



# Expanding the Circle

April 21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

Hilton Hotel and Suites

120 W Market St.

Indianapolis, IN





**Mid-East Honors Association  
(MEHA) Conference 2023**

# **WELCOME TO INDIANAPOLIS!**



**Guide to dining and getting around Indianapolis:**



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## **About**

MEHA represents honors programs in universities and colleges across the mid-east region through an annual conference, lunch and learns and email communication, and two open meetings, one in the spring at the annual conference and one held at the NCHC annual conference.

## **Our Mission**

Through sharing information about honors programs and best honors practices region-wide, MEHA hopes to create an intellectual, programmatic, and administrative network of resources aimed at helping the region's honors programs grow and thrive.

The Mid-East Honors Association is comprised of honors colleges and programs from the following regions:

- Eastern Illinois
- Indiana
- Northern Kentucky
- Southern Michigan
- Ohio
- West Virginia

Institutions that are close to these states while not strictly within our designated region, are welcome to join MEHA and attend our annual conference.

## **Our Hosts**

MEHA 2023 is hosted jointly by the University of Indianapolis and Ivy Tech Community College

## **Executive Committee**

- James Williams, University of Indianapolis, President
- Debbie Bachmann, Purdue University Northwest, Vice President
- Alexander Kaufman, Treasurer
- Matthew Jordon, Immediate Vice President
- M. Beth Borst, Professional Representative, Ivy Tech Community College
- Charlie Malone, Brainchild Editor
- Michael Chambers, Student Representative, University of Indianapolis
- Austin Tamez, Student Representative, Ivy Tech Community College
- Conor Dailey, Student Representative, Ball State University

**The electronic version of this booklet can be found at:**

<https://mideasthonors.org/>



## Schedule

### Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

1:00 – 5:00 pm	Conference Registration <i>Victory Foyer – 9th Floor</i>
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Conference Welcome Plenary Speaker, Kelsey Timmerman <i>Victory Ballroom – 9th Floor</i>
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Dinner (on your own, not provided)
8:30 -10:30 pm	Service Project – For Students <i>Victory Ballroom – 9th Floor</i>
8:30 -10:30 pm	Social Gathering – For Faculty/Staff <i>120 West – 1st Floor</i>

### Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

7:00 – 8:50 am	Breakfast <i>Monument Hall – Concourse/Basement</i>
8:00 – 9:50 am	MEHA Business Meeting <i>Monument Hall – Concourse/Basement</i>
9:00 – 9:50 am	Session 1 Scholarly Presentations
10:00 – 10:50 am	Session 2 Scholarly Presentations
11:00 – 11:50 am	Session 3 Scholarly Presentations
12:00 – 12:50 pm	Session 4 Scholarly Presentations
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch (on your own, not provided)
2:45 – 5:00 pm	Explore Indy Student-led Activities <i>Victory Ballroom-9th Floor (Initial meeting spot)</i>
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Plenary Panel Discussion – Honoring John Emert “Expanding Your Circle in Honors” <i>Victory Ballroom – 9th Floor</i>
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Dinner (on your own, not provided)

## **Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

7:00 – 8:30 am	Grab and Go – Doughnut Informal Breakfast <i>Circle City Room 4 – Floor 4</i> <i>Circle City Room 5 – Floor 5</i>
8:30 – 10:00 am	Poster Session 1 <i>Victory Ballroom – 9th Floor</i>
10:00 – 10:30 am	Break and Check-out
10:30 – 11:50 am	Poster Session 2 <i>Victory Ballroom – 9th Floor</i>

### **Plenary Speaker, Conference Welcome**

Kelsey Timmerman, Ball State University

Kelsey Timmerman has reported from more than 60 countries on issues including globalization, modern-day slavery, poverty, philanthropy, and the global agriculture and garment industries. He's the New York Times Bestselling author of the "Where am I?" series and co-founder of The Facing Project, a national storytelling initiative.

### **Plenary Panel Discussion, Honoring John Emert**

*Dr. John Emert is Dean of the Honors College, appointed July 1, 2017. He joined the Ball State Faculty after earning a B.A. in Mathematics and Music and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Emert served previously as Chair of the Department of Mathematical Sciences and then Associate Dean of the Honors College. Throughout the past 30 years at Ball State University, he has developed several interdisciplinary Honors College colloquia linking the sciences, arts, and humanities. He has led several Honors College field studies and directed the University's 2011 Worcester, England Center. Dr. Emert was selected recipient of the 2011 C. Warren Vander Hill Award for Distinguished Teaching in Honors Education by the Honors College students and a 2008 Access Award from Ball State University Disabled Student Development. His research efforts include work on the analysis of tangles which arise in DNA replication, the refinement of geometric algorithms used in distinguishing certain geological attributes, and the analysis of novel combinatorial competition scenarios. He is an appointed member of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Finance and Advocacy Committees and an official NCHC Program Reviewer. Dr. Emert also serves on the Phi Kappa Phi Budget and Program Review Committee and previously chaired its Fellowship Review Committee. In 2018 Dr. Emert earned the IUPUI Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Certificate in Fund Raising Management and was elected President-Elect of the Mideast Honors Association. His life experiences also include work as a musician and published composer and home life as a proud husband and father.*

### **Social Activities**

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> | 2:45 – 5PM**

**Dr. Nick Soltis - Geologist and Earth Space Scientist**

*Rock Tour of Indianapolis*

**Austin Tamez – Student Representative, Ivy Tech Community College**

*Cultural exploration along the mall and shopping on Massachusetts Avenue*

**Michael Chambers - Student Representative, University of Indianapolis**

**Conor Dailey - Student Representative, Ball State University**

*Indiana Cultural Trail and Canal*

## Abstracts

Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Session 1 – Circle City Room 10**  
**The Power of Voice 1 – Creative Work**  
**9:00am-9:50am**

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**Loredada Tirri Spano, Indiana University South Bend**

*Aleinah*

"Aleinah" is an excerpt from my creative story that I will share for the presentation. A summary follows. Evan, Aleinah's youngest son, found out about his mother's past relationship and how happy she was compared to now. Knowing this, Evan is determined to discover why his mom decided to be with his dad. How did this happen? Why does his mom's past lover return? Is there something between their parents that he does not know about?

**Hailiedaniele Kulikowski, Indiana University South Bend**

*Intergenerational Trauma Expressed Through Poetry*

In this presentation I will explore the subject of intergenerational trauma through the reading and discussion of three short poems I have written. The poems are inspired by the works of Joséphine Bacon, an Innu poet from Quebec who writes in both French and Innu-aimun. Bacon's writing style is very particular, and her works address themes of nature, community, identity, and spirituality. As such, it is through these themes that I address the impact of intergenerational trauma. In my presentation, I will explain how Joséphine Bacon inspired this poetry, how each poem ties into Bacon's themes and writing style, as well as what each poem means to me.

**Nirmeen Khanfar, Cuyahoga Community College**

*How to connect to your needs*

Introducing an art therapy prompt that allows those to participate and get in touch with their inner needs to help communicate them better. When someone is in touch with their needs, they are able to communicate them directly and seek their needs in healthy ways- however, those that are not aware of their needs, will still seek to meet them, but in unconscious ways- which leads to unhealthy behaviors.

**Session 1 – Circle City Room 3**

**Psychology 1**  
**9:00am-9:50am**

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**Collin Kriegbaum, Indiana University East**

**Dr. Eevett Loshek, Indiana University East**

*Parasocial Interaction and the DASS 21 Inventory*

Integral to the human species is our need to socialize and form relationships. So fundamental are these processes, that sometimes humans form emotional bonds with media characters and figures they have never physically met. This is a phenomenon called Parasocial Relationship (PSR). The repeated consumption that leads to PSR creation, is known as Parasocial Interaction (PSI). A survey was created using a modified parasocial interaction concept model (based on Rubin, Perse, and Powell's, 1985) and the DASS 21 Depression, Anxiety and Stress questionnaire. Researchers sought to find links between heightened states of negative emotion and parasocial interaction. Surveys were completed by 171 persons. Pearson correlations supported hypotheses linking parasocial interaction with state Depression, and Anxiety. Stress was not found to be strongly linked to parasocial interaction.

**Ansley Crutchfield, University of Indianapolis**  
**Dr. Kathryn Boucher, University of Indianapolis**  
*Perceptions of Disability Accommodation Materials*

Individuals with disabilities are entitled to equal opportunities for education under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. To fulfill this mandate, Letters of Accommodation are composed by universities in order to outline classroom accommodations for students. The purpose of this study is to understand whether the language used in these materials is perceived as rooted in the social or medical models of disability and whether this impacts a sense of belonging for students with disabilities. The medical model posits that both individuals and medical doctors are responsible for any issues caused by disability. Conversely, according to the social model, society and institutions are responsible for maintaining an inclusive environment and eradicating barriers individuals with disabilities face. Students at the University of Indianapolis that are 18 years of age or older and identify as having one or more disabilities will be eligible to participate in this study. Participants will be recruited via the SONA psychology subject pool and be asked to complete an online Qualtrics survey where they respond with their reactions to a hypothetical Letter of Accommodation, which should take approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete. Data will be analyzed primarily quantitatively, but the free-response essay question asking for specific feedback pertaining to the hypothetical Letter of Accommodation will be analyzed using thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006). I hypothesize that when the Letter of Accommodation is perceived as aligning with the medical model, relative to the social constructionist model, participants will perceive students with disabilities as belonging less to the university. Evidence supporting these predictions will benefit campuses by providing information that allows them to better serve students with disabilities, which will, in turn, benefit disabled students.

**Payton Bowling, University of Indianapolis**  
**Dr. Kathryn Boucher, University of Indianapolis**  
*Faculty Perceptions of and Experiences with Students' Disability Accommodations*

This study will investigate whether professors have different attitudes towards students with physical disabilities versus mental health disabilities, as well as professors' desire for more knowledge on supporting students with disabilities. Despite the substantive number of students with disabilities, there has not been a strong research focus on whether faculty attitudes towards students differ based on disability type. Current or recent instructors of college courses will be recruited through listservs and social media posts and entered into a drawing for compensation for their participation. They will read a vignette depicting a conversation with a student and a professor, in which the student gives the professor an accommodation letter and they discuss accommodations. Participants will be randomly assigned to a vignette where the student requires accommodations for either a mental illness or a physical disability. Participants will then answer a number of items that measure competency beliefs, views of disability accommodations, and desire for training, as well as knowledge of existing faculty resources. We expect that participants who read about a student with a mental health disability will have more negative perceptions towards accommodations and disabled students' competency compared to those who read about a physical disability. We will also explore whether there is any difference between groups in desire for training. By understanding whether professors' attitudes and behavioral intentions towards students differ based on whether they perceive the student as having a physical or mental health disability, research on faculty attitudes towards different student populations can be further improved, and faculty trainings can be made better. This could result in more positive attitudes from professors towards students with mental illnesses and physical disabilities, which can decrease stigma and improve students' experiences.

**Rian MarQuand, Indiana University Southeast**

**Rebekah Dement, Indiana University Southeast**

*Transfeminism: The Adverse Effects of Cis-Centric and Trans-Exclusive Feminism on the Modern Transgender Community*

How do the pink hats of the Women’s March relate to trans people being denied healthcare? How did safe spaces for women turn into reinforcing unrealistic body expectations for women? This presentation will explore the relationship between mainstream feminist history and the modern transgender community’s current political and social climate. This research seeks to understand exactly how mainstream feminism’s exclusive history has influenced the hostile political and social climate that transgender individuals experience today. In addition to a critique of foundational feminist texts, this research uses original survey data and an overview or scholarship by key activists. The preliminary findings of this study indicate that transgender liberation has played an increasingly significant and polarizing role in the feminist movement, though cis-centrism and trans-exclusion have always been present (or even central tenants) in feminist history despite pushback from trans liberation activists. Today, trans-exclusionary branches of feminism are one of the leading culprits in the hostile environment for transgender people.

**James Renton, Northern Kentucky University**

*Scholarly Paper Presentation*

This research is meant to give the reader a general idea regarding why many young American voters have been turning to the ideology known by the media as “democratic socialism.” In recent years this term has been used in mainstream media and politics and has become a rallying cry for progressives and conservatives alike, whether it be a cry for or against the ideology. This has caused a major ideological shift on the American political spectrum, which prompted this research project to provide insight into why democratic socialism is so popular?

**Taylor Vachon, University of Indianapolis**

*Effects of Political Ideology on Perceptions of Group Ideology*

Party polarization is increasing and is especially evident in American politics. Among normal, everyday people, however, there is less clarity about how this impacts their daily lives. While it may be obvious that many Democrats do not like most Republicans and many Republicans do not like most Democrats, it is not obvious how these internal biases and group identifications within partisanship affect how people see others. Is there a partisan lens through which everyone views not just the parties, but the people and groups associated with them? This is what I researched in my project. More specifically, my research question asks how do individuals’ political ideologies and partisanship affect their perspectives of others’ political ideologies and partisanship. This research will argue that partisanship stereotypes are extended to broad groups of people outside of the parties themselves revealing just how deep the polarization and partisanship divides are in American politics and our society.

**Geri Bakushi, Cleveland State University**

*Machine Learning Based Identification of Food Desert Defection and Public Health Disparity Areas for a Property Recommendation System*

Food deserts are an extremely risky flaw in urban planning as well as a very relevant issue that shows a link between hunger, food insecurity, and bad health. Food desert development is a factor in health inequalities and problems with urban planning. In order to analyze and identify Food Deserts in Ohio's Cuyahoga County, this study looks at the food desert main characteristics and factors that contribute to their existence. By using a classification algorithm, an automatic system is presented to identify specific census blocks of a community as Food Deserts. This system makes use of publicly available data on the Cuyahoga County Census website by processing information and making use of individual features provided to build the big picture that contributes to the creation of food deserts, thus alleviating the process of identifying them. This system would be helpful in real estate recommendation systems. Not only it would warn the users of that recommendation system of the food desert, but it would also raise awareness among the real estate community and incentivize food investments in those areas thus decreasing public health disparities.

**Kara Wright, Indiana University Southeast**

*White Lace and Legal Disgrace: Child Marriage in America*

“They forced me to marry him to cover up the scandal, instead of putting the handcuffs on him and sending him to prison, they put the handcuffs on me and imprisoned me in a marriage” (Zee 1). At just 11 years old, Sherry Johnson was married to her 20-year-old rapist. This is not a foreign case found in legal history books. This is a 1971 case from the Pinellas County court in Florida. According to the 2022 Brown Political Review, over 50% of Americans believe that child marriage is illegal in their country. However, it is something that has happened and continues to occur in America. This research project seeks to share information on child marriage: its roots, its place in America, and its effects. Taking the stance that child marriage should be made illegal, the presentation will present the roadblocks that make this undertaking so difficult. Utilizing scholarly journals and law reviews, this presentation will explore how America's domestic laws support a practice that the country has denounced on the international stage. In addition, a survey will be utilized to better understand how Indiana residents perceive the topic of child marriage in their state.

**Rebekah Cooper, Indiana University Southeast**

**Charles Nasby, Indiana University Southeast**

*Immersive Sustainability at Indiana University Southeast: Building an art installation featuring the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals*

Art and sustainability are inextricably linked as they both strive to make the world a better place. Through art, we can communicate important environmental messages and raise awareness about pressing ecological issues. This campus-wide installation will not only add beauty to our community but also serve as a powerful tool to educate and inspire action towards a more sustainable future.

The ambitious art installation will immerse the IUS community in a one-of-a-kind sustainability experience. By featuring an interactive QR link that leads to an informative sustainability website, the installation will promote sustainability literacy and deepen understanding of the university's missions, goals, initiatives. The project is a collaborative effort involving faculty, staff, student volunteers, sustainability committee members, and GREENadiers student members. It will be crafted on campus using upcycled, native, and sustainable materials such as bamboo, steel, and lumber, providing a unique educational opportunity for community engagement.

The project will utilize a blend of fabrication and engineering techniques while integrating simple, natural, and basic styles of making and creating art. This approach aligns with current scholarly research on sustainable art, which emphasizes the use of environmentally friendly materials and techniques, and the role of art in raising awareness and promoting sustainability.

## **Session 1 – Circle City Room 7**

### **Round Tables**

#### **Linguistics; Dance**

##### **9:00am-9:50am**

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#### **Megan Bargiel, University of Wisconsin Whitewater**

*Linguistic Analysis of a Bilingual Student*

Research on English Language Learners (ELL) indicates that bilingual students highly value learning programs with an emphasis on socialization. This contributes to improved academic performance and retention of the content.

#### **Bri Allehoff, University Wisconsin-Whitewater**

*The Choreographic Journey*

In my project, I set forth to choreograph and participate in a dance performance featured at UW-Whitewater's DanceScapes 2023, a dance performance that typically draws an audience of at least 500 people. With the help of Professor Barbara Grubel, an expert in dance and choreography, I learned the process of syncing movement to music, working with dancers of different shapes and abilities, and the rigors of translating my vision into a dance that the audience could understand. My first choreographed piece, entitled "glisten", sought to create a visually pleasing image that transformed throughout the performance. In my second piece, entitled "coalesce," I worked to generate a story that could have a variety of interpretations from the audience. My research and work embrace the arts, showing how it is relevant to everyday concerns that relate to ability, strength, body types, and mental health. In doing so, I show how the arts, music, and movement is fundamental to overcoming obstacles, processing pain, and expressing truths about our lives that allow us to become more powerful. For me, dance is my greatest passion so this opportunity to create and present my work has been very significant and meaningful to my future career.

## **Session 1 – Circle City Room 11**

#### **Social Work; Psychology 4; Neuroscience**

##### **9:00am-9:50am**

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#### **Krystal Lozano, Northern Kentucky University**

*Supporting America's Underrepresented Youth*

This paper is the conglomerate of three years of research. Exposing the maltreatment and abuse of foster children is important, but once that is complete, what needs to happen next? As a first-generation college student and former child in care, I began my college journey lost and scared. This paper analyzes the use of social programming and different types of therapies as support mechanisms for children in foster care as well as for those who spent their whole life there. It was through a mix of these, as well as my admittance to the Honors College at Northern Kentucky University, that helped me find my footing. This paper serves as a call to all honors colleges in America: your college or program can provide a sense of help, security, and belonging for those, like me, who are navigating the halls silently.

**Rachel Polak, University of Indianapolis**

*Social Inequality in Urban Areas: Outcomes of Residential Segregation in Black Communities*

This paper investigates the contemporary consequences of a history of residential segregation by examining outcomes for Black and White residents in two metropolitan areas, Milwaukee and Raleigh. Residential segregation is the byproduct of racist policies that continue to impact Black people today. Historical and contemporary residential segregation affects individuals by limiting their access to quality education, job opportunities, and upward mobility. Additionally, a consequence of residential segregation is due to its cyclical nature, these issues will continue to persist for many years to come. Using data from the 2019 American Housing Survey, I will examine descriptive differences in sociodemographic outcomes such as food insecurity, income, and educational attainment by race between a city with high segregation, Milwaukee (d-score 75.1), and a city with low segregation, Raleigh, (d-score 38.8). My analyses will use t-tests to compare outcomes for Black and White people within and between the two metropolitan areas.

**Jacklyn Staffeld, Eastern Michigan University**

*Effects of brain-derived neurotrophic factor signaling within the ventral hippocampus-to-nucleus accumbens pathway on acquisition of sign- and goal-tracking behaviors*

Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) levels may contribute to individual differences in learning behaviors. Using stereotaxic surgery on rats, an in vivo dual-vector approach was used to bilaterally inject Cre recombinase into the nucleus accumbens (NAc) and a Cre-dependent BDNF virus into the ventral hippocampus (vHPC) to selectively increase BDNF production in the NAc-vHPC pathway. Rats were then given five weeks in order to recover and for the BDNF to overproduce. Once BDNF is produced at the desired levels, rats were tested for behavioral differences in a Pavlovian conditioned approach (PCA). These procedures allowed determination of how overproduction of BDNF the vHPC–NAc projection affects acquisition of PCA behavior. Data collection is going. Current and future findings may add to an understanding of a pathway-specific role for BDNF in producing incentive-learning patterns that are associated with vulnerability to addiction in human beings.

**Session 1 – Circle City Room 14  
Round Tables**

**Behavioral Sciences; Public Health; Community Service**  
**9:00am-9:50am**

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**Melissa Thomas, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis**

**Tess R. Weathers, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis**

*Addressing the Life Expectancy Gap on the Indianapolis Southside*

Indianapolis is a sprawling and diverse city, however, there remains significant place-based differences in health across its residents. In 2015, an analysis of 100+ ZIP codes across the 11-county Indianapolis metropolitan area found that there was a 14-year difference in life expectancy between the longest living and the shortest living area in Indianapolis, the Southside. A greater in-depth review of the Southside in 2021 revealed many structural disadvantages in residents' health, including lack of education, poor employment quality, lower median income, less access to food retail stores, and more. Therefore, it came to light that the Southside represented a critical priority population in Indianapolis for health promotion. How can these differences across the urban city of Indianapolis be addressed? Please join for a discussion on interventions, health programs, and other novel ideas towards ensuring health equity within our own city of Indianapolis.

**Mya Bell, Purdue University Northwest Honors College**  
**Alejandro Campos, Purdue University Northwest Honors College**

*The Benefits of Attending a Hispanic Serving Institution Within the Honors College and University as a Whole*

In 2022, the Hispanic population at Purdue University Northwest reached 25%, classifying us as a Hispanic Serving Institution. Our university and the surrounding community have been filled with Latino culture for years and this opportunity gave Purdue Northwest more resources to grow our Hispanic representation, programming, and service to students. As a campus, we offer a variety of events pertaining to Latino cultures, such as parades, dance classes, movie nights, and festivals full of Hispanic vendors. Specifically, within the Honors College, we have integrated community service that services the Hispanic community, such as the Latino Resource Fair which provides supplies to Hispanic students. We also host events pertaining to Hispanic Culture, such as Hispanic Game Night, which allows students to learn about entertainment from another culture. This roundtable would allow two Hispanic students from Purdue Northwest to share how attending a Hispanic Serving Institution has assisted us in feeling connected, developing our cultural competence, and allowing us to express ourselves and our backgrounds. We would like to share how we have integrated this campus-wide initiative into our Honors College programming through community service and events. We would also like to collaborate with other universities in regard to integrating more Hispanic programming into their and our own Honors Programs. This roundtable will expand the circle by giving non-Hispanic students the opportunity to learn about our culture and how to represent their Latino population, as well as allowing Latino students to have a space to share their experiences. We hope to inspire more colleges to push to welcome Hispanic students from all walks of life and develop the systems to serve them.

### **Session 1 – Circle City Room 16**

#### **Mathematics**

**9:00am-9:50am**

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**Jason Gillo, Indiana University East**

*Adapting the Trapezoid Rule for One-Dimensional Monte Carlo Integration*

We show here that using a trapezoidal method for numerical integration, combined with the Monte Carlo method of iterative calculations that rely on numerous randomly selected points is a viable means of evaluating certain difficult-to-integrate functions in one dimension. Furthermore, we evaluate methods of improving the accuracy of the method as a whole via simple preparatory steps and manipulations.

### **Session 1 – Circle City Room 8** **Round Tables**

#### **Humanities**

**9:00am-9:50am**

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**Brent Blackwell, Ball State University**

**Kat Taylor, Ball State University**

**Jillian Andriot, Ball State University**

**Anasasia Attar, Ball State University**

**Em Loney, Ball State University**

*Challenging Confirmation Bias in the Humanities Classroom: a new Approach to Reading about Creation*

This panel proposal has four students presenting on their takeaways from a series of new assignments we tried in our Humanities class to help them identify and interrogate their own cultural filter bubbles and

confirmation biases, which necessarily limit the kinds of approaches students can take with a central text of the Judeo-Christian, Western tradition, the book of Genesis, badly in need of decolonizing.

Students are so used to reading the story of creation in Genesis, for example, as a single, unified narrative without inconsistencies and outright contradictions that they fail to see them when they read the two accounts of creation. I created a series of assignments to challenge them to see as many different versions of the creation narrative as possible by getting them to foreground their own reading strategies as inherent confirmation biases. This allowed religious and non-religious students to recognize their inherent biases before tackling this text, which fostered, in microcosm, an inclusive and decolonized discussion of an otherwise heavily loaded text.

**Brianna Pike, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Caleb Walz, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Ila Davis, Ivy Tech Community College**

*Why You Should Share Your Voice: The Power of Language in the Creative Writing Classroom*

This panel will convene a group of distinct student voices to share their experience from their time in an honors creative writing course. Students will share their thoughts regarding their own writing, the revision process, the workshop experience and how what they learned in their class can translate beyond the classroom. At the conclusion of the panel, each student will read an original piece of work generated during their time in the class. Ultimately, we hope to encourage students to develop their own creativity and that it is an important part of their academic plan overall.

## **Session 2 – Circle City Room 10**

### **The Power of Voice 2 – Creative Work**

**10:00am-10:50am**

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**Tsai Yi-hsuan, Walsh University**

*An Anti-bias Storybook that Initiates Discussions about Diversity with Readers*

This anti-bias storybook demonstrates the importance of teaching young children between kindergarten to second grade how to be respectful of others who are different from them and how this knowledge could positively support their social-emotional development. Biased opinions can cause conflicts in society and create a social hierarchy, which people use to consider themselves as superior or inferior to other diverse groups, based on characteristics such as race, gender, and ability. Many young children take in biased opinions on diverse groups of people from their environment, which include family members, teachers, and peers. Following the Anti-Bias Framework, the storybook provides an entry point and guides readers through the stages of feeling, thinking, responding, and sharing, with hands-on activities and research-based strategies to encourage discussions and reflections that align with the Ohio Department of Education's Social and Emotional Learning Standards. The anti-bias storybook is a tool for teachers and adults to address diverse topics and encourage conversations in elementary classrooms and at home for students to recognize unfairness and bias, as well as further promote actions against prejudice and racism.

**Austin Tamez, Ivy Tech Community College**

*Scenes from an Amber Bottle*

A car hit and killed your cat? Don't worry; everything happens for a reason.

You got fired? Don't worry; everything happens for a reason.

Your house just burned down? Don't worry; everything happens for a reason.

You got cancer? Don't worry; everything happens for a reason.

"Everything happens for a reason" is one of these insidious platitudes that the people around us frequently repeat when we find ourselves amid incredibly trying circumstances. It's meant to give us hope, but it's a tired cliché that is simply untrue. In *Scenes from an Amber Bottle*, we find our protagonist trying to deal with their cancer diagnosis. From drug addiction to sexual assault to erectile dysfunction, our protagonist takes us on a

journey on how they came full circle with their cancer diagnosis because everything does not happen for a reason; sometimes things just are.

**Sarah Farrough, Indiana University South Bend**

*Abstract Digging Up More Than What You Bargained For: An Excerpt*

In this presentation, I will read a short story that was written for an IU South Bend English class. The assignment gave students an opportunity to write a short ghost story. The requirement was to write a story that went from being uncanny to fantastic. In literary terms, uncanny means that the story's character does not believe in ghosts no matter the signs. By contrast, fantastic means that the character fully believes in ghosts and knows that what they are seeing, and experiencing is real. According to the writing prompt, our characters needed to evolve from not believing to fully believing in ghosts. In this presentation, I will be reading three excerpts from my short story to illustrate how I developed the plot from uncanny to marvelous and, finally, to fantastic.

**Session 2 – Circle City Room 3**

**Paleontology; Kinesiology; Higher Education**

**10:00am-10:50pm**

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**Mateo Galadamez, Indiana University South Bend**

*Gurche: The Artist of The Past*

My paper discusses the importance of the art of John Gurche, who is a well-known paleo artist. It discusses the Dinosaur Renaissance, which was an essential time for paleontological research. Specifically, between the 1970s to 2010s, the image of dinosaurs was changing from one of giant simpleminded lizards to intelligent bird-like beings. Thus, it became important during this time to recreate their images using realism. John Gurche did paleoart for natural history museums around the US, made illustrations for National Geographic magazine, and designed stamps for the US postal service. One of his biggest accomplishments was being a concept artist and paleontological consultant for the first Jurassic Park film, where he helped design the film's dinosaurs. Gurche's art was integral as it helped the public visualize what dinosaurs looked and behaved like. This paper will discuss Gurche's past, his inspirations, and his intentions in his line of work. The paper will also reveal the differences between realism and surrealism in art and show how both influenced Gurche's style. Finally, the paper will conclude by showing how two interests in a person's life can shape a successful life and why paleo artists were and still are relevant today.

**David Thiele, U of Mount Union**

**Martina Starkey, U of Mount Union**

*New U: Lessons from Designing a New University*

In recent years, whether the issue is unsustainable tuition or the empirical evidence that most students graduate without being well prepared for work and citizenship, there has been more caution than vision from higher education leadership. The group project we are proposing to present at MEHA is a product of our Honors Capstone course, which addresses pressing issues in higher education with a focus on generating innovative solutions. It is a response to an assignment called "New U.," which asks students to combine extensive research on higher education with their own insights, resulting in a plan for a new start-up college or university to be pitched to potential funders—or, in this case, the MEHA audience. There are many challenging questions to be answered in such a project: What is our "value proposition"—in other words, how will we convince prospective students, their parents, and your initial donors and investors that our new institution will produce value at least equal to its cost? What actual need will our institution serve in the crowded higher education market? How will our institution address the challenges facing existing colleges and universities more effectively than established schools? And, of course, we must capture the imaginations of our target

audiences. College is an emotional investment, not just a financial one, right? Our presentation will sketch our New U concept while focusing on the lessons about higher education that we have learned along the way.

**Dalton Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

*Performance Adaptation: Effects of Training on Neuromuscular Fatigue, Neuromuscular Development, and Motor Performance*

This paper examines the concept of motor learning and its role in inducing adaptations in high-level athletes through practice and training. Motor learning is the process by which individuals gain the ability to perform skilled movements, leading to relatively permanent improvements in performance. To maximize skill acquisition, retention, and transfer, it is important to consider factors such as coaching style, practice design, and practice intent. In addition to motor learning, neuromuscular adaptation is also important for athletic performance. Neuromuscular adaptation is the result of both musculoskeletal and neurological adaptations and is necessary for athletes to resist fatigue, improve skill transfer, increase maximal force production, and meet the physical demands of their sport which can range from utilizing the aerobic system, anaerobic system, or a combination of the two. Resistance training is an effective way to induce neuromuscular adaptations, including corticospinal and spinal adaptations, which can improve movement control and coordination. By understanding the mechanisms of motor learning and neuromuscular adaptation, trainers and athletes can design training programs to specifically target and enhance performance in the specific sport of a given athlete or team.

**Session 2 – Circle City Room 4**

**Political Science 2; Economics 1**

**10:00am-10:50am**

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**Christian Martinez, Indiana University South Bend**

*Trade Exposure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from State Elections for 2012 – 2020*

Facilitated by government involvement and regulation, the importance of international trade has grown tremendously since the 1950s becoming a crucial backbone for the United States economy. However, this is not without controversy, and recent policy initiatives have been targeted at restricting the flow of free international trade in and out of the United States. Given the political implications of international trade and its direct and indirect effects on the economy through employment and the pricing of goods and services, how does international trade impact voter turnout? The international trade government-constraint hypothesis posits that there is a tradeoff between the influence of international trade and government. As international trade increases, the ability of government to legislate constricts, thereby decreasing the benefits associated with voting and turnout. Using a panel dataset of voter turnout data from fifty states and the District of Columbia from 2012-2020 for five electoral periods, I test the impact of international trade exposure and government economic influence on voter turnout through a variety of pooled-OLS and fixed effects regression models. While I find that there is no direct linkage between international trade exposure and voter turnout, there is an indirect relationship between international trade exposure and government economic influence that exerts a positive impact on voter turnout, providing contrary evidence to the government-constraint hypothesis.

**Dannon Olsen, Indiana University Southeast**

*Protest, Revolution, and Insurrection in the events of January 6th, 2020*

On January 6, 2020, the United States saw an unprecedented destabilization of our congressional process. The United States Capitol building was flooded with disgruntled US citizens, but how are they best described? Depending on the news source, this event has been described as a protest, insurrection, riot, coup, or a revolution. This paper will address these inconsistencies and examine which of these most accurately describes this event; further, this paper will explain the real political and social consequences of how we

classify this event. This research explores the January 6th report itself as well as multiple political theorists' work on revolution and insurrection. This paper will in turn examine these political theorists' classifications in tandem with the reports of events to construct a more nuanced criteria for insurrections, revolutions, failed revolutions, and riots.

**Gracie Kaine, Indiana University Southeast**

*Journeys to Freedom: How One Creates Art from History*

Over the summer of 2022, the researcher worked as an intern for a play called Journeys to Freedom: (Un)Known Project, which took place on the Belle of Louisville. Through her experience, article analyses, and interviews, she researched and analyzed the historical contexts of the play, the production process, leadership practices, and how one creates art from history. The play in question explores themes of slavery, black & queer history, and the hope of finding freedom. This work is a reflection on her experience with this project in combination with findings of historical truth in fiction work, analysis of leadership, and how these components are essential to truth in storytelling both within the theatre and beyond.

**Session 2 – Circle City Room 6**

**History 3; Education 1; Journalism**

**10:00am-10:50am**

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**Keziah Jones, Indiana University Southeast**

*Oak Wood and Cannon Fire: How the United States Overcame the World's Naval Superpower*

The onset of the War of 1812 looked bleak for the United States. As sea warfare was impending between the young nation and the world's largest and strongest naval force, the Royal Navy of Great Britain, few would have bet on success from the United States. However, the nation soon came to realize that there is much more to a navy than the number in its fleet: the design of its ships can have an overwhelming impact on the course of a war. No ship demonstrates this better than the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned warship afloat today. This research project explores the history of the USS Constitution, also known as "Old Ironsides," including the ship's construction, commission, and the legacy it has held for Americans throughout the nation's existence. To do this, a variety of sources were consulted, including scholarly journals, historical texts, and primary source material. The researcher also conducted an original survey to explore the battleship's legacy and significance to the local community in and around IU Southeast.

**Jessie Webb, Grand Valley State University**

*Let's get Back to Moving; Time to Abandon the Sedentary Lifestyle that Our Educational System is Reinforcing*

Movement is an essential part of our lives, and at a minimum we should be moving for 60 minutes a day. With that said many children today are sitting in classrooms where unfortunately a sedentary lifestyle is reinforced often. In society as educators, we need to provide a place in the classroom in which students can receive the space to move and be active. Learning is enhanced through movement, and it is said that students excel academically, behaviorally, and emotionally when they are more active in the classroom. Following a one-week road trip to various states and many interviews with teachers, and principals, along with an extensive case study in a 5th grade classroom, I have been gathering an extensive amount of information on the benefits of including movement in the classroom. For this presentation I will be sharing my research results from a two-semester long research endeavor, as well as practical tools and resources you can use as an educator in order to make your classroom more active for your students and you.

**Rachel Wood, Indiana University Southeast**

*Understanding Film, Television, and Media Literacy in a Changing World*

Out of 44 countries, the United States ranks 15th in relation to teaching effective media literacy. Film analysis (the interpretation of cinematic elements) and media literacy (the ability to analyze and communicate messages within media) are both key areas of study involving the purpose and understanding of media. The aim of this research is to critically examine the interrelated fields of film analysis and media literacy in order to understand the connection between both concepts. Further, this research strives to find strategies that K-12 educators may be able to implement in their classrooms and their curriculum that use film and television analysis to promote conscious media consumption. In addition to a review of scholarly literature, a survey of general attitudes surrounding media literacy was conducted. Preliminary findings of the research show that an increase of media literacy is necessary in the ever-changing world of technology and media.

**Session 2 – Circle City Room 7 Round Tables**

**Political Science 3; Law 2**

**10:00am-10:50am**

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**Sophia Croyts, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Boubacar Balde, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Nathan Geise, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Carmon Hicks, Ivy Tech Community College**

**Milan Andrejevich, Ivy Tech Community College**

*Addressing Global Issues through a Multidisciplinary Lens*

Students face tremendous investigative challenges as they navigate the world around them. Students are challenged to consider a multitude of unusual and controversial issues that require heightened curiosity and vision. Thinking analytically, illustrating what has shaped the controversies in our world, and answering “how do you know what you know” enables students to realize that no single-issue confronting humankind today can be answered using only one method or one alternative approach. What are essential for students to understand and to develop are diverse strategies and varied approaches? To that end, student panelists have identified challenges facing humankind using specific settings and themes. Embracing a multidisciplinary approach, students have identified the following topics: Reconstructing the Penal System in the United States, Gender Equality and Human Rights in Africa, and China’s Influence in Latin America.

**Joshua Honaker, Ohio Northern University**

*Voices for Change: How to Advocate with No Experience*

Legal systems are overwhelming. Most of us do not have comprehensive knowledge of the full process from initial idea to law. This process may be different from one governing body to another. Many questions arise, like “where do I find trustworthy information?” or “I heard about this bill, but where is it now?” These are hurdles that feel discouraging or even insurmountable, but with a little familiarity, are easily overcome. Now, you find yourself wanting to advocate for something, and have no idea where to start. This is the same place I found myself, with no one to turn to for assistance. In this discussion, we will talk about strategies for breaking into advocacy, finding reliable resources, and how to make change. The idea of “making change” can feel like trying to use a spoon to drill a tunnel through the bottom of a mountain. We will cover some strategies to make this a little more manageable, including some storytelling techniques to capture an audience.

## Session 2 – Circle City Room 11

### Anthropology; Linguistics 2; Literature

10:00am-10:50am

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#### **Halle Elder, Cleveland State University**

*Maya Language Vitality: Potential causes for the longstanding vitality of languages in the Mayan family in Mesoamerica*

Indigenous languages often struggle in efforts to maintain and revitalize their own languages today because of a lack of resources to aid in these efforts, especially in communities that only have a few elders left who speak their traditional language. The Mayan Languages of Mesoamerica on the other hand have demonstrated a strong vitality in the face of hundreds of years of struggle against Spanish colonization and language contact. Utilizing research from Mayan languages and society as a whole, this research looks to identify possible causes for the Mayan languages family's overall vitality. Pre-colonial writing systems, early documentation, societal attitudes and roles, and high levels of revitalization movements are some of the possible reasons for this high vitality presented in this research. There has been little to no research on this specific topic but understanding where the Mayan Languages vitality derives could establish a precedent to aid in language revitalization efforts for other indigenous languages around the world.

#### **Raven McNeal, Northern Kentucky University**

*An Exploration into the Influence of Harlem Renaissance Literature on Rap/Hip-Hop Music Today: The Blacker the Berry*

This research project explores the complexities of having darker skin and the challenges that come with embracing it. Wallace Thurman's *The Blacker the Berry: A Novel of Negro Life*, released at the height of the Harlem Renaissance, explores main character Emma Lou's experiences with colorism, discrimination, and learning how to accept herself as she is. Released during a time of heightened racial tension, Kendrick Lamar's album *To Pimp a Butterfly* utilizes a multifaceted approach to address black plight. The track titled *The Blacker the Berry* is an ode to Thurman's novel and a commentary on black culture today. The parallels between *To Pimp a Butterfly* and *The Blacker the Berry* can be understood through the perspective of the caterpillar and how it must use the cocoon, the external pressures, opinions, and expectations placed on it, to turn inward and surpass the constraints of blackness in society.

## Session 2 – Circle City Room 14

### Round Tables

#### **Mentoring; Sociology 3**

10:00am-10:50am

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#### **Sierra Gulli, Grand Valley State University**

**Matthew Koren, Grand Valley State University**

**Sydney Addington, Grand Valley State University**

**Jaeda Jonker, Grand Valley State University;**

**Rylee Webb, Grand Valley State University**

*A New Beginning for a Long-Standing Mentorship Program*

Students report significant anxiety about making a successful transition from high school to college, so we consider our first-year mentoring program to be an important recruitment and retention strategy. It attracts and helps acclimate first-year students, and it builds community and goodwill among our returning students who serve as mentors. This panel will describe our mentoring program (65 or 70 mentors for roughly 350 entering

students per year), including its leadership (a 10-member Honors Student Council), its schedule of activities (recruiting and training mentors, leading 6 or 7 summer “overnight orientations” for entering students, assisting with Move-In, organizing and leading a three-day “Welcome Days” schedule, and maintaining connections with mentees through the first year), and its primary benefits to both entering students and mentors. Key lessons gained from the challenges of COVID and the “new beginning” of the regular mentoring program in Fall 2021 include striking a balance between required, informational programming and semi-optional social and fun programming, encouraging mentors to use their own creativity and knowledge of their mentees to direct and alter activities, and focusing above all on building personal relationships—both between council members and mentors and between mentors and mentees.

**Angelica Marquez, Purdue University Northwest**

**Fatima Chavez, Purdue University Northwest**

**Foivi Triantafyllou, Purdue University Northwest**

**Dylan Robert Barthel, Purdue University Northwest**

*The Impact Purdue University Northwest's Honors College has on First-Generation Students*

Purdue University Northwest has had significant success in its peer mentoring program. During the fall semester, Purdue University’s Honors College received over three hundred new incoming freshmen. All of these students received a Peer Mentor at the beginning of the semester. In order to maintain accountability, Peer Mentors are guided by mentor coordinators who are then instructed by Peer Mentor Chairs. All of these leadership positions are occupied by students, who are driven to assist and build relationships with one another. Additionally, this program allows students a greater opportunity to have a leadership role at the college level. We wish to dive into how this program can be a resource used to help first-generation students navigate through a new environment, such as their first semester of college. In order to accomplish this, we will survey Honors College students both first-generation and non-first-generation students. We will use this survey to compare and contrast each category of college students’ experience. All else being equal, we expect that first-generation college students will submit more positive feedback on the Peer Mentoring program than non-first-generation students. We hope to share our hypothesis and discoveries with other Honors College students and create a discussion on similar programs other colleges may have. We intend to explore topics of leadership, first-generation college students, and the impact of the Peer Mentoring program and similar programs.

## **Session 2 – Circle City Room 16**

### **Round Table**

#### **Accessibility in Honors**

**10:00am-10:50am**

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**Finn Price, Ohio Northern University**

*Accessibility and the Twice-Exceptional Honors Student*

Twice exceptional (2e) honors students, or honors students who are identified as gifted and have a disability, face unique personal and educational challenges in the undergraduate setting, and it is imperative to address these challenges when creating an accessible honors program. In their personal life, the 2e student is more likely to struggle to connect with their peers, communicate their needs with faculty, and healthily deal with their emotions. Academically, the 2e student is highly knowledgeable in at least one area, but their disability interferes with their ability to perform in the typical classroom setting. Without academic enrichment, 2e students can become disinterested and unmotivated, but oftentimes enrichment can be difficult to coordinate due to the complexities of disability, especially in institutions with a populous honors program. An honors program can encourage accessibility by emphasizing student independence in academic decisions while also allowing for flexibility in the curriculum as needed and listening to the perspectives of disabled students. Because disabilities are highly variable, accessibility in an honors program requires consistent maintenance.

## Session 2 – Circle City Room 8 Round Tables

Humanities; Service Learning  
10:00am-10:50am

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### **Elizabeth Dalton, Ball State University**

*Lost in Translation*

One of the many challenges facing humanities professors and departments is that of translation as they globalize their curricula. In this presentation, Ball State junior Makenna Poindexter and Elizabeth Dalton, professor of honors humanities, will discuss how they addressed this problem in their ongoing efforts to build Golden Ages: A Non-Western Inquiry, a website designed for humanities professors and undergraduates. One focus, by way of example, will be that of the text of Gilgamesh. English-language versions of Gilgamesh prove problematic in the undergraduate classroom because many of the most popular versions are not translations per se but retellings of translations that, because of the fragmentary nature of the story, might be difficult for readers to follow. These retellings are sometimes less controversial and detailed than the translations, too, which might misrepresent the original text. Other examples will include noteworthy translations of Chinese and Central and South American texts that are not readily available to readers of English. Our hope is to offer some options for turning the problem of translation into a learning opportunity for undergraduates as they embark on an exploration of these foundational texts.

### **Kay-Anne Darlington, University of Rio Grande**

*Expanding Rio's Honors Circle: Learning Through Service*

The hands-on honors service-learning course broaches the connectedness of service-learning, communication, and socio-cultural immersion to help students gain experience while coming together to help community partners. The intent of this collaboration is to provide a rich experiential learning opportunity that explores the socio-economic and cultural challenges of local communities in rural Appalachia from an intercultural communication perspective. Too often, when students learn about intercultural communication, they are asked to think of foreign locations and people. But we have very different cultures right here in our local communities. Students will collaborate with local organizations and University of Rio Grande departments to implement select service-learning experiences that will push them to gain an understanding of other cultural perspectives and demonstrate the ability to analyze the impact of cultural differences on operating effectively in different cultures. Rio's Honors Program aims to facilitate critical thinking, analyzing, synthesizing and ethical sharing of information. This includes an effort to nurture lifelong development of the communication competencies students need to enhance their personal development, improve their career options and foster civic engagement. This honors service-learning course will do just that.

## Session 3 – Circle City Room 10

The Power of Voice 3 – Philosophy; Women and Gender Studies  
11:00am-11:50am

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### **Jane Salifu, Cuyahoga Community College**

*Is Cancel Culture Effective?*

A characteristic of developed country is freedom of speech, which is ingrained in the America constitution, but is a American retrogressing or progressing when its citizens are been ostracized and eviscerated for having a deviance of opinion from the popular opinion? What then is cancel culture one might ask? Cancel culture can be defined as the popular practice of withdrawing support for (canceling) public figures and companies after

they have done or said something considered objectionable or offensive(dictionary.com). Cancel culture goes beyond canceling public figures it happens in academic and daily conversation. So therefore, if you have an argument on a political topic with your friend say on immigration, the friend can choose to stop talking to you and may choose to unfollow you from their social media, because they feel you have a difference of opinion from them hence you are not like minded. But how can one expect to learn if all their friends think like them? How can you have an interesting conversation that led to a higher knowledge? By keeping your thoughts to yourselves just because you fear of being canceled, Cancel Culture does not help rather it confines people in a bubble. Unless a rein is put on cancel culture, it can grow into a monstrous beast that can be uncontrolled reversing society into a state of nature before civilization.

**Carly Landon, Indiana University South Bend**

*The Importance of Mental Health Resources in African Immigrants to Promote Healing from Intimate Partner Violence*

When immigrants come to the United States, they are faced with unfamiliar family and gender norms as compared to expectations in their sending countries. Newfound freedoms for women can create spousal power struggles that form the foundation for intimate partner violence. Africans, the fastest growing immigrant population in the United States, are experiencing intimate partner violence at high rates. To preserve the integrity of African immigrant's mental health following exposure to intimate partner violence, survivors need community-based resources that teach adequate coping strategies. In this presentation, I show that by offering culturally appropriate resources that teach coping skills, promote self-healing, and diminish the severity of intimate partner violence, survivors' mental health can be prioritized.

**Addaleigh Conley, Mount St. Joseph University**

*Vanessa Bell*

Post-impressionist painter Vanessa Bell was a key member of the famous Bloomsbury Group that included writer Virginia Woolf, economist John Maynard Keynes, and critic Clive Bell. Despite her critical contributions as a group member and as an individual artist, she gets far less scholarly notice than her more celebrated colleagues. As an integral figure of Bloomsbury, Bell saw to the fulfillment of the group's collective development as well as the artistic potential of its individual members. Bell and her sister, Virginia Woolf, were the early cornerstones of the social gatherings out of which Bloomsbury emerged, and the Bell house would continue to be a place for ideas and relationships to grow throughout the life of the group. Artistically, Bell clung to the ideas of the post-impressionist movement, making her a prime example of some of its interpretations. Additionally, Bell helped originate the Omega Workshop, an artistic haven where artists like herself were able to blend beauty and design freely. Bloomsbury itself was a close-knit circle, one Bell helped build intentionally and protected fiercely. Her work, both as an individual artist and generous collaborator, helped widen Bloomsbury's influence beyond the written word.

**Session 3 – Circle City Room 3**

**Psychology 2; Sociology 1**  
**11:00am-11:50am**

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**Enrique Mares-Villicaña, University of Indianapolis**

**Dr. Jordan Waldron, University of Indianapolis**

*How Personality Impacts the Perception of High and Low Socioeconomic Status Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder*

This study's purpose is to investigate whether two of the "Big Five" traits, "agreeableness" and "openness," correlate with the stigma of opioid use disorder (OUD). Through experimental manipulation using vignettes, we

also examine if the socioeconomic status (SES) of the individual with OUD impacts stigma. Finally, we assess whether there are interaction effects between participant personality traits and SES of the vignette target in relation to stigma for OUD. Participants are recruited from Amazon's Mechanical Turk (MTurk), a sourcing page that pays people to complete surveys called HITs. Participants will read a vignette about a person with heroin use disorder. Through random assignment, some participants will read a vignette with high-SES manipulation, and others a low-SES manipulation. Participants will then complete scales measuring blame, perceived dangerousness, and desire for social distance. They will then be asked about their demographics and complete a Big-Five personality measure. It is hypothesized that individuals higher in openness and agreeableness will score lower on each stigma scale. It is hypothesized that lower-SES in the vignette will produce a higher stigma score on each scale. Lastly, it is hypothesized that the impact of SES on each stigma scale will be strongest at lower levels of agreeableness and openness.

**Ava Leahy, Eastern Michigan University**

**Dr. Rusty McIntyre, Eastern Michigan University**

*Psychology vs. Criminology Students' Attribution of Factors Contributing to Criminal Behaviors*

This study evaluates whether individuals of differing academic disciplines commit confirmation bias when assessing different contextual factors as a contributor to criminal behaviors. Undergraduate students ages 18+ majoring in psychology or criminology will complete an online survey asking them to read about a series of crimes and will be given details relevant to the fields of criminology and psychology about the perpetrator's behavior. Participants are asked to determine what factors contributed to the perpetrator's criminal behavior, what sentence they would recommend, and their familiarity with the variables from each academic field in order to determine whether such a bias is prevalent. Results will be analyzed to determine whether students of differing academic disciplines commit confirmation bias, associating certain criminal behaviors with theories relevant to their academic discipline, and to further test whether these biases alter their sentencing recommendations. These findings are important as they may provide insight into the decision-making process when jurors are tasked with determining criminal culpability.

**Leticia Munoz, Northern Kentucky University**

*LATAM (Latin American) Realities when Coming to the United States*

The issue that I'll be discussing during my presentation involves the challenges that immigrants coming to the United States encounter, and how these conflicts relate to those that are faced by citizens in the United States. My intention is to go into detail about job discrimination, xenophobia, cultural shock, language barriers, and the importance of members of the community helping each other. Over the last many months, thousands of undocumented immigrants have been traveling in caravans across the US border, and my goal is to help in making their voices heard. My presentation will focus on immigration coming from Central America by highlighting how it is playing out locally in Cincinnati. I hope to present my findings to members of the Honors College so that I can raise awareness about immigrants' difficulties and shine a spotlight on what they have to say.

### Session 3 – Circle City Room 4

#### Economics 2; History 1; Law 1

11:00am-11:50am

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##### **Brooke Walter, Ball State University**

*Defense of Cincinnati: How A Messy Society Became the Cities Best Defense*

Looking at Cincinnati during the fear of siege, specifically from 1861 to 1863. We will look at various social factors, such as politics and the media, as well as the two groups created to defend the city and their influences. Examining both the social factors and personal factors we can examine just how much fear of invasion was prevalent in Cincinnati.

##### **Kara Wright, Indiana University Southeast**

*White Lace and Legal Disgrace: Child Marriage in America*

“They forced me to marry him to cover up the scandal, instead of putting the handcuffs on him and sending him to prison, they put the handcuffs on me and imprisoned me in a marriage” (Zee 1). At just 11 years old, Sherry Johnson was married to her 20-year-old rapist. This is not a foreign case found in legal history books. This is a 1971 case from the Pinellas County court in Florida. According to the 2022 Brown Political Review, over 50% of Americans believe that child marriage is illegal in their country. However, it is something that has happened and continues to occur in America. This research project seeks to share information on child marriage: its roots, its place in America, and its effects. Taking the stance that child marriage should be made illegal, the presentation will present the roadblocks that make this undertaking so difficult. Utilizing scholarly journals and law reviews, this presentation will explore how America’s domestic laws support a practice that the country has denounced on the international stage. In addition, a survey will be utilized to better understand how Indiana residents perceive the topic of child marriage in their state.

### Session 3 – Circle City Room 6

#### Education 2; English Literature; Film 1 11:00am-11:50am

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##### **Riley Drellishak, Cleveland State University**

*English Language Learners in the General Education Classroom - What Educators Can Do to Bridge Prior Learning to New Concepts*

This presentation details an action research project implemented in an 8th grade math class focusing on the experience of English language learners (ELs). This project explores the EL experience in middle level education in the U.S. by focusing on a specific 8th grade math class in a public school in Northeast Ohio and what educators can do to differentiate new information for these students, as well as better unlock EL's prior knowledge to connect to new learning to their previous educational experiences.

**Karley Misek, Eastern Michigan University**

*Muriel Rukeyser as Myth-Maker*

Mythology has been a popular field in literature for thousands of years due to its relatability and exploration of life, power, identity, gender, and society. 20th century poet Muriel Rukeyser implements Greek and Roman mythology in careful and elaborate forms of revision and complete rewriting. This paper explores Rukeyser as a myth-maker through several of her poems as well as researching the purpose of mythology in her work and literature as a whole. Her use of myth explores classic stories in a feminist lens to speak to personal and public experiences. Rukeyser's perspective on mythology relates to issues and texts that are important today through exciting and radical methods.

**Lacy Salgat, Indiana University of Kokomo**

*Minority Representation in The Twilight Zone*

The 1950s and 1960s were times fraught with civil unrest, however, media often depicted only the shallow, "perfect" parts of society. This research paper will explore many episodes containing women and people of color in order to figure how The Twilight Zone was able to commentate on the world Rod Serling was writing in and will later discuss how media faces down the issue of decent diversity today. Rod Serling originally began writing The Twilight Zone as a political commentary disguised as science fiction after his previous works had been censored to the point of having no real political meaning at all. The Twilight Zone was often guilty of putting women and people of color into the demeaning roles society at the time also did. However, female characters were not always just caretakers or love interests, and people of color were not always just the help. The characters of The Twilight Zone were intriguing and at times diverse characters written respectfully. People now are still fighting the many roadblocks in production and release to have themselves shown on the screen and to be heard. However, many modern movies, shows, and other media do allow for the voices of minorities to be heard.

**Session 3 – Circle City Room 7  
Round Tables**

**Design; Publishing (Brainchild)**

**11:00am-11:50am**

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**Elizabeth Byrum, Indiana University**

*A Visual depiction of the design and production process.*

**Session 3 – Circle City Room 11**

**Medicine; Psychology 5; Philosophy**

**11:00am-11:50am**

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**Andrea Cardenas Echavarria, Northern Kentucky University**

*What does it mean to be alive?*

What makes a human being alive? When are they determined as dead? Is it when their heart stops beating? When their brain stops functioning? When their body can no longer live on its own? These questions preoccupy humanity. Death is something everyone has to deal with at one point or another. It is inevitable. But it is difficult to accept. As medicine progresses, we've seen improvements to end-of-life care and different ways

to extend a person's lifespan. These revolutionary treatments give a second chance to many patients that would have, otherwise, not had any; however, it can cause the family and patient more pain. This brings up the question of when is it enough? When is a patient considered alive? Research on the determination of death and value of life, from both professionals and the general public on campus, attempt to answer these questions and identify the key aspects of human life.

**Scott Leeper, Indiana University South Bend**

**Dr. Igor Juricevic, Indiana University South Bend**

*Proposed Modified Four-Pillar Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide with Focus on Military Veteran Suicide Factors*

Suicide is an epidemic in the veteran community. The Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide attempts to understand who will commit suicide using a three-pillar approach of: Thwarted Belongingness, Perceived Burdensomeness, and Acquired Capability. While the veteran community continues to experience perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness after leaving the military, it is less clear that veterans continue to develop the Acquired Capability to enact lethal self-injury. However, in many discussions with veterans that experience constant mental health challenges, the loss of purpose and loss of identity are often mentioned as contributing factors to their mental health challenges and suicidal ideation. As such, for the veteran community, we propose a modified four-pillar Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide that includes the existing pillars of Thwarted Belongingness and Perceived Burdensomeness but replaces the Acquired Capability pillar with two others: Loss of Purpose and Loss of Identity. To support this modification, an analysis was conducted on the measures used to develop the Acquired Capability pillar and for questions measuring loss of identity and loss of purpose (e.g., Beck Depression Inventory (BDI), BDI-II, Beck Hopelessness Scale). We found substantial subsets of questions that measured Loss of Purpose and Loss of Identity. We argue that this four-pillar modification of the Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide approach to suicide would be a more effective and sensitive measure for veteran suicide and could assist in the development of more effective transition programs and therapeutic protocols.

**Isabella Baker, University of Mount Union**

*Dissociative Identity Disorder in The Court System*

How is Dissociative Identity Disorder used in the court system and why shouldn't it be used.

**Session 3 – Circle City Room 14**  
**Round Tables**

**First Gen Honors Students**  
**11:00am-11:50am**

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**Mya Bell, Purdue University Northwest**

**Alejandro Campos, Purdue University Northwest**

*First Generation College Students Within the Honors College and University as a Whole*

First Generation Students encompass more than half of the student body of Purdue University Northwest, a total of 56%. Our Honors College is full of first-generation students from diverse backgrounds and walks of life. First-generation students are students whose parents have not been given the privilege of receiving a college education for various reasons, ranging from poverty, generational trauma, and/or immigration from a foreign country. These students do not receive the same assistance from their primary support system, their families, due to a lack of education and experience in higher education. They may need extra support in applying to colleges, scholarships, and general financial aid through the state and government. Once students are admitted, they need prolonged guidance through the numerous obstacles and challenges students face with work, courses, time management, relationships, and more. These students also face a variety of emotional and mental challenges when working to be the first

member of their family to achieve a degree. This roundtable would provide the opportunity for first-generation students to connect and share personal stories or advice with other students under the same title throughout Honors Colleges in the Mideast region. Additionally, our discussion would open the floor to first-generation students to share what improvements they would like to see in Higher Education regarding serving first-generation students. It would also provide students not falling under this title with the opportunity to be educated on the experience of being a first-generation student in the United States. Educators and Faculty members would be welcome to listen in on this discussion to assist them in better understanding and serving these students.

### **Session 3 – Circle City Room 16**

#### **Music, Environment, Honors Pedagogy**

**11:00am-11:50am**

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#### **Lia Jensen-Abbott, Albion College**

*You Go Girl! New Variations on Diabelli's Waltz by Women from Around the World*

Two hundred years ago (1819) Anton Diabelli composed a waltz and sent it to the eighty-three most famous composers working in Vienna. Beethoven initially cast aside Diabelli's waltz, later writing his own set, Op. 120. Fifty composers responded to Diabelli's request, creating a second set of variations. The latter set has remarkable historical significance: Diabelli's project was at once a nationalistic monument, as well as a philanthropic component—the proceeds were dedicated to charity. It is also an archaeological artifact—telling the cultural and musical history of Vienna during that period.

Furthermore, one can consider variation structure in light of social issues: as a formal procedure, variations are unified by their relationship to a theme, while at the same time embracing diversity. Suddenly, then, variations as art can express a model for tolerance, empathy, and equality.

To that end, in the spirit of Diabelli's innovative musical experiment, new variations have been commissioned by women from every continent around the world. A performance of several of the commissioned variations by women from different countries will be interwoven around discussions about creative compositional solutions, and what the new variations achieve as art specifically reflecting women's voices.

#### **Leanne Wood, Northern Kentucky University**

*Myth, Music, and Blended Voices in a Cross-listed Honors Seminar*

"Myth and Music," an honors seminar I first developed at Northern Kentucky University in 2020, examines intersections of mythology and musical expression from cultures around the world. We consider myths that feature performers and musicians – such as Orpheus and various Siren figures – as well as uses of music to support storytelling in songs, dances, operas, musical theater, films, and video games. Drawing upon theories and interpretive frameworks from mythology, musicology, and popular culture studies, students expand their understanding of what myths are, how myths and music function in different societies, and how myths and music continually shape our experiences of the world.

This seminar's multidisciplinary approach is well suited to honors pedagogy and has proven highly engaging for students. Over its three iterations, the course has yielded exceptionally creative student projects, including websites, podcasts, video essays, and lesson plans. As a musicologist, I have been able to cross-list "Myth and Music" as an elective seminar for music majors, which has benefited majors and non-majors alike. In this presentation, I discuss the course as a whole and reflect, specifically, on the challenges and opportunities that negotiating disciplinary expertise in a non-specialist class setting presents.

#### **Zhihai Li, Ball State University**

*Preparation of Lab-based Dye Sensitized Solar Cells for Energy Conversion*

Dye Sensitized Solar Cells (DSSCs) are one of the most efficient third-generation solar technology available, absorbing more sunlight per surface area than standard silicon-based solar panels. The mechanism by which

solar cells convert light into energy can be likened to photosynthesis due to the way in which it mimics nature's absorption of light energy. Exploring how different parameters can affect the energy conversion efficiency of DSSCs is important in developing high efficiency solar cells. In this presentation, we will show our recent development how to fabricate lab-based solar DSSCs, including preparation of anode and cathode electrodes, sealing of electrodes, introducing of dye molecules and injection of electrolyte, using standard dye N-719 for testing and developing the cell preparation procedure. We found the effect of different parameters such as the composition of nanomaterials on the conversion efficiency. This project is also important in training students involving in the real-world applications of the chemistry knowledge they learned from the textbook.

### **Session 3 – Circle City Room 8 Round Tables**

#### **Honors Programs; Transfer 11:00am-11:50am**

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#### **Kondwani Phwandaphwanda, University of Kentucky** *Empowering Current Students to Lead in Creating Programs*

The number of students attending college-initiated programs seems to be going down all the time. Even though the programs might be helpful, students have complained about the time the programs are offered, the style of delivery of the programs, the time commitment, parking for evening programs, and repetitive programs-to mention a few obstacles to attendance. Sometimes, students have complained about the presenters' political leanings. Perhaps most important of all, students seem to lean more towards programs that help them to relax, compared to the lecture style programs that feel like an extension of their long day of classes. In general, current students seem to not have much interest in attending programs initiated and planned by staff. However, they seem to attend programs that are created and planned by fellow students. They seem to suggest that when they create their own programs, all they need from staff are resources and other means of support. Is this the beginning of a change in the way we should approach programming in student affairs? Should every department or college consider having its own small student government to create programs? Are we ready to let go and allow students to take the lead and the initiative to create programs that engage other students? Is it still student engagement if we do not really see what students do to engage each other after we clock out? What is our new role in this process? ABSTRACT 2: "Have you noticed that there is a drop in the number of students attending programs on campuses? Would you like to learn about and discuss some of the reasons why students do not come to programs? Would you like to participate in a conversation about some of the solutions to this problem? In this session, the presenter will discuss some of the findings from a class assignment that asked students to explain the reasons why they seem not to be interested to come to programs. In the past, we used to think that they just did not know about what is going on due to lack of communication. We also thought food would attract students to programs. The feedback from this assignment will show that there is more to this problem than communication and food. We will discuss other factors that are as important to increasing student attendance at programs!"

#### **Adrienne Pounds, Cleveland State University** **Lauren Mannella, Cleveland State University** **Emily Quayle, Cuyahoga Community College** *Community College to Honors College*

This session presents an overview of the inaugural pipeline program between a community college and the Honors College of a public research institution. The conversation will cover program objectives, dedicated advising, support services at both institutions, and outcomes. The program has encountered several challenges that will be discussed, along with growth opportunities and collaborative efforts to meet the needs of our students and ensure a seamless transition from the community college to the Honors College. We will also discuss student feedback from each phase of the transition and hear best practices from one another.

**Andrew Roy, Indiana University Southeast**

*Risking it All for the Rush: Why We Put Ourselves in Harm's Way for Fun*

Would you want to live in a world where safety was guaranteed? Does that sound enjoyable? For millions of people that visited Vernon, New Jersey during the 1970s and 80s, the answer was emphatically "no." Vernon was home to the most dangerous amusement park in the history of the world: Action Park. Amusement parks are supposed to be safe, providing a thrill predicated on the illusion of danger. However, in the case of Action Park, there were hardly any rules, lifeguards were seldom on duty, and attractions were often designed with little to no engineering advice. The risk of guest injury became reality: hundreds of visitors were hurt, and six park-goers died in the pursuit of excitement. Still, guests flocked to Action Park in droves, and the bizarre history of the park highlights how humans will willingly put themselves in danger while pursuing pleasure. Using primary sources, interviews, and statistics, this paper will investigate the human tendency to forsake health and safety to have fun, as well as how industries and corporations, like Action Park, flourish by exploiting this tendency.

**Bridget Janney, IUPUI**

*Including People with Disabilities in Public Safety*

When watching IUPUI's "Run, Hide, Fight" shooter response video, I began to wonder what to do if someone was physically or intellectually disabled and unable to complete those 'simple' steps. How would someone run if they lack the physical ability to? How would someone know how to behave in such an urgent situation if they lack social understanding? What can I do as an able-bodied individual to make the change? Unquestionably, there is a large gap that needs to be addressed when it comes to including people with disabilities in terms of public safety. This line of questioning led to my honors contract, which had three main branches of exploration:

- I. IS-368: Including People with Disabilities & Others with Access & Functional Needs in Disaster Operations
- II. Interview with Adaptive Education Services
- III. What I Learned and How It Will Influence My Career of Choice

**Benjamin Pobanz, Indiana University South Bend**

*Martial Arts as a Behavioral Intervention for Individuals with Autism*

The variety of interventions available for individuals with autism has greatly expanded in the last twenty years. Alternative interventions to be used alongside traditional autism therapy or in places where traditional therapy is not available have been researched in the last decade. One alternative form of therapy, falling under the umbrella of Creative Movement Therapies, is martial arts interventions. Martial arts interventions are most frequently pursued by young boys with autism, but both males and females with autism may practice martial arts across their lifespan. This paper considers the effectiveness of martial arts interventions and the impact they have on executive functioning. These interventions are considered through the lens of the Self Determination Theory and the Social Ecological Model and how such models can be used to impact a martial artist's behavior. While martial arts are shown to be a more effective intervention than other Creative Movement Therapies because of the wide number of autism comorbidities that martial arts interventions can address, it is also suggested that the typical martial arts interventions may fall short of fully developing the benefits of the Self Determination Theory. Thus, suggestions are provided for martial arts instructors and therapists working with autistic individuals that may make martial arts interventions more effective.

**Chloe Garner, Indiana University South Bend**

*The Victimization of Minors: The Media's Influence on Sexual Crimes Against Minors*

In 1998, the FBI took its first step in addressing online crimes against minors by establishing the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. The move was a necessary response to the heightened opportunities for crimes against minors developed through online media channels. The Internet and media provide a platform for sexual fantasies about children and access to potential targets, perpetuating the spread of child pornography and sex trafficking as well as increasing the number of crimes against children. Citing research from textbooks and past studies as well as referencing an original interview with a former Child Protective Services agent, this paper concludes that online media platforms have worsened the sexual victimization of minors by making sex crimes against minors acceptable, accessible, and anonymous. The paper follows the inevitable child victimization rabbit hole, addressing issues beginning with the over-sexualization of children and teenagers in media to pushing sexual content on minor audiences, contributing to their victimization through such crimes as child trafficking, prostitution, and pornography. Policy recommendations are also discussed, with the recognition of prior legislation, such as Megan's Law and Executive Order 13903.

**Session 4 – Circle City Room 3**

**Psychology 3; Sociology 2**

**12:00pm-12:50pm**

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**Abigail Franks, University of Mount Union**

*LGBTQ+ Representation in Entertainment Media and its Impact on Queer Mental Health*

The presentation discusses a research essay exploring how media (specifically film and TV) representations of the LGBTQ+ community have negative real-life effects on the mental health of people within this community. More specifically, the essay explores the alarming mental health risks faced distinctly by queer people in the United States and how entertainment media tropes that perpetuate harmful stereotypes about queer people have contributed to these risks. The particular tropes that are explored include queer people in media being depicted as queer only as a result of a mental illness, morally corrupt and even evil or predatory, and in constant pain as a result of their queerness. The historical context surrounding some of these tropes as well as examples of their use in well-known films and television shows are discussed in order to thoroughly evaluate how stereotypical media tropes negatively contribute to the alarming state of queer mental health. The essay also briefly identifies strategies to combat these harmful representations and their damaging consequences.

**Morgann Lazrovitch, Indiana University Southeast**

*A Defining Disorder: How Misconceptions of Bipolar Disorder can Affect Sense of Self*

Bipolar disorder affects 46 million people around the world, yet many people are unaware of how it affects those diagnosed. Many people with bipolar disorder say that the stigmas associated with bipolar disorder affect their sense of self. They feel the need to hide their disorder because they're afraid of how people will treat them. But where do these stigmas come from? This project will investigate the misconceptions the public has about bipolar disorder and how that affects someone's sense of self through a review of scholarly articles and analysis of an original survey.

**Makenna Dietz, Grand Valley State University**

*Defining Autism Throughout History*

The term 'autism' was first used to describe the symptom of withdrawal from the world around an individual in schizophrenic patients around 1910 and autism would not become a diagnosis until the third edition of The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1980. Although the diagnosis did not exist throughout much of history, through stories of people with unknown disorders, we can get an idea of how autism was perceived before the formal name was given to the disorder and how it has been defined throughout history. Continued research on the disorder has led to the definition of autism changing with every edition of the DSM that has been published. This presentation will talk about how researchers chose to classify Asperger's syndrome, Kanner's syndrome, Rett syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorder - Not Otherwise Specified, and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder all fell in ASD at different times.

**Session 4 – Circle City Room 4**

**Natural Sciences 1**

**12:00pm-12:50pm**

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**Tien-Lu Huang, Indiana University Southeast**

*Silver Nanoparticles*

For millennium, humans have utilized the natural antimicrobial property of silver to treat wounds and prevent infections. However, with the development of antibiotics, silver as an antimicrobial agent has been largely ignored—until, that is, bacteria started exhibiting antibiotic-resistances. With the looming threat of a superbug brewing, silver's antimicrobial properties are once again being examined. In this presentation, the antimicrobial mechanism of silver will be explored by studying how silver nanoparticles can induce cell death—with a specific focus on how silver can impact protein activity via the thiol-silver reaction. Knowing the antimicrobial mechanism of silver can be helpful in developing new treatments that, in conjunction with antibiotics, will allow for better prevention of disease.

**William Morgan, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater**

*Characterization of the Bma-age-1 gene in the parasitic nematode *Brugia malayi**

*Brugia malayi* is a parasitic nematode that causes lymphatic filariasis in humans. I am using *Caenorhabditis elegans* as our model organism to study parasite development. During their lifespan, *B. malayi* and *C. elegans* undergo a series of molts. When environmental conditions are harsh, *C. elegans* undergoes dauer arrest following the second molt. This is a similar state to the *B. malayi* infective (iL3) stage when the nematode enters a transitional arrest period between a mosquito vector and a mammalian host. The insulin/IGF-1 signaling pathway is important in regulating the dauer stage. I am studying the protein AGE-1, which is essential in the IIS pathway. I hypothesize that Bma-AGE-1 works similarly in *B. malayi* during the iL3 stage. I am using bioinformatics tools and lab experiments to confirm the identity and gene structure of Bma-age-1. I designed primers that were used to amplify sections of the Bma-age-1 gene using Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR) with cDNA (DNA version of the messenger RNA that codes for protein) as the template. I am sequencing the PCR products and comparing them to the predicted sequence of Bma-age-1 and Ce-age-1. The future goal of the project is to create transgenic worms for rescue experiments in which I will see if the parasite AGE-1 can rescue normal function in a *C. elegans* age-1 mutant.

## Session 4 – Circle City Room 6

### Film 2

12:00pm-12:50pm

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#### **Reece Grace, Indiana University Southeast**

*Bad Blood in Tuskegee: Making a Documentary on the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*

From 1932 to 1972, roughly 400 African American men in Tuskegee, Alabama, were the subject of experiments intended to observe the effects of untreated syphilis until death. Medical doctors from the United States Public Health Service (PHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) deceived the men by informing them that they were receiving treatment for bad blood, ensuring that their syphilis diagnosis went unnoticed.

This presentation will focus on how a documentary on this subject would be created. The documentary on this subject would include archival footage and photography of the medical scientists experimenting. A director would need to interview surviving family members of the victims and medical experts associated with the PHS, CDC, and Tuskegee University. Before filming, research would have to be conducted to provide enough insight into the unethical decisions of those behind the experiment. Medical doctors giving the men placebos despite the availability of treatment for syphilis in 1947 would serve as one example of the many unethical decisions made by the PHS and CDC. This presentation will also discuss how important it is for the documentary to convey how harmful stereotypes toward African Americans convinced scientists to conduct the experiment.

#### **Ciairra Greer, Cuyahoga Community College**

*Visual Art or Musical Performance*

I'm directing and producing a romance/drama short film in April for one of my film classes. The short film is called Forever My Best Friend. For my presentation I will be sharing details about the process of creating this upcoming film.

#### **Izabela Zoga, Cuyahoga Community College**

*Visual Art or Musical Performance*

This presentation will include a display of an original painting as well as a video performance to honor the lives of women fighting cancer, while also honoring the glory and beauty that emerges despite the sadness. We harness beauty and power in our reincarnation.

## Session 4 – Circle City Room 11

### Psychology 6; Political Science 4

12:00pm-12:50pm

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#### **Michael Chambers, University of Indianapolis**

*Impostor Phenomenon Experienced by Transfer Students from Community Colleges*

This proposed study will be an analysis of the lived experiences of community college students who have transferred to a traditional four-year institution. Participants will be asked specifically about feelings of experiencing "impostor phenomenon", feelings of unpreparedness, fraudulence, or lack of qualification and how these feelings impact their academic lives. While an initial review of the literature shows a plethora of results pertaining to impostor phenomenon across disciplines, there appears to be little to no research conducted specifically within the population of community college transfer students. As these students make

up a significant portion of the higher education population, it is clear a research gap exists. 12 to 15 participants will be recruited through purposive and snowball sampling. Selected participants will then be given a demographic questionnaire and led through a semi-structured recorded interview. The transcripts will be analyzed utilizing the Consensual Qualitative Research (CQR) methodology. By understanding the internalized feelings and academic experiences of this sample, colleges and universities will perhaps be better equipped to assist these students in their transition, which may result in higher levels of enrollment and greater levels of student retention. Researchers and clinicians will also benefit by increasing the data available amongst a more diverse selection of individuals.

**Basra Keynan, Eastern Michigan University**

*Examining Stereotypes of Fatherhood*

This research examines participants' views of fathers based on stereotypes of typical (e.g., residential married) or atypical (e.g., absent) fathers. The research will have participants rate on a six-point scale different types of fathers: married, adopted, divorced-resident, stepfather, divorced-nonresident, never married, and gay on 62 traits (e.g., open, caring, funny) they may possess. These ratings will be compared to what participants believe is typical of men in general. Each participant will rate 3 out of the 7 types of fathers that are randomly assigned as well as men in general. Finally, the participants will rate their own father based on the same traits. This will also assess the extent to which each type of father is high (or low) in the domains of warmth and competence. Based on prior research on the stereotype content model, it is hypothesized that more typical fathers will be rated as higher in positive traits, lower in negative traits, and higher in warmth and competence when that type of father is the same as the participant's own father.

**Alexa Clampitt, Ohio Northern University**

*The Gun Violence Epidemic: Analyzing Gun Regulations to Lower the Death Toll*

Gun control has been long debated and measures to prevent gun violence are difficult to get enough people to agree on and then pass in a legislature. Although gun control is effectively placed into regulation in other countries, the United States faces this difficulty because of its unique attitude towards guns. Research has been conducted to figure out whether gun control would truly be effective in the United States, and the purpose of this paper is to explore different gun regulations and their effectiveness. Because of its front and center place in politics, gun control is a heavily researched topic. Articles that examine the effectiveness of gun legislation in other countries and previous gun legislation in the United States have been published for many years. Research has also been done to figure out the leading causes for gun deaths and how gun deaths and violence can be limited. I aim to connect prior research done in order to come to a conclusion on the most effective gun legislation that could be implemented in the United States. In order to do so, I will look into research that investigates different gun laws in other countries, gun legislation in the United States, gun violence statistics, and public opinion on gun control.

**Session 4 – Circle City Room 14**

**Round Tables**

**Honors Events; Literature; Biology**

**12:00pm-12:50pm**

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**Mya Bell, Purdue University Northwest**

**Abby Sanders, Purdue University Northwest**

*Providing Diverse, Beneficial, and Unique Events to Honors Students*

The Purdue Northwest Honors College consists of over 600 students with varying interests coming from different majors and backgrounds. Our college requires each student to attend two Honors College-sponsored events per semester, aside from their community service hour requirements. These events either benefit students professionally or academically, provide an opportunity to network or meet other students within our

community, or both! Our Honor Student Advisory Board, specifically the Events Committee, is responsible for planning and executing enough events to ensure that all students. It is important to mention that almost every college, program, and student organization provides students with events so the Events Committee also emphasizes making our Honors events unique experiences. These events are exclusive to students within the Honors program, which also encourages us to stand out from standard programming. This roundtable would allow students to share popular or beneficial events offered by their university and what they would like to see added to their program or college's calendar. We hope to offer a diverse experience with attendees differing by their university and age, gender, major, and more. We would also like to invite the honors faculty to sit in on this roundtable to learn how to better serve and involve their students. By providing students from different areas and universities with the opportunity to share and collaborate regarding their experiences, interests, and ideas, we are encouraging them to take what they have learned back to their home campus and expand the circle within their own Honors community.

**Alexa Kinnaman, University of Indianapolis**

**Abigail Bailey, University of Indianapolis**

**Dr. Stephen Zimmerly, University of Indianapolis**

*Cancer in Young Adult Literature*

This project is an edited collection on a range of topics focusing on the intersection of young adult literature and cancer literature, provisionally supported by Lexington Books. Specifically, this project focuses on literary criticism based on young adult literature and the representations of cancer in such literature. This research is cutting-edge and dives into cancer in literature in a way that has not been explored before. The information about this project will be presented in a student-led roundtable with faculty support. Presidential Scholar-students Abigail Bailey and Alexa Kinnaman have assisted in all aspects of this project, under the advice of Dr. Stephen Zimmerly, Assistant Professor of English at the University of Indianapolis. In order to gather chapters in this edited collection, a call for papers (cfp) was developed and published. In addition to the general cfp, some authors were directly contacted after reading previous works pertaining to this edited collection. Upon submission, the abstracts were read and vetted to make sure they substantively fit the theme, and the authors were notified of their acceptance. Kinnaman, a biology major, has begun research for the chapter authored by Dr. Zimmerly. Bailey, an English major, has submitted her own abstract, and is actively drafting her chapter. Kinnaman and Bailey are helping construct the book proposal; the cfp closes December 31st, 2022. After a few more abstracts are approved, the proposal will be submitted to Lexington Books, likely in early February of 2023. Edited collections can be notorious for their time in development, but this field is of significant interest, and this collection will add important insight for years to come.

#### **Session 4 – Circle City Room 16**

##### **Honors Programs; Diversity & Inclusion in Honors**

**12:00pm-12:50pm**

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**Nina Rytwinski, Walsh University**

**Jennifer Clevinger, Walsh University**

*Honors Curriculum in a Changing Landscape of Student Needs*

Until recently, most university students planned to spend at least four years completing their undergraduate education. Thus, many honors programs, like the Honors Program at Walsh University, were established as 4-year, cohort-based programs. Although there are benefits to these types of programs, the student landscape has changed significantly, and these types of programs are no longer a good fit for many incoming students who plan to graduate in less than four years (e.g., because they arrive at university with credits that they earned in high school or because they are in an accelerated program that allows them to start graduate school after less than four years of undergraduate education). This round table will begin with a description of the

revisions that we have recently made to the Honors Program at Walsh University to make it more flexible and feasible for students who plan to graduate early. Then, we will open the floor for discussion about how other programs have adapted to the changing needs of their incoming students.

**Melba Vélez Ortiz, Grand Valley State University**

**Galit Getserzon, Grand Valley State University**

*Building Intercultural Solidarity Among Honors Minority Students*

Diverse Honors colleges should feature intercultural solidarity among minority groups in order to promote unity in diversity, this panel features two faculty presenters who will share their passion for intercultural solidarity as well as their strategies for promoting intergroup empathy and allyship among Honors students. One Latina speaker will share her experience teaching Pan-African content and the other, an Israeli scholar share her experience promoting social justice for other oppressed groups. Both presenters will stress the interconnectedness of people and places, past and present. Ultimately, this panel hopes to show that the aim of a truly inclusive Honors experience is to promote unity among diverse voices through compassion and education.

#### **Session 4 – Circle City Room 8**

#### **Round Tables**

#### **Honors Curriculum**

**12:00pm-12:50pm**

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**Galit Gertsenzon, Ball State University**

**Melba Velez Ortiz, Grand Valley State University**

*Inclusive and Culturally Responsive Curriculum in the Honors Classroom*

Honors programs continuously tackle the challenges and opportunities to reimagine honors education, while breaking down and reconstructing old institutional boundaries and norms. Honors professors therefore keep considering, redefining, and disrupting old lessons, to craft new ones that promote inclusion and student success. These challenges and opportunities beg several questions: how can honors professors further disrupt these previous boundaries while educating students about past and current world events? And how may we continue to lead students through a learning path where they meet a culturally responsive and inclusive curriculum?

To answer the questions above, this panel offers honors practitioners examples of how music and arts-based courses within social studies – appropriately conceived to introduce and explore the concepts of identity, social protest, intersectionality, and the creative impulse – can impact both students and the institutions of higher learning to which they belong, as they set course to meet a world of increasing complexity, uncertainty, and fragility.

This panel includes honors professors and students suggesting study themes, assessments, and lessons learned within core social studies curricula.

## Plenary Panel Discussion – Honoring John Emert

### “Expanding Your Circle in Honors”

5:00pm-6:30pm

Victory Ballroom – 9<sup>th</sup>. Floor

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Host: Michael Chambers, University of Indianapolis

Panel Members:

David Thiele – University of Mount Union

Dr. Carmon Weaver Hicks – Ivy Tech Community College

Dr. Galit Gertsenzon – Ball State University Honors College

Mya Bell – Purdue University Northwest Honors College

Mariam Sajjad – Cleveland State University

## Poster Presentations

Sunday, April 23

### Poster Presentations Session 1

8:30am-10:00am

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**Tyler Ailes, University of Indianapolis**

**Dr. Mohammad Shokrolah-Shirazi**

*Computer Vision-Based Infrastructure*

The purpose of this project is to provide the University of Indianapolis the infrastructure to track and gather more information on the events that they host, as well as to provide students with more information about facilities on campus if the University chooses to do so. Computer vision has been an increasingly popular method of gathering data recently due to how accurate and efficient it can be. I believe that the University could benefit from its use as a tool to track how many individuals are showing up to the events being hosted on campus and using that to accomplish various things, such as see what types of events are more popular. As for the benefits for students, while the exercise facilities offered are very nice, I'm aware of many students that don't take advantage of them due to not knowing what times are the least busy. Using the data collected, it's possible to create a graph similar to the Planet Fitness Crowd Meter showing what times are busiest, and if it is currently busy.

**Alyssa Albitz, University of Indianapolis**

**Jennifer Carmack DNP, RN, University of Indianapolis**

*A Qualitative Study on Board-Certified Music Therapists' Perceptions on Music Therapy Utilization Across Patient Populations*

Music therapy (MT) is a well-established practice, yet many people, including healthcare professionals, are lacking knowledge on its wide scope of practice. Board-certified music therapists (MT-BCs) are often overlooked as allied health professionals. This qualitative study holistically investigates the perceptions of the MT-BC on utilization of MT between patient populations. The Biopsychosocial Model served as a theoretical framework to guide this study. This model emphasizes holism, which takes a person's social, psychological factors, and biological factors into account to guide treatment. In this study, data was collected through interviews with MT-BCs. Interview questions were focused on the MT-BC's phenomenological experience, and interview questions varied slightly during the research phase due to the bidirectional relationship of data collection and data analysis. Interviews were transcribed verbatim. Data was then analyzed using thematic analysis. Themes identified include music is a tool for engagement in therapy, MT is goal-oriented, benefits to MT, MT as an engaged profession, and barriers to MT.

**Raja Allmdar Tariq Ali, IUPUI**  
**Nikhil Ananad Dohka**

*How does the integration of augmented reality (AR) technology into the workplace specifically impact productivity and the overall learning experience for in terms of engagement, retention, and application of new skills and knowledge?*

The objective of this research project was to design and develop a custom-made augmented reality (AR) headset with the aim of creating a self-paced learning experience in a makerspace environment. The project goal was to create a partially functional prototype of the AR headset that is capable of displaying images and visual information, as well as demonstrating the potential capabilities of the headset by creating an android application.

The research project aims to investigate the potential of AR technology in providing an interactive and immersive labeling and training experience for individuals using a 3D printer. To achieve this, the project will integrate various AR features such as interface design, image detection, video and audio integration, and quizzes to enhance the learning outcomes and experience of individuals learning machinery at a makerspace. This enhancement will allow users to familiarize themselves with the proper usage of the headset and the application, as well as increase the usability of the headset by optimizing the visual layout of the information displayed on the headset for better appeal and accessibility. Additionally, the project also aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the AR headset using relevant metrics such as user engagement, retention, and task completion time.

**Nischal Allena, Cleveland State University**  
*Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Glioma Cell Motility*

Glioblastoma (GBM) is the most common and most aggressive form of brain tumor affecting humans. With no known cure, the tumor is distinguished by its high mortality rate, with only 25% of patients surviving through a year of diagnosis. In order to develop clinical treatment procedures for GBM, it is necessary to first understand the role of the extracellular matrix (ECM) in the metastasis and migratory paths of GBM. So that one may understand these causes, tests must be performed to evaluate the response of GBM cells to changes in the environment of the ECM. To effectively test the effect of the ECM on GBM metastasis, miniature platforms can be used to alter conditions and evaluate how cells respond to these alterations. To approach this problem, it was proposed that a miniature platform be 3D printed to deposit ECM proteins and culture GBM cells within the ECM platform. The migration and progress of the cells across the platform will then be monitored and evaluated. The described methodology is designed to mimic the GBM tumor environment closely. The expectations of the experiment are to prove that the composition and properties of the ECM are important to the migration and metastasis of GBM cells. This platform will be of use to researchers attempting to uncover the underlying molecular mechanisms of GBM cell migration.

**Christina Andreasson, North Central State College**  
*Building a Network and Securing it*

I made a virtual network that is comprised of two virtual machines with three different users accounts that were connected under the same Windows server. I then used group policy management to make rules for my users to help with the security of my network. I used Windows firewall and configured it to fit my network needs. Next, I hypothetically had my friend hack into the system using a Linux program that embeds malware into images. He was able to get my IP address and using that he scanned my network and found my open ports that would enable him to get into my network.

**Alex Berry, North Central State College**  
*How College Algebra Can Improve a Soccer Team*

This poster presentation is about how college algebra can be applied to a soccer team to help improve the team's performance. Throughout the team's soccer season, data was collected during each game. With the

data, college algebra was used to show how well they did analytically. The results would then be given to the coach to improve the team. From the improvements the coach made based on the calculations the team only had one loss.

**Julia Bottoms, Northern Kentucky University**

*Overcoming Cultural and Language Barriers when Providing Medical Care to the Local Hispanic/Latino Population in the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Area*

**Brooke Bouwens, Manchester University**

*Does Gender Bias Still Affect Women in Healthcare?*

Women and minorities have been excluded from the foundation of the healthcare and medical system. Historically these groups have not been offered the same medical treatment as men. The current healthcare system has been impacted by the biases and stereotypes that are built into the system. With that in mind, gaps in knowledge of patient care fall onto providers and the system to make patients feel heard. The growing inclusion in medical care and the expanding knowledge of providers; could provide insight if biases are less present in western medicine. A survey was administered to university students to explore the bias that may play a role in patient care in western medicine. The primary goal of the study was to determine if biases like gender, pain, and race are affecting the care of women and how there could be improvements in the healthcare system.

**Kaitlyn Bryant, Walsh University**

*Family Function and the Media*

This research investigated the effects of technology on family structure and family development. A survey was released to recruit 50 parent and student participants at the beginning of September and remained accessible until the end of October. In response to an anticipated lack of participants, both populations were recruited from Walsh by means of a shared email, flyers, and gift card raffle. The age of young adults who participated in the research ranged from 18 to 22. Although participants remained anonymous, there was an included section at the end of the survey for those interested in the gift card raffle to enter their contact information.

Survey questions were pulled from past studies that investigated family systems, internet addiction, and media usage attitudes. Questions were incorporated into the study in order to approximate how much time each participant spent on media as well. My expectations for the survey results were as follows: both groups would provide responses indicative of high media usage, the students would maintain higher scores for questions seven through 14, which involve the Internet Addiction Diagnostic Questionnaire, and lastly, significant media users would report lower rates of family functioning. Diagnostic statistics such as ANOVA and t-tests were utilized through SPSS to analyze the results of the study and explore the hypotheses.

**Noah Burton, North Central State College**

*Why Not Text in Proper English?*

Words are tools to be used for expression and communication. Whether we are writing or reading, speaking, or listening, that is always the purpose of language. The best way to convey a message in a particular language would be to follow the specific rules and parameters that the language already has set in place. Why, then, do some people text without using proper English? Wouldn't it be best for both the sender and the receiver if the writing was as clear and correct as possible, with no typing or grammatical errors? The answer to this question can be found with a look into how English and other languages are expressed and received, and how an idea might be displayed in the most accurate and honest way.

**Noah Burton, North Central State College**

*Latin's Influence on the English Language*

English is the most widely spoken language in the world, with 1.27 billion speakers in 2020 (Potter & Crystal, 2022, p.4). This number exceeds Mandarin, China's official language, as well as India's Hindi. 50+ countries

have English as their official language...but where did it come from? What other tongues have been changed to inspire such a popular language? I decided to research English's greatest influencer: Latin.

**Elizabeth Byrum, Indiana University Kokomo**  
**Brittany Ryan, Indiana University Kokomo**

*Field: A Journal of Arts and Sciences*

Two members of Indiana University Kokomo's Field: A Journal of Arts and Sciences board present their work on this year's volume of the journal. The journal contains submissions exclusively from students of IUK. The content includes poetry, prose, art, and research. Each presenter has their own individual creative work published in the journal. Elizabeth Byrum has a screen print published, while Brittany Ryan's poetry was included in the final publication. In addition, the presenters played integral roles in creating and publishing the journal. Elizabeth Byrum acted as Art Director, designing the journal's cover, and determining the final layout of all included content. Brittany Ryan was the Poetry Review Board Team Leader. She was responsible for deciding which submissions made it into the final copy of Field. This presentation will be about the process of publishing a journal and all the work that goes into it. Each presenter comes with a unique perspective: one from the art standpoint and the other from an English background. The two combine to create something greater than themselves.

**Nicole Clayton, University of Indianapolis**  
**Dr. P. Roger Sweets**

*Lycopodium Spore Retention on Swatches Consisting of Blended Fabrics and its Forensic Implications*

Forensic palynology is the application of pollen and other spores in solving criminal cases. Even though pollen has been examined sporadically in forensic cases for the past sixty years, forensic palynology has not been used to its full potential due to either lack of expertise, time consuming practices, or expenses. Pollen may also be more difficult to find and examine compared to other evidence such as hair or blood; however, it can reveal important information such as whether evidence was moved from one location to another, or if a person ever steps foot in a specific location based on pollen retrieved from clothing items. The purpose of this investigation is to examine Lycopodium spore attachment and retention on swatches consisting of more than one fabric (called blended fabrics), compared to swatches consisting of only one fabric type (the component fabrics of the blended items). Early findings suggest that Lycopodium spores retain greatly to wool, and that the knit or weave of the fabric may have just as much importance as the composition of the fabric. By the end of this experiment, it is hoped that the data collected will provide useful information in the field of forensic palynology. This experimentation will add to the current knowledge of pollen retention on fabrics, with new information coming from the testing of these blended fabrics and Lycopodium spores.

**Taylor Collins, Purdue University Northwest**  
**Savannah Benitez, Purdue University Northwest**

*Artivism*

For many years, the art and activism movement known as artivism has been thriving across the United States. A variety of art forms are responsible for starting conversations between demographically different groups of individuals. Throughout history, we have seen the way that art has paved and made the social change and impacted many lives. Art is represented in and outside of the classroom. Artivism broadens the movements' demography and encourages inclusivity. We want to explore how artivism opens the minds of students and affects the world around them. We want to know how art builds a sense of community and inclusion through artwork, theater, music, film, poetry, and more. Art is of the utmost importance to be recognized because art can change minds and take on different perspectives as Suzanne Nossel, a former government and human rights advocate official states: "Art has the ability to change our minds—inspiring us to take on different perspectives and to reimagine our worlds" (2016). This poster board will demonstrate how artivism can depict the multifaceted character of difficult social issues that are difficult to debate in open discourse and how it can bring people together considering these issues. Our poster board will demonstrate the importance of art, artivism, and artists and how making a social change through art can change lives and how students view the

world. We will look at certain pieces of art that show positive advocacy and research how each student's perspectives change while looking at them. We will also look at different artists and how they have changed lives and made positive social changes throughout the years. Overall, this poster presentation will go over activism and its impacts on students' lives and the world around them.

**Megan Copeland, University of Indianapolis**

*Talking Politics on University Campuses: Political Communication, Social Media Apps, and Interpersonal Relationships*

A recent phenomenon is universities introducing mobile social apps to students. These apps are created to help students navigate campus life and establish relationships with their peers. In this research, I plan on investigating how political communication on online forums, particularly university mobile apps, can impact interpersonal relationships with other students. While some older research (Grandjean & Proffitt, 2001; Guveritch et al., 2009; Himelboim et al, 2012) offers a limited contribution to ideas around this topic, there is still limited data describing student political talk on university apps and how that may impact their interpersonal relationships. I will conduct this research quantitatively using an online survey to collect data. Once I receive the minimum number of surveys, I will analyze the data using a descriptive statistical methodology. I expect to find that engaging in political talk on discussion boards or forums via university apps will negatively affect interpersonal relationships. These findings will help universities determine and implement strategies for these types of communication media.

**Jenna Crafts, University of Indianapolis**

*The Art of Camp Songs*

This project identifies the main musical attributes of camp songs in the Midwest of America and examines what makes them so effective in entertaining, teaching, and building morale for their participants. To achieve this, I have identified and examined the musical canon of camp songs from a variety of summer camps. I then compared and synthesized the most common musical elements from this canon including musical form, harmonic structure, the music-making medium or media, and context for performance to create a formula for a good camp song. "Good" in this context refers to a song's ability to effectively entertain audiences. This formula was used to guide the composition of five original camp songs, which were then compared to classic camp songs and judged via survey to determine effectiveness. The goal of the project was to determine which elements are the most effective in creating a good camp song. The purpose of the project is to identify which current songs musical leaders can count on to be successful and to have a reliable guide with which future musicians can use to create successful camp songs.

**Myla Demko, Walsh University**

**Dr. Amy J. Heston, Walsh University**

**Dr. Timothy J. Smith, Walsh University**

*Evaluating Learner Success in Organic Chemistry I Laboratory: A novel Honors project at Walsh University*

The organic chemistry laboratory provides students with the opportunity to gain new knowledge in the fundamentals of chemical reactivity and how to conduct organic syntheses. Therefore, creating laboratory experiences that teach these critical skills is vital to the learning process, particularly for science majors. In this unique study, we evaluated the effectiveness of two organic chemistry laboratory experiments with a focus on student success in crystallization techniques, gas chromatography, and lab safety procedures. Assessment rubrics were created to measure the achievement of the student learning outcomes. Students in Organic Chemistry I Laboratory were assessed through two different means. First, visual observation was conducted to determine qualitative success. Then, students were given a set of questions to complete that pertained to the laboratory activities completed that day. When the data was collected, student performance was scored by using a 0-3 points scale. Based on the results, modifications to the labs will be implemented to ensure learner success within this course. Ultimately, this initiative is a critical step in our efforts toward continuous improvement in chemistry and the overall educational programs in the Division of Math and Science at Walsh University.

**Michaella Drake, University of Indianapolis**

*The Effects of COVID-19 on Nursing Leadership: A Mixed-Method Study*

Professional burnout, or the emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and reduced personal accomplishment, induced by one's work, has been a theme in nursing (Bogue & Bogue, 2021). This is attributed to poorer work performance among nurses, and negatively impacts patient care (Bogue & Bogue, 2021). In critical care nursing, rates of burnout are higher than in other specialties. Especially since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, critical care nurses (CCNs) have been faced with challenges in caring for COVID-19 patients. In prior research relating to the pandemic, nursing leadership and administration have been referenced as sources of support throughout the pandemic for CCNs, but little is known about how the pandemic has affected these professionals. The purpose of this mixed-method study is to examine how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the roles, responsibilities, and burnout levels of critical care nurse educators, managers, clinical nurse specialists, and administrators. This was done through the use of the Maslach Burnout Inventory tool and through virtual interviews of 7 nursing leaders to evaluate their burnout levels, as well as what changes to their roles, responsibilities, and burnout levels occurred with the challenges of the pandemic.

**Megan Duff, Ivy Tech Community College**

*Indiana Hardwood Forests: An Assessment of Wild Mushroom Species Diversity and Tree Preference Patterns*

Wild mushrooms are an important part of hardwood forest ecosystems. Hardwood forests have distinct physical and spatial features. In Indiana, hardwood forests are comprised of mostly oak and hickory trees, as well as more shade-tolerant beech and maple trees. Wild mushroom populations show a preference for specific tree environments. In order to better understand the intricate relationship different tree and mushroom populations share, different parcels of a Southern Indiana hardwood forest were assessed to demonstrate the mushroom preferences more clearly. Parcels were separated with respect to the average age of trees and the number of tree species diversity expressed. This poster illustrates how mushroom species diversity and population sizes were influenced by tree species diversity and age. The species diversity of mushrooms was cataloged by spore printing, then each species was observed for tree preference, and finally, the mushroom was assessed for the species density in relation to the parcel size. This data is intended to stress the importance of local biodiversity and ecological balance and facilitate research that promotes the productivity of hardwood forest ecosystems.

**Emilee Edmonds, Indiana University South Bend**

*Mitigating Climate Related Population Decline in Migrating Marine Life*

Human habits accumulate daily affecting the environment in ways that modify the way terrestrial and marine life interact with their surroundings. Within global marine species, population decay and disrupted migration patterns are problematic facets of climate change requiring intervention aimed at assisting migration, mitigating the negative impacts of increased contact with humans, and repairing habitats. However, studying the effects of climate change on migrating marine life is difficult as some observational methods are less effective in an aquatic environment and harder to employ for nonstationary populations. Researchers have developed techniques to decrease these challenges by stationing and monitoring acoustic tools to track movement patterns, surveying key points in migration routes, and observing the migration stages that occur on land. In this presentation, I will argue that, through studies of Eastern North Pacific blue whales, Australian grayling, and Mediterranean green sea turtles, it is possible to develop mitigation strategies that target a variety of populations experiencing climate related consequences in unique ways.

**Tabitha Edwards, Northern Kentucky University**

*Socioeconomic Status and the Oral Microbiome of College Students*

This research study investigates the existence of a correlation between the level of cavity causing bacteria in the mouths of college students and their socioeconomic status. This is an interdisciplinary approach to expand the scope of microbial research to consider the influence of where we live and what we have access to and its impact on the human microbiome. In connecting the symbiosis of our body and the microbes that live within us

to our socioeconomic status, it could aid in improving public health initiatives enhancing the welfare of the communities being served.

**Angelina Eidenback, Ivy Tech Community College**

*How Modern-day Design Shifted Architecture and its Cultural Influence*

Throughout history, it is observed that architecture has stemmed from a society's culture. Many have been inspired to use their cultural background and art by intertwining it with commercial and residential architecture. Modern art has been widespread across the globe and culture has come to a halt in defining these developing landscapes. I will present the distinction between various modern and cultural residential styles that have defined the identity of a nation. Architecture has become a redundant controversy with the rise in its simplistic and astute designs. Take turkey, a country that has been through various time periods of cultural richness and tasteful design is now rippled with trendy taste. I intend to be designing a residential house based in Turkey by combining modern and cultural architecture to help inspire both of their uniqueness's. I will bring in many iconic symbols that represent the country for the exterior and interior as well as mixing in that modern geometric feel of simplicity.

**Nolan Ellis, University of Indianapolis**

**Dr. Jordon Waldron, University of Indianapolis**

*Perceptions of Illness Control Across Recovery Strategies and Outcomes in Alcohol Use Disorder*

Prior research has found that perceived control of mental health issues through personal choices and different treatments influence variables such as pessimism towards potential recovery and stigma. Given this, it is critical to evaluate factors that influence personal and treatment control, especially for highly stigmatized conditions like alcohol use disorder (AUD). Two potential factors that have been understudied are 1) information about the outcome of a recovery strategy, and 2) information about the recovery strategy itself. The current study addresses these factors with a 2x3 between-subjects experiment using vignette of a person with AUD who succeeds or fails to recover by means of medication, counseling, or no-treatment. Participants then completed surveys on perceptions of illness control (split into medication, counseling, and personal control), prognostic pessimism, and stigma. ANOVAs will be conducted to analyze main effects and interactions of the vignette conditions on these measures.

It is hypothesized that successful recovery will increase perceptions of the illness control through the vignette recovery strategy and decrease alternative illness control perceptions. Failed recovery is expected to decrease confidence in the vignette's recovery strategy and increase confidence in other strategies. This study has implications for communications that may decrease stigma and encourage treatment-seeking.

**Blake Ellis, University of Indianapolis**

**Richard Robinson, Ph.D., University of Indianapolis**

*Season-Long Heart Rate Variability Tracking in College Indoor Track and Field Athletes*

Heart rate variability (HRV) is a metric useful for understanding autonomic function. A higher HRV indicates greater activation of the parasympathetic nervous system while a lower HRV indicates greater activation of the sympathetic nervous system. HRV has recently been tracked in athletes alongside physical stressors such as training volume and intensity. HRV typically decreases after hard training days and increases after rest days. Athletes with lower HRV values may have impaired recovery from training loads compared to those with higher values. The aim of this study is to measure HRV of collegiate indoor track and field athletes over the course of an indoor track season. Multiple athletes including throwers, jumpers, short-distance, mid-distance, and long-distance runners will be assessed. HRV will be measured weekly via mobile devices and will take place in the morning. This study aims to identify factors that impact HRV throughout the indoor track season and document the changes in HRV in different types of athletes. Knowing how different track athletes respond and recover from training over the course of a season will be useful to coaches and athletic trainers wishing to produce optimal training adaptations.

**Jayden Emenhiser, Indiana University Kokomo**

*Cryptococcal Meningitis; The effects of pathogenic bacteria in the human body*

Meningitis refers to the inflammation of membranes covering the brain and spinal cord, commonly caused by pathogens, such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, or parasites. Specifically, fungal meningitis is an infection caused by a fungus and attacks the central nervous system (CNS) by breaking the blood brain barrier (BBB), mainly through individuals experiencing severe acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Although there are currently five types of fungal meningitis, cryptococcal meningitis is considered to be the most common in patients with HIV-1/AIDS. Most importantly, this pathogen's main function is to disseminate fungal cells into the bloodstream, attack the blood stream and later the CNS. Moreover, generalizations can be made when analyzing this deadly infection, including the epidemiology, molecular understanding, and case study analysis of cryptococcal meningitis. Approaches have been made to counteract the effects of this deadly infection, but the mortality rate continues to be high, around 13-19%, even with the use of antifungal drug intervention. This presentation will also address recent developments in treatment and prevention, and future research needs to better understand and address these infections.

**Brooke Flannagan, University of Indianapolis**

**Dean A Wiseman, PhD, University of Indianapolis**

*Stress Response of Bovine Endothelial Cells to Chemicals Commonly Found in Vaping Fluids*

Electronic cigarettes, or e-cigs, have become increasingly popular. Not much is known about their long-term effects yet, as they were only first sold in America in 2007. E-cigs have a heating element which aerosolizes vaping fluid for inhalation. Nicotine and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) vaping liquids can be used in e-cigs, as well as vaping fluids with no psychoactive additives. Other common chemicals found in vaping liquids include flavorings and solvents like glycerol and propylene glycol. Vitamin E acetate is another common additive. The CDC has expressed concern over use of vitamin E acetate in vaping because it may remain in the lungs longer than other chemicals.

This study examines the cellular stress response of live endothelial cells to THC, nicotine, and vitamin E acetate by measuring reactive oxygen species (ROS). Mitochondria produce superoxide anions, or ROS, when a cell is stressed. Endothelial cells comprise the inner lining of blood vessels and allow for solute exchange. Bovine aortic endothelial cells were exposed to various concentrations of these common vaping chemicals. The cells were then visualized using a fluorescent indicator of superoxide anion production. The fluorescence was analyzed as an indicator of cellular stress.

**Jadyn Funkhouser, Ohio Northern University**

*Halophila hawaiiiana: Native Seagrass Restoration in Maunalua Bay*

Mālama Maunalua (MM) is an environmental non-profit based locally in Maunalua Bay (MB), Oahu, Hawai'i. My internship with MM included a broad variety of responsibilities across multiple environmental projects. Those projects include invasive alien algae (IAA) removal, community outreach events, educational programs, the Follow the Drop initiative, coral, fish, and benthic layer surveys, using native sea urchins as a biocontrol, use of rain gauges, and volunteering with other non-profit organizations. The research project I led was examining native seagrass restoration in MB. In MB, IAA has outcompeted the *Halophila hawaiiiana* native seagrass beds. *H. hawaiiiana* is the only seagrass endemic to Hawai'i, however its populations are in decline due to human development. This seagrass supports a variety of native organisms, including the Hawai'ian Green Sea Turtle. After removal of IAA from MB, the next step in conservation efforts is to re-establish the native ecosystem. I transplanted seagrass from healthy donor beds to new growth sites with low populations of IAA. Previous attempts at transplanting have not been successful in establishing a healthy seagrass bed. This experiment utilized a transplanting method of shoveling the donor seagrass and transporting it in a bin to remain in water throughout the transplanting process. I also tested a new method of using mesh covering to allow the seagrass to take root without being removed from the substrate. Though the seagrass populations did decline in a short period of time consistent with what has been observed in previous attempts, the transplant and mesh covering methods both proved to be successful in allowing the seagrass to initially grow

and take root in the sediment. Future transplant attempts can build upon this and other experiments and may prove to be successful in establishing a long-term native seagrass bed.

**Hannah Gill, Ohio Northern University**

*Cryopreservation Conundrum: Understanding the Ethical Debate behind using Cryopreservation for Aquaculture and Conservation*

Aquaculture is the world's fastest growing food industry and offers a sustainable option for food production. In the United States, catfish make up over 70% of the aquaculture industry. Of the catfish produced for aquaculture, over 50% of catfish raised are female channel × male blue catfish hybrids. Although these species do not readily reproduce, males take 4-7 years to sexually mature, and males must be euthanized to extract their sperm for artificial fertilization. However, preserving the sperm of male blue catfish can ease reproductive efforts for catfish farmers. Cryopreservation is a method that can be used to preserve genetic information by freezing tissues, organelles, and cells to cool temperatures. Through this process biological materials can be stored and revived in the future. Although the ethics of using cryopreservation technology are highly debated. During the summer of 2022, I had the experience of using cryopreservation technology to preserve blue catfish sperm cells to assist with aquaculture production. Through my research I will take an interdisciplinary approach to analyzing cryopreservation and seek to explain the different perspectives on the ethics of using cryopreservation for conservation and food production purposes.

**Theodore Mantis, Purdue University Northwest**

*Punches to the Gut: A Look on How Temperature Affects the Gut Microbiota of Burying Beetles (Nicrophorus orbicollis)*

I plan to present on the research I have done for my thesis in collaboration with Dr. Creighton and Dr. Bates at Purdue Northwest University on how temperature not only affects the reproductive success, but the gut microbiota as well of burying beetles belonging to the species *Nicrophorus orbicollis*. In order to provide a look into the impact of temperature, I will present the findings I have discovered at the time and give an understanding as to why gut microbiota is important to consider when looking at organisms. Additionally, I wish to give a bigger picture on where I hope this research takes me. Some of the bigger pictures I wish to explore include the impact of learning about gut microbiota, how understanding the physiology of gut microbiota can assist in declining populations of the endangered species of burying beetle *Nicrophorus americanus*, and the impact of human interactions on the physiology of gut microbiota.

**Poster Presentations Session 2**

**10:30am-11:50am**

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**Ashley Gomez, Purdue University Northwest**

*Researched Based Activities for the Different Conceptual Stages of Counting*

The purpose of this research is to identify the conceptual stages of first graders based on the "Learning Framework in Number" (Wright, 2007) and to propose a set of research-based instructional tasks that provide learning opportunities for moving students forward to the next conceptual stage of counting. The six stages numbered zero to five, that the students pass through are the following: emergent stage, perceptual stage, figurative stage, counting-on stage, counting-down-to stage, and facile stage. In order to determine the student's stage, the Schedule for Early Number Assessment (SENA) will be used, specifically SENA 1. Five first graders, about a quarter of the class, will be tested. Once the testing is complete, the SENA 1 assessment rubric and the Counting Types, Thinking Strategies, Concept of Ten, Nonstandard Algorithms article will be used to determine each student's stage. Once the students are placed into their appropriate stages, research will be done on the specific types of activities that could be used by teachers to help all students progress to the next stage of counting. In order to determine the activities, a book called Teaching Number: Advancing Children's Skills and Strategies will be used. This book has specific activities for each stage. One of the goals of this research is to create or find activities that will help each student individually or in small groups. Another

goal is to create a whole class lesson that benefits everyone. The idea behind this is that teachers have a range of students that are all at different levels. The range should be moving so each student is always improving and being challenged. So, the activities should cater to all the students so that no one has too easy or too challenging of an activity. After this research, I hope that I will develop a better understanding of these concepts and be able to accurately place future students into the appropriate levels and design activities so they can all improve.

**Seattle Greenwell, Ball State University**

**Serena Thompson, Ball State University**

*Aesthetic Spaces*

Our presentation covers our ongoing fellowship work this semester under the guidance of Dr. Jason Powell. Within this fellowship, we explore what it means to have an aesthetically-pleasing space. Why do some spaces feel more comfortable than others? Is there anything architects can do to elevate a space to produce more productivity? Does the brain have an aesthetic response to certain stimuli that one can self-report? We explore all this and more by relating back to the life of the student. We have taken it upon ourselves to find aesthetically pleasing spaces on Ball State's campus where students can lose themselves to meditation, homework, and more.

**Kaidyn Hall, Indiana University Southwest**

*Widowmaker Heart Attack: Life or Death?*

In the United States, someone has a heart attack every 40 seconds. According to the CDC, 805,000 people in the United States suffer from a heart attack each year and 280,000 of them will suffer from a STEMI. A blockage in the left anterior descending (LAD) artery, which provides 50% of the heart muscles' blood supply, causes an anterior ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI). Known colloquially as a Widowmaker heart attack, a STEMI has a 12% survival rate when occurring outside a healthcare facility, making it the deadliest type of heart attack. Risk factors include the use of tobacco products, sedentary lifestyle, obesity, hypertension, high cholesterol, and a family history of heart disease. The CDC claims that 80% of heart attacks can be prevented by following a heart-healthy diet, which includes exercise, no tobacco use, and a healthy diet. After reviewing selected scholarly literature and conducting an interview with a cardiologist and survivors of a STEMI, this project aims to inform the audience about the following aspects of a Widowmaker heart attack: the symptoms, cause, diagnosis, treatment methods, and prevention methods. By better understanding the importance of following a heart-healthy diet, the audience will become aware of its lifesaving benefits.

**Mary Hogsett, Indiana University Kokomo**

*Correlations between type of social interactions after sexual assault and victim's coping mechanisms, attributions of blame, and perception of assault*

The primary goal of this research project was to determine the relationship between social support and healing for female victims of trauma. I proposed that the interactions one has after a sexual assault would be correlated with the type of coping methods used, attribution and perception of the assault, and likelihood of seeking help after sexual violence. A Qualtrics survey was conducted on Amazon Mechanical Turk on how social interactions after sexual assault are correlated with a person's subsequent response and recovery. Participants were SA survivors and answered questions regarding coping mechanisms, perceptions of assault, type of social support received after assault, and attribution of blame. The results of this study suggest that while type of social support received after SA was not related to either a more positive or negative perception of SA, it was correlated with type of coping mechanisms used by participants. The more positive social support one received after SA was related to a decreased use of negative coping mechanisms. Furthermore, if one sought counseling support for SA, this study found that participants were also more likely to also seek legal counsel and vice versa. Hence, it is imperative that we encourage survivors to seek help, as their likelihood of reaching out in one area is related to their seeking help in another.

**Luke Horner, University of Indianapolis**

**Dr. Douglas J. Stemke Ph.D, University of Indianapolis**

**James B. Williams, Ph.D., Executive Director of Honors, University of Indianapolis**

*The Effectiveness of Contact Lens Care Solutions on Saccharomyces Cerevisiae and its Resistance*

Commercial contact lens cleaners are generally effective in killing or inhibiting a host of eukaryotic microbes. Eukaryotic pathogens can cause damage to the eyes. Eukaryotic pathogens that affect the eye include amoeboid and flagellated protists. However, these products, particularly if misused, can result in the selection of resistant microbial eukaryotes. The products that this study will evaluate are Opti-free™, Equate™, and Biotrue™. To evaluate eukaryotic resistance to these cleaning products, a model eukaryotic resistance system was developed using the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. This single-celled yeast grows rapidly, is easy to grow, is non-pathogenic, and is generally sensitive to the eye wash products being evaluated. To evaluate the sensitivity and develop resistance to the products, serial dilutions of the solutions will be made to determine the Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) for each product. The hypothesis to be tested is that there will be a difference between the solutions evaluated in this study in their ability to develop resistance to these solutions due to their different chemical ingredients. This study intends to identify contact solutions that are most likely to develop resistance and provide a recommendation for products and chemical ingredients for long-term use.

**Mitchell Ketron, Northern Kentucky University**

**Dr. Allison Parker, Northern Kentucky University**

*Examining the Possible Effects of DEET or Permethrin on Insect Succession*

The use of DEET and/or permethrin as insect repellents has been widely explored. The effectiveness of DEET on the decomposition process as well as insect succession. These studies show that there is a significant difference in the comparison to a non-treated control group and a group treated with DEET. Permethrin has not been studied yet in published literature. Differences in tick bite counts of uniforms that were treated with permethrin show that there are significant differences in the number of bites on workers that have treated uniforms. A delay of decomposition in the DEET treatment group and permethrin group is expected. The results will be collected and displayed in numerical values as well as in a display case to show the progression of insects and species in a timeline for their appearance throughout the experiment.

**Nik Kruger, Farris State University**

*We'll Carry On*

Completed posthumously in 1964, North Christian Church in Columbus, Indiana is the climax of Eero Saarinen's modernist mastery. While the building still stands after the congregation closed in mid-2022, the future of this landmark remains unset. This studio final project takes a look at the heritage of the building and its progenitors, and then funnels that into a memorial space. Not to mourn a passing, but to energize the future. Taking cues from the existing North Christian building, the veil between heaven and earth, and even The Black Parade, this design seeks to carry on with Saarinen's vision of creating architecture with a mind beyond just the world.

**Madison Larsen, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

*The Effects of Children Formerly in Foster Care*

Understanding the risk factors of an uncontrolled environment for young children placed in foster care can contribute to their developmental advancement in adolescence and young adulthood. The decline of children assigned to foster care in the United States contributes to the surge of empirical research addressing the consequences of protective care arrangements. Using a systematic approach to the psychological and educational narratives is pertinent to adolescents between the ages of 13 and 17 and young adults from ages 18 to 23. A method taken to provide the expansion of behavioral and cognitive attributes varying from relationship stability to reading performance. Minors who have been placed under the government's care are susceptible to the risks of growth (Bhatti-Sinclair et al. 2012). This scoping review investigates how the

placement of young children in the United States foster care system affects their psychological and academic progress in adolescence and young adulthood.

**Jason Lenzo, University of Indianapolis**  
**Dr. Richard Robinson; University of Indianapolis**

*The Relationship Between Functional Movement Screening Scores and Performance in Springboard Diving*

The Functional Movement Screen (FMS) is a field screening test predominantly used as an injury risk assessment. The proposed study is intended to explore a relationship between scores on the FMS and the net performance scores of springboard divers. Prior research has found a connection between the FMS test scores and performance in other sports. The FMS will be administered to collegiate divers and the scores will be correlated with diving performance during the competitive season. If significant relationships are found, then FMS tests could be used to predict diving performance and guide interventions to improve performance.

**Alyssa Luebbering, Indiana University – East**

*Nigeria: Religion, Culture, Property Rights, Energy, and Government*

This presentation demonstrates an analysis of the recent history and culture of Nigeria while considering the laws and resources of the country. Nigeria is one of the fifty poorest countries in the world. The country is divided into two main religions which have historically caused many problems. However, Nigeria has access to natural resources such as oil which has helped develop trade systems with other countries. Nigeria's use of energy is currently quite wasteful due to the lack of advanced technology. Nigeria also currently does not take full advantage of all of its energy sources. The presentation also considers the country's current situation. This includes the effects that COVID-19 had on Nigeria's economic development as well as the increase in poverty. Finally concluding with changes and challenges to increasing Nigeria's economic development.

**Andrea Méndez Rodriquez, IU Kokomo**

**Dr. Kasem K. Kasem**

*Optical and Electrochemical Studies on Photoactive SiC/poly thionyl Furane in Gel Electrolyte*

Assemblies made by immobilizing nanoparticles SiC into poly thionyl furane (PTF) were subject to optical and electrochemical investigation. The studies show that both SiC, as a nonmetal inorganic compound, and PTF give a reproducible photo response. Optical Studies show that the optical band gap of SiC is around 2.5 eV while that of PTF is around 2.2 eV. The band gap values recommend that these assemblies absorb the visible light of solar radiation. Electrochemical studies in gel electrolytes indicate that both PTF and PTF/SiC under illumination, show p-p behavior, where hole accumulation is a dominating factor. SiC thin films lack such character. Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) studies revealed that the PTF and PTF/SiC possess both kinetic and diffusional charge transfer. The studied assemblies as well as the gel electrolyte showed stability and resistance to photodegradation as evidenced by the regeneration of the same photo response after a longer period of experimentation.

**Claire Miller, Ohio Northern University**

*Effects of Ketamine on Conditioned Cue- and Context-Fear Memories*

As a non-competitive NMDA antagonist, Ketamine has become one of the newest drugs among many to be considered for pharmacotherapy potential. Many mental disorders such as PTSD, general anxiety disorder, and specific phobias rely on the formation of fear memories for the manifestation and persistence of the disorder. Therefore, many drugs are being considered for their potential to disrupt the formation or persistence of these fear memories in order to treat these often-debilitating mental conditions. Given NMDA receptors' connection to learning and memory via glutamate in the brain, it could be predicted that an NMDA antagonist like Ketamine, if used correctly, could prevent fear memories from forming, preventing further fear-based complications. This rodent study aimed to focus on the broad effects of Ketamine on tone-shock fear conditioning, where the presence of freezing was measured to test if the rats formed fear memories around the context (the shock-box) or the cue (the tone) with which they were exposed to the shock. The findings from this

study could contribute to the greater understanding of Ketamine's effect on learning and fear, as well as offer a starting point for future, more in-depth research.

**Elizabeth Nadeau, Northern Kentucky University**

*Messages on a Mission*

Messages on a Mission is a documentary composed of three parts: Interviews, Blind Debate, and Open Discussion. In each of the three sections, participating individuals will be challenged to identify and discuss how today's media impacts their faithfulness. In the "Interviews" round, individuals will be asked a series of questions regarding their media usage, how they believe it impacts their perception of faith, and whether that perception influences their actions/behavior. In the second round, "Blind Debate," participants will be put into a medium-sized group while wearing a facial covering to protect their identity. In this round, they will be asked to debate a series of (potentially) controversial "Agree or Disagree" statements pertaining to how they believe the media's portrayal of current events impacts themselves as people of faith/not of faith. In the last round, "Open discussion," those who do and do not consider themselves of faith will have an open-ended discussion on topics regarding their lifestyle and how media fits into their day-to-day routine. The goal of this project is to examine how the media impacts people of all different background's faith-wise.

**Angel Navarrete, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

**Zach Wagner, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

**Jay Taylor, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

**John Ejnik, University of Wisconsin Whitewater**

**Stephen Levas, University of Wisconsin Whitewater**

*Analysis of Sedimentary Phosphorus in Rice Lake, Whitewater WI*

As a result of anthropogenic inputs and use, lakes are experiencing increased eutrophication. This accumulation has led to increased algae blooms which can be detrimental to the aquatic ecosystem. Rice Lake, just south of Whitewater WI, faces increased aquatic plant growth and harmful algal blooms. Currently, there is a lack of understanding on potential internal loading of nutrients into the basin and how those nutrients persist in the system. Thus, the aim of this study was to determine the total phosphorus (TP) and total organic carbon (TOC) sediment load across the lake at the sediment surface and at depth. Sediment cores were collected at 30 locations distributed throughout the lake. TOC was determined via loss upon ignition while TP was extracted from dried sediment samples using HNO<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and subsequently analyzed using ICP-OES. In the top 0 –7.3cm level of sediment, the average TP load was found to be 834.871(+/- 37.526) mg/kg while TOC was 541.671(+/- 4.558) g/kg. In the 7.3 –14.6cm layer, TP 837.549 (+/- 27.95) mg/kg and TOC 621.779 (+/- 5.455) g/kg. The bottom 14.6 – 21.9cm level had a TP load of 826.853 (+/- 39.096) mg/kg, and TOC 632.021 (+/- 4.588) g/kg. No significant stratification or sediment horizons were found between the layers of sediment. This coinciding with the similar TP and TOC levels at all depths, suggests that the lake sediment is organically derived and most likely a significant source of labile Phosphorus.

**Tyler Nolan, University of Indianapolis**

*The Application of Piezoelectrics in Sports Performance*

The material property known as piezoelectricity has been known since 1880; however, only recently have advancements in the material allowed for certain meaningful applications to begin to form. The novelty of piezoelectric materials is in their ability to generate a voltage from a deformation in the material. That is, when the material is stretched or compressed, the material generates a voltage due to the dipoles in the crystal structure being pulled close (in the case of tension) or stretched apart (in the case of compression). This direct relationship between mechanical movement and an electric field allows for many practical uses such as energy generation, movement tracking, and more. This honors capstone project looked to apply piezoelectrics in the sports performance industry through energy generation from footsteps and movement tracking of joints. This was accomplished by wiring piezoelectric discs to an insole of a running shoe. The alternating current (AC) from the footsteps was taken through a rectifier to turn it into a direct current (DC) signal, which could be used to charge a lithium-ion battery. Secondly, piezoelectric material was used in a proof-of-concept prototype to

track the motion of a human joint and represent that movement digitally based on the voltage measurements from the piezo's.

**Cayce O'Donnell, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**

*The Benefit of Utilizing Reading Intervention*

Reading intervention is routinely used in the classroom setting but is also frequently questioned on its effectiveness. This research contains information about the positive effects of reading intervention as well as including possible intervention activities and strategies to help students in everyday reading intervention lessons. This project focuses on three main groups of students including English language learners, high school students, and elementary school students. Many studies have been conducted including studies in which the students completed a paper assessment before and after reading intervention strategies were implemented in their learning as well as studies looking at brain activation in student's brains through fMRI scans before and after reading intervention. Both types of studies showed great improvement in student scores, brain activation, and overall student understanding of different reading skills such as phonics, phonemic awareness, and comprehension. An area of high interest for this research project was the high school-aged students. Typically, many people believe high school students are too old for effective reading intervention because they are past the optimal age for reading development in the brain, however this research showed how reading intervention can be beneficial for all student ages. The research shows reading intervention strategies are more than worth the time and attention from teachers, parents, and school administration in all academic establishments.

**Allison Pena, University of Indianapolis**

*Music in Films: An Observation of Trends and Usage of Popular Songs Within Film*

Films and their scores are excellent story-telling components which, naturally, work well with one another. In this study, I look at six songs: "Chariots of Fire (Instrumental)" by Vangelis, "Fly me to the moon" by Frank Sinatra, "Rocket Man" by Elton John, "Material Girl" by Madonna, "House of the Rising Sun" by The Animals, and "Hotel California" by The Eagles, and understand their musical and cultural relevance for being included in so many films. As an amateur film enthusiast, I noticed many of my favorite films shared popular songs between them. I was fascinated by why one might choose the same song over the millions of other pre-existing songs which are available for use. Basic research proves how everything in films is picked for particular reasons, including the singles chosen for inclusion in the films; however, little research has been done to understand the emotional effects of the chosen songs on the audience. In this particular study, I would like to dive into the specific emotional effects of the chosen songs on an audience and compare the change of the effects which occurs after watching several scenes with the same song used to achieve various emotional end goals.

**Makenna Poindexter, Ball State University**

*Magic, Marginality, and Murder: The Intersection of Magical Realism and Crime Fiction*

Mainstream crime fiction has long been strongly rooted in realism and many still subscribe to Ronald Knox's second commandment of detective fiction that "all supernatural or preternatural agencies are ruled out as a matter of course." However, there is an entire other world being explored by non-Western cultures through the application of magical realism in their crime narratives which has been widely ignored in the crime fiction discourse. Magical realism is used by authors to express non-dominant perspectives, particularly relating to feminist and postcolonial discourse. One of the pioneers of the genre is Gabriel Garcia Marquez who wrote a crime fiction novella, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, in which he reconstructs and fictionalizes the events of an actual murder that took place in Columbia in 1951 through a pseudo-journalistic narrative. Salman Rushdie, another crucial author in magical realism, also explores the intersections of magical realism and crime fiction in his novel *Shame* which takes place in the fictionalized town called "Q" inspired by Quetta, Pakistan. Both Q and Columbia are still being influenced by Western capitalistic class values and patriarchal structures that were enforced during their colonial eras. Rushdie and Garcia Marquez use their writing to explore the psychological effects these systems have on the people who do not live up to the expectations of these societies still healing

from and being influenced by Western ideals and how the resulting feelings of shame manifest into violence. Both texts utilize magical realism to provide people with an alternative way of viewing themselves and traumatic events to better process their feelings of guilt and shame. By highlighting the perspectives and experiences of those marginalized in a postcolonial society, whether that be due to their class, race, or gender, these authors subvert the enduring Western domination of the crime fiction genre.

**Leilany Porrata, Purdue University Northwest**

*The Effects of Animal Therapy on College Students*

In being a nursing major, the health of myself and my peers is very important. This past year, I took a course called Alternative Therapies. The course of Alternative Therapies focuses on a range of options that complement Western biomedical healthcare. These include ancient and contemporary practices throughout the world that through research has proven to prevent and cure diseases. The basis of the class inspired me to base my research project on the effect that animal therapy can have on college students. Many college students endure various stressors during their years of study and often struggle with finding the proper coping mechanisms to restore their bodies' balance. An extensive amount of stress can lead to lower academic performances, immune deficiency, and burnout of the student, which can lead to the students' withdrawal from a specific institution. In order to have the proper evidence of the benefits that can result from animal therapy, I used the library database from my university, the textbook from the course, and other internet sources I found useful. My project started as an initial research paper and then was translated into the poster board. In this paper, I wrote all of my findings along with the sources used as evidence to show the benefits of animal therapy for college students.

**Paige Ray, Cleveland State University**

*Victimization of Homosexuals by a Heteronormative World: An Examination of Gender Differences in LGBTQ+ Films*

This content analysis explores gender differences between movie depictions of male and female characters that experience same-sex attraction. Victimization tropes were used to examine gender differences in portrayals of same-sex attraction.

Research examined 8 films with the LGBTQ+ genre tag, retrieved from Netflix and Amazon (four of which were majority female LGBTQ+ characters and four male majority LGBTQ+ characters). The films were analyzed for victimization tropes through convenience sampling and coded as: Hate crimes, themes of suicide, death from health condition, ambiguous death of a LGBTQ+ characters, and negative language.

The most present trope was negative language with 3 of 4 male films versus 3 of 4 female films. Hate crimes appeared in 3 of 4 male films and 0 female films. Themes of suicide appeared in more female films: 2 of 4 female films versus 1 of 4 male films. There were no instances of Death from health condition and ambiguous death of LGBTQ+ characters in any films.

**Amanda Reising, Ivy Tech Community College**

*From Marathons to Immobile: Nervous System Dysregulation How to Spot it & How to Stop It*

When my internal organs began to malfunction, I was in real danger. With this information, you do not have to be. Learn from my mistakes by acquiring the tools to maintain control over the mind and body.

In this poster session, one will be alerted to lifestyle and personality risk factors and the potential for negative consequences to physical and mental health due to long-term nervous system dysregulation. One will learn how to identify the symptoms of hyperarousal and hypoarousal and be informed of simple yet effective self-regulation strategies to quickly restore themselves back to a regulated state.

**Mariam Sajjad, Cleveland State University**

*The Struggle of Free Clinics*

The mission of free clinics is to improve the well-being of patients. They bridge the gap between the hospitals and the doctor's offices by providing immediate assistance, cost-friendly, free healthcare benefits, with

effective disease management. Despite Medicaid expansion in Ohio and some other states, thousands of Ohioans, and Clevelanders, need healthcare and accessing it is a substantial barrier. On the other hand, the free clinics in the area are also struggling to recruit patient population to take advantage of their free resources, including free management of chronic illnesses including but not limited to diabetes, high blood pressure, pain management, and reimbursement on prescriptions, etc. Charitable clinics, or free clinics, are important contributors to the healthcare system of the United States population. In this case, we will examine the free clinic Cleveland Ibn-e-Sina Clinic located in Parma, Ohio. The goal is to highlight the reasons why it is just surviving-not thriving. We will compare other faith-based free clinics run by the similar administration and their counterparts, as they prosper, especially during the times of COVID-19 pandemic. Is vision, passion and establishing a firm enough to keep it alive? Are assets like structural hierarchy needed for a sustainable organization or business?

**Francesca Sberna, Walsh University**

**Dr. Nina Rytwinski, Walsh University**

**Dr. Yanmei Xu, Walsh University**

*The Lingering Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Children's Social and Academic Skills*

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the education of school-aged children in the United States. Schools were suddenly shut down and virtual learning became heavily utilized. Students who were in early elementary school (kindergarten or first grade) when the pandemic began may have been particularly negatively affected by online education because this is a time of important social and academic growth that is difficult to acquire in an online environment. Thus, the current research project involved interviewing nine 3rd or 4th grade teachers and fifteen parents of current 3rd or 4th grade students (i.e., students who were in kindergarten/first grade at the start of the pandemic) in Sark County, Ohio about their perceptions of how the pandemic impacted and continues to impact their students and children. Transcriptions from the interviews are being analyzed. Initial findings from the parent's perspective suggests the resilient nature of children. Teachers, however, have concerns with children being behind academically, as well as lacking social skills typical for their age. While preliminary in nature, this research provides a foundation for the development of future studies on the possible discrepancy between parent and teacher perceptions on the lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student development.

**Marissa Scott, University of Mount Union**

*Foundations*

"Foundations" is an experimental satire mimicking and critiquing revered early American documents, people, and principles. Framed as a call to save the nation, readers are invited to return to the founding documents so they can realign with original American values. Each of the 13 sections takes a unique format to discuss a significant event or document in American history, along with accompanying footnotes. Including a ship log of a nearly illiterate sailor, Instagram posts of Benjamin Franklin, security footage of 5th grader Thomas Jefferson's speech to Principal George, the story of thirteen frat brothers' failed blood oath, and more," Foundations" explores the many voices that formed the United States of America to uncover the truth of their humanity.

**Rebecca Snodgrass, University of Indianapolis**

*Impact of Crime Alerts on Racial/Ethnic Minority College Students' Sense of Safety and Memory*

The current study aims to understand the impact of negative criminal stereotypes that have been associated with racial/ethnic minorities, specifically on their sense of safety and their memory of event details. Stereotype threat can be described as the threat to an individual's identity because of the fear of conforming to one's stereotype (Inzlicht & Schmader, 2011). Young Black men are currently arrested at the highest rate in the United States, and other racial/ethnic minorities are often arrested at similar disparate rates when compared to their White counterparts (Najdowski, 2012; Steffensmeier et al., 2017); these disparities can lead to negative stereotypes about who is likely to commit crime and could prompt stereotype threat concerns for those who are members stereotyped groups. Stereotype threat has been examined previously in both the psychology and criminal justice context, but research is limited on how the criminal stereotype can affect

racial/ethnic minorities' sense of safety and their memory for event details (Inzlicht & Schmader, 2011, Martenson, 2012, & Najdowski, 2012). Using a sense of safety scale, crime statistics, and crime alerts, the current study hopes to understand this impact on the psychological experience for racial/ethnic minority students. Participants in this study will include racial/ethnic minority men and women who are students ages 18 to 30 who attend the University of Indianapolis. This study aims to understand how negative stereotypes can affect students' memory and sense of belonging while attending Predominantly White Institutions in high crime areas. It is expected that students who are at a higher risk of experiencing stereotypes will feel less safe and have decreased memory for events when primed for stereotypes. This study will benefit society by providing insight on racial and ethnic minority students' experiences and perceived sense of safety while attending predominantly white institutions in high crime areas.

**Hannah Taylor, Mount St. Joseph University**

*At Home with the Microbiology of Sourdough*

What vital ingredients does the average household for making bread? This question guided the creation of a lab for a microbiology course designed to help students understand the friendly and readily available bacteria that things need to live. After creating a simple sourdough starter with flour and water, cultures emerged in approximately one week on Simple Method Salmonella (SMS) and Lactobacillus Streptococcus (LS) plates which are the normal plates used for lab cultures. Upon examination under a microscope, students were challenged to identify the microbiology present, including yeast, bacteria coccus, bacteria bacillus, and other microorganisms. This produced lively discussion about the different types of microbes present in the sourdough starter and residing in the average home. This lab allowed students to learn about the different friendly bacteria present in the Ohio valley environment and to expand the student's understanding of the microorganisms available to create a healthy sourdough starter no matter the surroundings. The instructor, meanwhile, gained teaching experience in the lab setting and the satisfaction of seeing her students expand their knowledge.

**Alrielle Viewegh, University of Indianapolis**

*Representation of Women in South-Central Indiana High School Curriculum*

Female authors and characters in high school English curricula are starkly underrepresented as evidenced by the research in this project. To support this claim, I collected book lists from south-central Indiana high schools and reviewed other research spanning decades. From the analysis of these book lists, women authors were underrepresented in high school curriculum, which was also supported by lists of required readings provided by the Indiana Department of Education, Goodreads, and research from Arthur Applebee. In addition to this, female characters were often victims of problematic representation in the most frequently read texts in high school English curricula. From the findings of this project, I concluded that the need for female representation in high school English curricula is immense, so educators and administrators must strive to integrate more inclusive texts into secondary curriculum to amplify the voices of underrepresented groups.

**Seth Ward, University of Indianapolis**

*Cloud Identification: How Machine Learning Can Detect Cloud Types Useful in Weather Prediction*

The purpose of this study is to explore the usage of artificial intelligence by using a machine learning algorithm to detect the different cloud types from images taken from on top of Schwitzer Hall on the University of Indianapolis campus, which looks out over Smith Mall. An online bucket of images from the past several years to train and test the algorithm can be used in order to accurately detect the different types of clouds within images. This could mean the use of the algorithm could be applied in a wider context to help with weather prediction through the analysis of cloud types and their ability to precipitate or forecast a change in weather.

**Jacob Welch, University of Mount Union**

**Dr. Christopher Marks, University of Mount Union**

*The Effect of Parental Cold Stress on Offspring Cold Tolerance in Drosophila Melanogaster*

Genetic inheritance occurs due to genetic material in the form of DNA being passed from one generation to their offspring. Genetic material is the blueprint or instructions for how our bodies are built to function. Genes are the base determinate in many physiological characteristics. Until recently, the influences of genes were thought to be set in stone and incapable of variation within an organism's lifetime. New scientific research shows that environmental conditions can play a role in the expression of genetic information. The genetic code received from your parents is still the basic blueprint for your physiological characteristics, but how the expression of those blueprints is carried out is being questioned. This field of study is known as Epigenetics and has revolutionized how the expression of DNA is interpreted. The objective of this research was to investigate the epigenetic inheritance of cold tolerance in drosophila melanogaster. In the experiments female flies were subjected to thermal cycling, then their offspring were subjected to a cold stress. Their survival rates were compared to determine if there was a possibility of epigenetics playing a role in their ability to survive the cold stress. The results were very promising and certainly bodes well for the possibility that epigenetics played a role.

**Amanda Werner, IUPUI**

**Dr. George E. Sandusky, IUPUI**

*Evaluation of Low Her2 in Breast Cancer Cases with Digital Pathology*

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women. Approximately 290,000 new cases were diagnosed in 2022 and about 43,000 women will die. The standard of care for determining treatment is evaluating the expression of ER (estrogen receptors), PR (progesterone receptors), and Her2 in the initial biopsy. majority of breast cancers are hormonally driven and are positive for ER and PR. About 25% of breast cancers are now classified as Her2 positive. The recent approval of new breast cancer drugs in 2022 has led to a reclassification of 0, +1, +2 (low) and 3 positive Her2 expression. Previously 60% of Her2 cases showed a low level of Her2 expression. In this study, we evaluated approximately 750 breast cancers with Her2 expression over the last 20 years and divided them into low and positive Her2 expression. In this study, we saw 646 negatives, 58 lows, and 53 positives. There are two new treatments targeting people who have low Her2 expression which have a high risk of cancer returning. In early studies, treatment with either of these two drugs has shown that the chances of breast cancer returning is diminishing.

**Jasmine Wolfgram, Ohio Northern University**

**Amanda Anderson-Wile, Ohio Northern University**

*Gamifying polymer chemistry in a small university classroom setting*

Embracing the spirit of creativity, this project focuses on the creation of a polymer chemistry-themed escape room. Gamification of STEM-related activities is shown to increase motivation in the classroom as it provides students opportunities to enhance understanding of complex topics. While traditional education in chemistry is lecture-based, alternative ways of presenting information have the ability to showcase these same topics in a unique and engaging format. The objective of this project is to create an escape room drawing from the lessons and topics of polymer chemistry. Students with a minimum of one semester of organic chemistry could actively participate in the escape room; however, the activity is also appropriate for students in upper-level chemistry courses. Students often associate polymer chemistry with mechanisms which are intimidating to students, discouraging them from embracing the field and delving into the material. Consequently, this escape room focuses less on the mechanics and more on current topics and applications of the area of study, making the field more relevant to each student. This poster shows how such activities can be developed and implemented into the classroom at a small private undergraduate institution.

**Olivia Ziemelis, Eastern Michigan University**

*An Analysis of Unusual Case Assignment in Pronouns*

In English, Case is almost exclusively expressed overtly through the varying forms of pronouns, such as the first-person singular "I", "me", and "my". Studies of Case cross-linguistically have resulted in Case Theory, critical to a wider range of linguistic analysis. However, certain pronominal situations seem to be unaccounted for by Case Theory. Considering constructions such as "Past me never did that" and the syntactic distinction between "That sounds like his problem" and "That sounds like a him problem", among others, this study utilizes the notion of default Case to propose hypotheses to account for the data, as well as explore implications in the wider field of linguistic research.

***Thank you for your participation!***