for recreational and medicinal use, there has been a change in perception about the harmful factors of the substance as well as the amount of people using the substance. The purpose of this thesis is to identify if there are certain personality characteristics that are specific to users of alcohol, marijuana and other substances. Data will be collected from 100 substance users in the Gainesville, Georgia, area who are currently seeking treatment for a substance-use problem. The participants will be given two substance-use questionnaires that include the Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST) and the Cannabis Abuse Screening Test (CAST), a Big Five Personality Inventory (BFI-10) questionnaire, and a Sensation Seeking (SSS-V) questionnaire. In this study, the use of and severity of use of marijuana will be compared to personality factors such as neuroticism, extraversion, openness, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and sensation seeking to identify if there are certain personality factors that are more common in marijuana users than in non-marijuana users. The results are expected in April 2018 once the data is collected and analyzed.

PRINTMAKING

PRINTMAKING *1-1:15 p.m., PT 122*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

Colossal Woodblock Printmaking

AUTHORS: Samantha Corey and Diana Quinones

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Claudia Wilburn

ABSTRACT:

Two students from the Beginning Printmaking class will present images of the event and final prints from the Colossal Prints event held March 23, 2018, at Brenau. The event was hosted by Kappa Pi art honor society and the Department of Art & Design as an educational and community outreach opportunity. This presentation will cover the process of woodblock printing and how construction tools, like a steam roller and plywood, can be used to create large-scale prints that are otherwise prohibitive because of scale. Additionally, students will discuss how their research into surrealism was used as part of the design process of some of their woodblock designs. Images included in the presentation will be artworks by Brenau University students, faculty and staff, as well as collaborative pieces by local high school and middle school students and members of the Gainesville, Georgia, community. If possible, to help explain the art of woodblock printmaking, students will demonstrate a woodblock print being hand printed at the end of the presentation.

PRINTMAKING 1:20-1:35 p.m., PT 122

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Recent Works by Claudia Wilburn: Navigate by Reckoning

AUTHOR: Professor Claudia Wilburn

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

ABSTRACT:

For this presentation, I plan to discuss and show examples of my current artistic research. Much of my art is autobiographical; I often draw on my life experiences, emotional journeys and memorabilia. For the body of work, “Navigate by Reckoning,” I am drawing on another element: oral histories.

A number of years ago, I became very interested in my family history and began to research the branches of my family tree from the present to the Revolutionary War and back to the Old World. I have researched and found photographic portraits of my great-grandparents, and I am in the process of developing nine prints using these portraits as references. These pieces begin as blackline woodblock prints, which are then impressed onto different types of paper and collaged back together into a unified image on a panel.

A few of the source photos for these pieces have been damaged or lack specific details; when this happens, I have used secondary, period correct, source images and artifacts to help realize the image. One example of this is in the piece “Ethel Almond Roberts (Wilburn), 1894-1932.” The portrait of her has a soft focus and the details of the Victorian mourning garments with their black, velvety texture are unclear. To assist me with filling in the surface and pattern of the clothing, I used similar garments from an appropriate time period and with a similar style from the Brenau University Historic Clothing Collection as a model for the missing details of the dress.

SELF-AWARENESS

SELF-AWARENESS 2-2:15 p.m., Meeting Room B

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Relationships Between Psychosocial Stress, Self-Regulation, Mindfulness, Empathy and Yoga: An Exploratory Study

AUTHORS: Tanya Acosta and Ivie Hall

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Maria Zayas

ABSTRACT:

A recent review of undergraduate college students revealed that a majority experienced more than average levels of stress in the past year. Psychosocial stress is a top concern, as college students must forge new interpersonal relationships, leaving students susceptible to detrimental effects on their well-being.

Research suggests that higher levels of self-regulation can mitigate psychosocial stress. Mindfulness and empathy have both been found to play important roles in self-regulation, especially when it comes to the stress associated with interpersonal interactions. A review of possible avenues to address psychosocial stress in college students through self-regulation training yields options that include mindfulness interventions. One intervention that might be attractive to college students is yoga-based mindfulness training.

The purpose of this study is to gain a greater understanding of the role of mindfulness in self-regulation and whether a yoga-based mindfulness intervention increases levels of self-regulation and decreases levels of psychosocial stress in college students. Furthermore, attention will be given to clarifying the role of empathy in self-regulation, mindfulness and psychosocial stress.

Following an experimental study with a control group, it is expected that there will be a greater increase in self-regulation and greater decrease in psychosocial stress in the yoga-based mindfulness intervention as compared to the control group and that self-regulation will be significantly negatively correlated with psychosocial stress in the experimental group.

In the context of an undergraduate personal and social awareness class, researchers administered self-report measures, a four-week 45-minute yoga-based mindfulness group and psychoeducational control group. Data is being analyzed.

SELF-AWARENESS 2:20-2:35 p.m., Meeting Room B

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Everyday Creativity and Stress: The Relationship with Self-Efficacy

AUTHORS: Lindsay Davis and Jessica Fisher

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. John Christopher

ABSTRACT:

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between everyday creativity and self-efficacy as predictors of student academic performance and stress. College students face numerous stressors in their daily life from academics, financial issues and personal reasons. Students must solve problems and possess the ability to succeed in certain situations when presented with stressors. Students may use everyday creative acts in order to modify their environment and handle the stressors they face. The Transactional Model of Stress and Coping Theory will be used in this study to examine how students' everyday creativity coping strategies decrease distress related to student-life stressors and the role self-efficacy plays. We hope to further develop research on how everyday creative activities can improve a college student's daily life.

SELF-AWARENESS 2:40-2:55 p.m., Meeting Room B

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Relationship Between Child Maltreatment and Adult Attachment Style

AUTHORS: Cori Hosch, Heather Sullivan and Sara Higgins

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Julie Battle

ABSTRACT:

Child maltreatment is extremely prevalent and has many psychological impacts in adulthood. Child maltreatment includes both abuse and neglect. There are several types of childhood abuse and neglect, and each is defined differently. Attachment style in adulthood has been shown to be impacted by child abuse. Secure attachment develops through healthy interactions with the primary caregivers. However, if interactions are not healthy, insecure attachment styles can develop. This has been shown to be especially true in cases of child abuse. Certain types of abuse may be more directly associated with specific types of insecure attachment. Further research needs to be conducted to shed light on the associations between specific types of child abuse and certain types of insecure attachment. The current study attempts to investigate the relationship between child maltreatment and adult attachment style. The sample will consist of approximately 200 students currently in attendance at Brenau University, with females making up the majority of the sample. The expected results will include the following:

- Experiences of physical abuse will predict high levels of avoidant attachment.
- Experiences of sexual abuse will predict high levels of anxious attachment.
- Experiences of sexual abuse will also predict high levels of avoidant attachment.
- Experiences of emotional abuse will predict high levels of avoidant attachment.

SHAKESPEARE PANEL

SHAKESPEARE PANEL *1-1:15 p.m., Meeting Room C*

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Befriending Puck

AUTHOR: Dr. Sandra Brim

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

ABSTRACT:

Quotations of Shakespeare are ubiquitous; they appear in rock music, on Valentine's candy, on T-shirts and billboards. But the truth is that these so-called quotations are of Shakespearean characters, who spoke, not for their creator, but for themselves and from perspectives much narrower than their author's own. In "A Midsummer Night's Dream," however, the elusive figure Puck is considered by most readers a surrogate for his creator. Puck's role, his nature, and his most memorable lines seem to offer glimpses into the mind of Shakespeare, so Puck, though not as famous as Shakespeare's great heroes, is a character we should consider closely if we want to know what Shakespeare really says.

After doing a close reading of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," as well as several other plays, and research on interpretations of the character Puck, these students will explore the following questions: Why do audiences hear Shakespeare's voice behind the voice of Puck? What do Puck's words and nature reveal about his maker? Can conclusions drawn from an analysis of Puck in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" help us understand Shakespeare's vision in other plays, even in his darkest tragedies?

SHAKESPEARE PANEL *1:20-1:35 p.m., Meeting Room C*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

“Others” in Shakespeare

AUTHOR: Laura Burke

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Humanities

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

Throughout his plays, Shakespeare often has a character, or characters, play the part of someone separate to everyone else. For example, in “Othello,” the character Othello is a Moor, living in a white, Christian world, and he must struggle to carve out a place for himself. In “The Taming of the Shrew,” Katherine does not fit into a traditional woman’s role, making her the other in her family as well as her societal circle. Lastly, in “The Merchant of Venice,” the character Shylock is Jewish living in an incredibly anti-Semitic society, thus creating an enemy set on tearing down the society around him. Those who are classified as “other” appear in numerous ways in Shakespeare’s works, trying to exist on the outside looking in, before the society around them forces them to conform or purges them completely. This presentation examines the instances of different kinds of “others” in Shakespeare’s works and their struggle to exist against a society that demands conformity or annihilation.

SHAKESPEARE PANEL *1:40-1:55 p.m., Meeting Room C*

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Origin of Misery: Mimetic Desire in Shakespeare's Works

AUTHOR: Aijia Ge

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Art & Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. Rebekah Taylor-Wiseman

ABSTRACT:

In the real world, mimetic desire is common in human nature. People compete for objects of desire and fight with each other, not because those objects are rare or valuable, but because everyone imitates each other's desire. In Shakespeare's works, many characters are driven by mimetic desire and commit crimes, causing misery and tragedy. In "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Lysander and Demetrius imitate each other's desires, resulting in farce between the two couples. In "Hamlet," Claudius imitates the desire of his brother, so he kills his brother, seizes the throne by force and marries his sister-in-law. Macbeth is also driven by mimetic desire and kills the old king. In "King Lear," Regan and Goneril exile their father, kill their youngest sister, and cause an inhuman tragedy. Iago is jealous of Othello's status and the love of Desdemona, so he frames Othello. Shakespeare suggests that mimetic desire is the origin of misery, and warns that people should recognize that desire is illusory so that they can accept themselves. Using Shakespeare's example, this presentation will demonstrate that vanity and jealousy are the manifestations of mimetic desire, which causes many avoidable miseries and tragedies across human cultures.

**SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL
ENVIRONMENT**

SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT 3-3:15 p.m., PT 127

UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATION

State of Emergency: A Study of Mental Health Among Dancers and Athletes

AUTHOR: Anne Fox

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Dance

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Madia Cooper

ABSTRACT:

Dance, unlike any other fine arts profession, encompasses both athletic and artistic qualities. Dancers are formidable in that they find ways to make their voices heard artistically, however the physical demands of the profession can affect their mental state. What is not fake news is that head injuries in sports are now discussed and researched more than ever. It is evident, especially due to the media's coverage, that there has been an increase in studies focusing on the relationship between the physical and mental health of athletes during and after their careers. However, what is not presented in the media or press as often is the state of mental health and injuries that dancers are often encountering, and it seems that there is a lack of focus for the care of artists. Professional and pre-professional dancers face great physical strain and fatigue, much like professional athletes, however the state of mental health is dismissed or overlooked in regards to dancers. I will survey current Brenau dancers and athletes regarding their mental state in practicing, preparing, encountering and recovering from injury and compare and contrast each group. My goal is to reveal similar needs to develop more research practices about mental health for dancers. The correlational study that I will be conducting will identify and compare the concerns expressed by dancers and student athletes. After bringing exposure about mental health of performance athletes and performing artists, we can begin to discuss the next step and set into motion a practical approach, and bring new information to the media's attention as well as to the greater community.

SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT 3:20-3:35 *p.m.*, PT 127

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

Social Engagement in Educational Facilities

AUTHOR: Laura Harris

COLLEGE: Fine Arts & Humanities

DEPARTMENT: Interior Design

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Lynn M. Jones

ABSTRACT:

Peer relationships are important for adolescents because they help adolescents learn positive social behavior that is necessary for their future adult lives (Stanton-Salazar & Spina, 2005). Because adolescents spend the majority of their day in educational environments, these environments have the potential to impact social learning and growth. Further research on the influence of interior space on social development can help interior designers construct buildings that positively affect the social development of adolescents.

The purpose of this study is to determine the degree to which middle school educators perceive the built environment affecting the social development of adolescents. The study also addresses the specific principles of interior design that encourage or detract from social development in adolescents. To ascertain this, four research questions were the basis of a qualitative research study utilizing a case study methodology. Measures were taken to provide a purposeful sample using criterion sampling and stratified purposeful sampling of middle school educators within 15 miles of Birmingham, Alabama. The study procedure included an in-depth interview with eight middle school educators and a site visit at eight educational facilities. Data analysis was achieved through a general inductive approach that delved into the experiences of the educators. The findings available at the time of the symposium will be presented.

SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT 3:40-3:55 p.m., PT 127

GRADUATE PRESENTATION

The Role of Perceived Support from Professors and University Staff in Fostering Academic Engagement and Reducing Stress Among College Students

AUTHORS: Natasha Kyle Vitonis, Susana Solomon and Janecia Williams

COLLEGE: Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

FACULTY ADVISOR: Dr. John Christopher

ABSTRACT:

Nationwide, college campuses are reporting an increasing number of students seeking help for mental health concerns, including stress. College student stress is considered a transactional process between new and stressful situations they must face and their personal and social resources. The Transactional Model and Stress and Coping highlights appraisal as a subjective process to evaluate threat, harm and challenge, resulting in coping responses. One way that students cope is through social support, which has been defined as the transaction or exchange of resources to aid others in a social environment. College students receive social support from family, friends, significant others and from their professors and institutions. Previous research has suggested that perceived support from institutions and faculty members was related to positive daily mood among college students. Previous studies have found that support from institutions and faculty has served as an important resource for decreasing stress among college students. Past research has highlighted social support as both a resource to cope with stress and to achieve university requirements. Perceived institutional support has been shown in prior studies to be directly related to student engagement. Academic engagement has been defined as a positive, work-related state of fulfillment that is characterized by vigor, dedication and absorption. The researchers hypothesized that the relationship between perceived stress and vigor, dedication and absorption is stronger for those who report less institutional support. The researchers also hypothesized that the relationship between perceived stress and vigor, dedication and absorption is stronger for those who report less faculty support.

AUTHOR INDEX

AUTHOR AND ABSTRACT PAGE NUMBER

- A**costa, Tanya 74
Alberts, Lania 59
Allen, Sandra 51
- B**arrett, Laura 34
Benitez, Jennifer 19
Bennett, Taylor 27
Bishop, Mark 12
Blalock, Savannah 27
Branford, Israel 12
Brewer, Ashley 35
Brim, Sandra 78
Brimmer, Christy 9
Buck, Tammy 15
Bullins, Megan 58
Burke, Laura 79
- C**aldwell, Nicole 46
Cantu, Roberto 67
Carpenter, Laura 50
Chen, Yingcai 42
Ciejek, Lacey 48
Conrado, Josefa 12
Corey, Samantha 71
- D**avis, Lindsay 75
Davis, Sandra 51
Davis, Tomeki 34
De La Rosa, Jordyn 21, 54
Dunham, Sandra 30
Dunn, Louise 52
- E**lkins, Jeananne 31, 59
- F**anta, Fassil 68
Faulk, Ansley 36
Faundez, Pablo 16
Fisher, Jessica 75
Flacker, Jonathan 31
Fox, Anne 82
Frey, Sarah 28
- G**ann-Smith, Lori 54, 55
Garland, Mason 62
Ge, Aijia 80
Gomez-Leineweber, Kyle 63
Gordijn, Claire 69
Gorritz, Frank 16
Graham, Kay 32
Griffiths, Patricia 31
Gross, Eliana 10
- H**all, Ivie 74
Harris, Laura 83
Henderson, Erin 64
Higgins, Sara 76
Hoffman, Stacey 11
Holt, Jasmine 20
Hosch, Cori 76
Howard, Lisa 32
- J**aczko, Emma 28
Jarrett, Jessica 48
- K**ennedy, Paulette 17
Kim, Rebecca 17
Kyle Vitonis, Natasha 84
- L**ane, Arika 68
Langston, Ashley 31
Lewis, James 60
Light, Kathye 36
Longchamp, Madison 34
- M**anzano, Kendy 55, 56
Martin, Savannah 35
McIntyre, Kaleigh 65
- N**arayanasamy, Arun 39
Nause, Alexandria 55, 56
- P**age, Sheral 51
Panta, Humnath 40
Patel, Hannah 38
Peters, Ian 23
Pierce-Tomlin, Timothy 17
Prempeh, Leandra 46
- Q**uiones, Diana 71
- R**einer, Emily 35
Rolle, Jasmine 48
- S**asso, Beth 9
Sennett, James 24
Small, Leslie 16
Solis, Fredy 12
Solomon, Susana 83
Su, Gaoyang 43
Sullivan, Heather 76
Summerall, Elizabeth 25
Sunga, Denise 10
Sweatman, Cayley 35
- T**ao, Jiajia 47
Thomas, Bryan 46
- W**ard, Rachel 13
Wilburn, Claudia 72
Williams, Janecia 84
Wood, Diamond 48
- Y**e, Zhiqin 44
- Z**heng, Jamie 48

COLLEGE INDEX

SESSION, LOCATION, TIME AND ABSTRACT PAGE NUMBER

College of Health Sciences

ADOLESCENCE	Meeting Room B	3-3:15 p.m.	15
ADOLESCENCE	Meeting Room B	3:20-3:35 p.m.	16
ADOLESCENCE	Meeting Room B	3:40-3:55 p.m.	17
BACTERIA	Meeting Room B	1-1:15 p.m.	27
BACTERIA	Meeting Room B	1:20-1:35 p.m.	28
CARE OF OLDER ADULTS	Meeting Room A	2:20-2:35 p.m.	31
CARE OF OLDER ADULTS	Meeting Room A	2:40-2:55 p.m.	32
COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES	Meeting Room A	3-3:15 p.m.	34
COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES	Meeting Room A	3:20-3:35 p.m.	35
COGNITIVE AND SENSORY ISSUES	Meeting Room A	3:40-3:55 p.m.	36
CULTURAL AWARENESS	Meeting Room C	4-4:15 p.m.	46
CULTURAL AWARENESS	Meeting Room C	4:40-4:55 p.m.	48
EDUCATION AND HEALTH	Meeting Room A	1-1:15 p.m.	50
EDUCATION AND HEALTH	Meeting Room A	1:20-1:35 p.m.	51
EDUCATION AND HEALTH	Meeting Room A	1:40-1:55 p.m.	52
HEAD, SHOULDERS KNEES AND TOES	Meeting Room A	4-4:15 p.m.	58
HEAD, SHOULDERS KNEES AND TOES	Meeting Room A	4:20-4:35 p.m.	59
HEAD, SHOULDERS KNEES AND TOES	Meeting Room A	4:40-4:55 p.m.	60
HONORS PANEL	Meeting Room B	4-4:10 p.m.	62
HONORS PANEL	Meeting Room B	4:30-4:40 p.m.	64
HONORS PANEL	Meeting Room B	4:45-4:55 p.m.	65
LEGALITY ISSUES	PT 127	2-2:15 p.m.	67
LEGALITY ISSUES	PT 127	2:40-2:55 p.m.	69
POSTER	Atrium	1-5 p.m.	9
POSTER	Atrium	1-5 p.m.	10
POSTER	Atrium	1-5 p.m.	11
POSTER	Atrium	1-5 p.m.	12
SELF-AWARENESS	Meeting Room B	2:40-2:55 p.m.	74
SELF-AWARENESS	Meeting Room B	2:20-2:35 p.m.	75
SELF-AWARENESS	Meeting Room B	2:40-2:55 p.m.	76
SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	PT 127	3:40-3:55 p.m.	84

College of Business & Mass Communication

AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION	Meeting Room C	2-2:15 p.m.	23
AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION	Meeting Room C	2:20-2:35 p.m.	24
CORPORATE WORKPLACE	PT 127	1:20-1:35 p.m.	39
CORPORATE WORKPLACE	PT 127	1:40-1:55 p.m.	40
LEGALITY ISSUES	PT 127	2:20-2:35 p.m.	69

College of Fine Arts & Humanities

APPLIED ART	PT 122	2-2:15 p.m.	19
APPLIED ART	PT 122	2:20-2:35 p.m.	20
APPLIED ART	PT 122	2:40-2:55 p.m.	21
AWARENESS IN GLOBAL INTERACTION	Meeting Room C	2:40-2:55 p.m.	25
CARE OF OLDER ADULTS	Meeting Room A	2-2:15 p.m.	30
CORPORATE WORKPLACE	PT 127	1-1:15 p.m.	38
CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES	Meeting Room C	3-3:15 p.m.	42
CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES	Meeting Room C	3:20-3:35 p.m.	43
CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES	Meeting Room C	3:40-3:55 p.m.	44
CULTURAL AWARENESS	Meeting Room C	4:20-4:35 p.m.	47
FASHION DESIGN	PT 122	3-3:15 p.m.	54
FASHION DESIGN	PT 122	3:20-3:35 p.m.	55
FASHION DESIGN	PT 122	3:40-3:55 p.m.	56
HONORS PANEL	Meeting Room B	4:15-4:25 p.m.	63
POSTER	Atrium	1-5 p.m.	13
PRINTMAKING	PT 122	1-1:15 p.m.	71
PRINTMAKING	PT 122	1:20-1:35 p.m.	72
SHAKESPEARE PANEL	Meeting Room C	1-1:15 p.m.	78
SHAKESPEARE PANEL	Meeting Room C	1:20-1:35 p.m.	79
SHAKESPEARE PANEL	Meeting Room C	1:40-1:55 p.m.	80
SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	PT 127	3-3:15 p.m.	82
SUPPORT IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	PT 127	3:20-3:35 p.m.	83

