

**Undergraduate Symposium for Scholarly and Creative Work
April 26, 2000**

ARTS

Name: Brooke Adams
Academic Unit: Communications
Department: Communications
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Cody
Title: *Catalyst*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry
Location: Exhibit #1
Description: A display of formal dress designs that I began to create at the age of 15. Clothing is an expression of inner emotions. They can create a mood, a thought, or an entire ambiance. A style can be subliminal or overpowering. The wearer of a design can exhibit a personality unlike their own by allowing themselves to role-play or fulfill an associated characteristic of style of a design. My personal taste lies in demure designs that slightly push the edge of seduction. I am interested in creating clothes that allow women to feel elegant, capitol, expressive, yet strikingly content.



Name: Danielle Ilyana Ben-Veniste
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Creative Writing
Faculty Sponsor: Holly Willis
Title: *Pictures of Poetry*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Collages
Location: Exhibit #2
Description: As a visual and literary artist, I find that my poems and my collages are often inspired by similar emotions and situations. I wrote "Ripe" and later created a collage of the same name that was based largely on the ideas of the poem. "Portrait" is a piece of artwork that inspired poem of

the same name and drew on the visual material of the collage.



Name: Mason Bonburg
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Undeclared
Faculty Sponsor: Dave Logan
Title: *shelf*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Sculpture
Location: Exhibit #3
Description: Don't believe everything you read.



Name: Ian Dale
Academic Unit: Fine Arts
Department: Fine Arts (Studio Art)
Faculty Sponsor: Wesley Wittkamper
Title: *The Artist*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #4, Founders Park Tent
Description: The Artist is a short animated film about a lonely but dedicated artist and his struggle for acceptance. The autobiographical film took about two months to animate using 3D Studio MAX and Adobe PhotoShop.



Name: Brian Furano
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Critical studies
Faculty Sponsor: Caroline Clerc
Title: *Standing slo*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual

Format: Artistic Entry, Photos and Film
Location: Exhibit #5, Founders Park Tent
Description: a woman caught between two very different men. the man in white and the man in black.



Name: Aimee Gillette
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Production
Faculty Sponsor: Everett Lewis
Title: *Binkums' Grand Delusion*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #6, Founders Park Tent
Description: Paths cross and delusions are faced in this filmic exploration of the myriad fantasies we construct about ourselves and what we are meant to do in our lives. Through a series of events in the course of a day, a man who desperately wants to be a dinosaur follows a parallel course with another man who fallaciously believes that he is a great writer. The pair separately confronts their misconceptions about themselves and their lives until chance happens to bring them together. It is only here, when the two meet each other and their delusions face to face, that they are able to finally accept both the futility of their dreams and the reality of who they truly are.



Name: Judith Hong
Academic Unit: Thornton School of Music
Department: Music
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ladd Thomas
Title: *Gypsy Dance*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Audio
Location: Exhibit #7, Founders Park Tent
Description: The Gypsy Dance is a musical composition for the violin and piano. It was written under the supervision of my former music teacher Su-Shing Chiu. This piece was inspired by the Hungarian national dance called Czardas. There are three

different themes in Gypsy Dance - the first is a slow and dramatic melody which should capture the image of a seductive dancer, the second is a much faster theme, which contains a building of excitement in the dance, and the third theme is a gentle melody, which is meant to capture the joy of playful, light dancing.



Name: Andrew Howerton and Will Greenburg
Academic Unit: Theatre
Department: Acting
Faculty Sponsor: Rod Menzies
Title: *Men Against Mendacity - Breaking Down Brick and Big Daddy*
Category: Arts
Submission: Group
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #8, Founders Park Tent
Description: "The bird that I hope to catch in the net of this play is not the solution of one man's psychological problem. I'm trying to catch the true quality of experience in a group of people, that cloudy, flickering, evanescent -- fiercely charged! -- interplay of live human beings in the thunder cloud of common crisis." - Tennessee Williams

This cathartic scene from William's Pulitzer Prize winning melodrama, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, represents the indispensable turning point in the relationship between Big Daddy and his son Brick. An alcoholic Brick drowns his "disgust with mendacity" in exchange for the calming "click" that only alcohol can provide. Big Daddy, recently falsely relieved of a cancer scare, finally notices the degree of his son's detachment and attempts to disclose its source through an ingenuous examination of preceding events. Will this purging of the past result in an indestructible Father-Son partnership or only in further isolation? Regardless, what ensues is two men against mendacity in a scene that is indeed replete with many a "thunder cloud of common crisis."



Name: Maryam Ismail-Zavieh
Academic Unit: International Relations
Department: IR/POSC minor sculpture
Faculty Sponsor:
Title: *The Process of Resolution*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Visual Artistic Entry, Sculpture
Location: Exhibit #9
Description: Basically it is a series of sculptures representing the process of resolution. The pieces will be presented by placing them on a wall. There will be about 5 to 6 frames that will illustrate a sculpted image of each section of this very process "Resolution" i.e. Shock, Denial, Anger, Mourning/Sorrow, Rebirth.



Name: Vashte Johnson
Academic Unit: Computer Sciences
Department: Computer Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Penelope Jones
Title: *Lust*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Painting
Location: Exhibit #10
Description: "Lust" is a piece that can be interpreted both literally and figuratively. Literally, the piece depicts a young woman being assaulted by ghostly, possibly apparitional tigers with real blood being drawn. Figuratively, the piece can be interpreted in much more interesting ways, but none of them are sure to be the "right" way. Is the woman imagining the tigers, or are they real? Do they represent anything? Men, possibly? Is she afraid, or just surprised? Did she bring this upon herself? The title of the painting is "Lust", but does it have to have any sexual connotation at all? It could be that the tigers represent some other fear, or situation. The raw, feral energy permeating the canvas in "Lust" does indeed give it a sexual edge, but the true meaning behind it is best left for the individual viewer to decide. It's a piece that tends to reflect one's own fears, sexual or otherwise.

Name: Peter Kirkpatrick
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Undeclared
Faculty Sponsor: Professor Thomas Cox, Dep. of History
Title: *The Best of...80's Videogame Themes Remixed - Zelda and More!*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Audio
Location: Exhibit #11, Founders Park Tent
Description: For this project, I combined music written for electronic diversion systems (i.e. Nintendo, Sega, etc)-nostalgic music whose aesthetic qualities are often overlooked-with a genre of pop music known as "Techno/Dance". I began taking the relatively simple melodies from the video games and playing them into the "Performer" sequencer program available here in the U.S.C. Thornton School of Music computer lab. I added other harmonic musical features (percussion, bass line, arpeggios, reverb, etc.) using a synthesizer, MIDI console, and other effects processing units. Now with a more embellished version, I decided to alter the original theme further by copying and transposing various sections, or taking some basic structures of the melody and interchanging them to create variations and ultimately. Over all, I tried to create a rich new musical tapestry yet still maintain the melodic and harmonic integrity of the original theme.



Name: Hans Moolman and Ziah Fogel
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Film/Video Production
Faculty Sponsor: Bill Yahraus
Title: *The Final Chapter*
Category: Arts
Submission: Group
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #12, Founders Park Tent
Description: Redefining the institution and practice of learning, this short narrative film takes a closer look at the world of books and presents them in a new, different light. A world where old meets new, charged with a sense of life, diversity and dynamism, a world of freedom and self-expression. Welcome to "The Final Chapter" ...



Name: Christopher Musich
Academic Unit: Architecture
Department: Architecture
Faculty Sponsor: Doug Noble
Title: *Educational Facilities*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Drawings
Location: Exhibit #14
Description: Design and Masterplan for educational facilities located in Burbank Ca. Design goals included the integration of site Masterplan into Burbank context as well as enhance existing structures such as small retail and a Ralphs grocery store. The Masterplan included the development of 500,000 square feet of Office space, 250,000 sq.ft. of additional retail, 300 housing units, and half a million sq.ft. of cinema production facilities, and finally a public park. Situated throughout the above-mentioned program are middle school educational facilities that include a gym, performing arts studio, library, physical fitness facilities and classrooms. Drawings and model visually express project from concept to implementation.



Name: Christopher Myers
Academic Unit: Thornton School of Music
Department: Music Theory & Composition
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Donald Crockett
Title: *Ballade for Oboe and String Orchestra*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Audio
Location: Exhibit #15, Founders Park Tent
Description: The Ballade for Oboe and String Orchestra was written for Dwight Parry, who premiered the work February 10 in USC's Newman Hall. This piece uses many of the compositional techniques that have evolved in the past century to exploit the technical and expressive range of the oboe.



Name: Meghan Newell (While I am submitting this project, which I wrote, conceived of and choreographed, it is essentially collaborative, and also based on the work of the performers, Meghan Finn, Mageina Begtrup, Susie Myrvold and Sarah Winningham.)
Academic Unit: Theatre
Department: Theatre
Faculty Sponsor: Lora Zane
Title: *Clinical*
Category: Arts
Submission: Group
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Theatrical Piece on Film
Location: Exhibit #16, Founders Park Tent
Description: The Clinical Piece is based on research on the causes and effects of anorexia nervosa, juxtaposing the harsh facts of reality with the glossy images that fuel their existence. Both of these elements are present in the disease, in the intricate web of female desires and societal expectations. When one examines the subtext of the images that we absorb on a daily basis, an entirely new story is told.



Name: Michael Pomranz
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Cinema-Television Production
Faculty Sponsor: Professor Araluce
Title: *a red chair*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry
Location: Exhibit #17

Description: the submission is to be regarded only as a red chair. performance by the artist himself. chair courtesy of ikea. instructions for optimum viewing-work should, and must, be viewed with the participant positioning himself in a region enclosed by an angle of no greater than forty-five degrees from the center of the chair, oriented forward in the direction that the performer is seated, with the participant facing the performer a viewing time of at least 90 seconds is recommended circumstances under which the performance occurs should be simultaneously considered and disregarded direct, personal interaction and participation is unavoidable all inquiries should, and must, be self-explicated [note - these instructions are intended only for "optimum" viewing. the work may be, and is, properly experienced under any, and all, viewing conditions.]



Name: Ian Richter and Jamie Macias
(Assistant Director, Co-Writer)
Academic Unit: Fine Arts
Department: Fine Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Christina Aumann
Title: *Faith*
Category: Arts
Submission: Group
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #18, Founders Park Tent
Description: A film exploring faith in contemporary culture



Name: Consuelo Rodriguez
Academic Unit: School of Fine Arts
Department: Fine Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Ken Price
Title: *My Companion in Life*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry
Location: Exhibit #19
Description: My work is a collection of Christian crosses. The cross is one symbol that it is immediately recognized by all cultures. It is one of the most important symbols on earth. It is the supreme emblem of Christianity, symbolic of sacrifice and redemption. My crosses are made of metal and clay. They are not intended to be delicate or beautifully designed, but crude and strong as well. The cross reminds me that Jesus, my most faithful friend, is with me at all times.



Name: Aaron Roethe
Academic Unit: Flora L. Thornton School of Music
Department: Music
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Frank Ticheli
Title: *Modern Preludes for Organ*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Audio
Location: Exhibit #20, Founders Park Tent
Description: As the Twenty-first Century dawns, many of us still think of the Organ as an instrument only for church services. Perhaps this is why the Organ, which was intensely popular in Bach's time, has been largely overlooked in Modern Compositions. Composer Aaron Roethe seeks to break this mold with his "Modern Preludes for Organ." This set of six short pieces blends the traditional musical form of a prelude with a wonderfully contemporary flavor. Mr. Roethe began writing "Modern Preludes..." in January 2000 under the direction of Dr. Frank Ticheli, a member of the composition faculty of the U.S.C. Flora L. Thornton School of Music. Mr. Roethe

wanted to compose a set of preludes of his own. After hearing "Chantasy", a piece for organ by USC's Dr. James Hopkins, Mr. Roethe was inspired to compose "Modern Preludes for Organ." This piece represents his first attempt at writing for the instrument and places Mr. Roethe in a very small group of student composers who have written for organ. "Modern Preludes for Organ" is comprised of six preludes. The piece is constructed of twelve synthetic modal scales, created by the composer. The first Prelude explores the power of the full organ. The texture is reduced to gentle polyphony in Prelude 2 followed by the simple and melodic ideas of Prelude 3. The fourth incorporates a wedge motive and is alternately monophonic and polyphonic. Prelude 5 is atmospheric and hymn-like while Prelude six is the finale and investigates the percussive possibilities of the organ.



Name: John Sadler
Academic Unit: School of Fine Arts
Department: Bachelor of the Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Chris Robbins
Title: *Cowboy*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Ink Drawing
Location: Exhibit #21
Description: Ink on Cigarette Paper - This is one of a series of western-themed drawings I did. Much of the series was devoted to creating a new look for the common cowboy. "Cowboy" is the representation of what a cowboy on the range might have to use if he felt like creating.



Name: John Sadler
Academic Unit: School of Fine Arts
Department: Bachelor of the Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Chis Robbins
Title: *Litter*
Category: Arts

Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Computer Animation
Location: Exhibit #22
Description: Computer Animation Caligari TrueSpace 4.0 and Adobe Premiere "Litter" was something that I did just for fun. Make sure to watch it start to finish, it is only about 2 1/2 minutes long. Enjoy



Name: Jeffrey Underwood
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Cinema Production
Faculty Sponsor: David P. Ebersole
Title: *GHeTTO*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Visual Artistic Entry, Film
Location: Exhibit #23, Founders Park Tent
Description: Have you ever wondered what life was like for the less fortunate of south central LA? This take on USC's surrounding area, presented on 16mm B/W film, expresses my thoughts and emotions on the topic. Length 5 minute 33 seconds.



Name: Tracie Van Auken
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Film Production
Faculty Sponsor: David Bunn
Title: *Downtown Nightscapes*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Slides
Location: Exhibit #24
Description: Downtown Nightscapes is a series of slides taken in Downtown Los Angeles on Grand, Hill, and Hope Streets north of Adams Boulevard. A study in light and symmetry, the series deals with the feeling of absence, abandonment, and isolation that pervades this city after dark.



Name: Jenny Yu
Academic Unit: LSDN
Department: Linguistics / Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Trevor Norris
Title: *Sweet Aroma of Spring*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Painting
Location: Exhibit #25
Description: I consider this piece of my work as my "masterpiece." I used to take art lessons during high school and this is one of the last oil painting works I did. Simply by visualizing the painting, I feel as if though I'm among the beautiful blooming flowers and can even smell their sweet aroma. The original landscape photograph was from a calendar and I performed some minor changes from its original photograph. I will dedicate my most treasured artwork "Sweet Aroma of Spring" to my parents who have always been there for me and were my greatest inspiration.



Name: Robert Baker and Ben Messmer
Academic Unit: School of Theatre
Department: Acting
Faculty Sponsor: Jack Rowe
Title: *Lone Star*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Performing Artistic Work, Film
Location: Exhibit #27, Founders Park Tent
Description: Robert Baker is a sophomore student and Ben Messmer is a senior acting student. Together they will present a scene from James McClure's one-act comedy, Lone Star. Lone Star is a play about two brothers, Ray and Roy and the night that changed both of their lives. .



Name: Alex Zendejas
Academic Unit: School of Fine Arts
Department: Art History
Faculty Sponsor: ToddOlson
Title: *"Toady, Marcius" Form and Matter*
Category: Arts
Submission: Individual
Format: Artistic Entry, Painting
Location: Exhibit #26
Description: The painting explores the possibilities of form and matter under primitive modes of painting. We can visually experience an early stage of development deflecting the monotony of city life. Deco/nuvo forms of color soothe the eyes and relax the mind into peaceful contemplation between the painting and the viewer. This seductive play of matter is echoed through the linear and curving lines of the design. The simple and seeming-minimal experience of these primitive forms filter away the psychological- civilizing restraints of urban life. Visually, the painting becomes an outlet allowing the spectator release from the conformities of community life and explore the artistic imagination of the artists freely.



HUMANITIES

Name: Brandon Guerrero, Suzanne Ogden,
Joseph Lajos, and Shannon McHugh

Academic Unit: Thematic Option

Department: Thematic Option

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Bruce Zuckerman

Title: *Women in the Ancient World*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Group

Format: Artistic Entry, Website

Location: Exhibit #30

Description: Women in the Ancient World -
Our goal for the online exhibit is three fold -
education, comparison and correlation. By
showcasing 17 different artifacts, and
providing in-depth commentary on each, we
will educate newcomers in the "Women in
the Ancient World" realm of archaeology.
Through our research-focused academic
version of the exhibit, we will provide fresh,
alternate perspectives to the more
experienced historians and archaeologists.
We will provoke thoughts and interests
regarding gender issues of the past and
present. Through our use of modern video
and multimedia, we will compare the
Woman of the Ancient World to the
modern-day female. Finally, through your
own step-by-step, interactive journey
through our site, you will analyze the
correlation between the women of the past
and present, and their representation in
society. The conclusions you draw will be
your own.



Name: Lindsay Harrison

Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences

Department: Political Science

Faculty Sponsor: Howard Gillman

Title: *Coming Out of the Constitutional Closet*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #30a

Description: The Supreme Court's decision in
Bowers v. Hardwick codified the
marginalization of gays and lesbians into
law, both legitimating and encouraging
institutional and societal homophobia. From
where the law stands today, gays and
lesbians retain no legal right to express their
sexuality and do not constitute a suspect
class deserving of even intermediate
scrutiny. As such, the complicated question
of what strategies one might utilize in
challenging the legitimacy of the Court's
present stance remains a vital one. My
project analyzes and compares several legal
strategies, including the right to privacy,
equal protection, and first amendment
routes, in determining which legal strategy
best promotes the twin goals of gay and
lesbian empowerment and mainstream social
transformation. Inimical to this discussion is
the relationship between litigation and social
movements, namely the gay and lesbian
movement. My project infuses the debate on
gay rights with insights from Critical Race
Theory in an attempt to enrich the
understanding of how the gay and lesbian
movement benefits, loses, and changes from
its decision to appropriate particular legal
theories as its desired method of action. In
addition, I ask the larger question of whether
litigation and constitutional politics in
general are necessary and sufficient for the
ultimate goals of empowerment and social
change. I undertake a comparison of state-
centered politics and cultural politics in
striving for a definitive conclusion about the
best way for the gay and lesbian movement
to proceed in light of Bowers' continuing
influence in American legal culture.



Name: TakWai Kwok
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Toben H. Mintz
Title: *Comparison in Word Acquisition with Children in Hong Kong*
Category: Humanities
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #31

Description: Comparison in Word Meaning Acquisition With Children in Hong Kong - Prior research in America has shown that young children aged 3- to 5-years-old are able to recognize different grammatical forms of language. They tend to treat nouns and adjectives differently. The purpose of this experiment was to understand whether these results would be the same in another language. Twenty-two kindergarten children in Hong Kong (three to six years old) were the participants. The hypothesis of the study was that children in Hong Kong who speak predominantly Cantonese, would understand the semantic differences between nouns and adjectives as do American children. That is, it was expected that this skill is universal among all children. The study suggests that a generalization can be made by comparing two different languages with two distinctive grammatical structures on the recognition of different form of classes of words in young children.



Name: Mary McCorkle, JD Crowley, and Abra Murray
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Department of Religion
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Bruce Zuckerman
Title: *West Semitic Research Project PR CD-ROM*
Category: Humanities
Submission: Group
Format: Artistic Entry, Multimedia CD
Location: Exhibit #32
Description: The West Semitic Research Project CD-ROM is a multimedia device intended for public relations use. This CD-

ROM combines audio and visual techniques in an effort to attract potential students to the WSRP. Our group has worked hard to create a project, which is both informative and entertaining. Our heavy use of documentary video in combination with the use of special effects work has created a project which we to believe to be aesthetically pleasing.



Name: Rebecca Shult and Rachael Koffman
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Religion
Faculty Sponsor: Bruce Zuckerman
Title: *The Oldest Trojan on Campus*
Category: Humanities
Submission: Group
Format: Poster and Website
Location: Exhibit #33
Description: In the 1980's, USCARC acquired a bullae, dated to the 2nd or 3rd century B.C.E., which the lab refers to as the "Profile of a Trojan Headdress" and we affectionately call "The Oldest Trojan on Campus." These names for the bullae are perhaps functions of the fact that it has a home at USC. Even those who are relatively unfamiliar with ancient iconography can see the bullae's resemblance to Athena. The unique characteristic of Athena, her headdress, is on the bullae. Perhaps this artifact is actually a bullae representing the Greek goddess. So why do we, here at USC, refer to it as a Trojan? How are Athena and USC Trojans related? What does the headdress mean? Who decided that our Tommy Trojan has such a characteristic? Is this characteristic of the "Real" people of Troy? Clearly, this artifact raises interesting questions about Trojan iconography. It seems that what is Trojan is actually Greek. We will try to deal with the fact that what we call Trojan might not really be- Trojan, that is. Our project is an integration of the investigations of the modern and ancient iconography of Trojans.



Name: Nick Sowers and Neil Teixeira

Academic Unit: Architecture

Department: Architecture

Faculty Sponsor:

Title: *Deeper Searching - An Online Intellectual Magazine.*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Group

Format: Creative Work, Website

Location: Exhibit #34

Description: Deeper Searching is an honest attempt to pick apart details that are often overlooked and to discover meaning through this investigation. Through articles and critiques on art, cinema, architecture, philosophy, literature, and American culture as a collective whole, Deeper Searching hopes to reveal details that we feel are important to think about. Moreover, the webzine harbors creative works by the editors and readers alike. By displaying creativity, we hope to discover how human beings think and interact with their environment. Published monthly, with a collection of critical philosophical articles and creative works on one location, Deeper Searching hopes to convey a clear image of how we think and how we perceive the world around us. The website address is <http://www-scf.usc.edu/~sowers>.



Name: Solveig Stroer

Academic Unit: Thematic Option

Department: Broadcast Journalism

Faculty Sponsor: Molly Engelhardt

Title: *Hi-tech And Low Culture - is Our Future Trapped in Multi-User Dungeons?*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #35

Description: MUD's and chat rooms are very popular with adolescents. But why? - Today's individualistic society furthers the longing for contact, for friends. Life seems so sad when you don't have the right person with whom to spend it. But to find someone else,

you first need to have found your "self". The best time to do this is adolescence - the transition from childhood to adulthood - a period of great insecurity and isolation. That's exactly where online communities can help the most. My research, which includes a survey on teenagers' chat experiences, focuses on the self-discovery that takes place during adolescence, and on the advantages of the internet during this time. In virtual communities, there is a strange sense of belonging and intimacy that possibly stems from a fear to open up to others in real life. The computer provides a safety-wall, a veil, that does not expose insecure adolescents searching for their "selves". Chat rooms and MUDs are playgrounds - though not always safe ones - for repressed sexuality, fetishes, and wildness, as well as sources of relationships - considered real or not - that provide contact, comfort, and joy. A future shaped through online experiences may look like it's going to be caught in the dungeons. Yet, it could be helpful to figure out your "self", and may provide valuable insights in how to behave and now not to behave in society.



Name: Eve Troeh

Academic Unit: Communications

Department: Print Journalism

Faculty Sponsor: Marianna Edmunds

Title: *Oriental Illusion: Myth and Reality in Los Angeles Chinatown*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #36

Description: "When the miniature pagodas and fountains of Los Angeles Chinatown were built in the 1940s, it meant a new start for the Chinese American community. For over 50 years they had been living in a shadowy image. Tourists, other Angelenos and city officials saw the neighborhood, Old Chinatown, as being full of gambling and drugs, temptation and danger. In 1937 the city decided to remove what they saw as a

blight; they demolished Chinese American homes and businesses to make way for Union Station. But was this sinful Chinatown the city destroyed a true reflection of the Chinese community? Or just an exotic one painted of myths and misconceptions? In an odd twist of fate, it was another city project -- more than fifty years later -- which led to revising these dark notions. The city broke ground on the Los Angeles Metro Rail project in 1987, right under Union Station and right on top of the ruins of Old Chinatown. An archaeological team was assembled to study the artifacts found. Their evidence showed that Old Chinatown was, in fact, once a thriving and decidedly above-ground neighborhood blending traditional Chinese and American culture. Though most all the Chinese Americans from that era are gone, Old Chinatown has now found its voice through the everyday things left behind.”



Name: Valerie Walkov, Aaron Vishria, Laia Grino, Joshua Hsieh, and Josh Banarje

Academic Unit: Thematic Option

Department: Archaeology

Faculty Sponsor: Bruce Zuckerman

Title: *A Virtual Tour of the Ugarit Royal Palace*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Group

Format: Artistic Entry, Web-Based Project

Location: Exhibit #37

Description: The ancient city of Ugarit is located in the site of Ras Shamra, in present day Syria. Here, thousands of cuneiform tablets and other artifacts have been discovered and analyzed. The Royal Palace was the center of the city, and this is the focus of a virtual tour presented on the internet. Throughout the various courtyards, rooms, and archives, the story of these amazing tablets will unfold. The interactive tour will also include puzzles, 3-D imaging, and a Historical Question, to be answered in code throughout the website.



Name: Kyla Westphal and Solveig C. Stroer

Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences

Department: Religion

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Zuckerman

Title: *USC at Megiddo*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Group

Format: Artistic Entry, Website

Location: Exhibit #38

Description: This project is designed to give an overview of USC's involvement at Megiddo, Israel. Since there are existing websites, which thoroughly explain the history of the excavation site, our website concentrates on personal experiences USC students have had. Ours is an effort to present behind-the-scenes material that the other websites don't provide. Our website will serve on two levels. It will give the audience the option to explore USC at Megiddo interactively, and thus provide insight into the true nature of archaeological excavations. For viewers of the website who are already familiar with Megiddo, and wish to obtain information on a specific topic, this project can also serve as a quick reference site. Navigationally, this will take the form of a virtual tour for newcomers accompanied by a tool bar, which will allow the viewer to quickly access specific parts of the website. We will utilize short Bios and pictures of former and current members of the excavation team, as well as records of their personal experiences.



Name: Rebecca Zak, Jennifer Campbell, and
Dara Purvis

Academic Unit: Thematic Option

Department: Religion

Faculty Sponsor: Bruce Zuckerman

Title: *Royal Representations on USC's
Ancient Egyptian Scarabs*

Category: Humanities

Submission: Group

Format: Artistic Entry, Website

Location: Exhibit #39

Description: Our website provides a basic understanding of the scarab beetle and its significance to the Ancient Egyptians. It goes on to explain the significance of some of the engravings on the scarabs of the USC collection and follows the depiction of a prominent king through the collection. Each of these representations is explained in detail for those who are unfamiliar with the material as well as analyzed for its significance in relation to the time period and the other scarab engravings which we have selected.



LIFE SCIENCES

Name: Suchitra Ananthnarayan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Chemistry/Biological Sciences
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Marianthe Hamilton-Wessler, Dr. Richard Bergman
Title: *The Effects of Moderate Obesity and Central Adiposity on Insulin Action and Glucose Production*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #45

Description: Insulin stimulates the transport of glucose into cells for energy usage. Failure to respond to insulin properly partly characterizes Type II diabetes. Previous studies show that obesity poses a greater-than-normal risk for diabetes and that insulin resistance is associated with increased visceral adiposity. By inducing moderate obesity and central, rather than visceral, adiposity in dogs (n=7) by fat feeding for ~13 weeks, this study examined the time-dependent relationship between the stimulation of glucose uptake and suppression of endogenous glucose production and the transendothelial transport of insulin across the capillary endothelial barrier. Free fatty acids (FFA), from lipolysis, have been studied as the second messenger of insulin action. FFA, glycerol, insulin, lactate and glucose concentrations in the carotid artery plasma and the hindlimb lymph of insulin resistant dogs were measured. FFA concentration decreased by 20% in plasma and lymph during insulin activation, showing that insulin suppresses lipolysis, though to a lesser degree in these fat-fed dogs in comparison to normal dogs. Insulin resistance from central adiposity caused attenuation of the stimulation of uptake of glucose in response to a plasma insulin level of 800 pM. During activation, or insulin infusion, insulin concentration in the lymph was 56% lower than in the plasma, illustrating the slow transport of

insulin across the capillary endothelial barrier. This reduction in the response to insulin suggests the possibility of a mechanism involving changes at the capillary endothelium as well as at the target cell that may contribute to the insulin resistance induced by increased adiposity.



Name: Marisa Chang and Suzanne Welcome
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychobiology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. William O. McClure
Title: *Puberty is Required for the Adult Action of Prenatal Stress*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #46
Description: We have previously shown that mild stress applied to pregnant rats causes alterations in the behavior and the anatomy of the brains of the resulting pups. The magnitude of the alteration varies with the age of the pups. Juvenile animals are affected very little, but young adult animals show large changes. These data suggest that puberty may be involved in the effect of prenatal stress. To test this hypothesis, prenatally stressed rats were gonadectomized just prior to puberty. To control for the effects of gonadectomy, both unoperated animals and sham operated animals were employed. To examine the effects of treatment, groups of pups from unstressed mothers were studied. Changes were evaluated for both behavior in the open field and fluctuating asymmetry of the forceps minor. Behavioral data were inconclusive. However, anatomical data showed a clear effect. Removal of the gonads completely prevented the increase in asymmetry observed in prenatally stressed animals. Sham operated animals did not

differ from unoperated animals. Similar data were seen in both males and females. These results imply that human schizophrenia may require a combination of prenatal stress and puberty. If so, this would explain the troubling observation that schizophrenia, a disease that is probably caused by a challenge prior to birth, does not develop fully until young adulthood.



Name: Michael Choi
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Biology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Carol A. Miller
Title: *Argh!! I Can't Keep Bottling Up This Stress! - A Cellular Version*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #47
Description: Alright, so maybe our neurons don't behave exactly like our brains do under stress. However, the homology of DENN/MADD (a part of a stress-induced signaling cascade) to Rab3aGEP (a GTP/GDP exchanger that acts as an "on/off" switch for vesicular exocytosis) implies some intriguing connections. Furthermore, the translocation of DENN/MADD to the nucleus upon stress-induced activation implies that a cell's cholinergic activity is altered under stress conditions. This study aimed at elucidating such a link by UV irradiation of cholinergic motor-neuron cultures and assaying for acetylcholine in the media as evidence of vesicular release. Immunofluorescence staining was done in parallel to track the location of the DENN/MADD.



Name: Christine Joyce David
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychobiology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Denis Mitchell
Title: *Microgeographic Variation in Mountain Chickadee Songs*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #48
Description: Mountain Chickadees inhabit mountain coniferous forests over much of western North America. Male chickadee species typically give simple whistled "fee-bee" songs before and during mating season. Songs of individual Mountain Chickadees from the San Gabriel Mountains, Los Angeles Co., California, were recorded and analyzed to assess patterns of geographic variation. This variation has important evolutionary consequences, helping to maintain the genetic integrity of local populations. Recorded songs were converted into sound spectrograms, from which total song duration, total frequency range, number of individual notes, duration of individual notes, and interval time between notes were measured. Songs consisted of three to seven pure tones of one to three different frequencies. In general, individuals at a given site sang similar songs, whereas songs often differed between sites.



Name: Karma Denmark
Academic Unit: Letters Arts and Sciences
Department: Exercise Science
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Turcotte
Title: *The effect of malonyl-CoA on the oxidation of palmitoyl-CoA and the determination of IC50*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #49
Description: Of all the energy stores in the human body, fat is the most abundant. During low-moderate intensity exercise, fat provides the predominant fuel for the muscles by providing adenosine triphosphate (ATP). Since fat is stored in adipose tissue, it must be transported into the blood, to the muscle cell, and then into the mitochondria where oxidation and subsequently energy production occurs. Energy, in the form of ATP is used by the muscles for movement. This study concentrated primarily on the transport of palmitoyl-CoA (a long chain fatty acid) into the mitochondria for oxidation. Carnitine palmitoyl transferase-I (CPTI), located in the outer mitochondrial for oxidation. During high-intensity exercise, carbohydrate is the major fuel used and therefore fat utilization is inhibited. Citrate, from the tri-carboxylic acid cycle (TCA) translocates into the cytosol where it is converted back into oxaloacetate and acetyl-CoA. As the cytosolic acetyl-CoA pool increases, ACC (acetyl-CoA carboxylase converts it into malonyl-CoA. Malonyl-CoA the first committed step in fatty acid synthesis and is also the inhibitor of CPTI. The purpose of the experiment was to test the effects of varying amounts of malonyl-CoA on the oxidation of palmitoyl-CoA and to consequently determine the IC50 of malonyl-CoA. IC50 refers to the concentration of malonyl-CoA needed to inhibit cytochrome c reductase activity. This can give an idea of how much malonyl-CoA is needed to inhibit the oxidation of a fuel.

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Name: Grace Gacutan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Exercise Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Jill Mc Nitt-Gray
Title: *Mechanical Demand Imposed on the Lower Extremity when Rising From a Chair*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #50
Description: The purpose of this study was to determine differences in the mechanical demand imposed on the lower extremity when rising from a chair with the seat positioned at two heights. One female (25 years old) volunteered to participate in accordance with the Institutional Review Board. Kinematics (60 Hz), reaction forces (600 Hz), electromyographic activity (1200 Hz) of seven lower extremity muscles were quantified simultaneously during the performance of the tasks. The foot and shank positions were standardized between tasks, with the ankle joint posterior to the knee joint. Joint kinetics, joint kinematics and electromyographic activity were quantified from seat off to standing position. Through this research, it was found that the net joint moment at the knee and ankle were similar between tasks. However, the net joint moment at the hip was greater when the seat was in the lower position than in the higher position. This difference in mechanical demand was attributed to between task differences in thigh position. No between task differences in ankle and knee net joint moment work were observed. However, greater hip net joint moment work (50 J) was needed when rising from the lower seat position than when rising from the higher seat position (25 J). The EMG corresponded to the net joint moments of both tasks. These results suggest that populations with hip muscular weakness may reduce the work done at the hip by using chairs with higher seat positions.

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Name: Anna Gasparyan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychobiology-Gerontology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Julie Andersen
Title: *MPTP Induced Cell Death May Attenuate in Ferritin Overexpressed Transgenic vs. Wild Type Mice*

Category: Life Sciences

Submission:

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #51

Description: Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disease, which destroys a part of the brain critical to coordinated motion. The affected cells are the darkly pigmented neurons that lie in the Substantia nigra. The cause of PD is still unknown but growing evidence suggests that highly reactive substances called free radicals are central players. The neurons of the SN are particularly vulnerable to oxidative damage because they produce dopamine. Dopamine is an important and essential neurotransmitter for smooth purposeful muscle activity. The by product of dopamine degradation is hydrogen peroxide which through the Fenton Reaction may create the potent, highly reactive hydroxyl radicals in the presence of iron. Since the SN appears to contain high levels of iron, it is hypothesized that iron might play a key role to developing PD. Ferritin is a major iron storage protein in the brain. It keeps iron in its non-reactive form which cannot participate in redox reactions. In our experiment, increased ferritin expressions were analyzed against toxin induced PD animal models to show protective effects of ferritin in PD. In order to test the protective effects of ferritin, transgenic mice over expressing ferritin in their Substantia nigra were created. Iron levels and ferritin expression of transgenic mice were confirmed. Preliminary studies with MPTP toxicity model in these animals demonstrated that they had less reactive species formation and attenuation of decrease Glutathione (GSH) levels in their SN compared with wild type animals. Neuronal cell death is one of the main criteria to see protection. Therefore, a

beneficial and useful outcome of future research in preventing the progression of PD and similar diseases would be to develop specific iron binding molecules such as ferretin which can remove the excessive iron without interrupting its normal function in the brain.

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Name: Namath Hussain
Academic Unit: Engineering
Department: BME
Faculty Sponsor: Robert Baker
Title: *Xenotransplantation*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #52

Description: The use of pigs as organ donors for human transplantation has the potential to alleviate the shortage of organs available from allogenic donors. Human preformed and induced antibody responses to pig xenografts, however, present a major barrier to the successful use of pigs for human transplantation. We have recently established that xenoantibody responses in humans are encoded by two IgVH genes, IGHV3-11 and IGHV3-74. The identity of these clones, and variation in the structure of IgVH genes encoding xenoantibodies was established by DNA sequencing. We have recently cloned both somatically-mutated and germline IGHV3-11 genes from patients at days 10 and 21 post-BAL into a phagemid vector (pHEN2) using an overlap extension PCR technique. Single chain antibodies encoded by the IGHV3-11 genes that exhibit evidence of somatic mutation were used to block intracellular and surface expression of the a-gal epitope expressed on pig endothelial cells. These experiments were designed to determine whether somatically-mutated antibodies, encoded by clones expressed by patients at day 21 demonstrate an improved affinity for the a-gal epitope, and whether an improved ability to inhibit the binding and cytotoxicity of human natural antibodies could be demonstrated in

single chain antibodies encoded by somatically-mutated clones.



Name: Tola Kao, Ana Ibarra, and Lina Saem
Academic Unit: Nursing
Department: Nursing
Faculty Sponsor: Vivian Churness
Title: *Health Status and Practices of a Karen Hill-Tribe Population*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #53
Description: The Hill Tribes Development and Resource Center, a Karen Christian settlement in Northern Thailand was the setting in which University of Southern California nursing students studied the health practices and beliefs of the Karen Hill-Tribe people. The health status of Center participants was assessed, referrals made and health education offered. The ten USC students lived in a remote mountain village for 6 days, participating in and observing the culture. With the help of translators they set up a health clinic where health status was assessed and stations to teach about various health topics were set up. The health of 73 children and adults was assessed. Half of the group was 12, 13, and 14-year olds. Of the total examined, 26 were healthy with no recommendations. Obvious dental problems were noted in 18. Three were referred for eyeglasses. Two were treated for head lice and 20 had other health problems, mostly infections. Referrals were made to local healthcare facilities and money was left to pay for the cost of treatment and transportation. Arrangements are being made for ongoing dental care. Demonstrations were given on hand washing, wound care, head lice prevention and oral hygiene. Observation of health practices showed reliance on the traditional with an appreciation of scientific medical practices. There was evidence of belief in the supernatural and in prayer. Adults seemed to love and greatly value children.

Name: Justin Lee
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Exercise Science
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jill McNitt-Gray
Title: *Lower Extremity Power Generation during Two Jumping Tasks: Implications for Task Specific Training*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission:
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #54
Description: During competition, heptathletes are required to successfully perform multiple events, which involve the control and redirection of total body momentum. Identification of effective power generation and load distribution strategies athletes use to control and redirect total body momentum will facilitate refining current training regimes and improve performance. Lower extremity power generation training typically involves plyometric jumps (impact preceding extension) and countermovement vertical jumps (countermovement preceding extension). The purpose of this study was to test the hypothesis that events preceding extension phase will influence how the lower extremity generates power and distributes load during the extension phase. Sagittal plane kinematic data (60Hz) and ground reaction forces (600Hz) were simultaneously collected during plyometric-spring jumps (PJ) and countermovement vertical jumps (VJ) performed by members of the USA Women's Heptathlon Team (n=9). Informed consent was obtained by all subjects prior to collection. Across subjects, the duration of VJ extension phase was approximately two times the length of PJ extension phase. Similar loading was observed at each joint between tasks, however increased extension phase duration in VJ led to significantly greater work generated at knee and hip compared to PJ. These results suggest that muscles working at the knee and hip are required to sustain similar loading magnitude longer during

tasks involving countermovement prior to extension. Percentage of load distributed to the ankle and hip differed between tasks. When designing power generation training tasks, it is important to consider load distribution differences during tasks with and without impact preceding extension phase.



Name: Devin Mitchell
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Biological Sciences
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Albert Herrera
Title: *Synapse Elimination of Neuromuscular Junctions in the Cutaneous Pectoris muscle of Bullfrogs*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #55
Description: This study examines the incidence of polyneuronal innervation in the cutaneous pectoris muscle of bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*) following metamorphosis. Multiple innervation of neuromuscular junctions is measured and presented in three ways - number of axonal inputs, presence of nerve terminal crossovers, and incidence of doubly innervated postsynaptic gutters. Each of these measurements was examined in relation to the body length of the frog which was used as an estimate of age. It was found that polyneuronal innervation lasts far into the adult life of the frog. Single innervation of neuromuscular junctions never completely replaced multiple innervation of the junctions in the frogs under study. Also the presence of crossovers remained throughout the frog's adult life. Doubly innervated gutters were eliminated at a faster rate but still lasted well into adulthood. These results helped to establish that synapse elimination proceeded fastest at the youngest age studied. In order see what happens at earlier stages when the greatest amount of synapse elimination occurs in muscle development, I began to study the

cutaneous pectoris muscles of tadpoles (stages XX-XXIV). Future studies of the tadpoles combined with the current data on postmetamorphic frogs will help to better describe the process of synapse elimination in the cutaneous pectoris muscle of *Rana catesbeiana*. Due to the quest to understand and manipulate the ability to regenerate nerves, my research is beneficial in that it closely examines synapse elimination, a process that occurs both during initial development and following injury.



Name: Dan Shabtai
Academic Unit: Marshall School of Business
Department: International Business
Faculty Sponsor: Sarmas
Title: *Conciousness*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster, Visual Artistic Entry
Location: Exhibit #56
Description: Our program will detail human consciousness in the following areas 1. Mind - concentration 2. Body - nutrition and fitness 3. Emotion - realizing and expressing/controlling feeling 4. Spiritual - connecting with one's values(self-aware) We will use this model to demonstrate how balance can be achieved in life.



Name: Thuzar Shin
Academic Unit: Davis School of Gerontology
Department: Gerontology
Faculty Sponsor: Christian J. Pike, Ph.D.
Title: *Involvement of Caspases in Astrogliosis*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #57
Description: Reactive astrogliosis occurs in response to various physiological challenges to the brain, including head trauma, oxidative damage, stroke and Alzheimer's disease. Astrocyte reactivity is of particular importance because reactive astrocytes secrete an

abundance of bioactive factors that are believed to modulate neuronal response to injury. The cellular pathway controlling astrogliosis is currently unknown. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the possibility that caspases may be involved in reactive astrogliosis. Caspases are a family of proteases that are activated in response to a variety of degenerative stimuli. Caspase activation results in the degradation of numerous cell proteins and contributes to the process of programmed cell death. We evaluated the possibility that caspases might be involved in astrogliosis. In this study, we cultured rat cortical astrocytes and treated them with two stimuli known to cause reactivity in vitro. We observed that reactive astrogliosis was accompanied by an increase in caspase activity and an increase in caspase proteolysis products. Furthermore, the addition of a caspase inhibitor suppressed increases in bioactive factors, a key event in astrocyte reactivity. These data suggest that the activation of caspases may be implicated in reactive astrogliosis. The findings of our study may help identify the cellular pathways involved in astrocyte reactivity. Once the mechanism is identified, regulation of the pathway may be possible. Modulating astrocyte reactivity in degenerative gliosis may promote the survival and recovery of injured neurons. As a result, regulation of astrocyte reactivity may be useful in the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.



Name: Paula Shulman
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychobiology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Anthony Michaels
Title: *The effects of two-stroke engine exhaust on the feeding behavior of Lythrypnus dalli*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #58
Description: Two-stroke engine exhaust is a major source of pollution in the marine environment. The exhaust has the ability to

adversely affect the feeding behavior of the bluebanded goby, *Lythrypnus dalli*. Feeding behavior was measured as attack time on flake food from the time the fish appeared from beneath its rock to the time it ate – "attacked" – the flake. The pollution increased the variance of the feeding behavior over control runs. A statistically significant difference was found between the means of the control and pollution runs at the $p=0.05$ level for the first experiment at 4.01mg/L, Total Extractable Material (TEM), and was found to be on the verge of significance ($p=0.08$) for the second experiment at the same pollution concentration. The combination of the increase in mean food attack time and the increase of variance due to the pollution indicates that exhaust levels lower than LD50 levels could be detrimental to feeding behavior, and thus adversely effect survival of the marine organisms.



Name: William Tolle and Gary Ramirez
Academic Unit: Nursing, Communications, Anthropology and Gerontology
Department: Nursing
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jordan-Marsh, Dr. Michael Cody, Dr. Merrill Silverstein, Dr. Soo Young-Chin, and Prof. Ruiz
Title: *Assessing Health Status - Crosscultural variations across generations of Chinese Americans.*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #59
Description: Recent research has indicated differences in health behaviors and access to care across generations and ethnic groups that may affect health status. The Medical Outcomes Group Short Form 36 (SF-36) tool is a valid and reliable tool for measuring health status in English. Many older immigrants prefer questionnaires in their native language. However, the SF-36 translations are still in the beta testing stage. Methods. The USC Intergenerational Health Research Team (IHRT) conducted a pilot

study that combined focus groups and survey questionnaires to study health status and communications across generations in 3 ethnic groups (Chinese, Korean, Spanish speakers). This report only includes the Chinese sample. Males and Females over age 60 (Chinese n=25) completed the questionnaire in Mandarin. Additionally, participants identified two family members of another generation, who then completed and mailed back questionnaires (n=14). Objectives for this report are to compare scores on the Chinese American SF-36 to published norms from the English versions and to compare older and younger adult scores. Psychometric properties and mean scores from this sample will be compared to data from Azen et al. (1999) for Chinese groups in Los Angeles. Discussion. Preliminary findings may indicate validity of the SF-36 tool for measuring health status of older Chinese immigrants. Conclusions. The availability of a standardized, reliable tool to accurately measure medical outcomes using health status as a variable across generations and ethnicities will serve to mold and change medical treatments for the future.



Name: Genevieve Wortzman
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Biology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Steven Goodman
Title: *Temperature Dependence on E.coli Competence Induction*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #60
Description: The present study evaluated the effect of reducing the growth temperature of the E.coli strain, DH5, on competence formation. Chuang et.al. determined that E.coli cultures grown at lowered temperatures of 18°C increased electrocompetency 20-fold as compared to cultures grown at 37°C. However, the correlation between growth temperature and

competency has not been evaluated. The ability to artificially induce competency in cells was evaluated for E.coli cultures grown at several temperatures, between 37°C and 20°C. An electroporation procedure and two chemical procedures were selected in order to determine the universality of the temperature variable on competency. While transformation efficiency did not increase for the two chemical procedures there was a ten-fold increase in colony forming units on cells grown at 22°C versus 37°C. A sharp increase in colony forming units was observed in the electroporation procedure for cultures grown at 25°C and cultures grown at 22.5°C. Furthermore, the transformation efficiency for cultures grown at 22.5°C was equivalent to the transformation efficiency for cultures grown at 20°C. These results indicate that high transformation rates may be achieved when cells are grown at 22.5°C. The saturation of the lipid content of the membrane was evaluated by introducing saturated fatty acids into the medium during the culture incubation at both 37°C and 22.5°C. Modest effects on competency induction were observed and suggest that the lipid fluidity homeostasis of the cell's membrane may be implicated in competency induction.



Name: Geoffrey Yoon
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Biology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Roberta Diaz Brinton
Title: *Neuronal Patterning and Characterization of Substrates*
Category: Life Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #61
Description: To develop an interface between brain cells and computer chips, the optimal conditions for neuronal networks in vivo must be determined. This research project sheds light on the morphological responses of dissociated hippocampal neurons from E-18 rats to various chemical substrates and

patterning techniques in cell culture. The study investigates the unique cell attachment properties of Poly-D-Lysine (PDL), PolyOrnithine (PO), PolyEthylenImine (PEI), and Basal Membrane (BM). PDL and PO both induce moderate fasciculation and cell clustering, help form extensive, healthy networks, and promote strong cell attachment. PEI inhibits the lengthening of axons and dendrites. BM accelerates the growth of axons and dendrites within the first two weeks in vivo, but also causes early deterioration of the neuronal networks. In addition, PDL was used to manufacture cell patterns on MultiElectrode Arrays (MEAs). In other words, the direction of axonal growth was controlled using advanced techniques of applying PDL to specific areas on each MEA. The characterization of neurons on chemical substrates and cell patterning on MEAs are both research areas meant to improve existing interfaces between computers and brain cells. Better, more sophisticated interfaces can be created with the conclusions reached in this study. For example, such technology can be applied to the creation of improved hearing aids and neural prostheses.

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PHYSICAL SCIENCES, MATH & ENGINEERING

Name: Mohammed Hossain
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Physics and Astronomy
Faculty Sponsor: Prof. Gerd Bergmann
Title: *Giant Moments of Fe and Co on and in thin Na films*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #65
Description: Thin films of Na are covered with 1/100 of a monolayer of Fe or Co. Then the impurities are covered with several atomic layers of Na. The magnetization of the films is measured by means of the anomalous Hall effect (AHE). The magnetization follows a Brillouin function with a magnetic moment of about 6 Bohr magnetons for Co on the surface and in the bulk of the Na. For the Fe impurities a magnetic moment of 6 Bohr magnetons is observed. These large moments suggests that 3d impurities polarize the conduction electrons of the Na similar to the giant moments in Pd. These results confirm our findings of giant moments of Co and Fe in the Cs.



Name: Diana Kogan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Chemistry
Faculty Sponsor: Prof. Curt Wittig
Title: *Water on the MgO(100) surface*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #66
Description: Water on the MgO(100) surface
The geometrical properties of adsorbed water on MgO(100) have been studied. The motivation derives in part from the fact that

adsorption on MgO surfaces is becoming a prototype for acid-base catalysis on ionic crystals. The objective of this research is to determine whether the monolayer of H₂O that is formed on the surface is totally flat, i.e., the water plane lies parallel to the surface, or whether some of the OH bonds stick up. FTIR spectroscopic experiments were designed to study the orientation of monolayers and multilayers of physisorbed water on MgO(100). In addition, the qualitative change to the surface of the crystal caused by one monolayer of water was studied. D₂O was used instead of H₂O in order to essentially eliminate interference by background water in the air. Methods, instrumentation, routes and analyses are discussed.



Name: Heather Murphy and Adam Winkleman
Academic Unit: School of Engineering
Department: Chemical Engineering
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Joe Devanny
Title: *Modeling of the Biofiltration Process*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #67
Description: Modeling of the Biofiltration Process-A Computer Simulation Method -- Biofiltration is an air pollution control technology (APCT) that shows great promise for use in the United States as federal environmental standards become increasingly stringent. Biofiltration is a relatively simple method for removing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and odors from effluent air streams of industrial and manufacturing operations. The only products are carbon dioxide and water, making it much more environmentally

benign than other APCTs used today. Biofiltration takes advantage of the natural growth of microorganisms and their ability to degrade many toxic compounds as a source of energy. It is most successful with fairly dilute air streams of simple compounds, but with careful design practices, promises to be effective against more complex compounds. A computer model would make the process of designing biofilters (including optimization) quicker and easier by reducing the testing that is now needed to design a successful biofilter. The computer model we have designed is based largely on research from the literature and is meant to be easily applicable to people with all levels of expertise in the biofiltration field. These people include government officials, university research teams, biofilter manufacturing firms, and business owners. The model explains all of the parameters needed to run the model, including experimental and empirical methods for their determination. The overall result is a removal efficiency presented in graphical format. It will be available free on the USC Biofilter web page (<http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~bfilter/intro.html>) and is a fully downloadable program.



Name: Michael Rochon-Duck, Derrick Eckardt and Pushkar Joshi
Academic Unit: School of Engineering
Department: Engineering
Faculty Sponsor: Stephen Bucher
Title: *Illuminata*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #68
Description: *Illuminata*'s mission is to illustrate the many ways engineering benefits and impacts our daily existence. Showcasing student writing, creative design skills, and articles will address everyday topics and explore their technical concepts using clear language and multimedia

content. *Illuminata* is written and edited by undergraduate engineering students at the University of Southern California.



Name: Omar Asensio
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Chemistry
Faculty Sponsor: Bruce E Koel
Title: *X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy: Profiling Nanofiltration Membranes in Non-Homogeneous Systems*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #75
Description: With coming revolution at the submicroscopic level, it is of interest to have reliable methods for surface profiling. Surface atoms are our front seats into reaction sites. If we are to accurately discern the nature of species interacting at the surface, it becomes important to amass solid-state characterization techniques. X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS) is an increasingly powerful tool for extracting information on the composition and bonding of surface layers. Based on the Photoelectric Effect, XPS allows us to probe into the electronic structure of atoms through depths of a few nanometers (one billionth of a meter). XPS was employed in this study to analyze fouling (or contaminant deposition) on nanofiltration membranes used in liquid separations. Because little is known about the underlying structural support of foulants on these porous polymer films, XPS is ideally suited for identifying species trapped in the pores of the membrane surface. In XPS, we radiate the sample surface with soft x-rays and energy analyze the spectrum of emitted core and valence electrons. Using Al K-alpha (1486.6 eV) as a prime radiation source, characteristic line energies provided a quantitative distribution of elements present on host species of the upper atomic layers. Through peak fitting, satellite subtraction and deconvolution procedures,

electron binding energies were calculated from the photoemission event, providing a clearer view of bonding in the near surface region. This study rapidly enlarges the ability to study membrane fouling at the solid-liquid interface; which is the dynamic of the \$1 billion dollar membrane technology market. These investigations also led me to develop a short course in X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy, available online (<http://surfaces.usc.edu>)

Acknowledgements. Thank you to Dr. Michael Quinlan, my surface science mentor and Professor Bruce Koel, my faculty sponsor.



Name: Kelli Esselman
Academic Unit: Engineering/LAS
Department: BME/EXSC
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jill McNitt-Gray
Title: *Biomechanics of the Lower Extremities in Rowing*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #76
Description: My project is on the biomechanics of the lower extremities involved in the rowing stroke. Through literature research and some laboratory testing of athletes in rowing, I am looking to determine which muscles are turned on in the drive of the rowing stroke in order to plan a structured strength training program specifically for rowers. Analysis includes force curves and biomechanical analysis of the drive.



Name: John Gallardo and George Cano
Academic Unit: Engineering
Department: AME
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. T. Maxworthy
Title: *Convectively driven mean flow in a laboratory model of the Red Sea*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #77
Description: Convectively driven flows occur naturally where they can generate a horizontal density difference between two bodies of water. This density difference can create an exchange flow in the strait connecting the two water bodies which is usually manifest by inflow and outflow in two fluid layers. The natural hydrodynamic systems under investigation include the Red and Mediterranean Seas and fjords, where straits usually connect major ocean basins to these partially enclosed seas. These systems are modeled and experimentally investigated which allows for a controlled geometry and buoyancy forcing. The model consists of a long water channel, buoyancy sources, a strait/contraction, and a fresh water inflow. The buoyancy flux and geometry appear in the scaling law, which describes the density difference between the two layers within the channel and is as follows $-g' = kBo^{2/3} x/h^{4/3}$, where Bo is the buoyancy flux, x is the distance to the closed end of the channel, h is the height at the sill, and k is a constant that depends on the geometry and flow conditions. The scaling laws of Phillips (1966) and Maxworthy (1994, 1997) were compared with experimental results and to the flows in the natural systems mentioned above.



Name: Thomas Lester
Academic Unit: School of Engineering
Department: Chemical Engineering
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ching-An Peng
Title: *Modification of Calcium-Alginate Beads for Cell & Gene Therapy Applications*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #78
Description: Animal cells are becoming increasingly desirable for cell and gene therapy. Both applications require a large number of cells in culture to be successful. Higher cell density is the major advantage of growing cells on the surface of microcarriers. Microcarriers are small beads or particles with the surface treated to support cell attachment. Because most commercially available beads are expensive and difficult to produce, inexpensive, easily made, and readily adaptable microcarriers are needed. This study focused on engineering an alginate microcarrier for animal cell culture, incorporating gelatin to promote cell attachment. Alginate is a polysaccharide derived from kelp. Calcium-alginate gels have been used for cell encapsulation, encapsulated cell transplantation, and tissue engineering applications. Alginate properties are favorable for biomaterial uses, particularly because animal cells do not attach to alginate. However, most animal cells require surface attachment for growth. Therefore, expanding the applications of alginate beads for use as microcarriers requires surface modifications to promote cell attachment. In this study, alginate beads were modified by incorporating gelatin. Cells readily adhere to gelatin. Gelatin was incorporated with alginate beads by three methods to provide adhesion sites for cells; 1) Gelatin was mixed with alginate solution, potentially to become trapped in the alginate matrix upon bead formation; 2) Gelatin coated alginate beads by adsorption to the surface; 3) Gelatin was covalently bonded to alginate beads through a mild reaction with

propylene glycol alginate. Mouse fibroblast cells were used to determine the degree of attachment and spreading on each type of modified alginate beads.



Name: Garrett Pendergraft
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Exercise Science
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jill McNitt-Gray
Title: *Integration of Biomechanics in Human Movement Animation*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #79
Description: Traditional animation techniques such as keyframing are time intensive and often fail to adequately produce human-like movements. As a result, motion capture techniques have been used to generate realistic motions in both movies and television, and have also been employed in human rehabilitation and sports science. However, these techniques fail to address the forces that cause human motion. The purpose of this study is to integrate biomechanical data in order to 1) make character movements more realistic by using 3D kinematics acquired from human movement patterns and 2) visually represent the internal and external sources of force causing the observed motion. One male subject volunteered to participate in accordance with the Institutional Review Board. Three-dimensional kinematics data were acquired for 32 body landmarks during the performance of a landing task using three cameras and a motion capture system (2D data from each camera was transformed into 3D data using the Direct Linear Transformation method). Three-dimensional reaction forces, kinematics and EMG (electromyograms) from muscles were collected using custom software. The muscle activation patterns and reaction force signals were then incorporated into the deformation and color properties of the digital

representation of the actor's body. The inclusion of biomechanical information in the animation process significantly decreased the time involved in achieving the desired level of realism and enabled us to visually represent the internal and external forces causing the motion. This inclusion of biomechanical data in the animation process has important implications for educational, clinical and entertainment-related media.



Name: Janet Tew and Jennifer Van Den Driessche
Academic Unit: School of Engineering
Department: Aerospace Engineering
Faculty Sponsor: E.P. Muntz
Title: *Development of a Steady-State Microthrust Measurement Device*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #80
Description: There has been considerable interest in the development of microsattellites with reduced masses of approximately 1 to 20 kg by NASA and other space agencies. These microsattellites have the capability of reducing mission cost and mission failure (Mueller, 1997). To develop these microsattellites, it is necessary to develop new thruster technologies that can be adapted to smaller mass and size scales. To test these new thruster technologies, new measurement devices must be designed. Research has been performed in the area of pulsed-thrust measurements. However, little work has been performed in the measurement of steady-state microthrust. In this project, a steady-state microthrust measurement device was designed and built. This device was capable of measuring steady state microthrust in the 1 mN range. The apparatus behaved according to theoretical calculations and provided a good basis for further testing and refinement of the apparatus. The apparatus has been placed in

a vacuum chamber and testing has begun. Eventually, the hope is to use this apparatus to test the thrust produced by the FMMR microthruster, a thruster currently being designed in the Aerospace Engineering Department.



Name: Eric Weygandt
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Exercise Science
Faculty Sponsor: Jill L. McNitt-Gray
Title: *Are the dry land training exercise specific to the back and reverse dive takeoff?*
Category: Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #81
Description: Consistency of dive performance depends largely on training programs. Differences in mechanical demand and multijoint coordination observed between dives present the need for specific dry land training for each dive. This study tested the hypothesis that commonly used dry land training exercises provide total body orientation, joint range of motion, multijoint coordination and muscle mechanics similar to those observed during the takeoff phase of the back and reverse dives. Five national level divers performed a series of dives from a platform onto a landing pit as typically performed during training. One collegiate diver performed a series of exercises commonly used as dry land training. An informed consent was obtained from each subject prior to the study. Sagittal plane kinematic data were recorded during the takeoffs and exercises. The squat jump matches the mechanical requirements at the ankle and hip observed during the back and reverse dive takeoff. The jump-up offers mechanical requirements similar to those observed during joint extension phase of the back and reverse dive takeoff. The squat provides total body orientation similar to that observed during the reverse dive

takeoff. None of the exercises provides total body orientation similar to that observed during the back dive takeoff, which results in changes in demand at the lower limb joint. The results suggest the need to design exercises specific to each dive.

Incorporating specific total body orientation and joint angular position and velocity control into the exercise program may provide a better dry land training program for each dive.

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PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED DISCIPLINES

Name: Darlene Duran
Academic Unit: Marshall School of Business
Department: Business
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Rowe
Title: *Creativity Potential Profile*
Category: Professional & Applied Disciplines
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #85
Description: Today, creativity is receiving more attention in our society as teachers, employers, and individuals recognize the profound role creativity plays in our lives. We are now trying to identify creative people with an assessment instrument, similar to those used to measure intelligence. Gardner and many other renowned scientists believe that intelligence is multi-faceted. It is our premise that creativity also has a number of dimensions. People express their creativity in many ways, and it is important that we recognize these individual differences in creativity styles. With this in mind, this research is focused on developing an instrument that accurately describes what types of creativity an individual possesses. With this knowledge, they can better understand their own creative strengths.



Name: John Fox (Other members included students from my Honors Class.)
Academic Unit: Rossier School of Education
Department: Learning and Instruction
Faculty Sponsor: Sandra N. Kaplan
Title: *Reflecting On Instruction - Interpreting Student Responses to Models of Teaching*
Category: Professional & Applied Disciplines
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #86
Description: The concept of reflecting on teaching and learning is prevalent in

education today. Educators are asked to reflect on their performance as teachers - How did my lesson meet the standard and objective and how effective is my ability to communicate abstract ideas? Students are asked to reflect on their participation and accomplishments in lessons - How well did I understand the concept and how can I apply what I learned? Reflecting is a means of perceiving and interpreting one's role in the teaching and learning process. It has the power to define and shape the academic, social and emotional behaviors of the teacher and students. The U.S.C. Teacher Education Student Teaching program emphasizes the importance of content and pedagogy and stresses the use of models of teaching as the pedagogical methods to assimilate content and master skills. Student teachers are expected to develop a repertoire of instructional models (inquiry, direct instruction, group investigation, inductive and deductive reasoning, etc.) and are expected to become "experts" in their competency to apply these models of teaching. Beyond the reflective feedback the student teachers provide themselves for each of their lessons using a model of teaching, they also receive the critical perceptions of their master teacher, coordinator, professors and colleagues. One important group of individuals traditionally not asked to assess their responses to the student teachers' implementation of lessons is the STUDENTS for whom the lessons are designed. The Student Teaching Honors Class (USC's School of Education's first honors class) has developed an instructional strategy that asks students, the consumer of the educational enterprise, to reflect on their participation with the various models of teaching. This information provides the producer of the learning process, student teachers, with another reflective assessment thus enabling them to have one more set of

perceptions to add to their understanding of self as an emergent professional educator.

Name: Ruth Garcia

Academic Unit: Nursing, Communication, Anthropology, and Gerontology

Department: Nursing

Faculty Sponsor: Maryalice Jordan-Marsh, PhD, FAAN

Title: *Recruitment Strategies for Older Latinos*

Category: Professional & Applied Disciplines

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #87

Description: Until recently data on health issues has been collected predominantly on Whites and African Americans (Flack et al., 1995). There is a clear imperative to include Asian and Latino groups in proportion to the representation in the population. In Los Angeles, it is anticipated that Latinos will soon represent 80% of the population. Traditional recruitment methods may not be effective for the Spanish speaking Latino population. Consequently, recruitment emerged as an issue in a pilot study conducted by the USC Intergenerational Health Research Team. The goal was to recruit three groups of thirty Chinese, Korean, and Spanish speaking older adults from community centers in Los Angeles. A contact was made to the director of the center and permission was obtained to post flyers and to approach individuals who were participating in activities at the center. In the case of the Korean and Chinese centers, a one-time recruitment effort was highly successful. Participants promised to come and showed up (Chinese n=25, Korean n=28); they completed questionnaires and listed two family members to complete mailed questionnaires with similar items. Spanish speakers were more difficult to recruit. Although thirty-two people agreed to come only thirteen actually participated. A second attempt was equally unsuccessful (n=12). The purpose of this paper is to share strategies that seemed to draw some of the participants, failed to engage others, or made it difficult for people to say no. Recruitment

will be discussed in the context of Latino culture as a base for designing culturally appropriate strategies.



Name: Sami Khoury

Academic Unit: School of Architecture

Department: Architecture

Faculty Sponsor: Lee Olvera

Title: *Conference Center Project.*

Category: Professional & Applied Disciplines

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #88

Description: The project is a conference center, which is consisted of a meeting hall with a capacity of 200 people, 6 meeting rooms with a capacity of 25 people, a kitchen, restrooms and a storage room. All the spaces are organized around a central court in order to accomplish easy access to them. The project also concentrates on the quality of light, shade, and shadow, this is accomplished by skylight openings and clear story lightening.



Name: Aaron Kosins, Brian Lowry and Sam Sierakowski

Academic Unit: Marshall School of Business

Department: Business

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chrystal

Title: *Brightening the Path to Success*

Category: Professional & Applied Disciplines

Submission: Group

Format: Template

Location: Exhibit #89

Description: Through a template proposal, we will provide the Hollywood Beautification Team with a document that can be used to approach corporate sponsors. HBT is a community-based organization that "beautifies" under-funded and under-resourced schools in the Los Angeles area. Our proposal details a plan to makeover all of Fairfax High School.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Name: Vilma Arce

Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences

Department: International Relations

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. John Odell

Title: *A West African Regional Coalition for Peace - Evaluating ECOWAS and UN Peacemaking Efforts in the Conflicts of Liberia and Sierra Leone*

Category: Social Sciences

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #95

Description: Officially established in 1975, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was originally designed to promote economic development and political unity within the West African region through the integration of the economies of its member states. In the past 24 years, ECOWAS has made some progress in attaining its goal; however, the organization has been faced with challenges that stem from varying security issues and concerns existing within and among member states. The civil wars that erupted in Liberia in 1989 and then subsequently in Sierra Leone in 1991 clearly exemplified the danger that intra-state warfare has of spreading throughout the entire West African region. In order to address such issues of security, ECOWAS developed a peace keeping monitoring group (ECOMOG) and has become a key player in the field of conflict resolution and mediation within the West African region. However, the extent to which its involvement in the peacemaking process has in fact ameliorated the situation is still questionable. In their study, Paul Wehr and John P. Lederach noted that the mediation process in developing countries could benefit from using an "insider-partial" mediator (i.e. a mediator that is strongly connected to the disputing parties) in conjunction with an "outsider-neutral" mediator (i.e. a mediator with no connection to the disputing parties).

This paper examines the degree of efficacy of this model in West Africa by analyzing the roles of ECOWAS (as an "insider-partial" mediator) and the United Nations (as an "outsider-partial" mediator) in the cases of Liberia and Sierra Leone.



Name: Deanna Artner

Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences

Department: Psychology

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. JoAnn Farver

Title: *Children's Ability to Understand & Judge Politeness in Speech*

Category: Social Sciences

Submission: Individual

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #96

Description: This project explores children's abilities to produce polite speech, and to judge the level of politeness in other people's speech. The children range from 3 to 5 years old, most of whom were chosen from the USC Preschool program. The study consists of two parts. First, the children are instructed to ask for a sticker, and then they must increase the level of politeness in their requests. Second, children are instructed to determine the more polite phrase between 14 pairs of phrases. Through this study we can determine at which age children first begin to acquire the different tools of polite speech.



Name: Jennifer Bliss
Academic Unit: Language Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Joanne Farver & David Schwartz
Title: *Teachers' awareness of their students' victimization*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #97
Description: The purpose of this study is to examine the degree to which teachers are aware of the bullying, social isolation, and loneliness that occurs among their students. Prior research has concluded that a child who suffers from social maltreatment during their developmental years, is at risk to eventually suffer from depression, withdrawal, and dangerously low self-esteem. Thus, research examining the ability of teachers to recognize these conditions is pertinent. Since, my aim is to reveal teachers' accuracy in estimating the amount of bullying and victimization that occurs amongst their students, I began by distributing questionnaires to the teachers regarding the social and emotional circumstances of each individual student. Accordingly, I correlated the results to the information I collected from self-reported measures on the same subjects that I had the students complete. My sample included four teachers and their students, totaling 85. The resulting data indicated a lack of correlation between the teacher and student measures. Namely, the teachers were unaware of the issues of bullying presently occurring in their classroom. The lack of agreement that resulted when the information from the two measures were correlated indicate the need for further attention on this crucial issue.



Name: Carolina Castillo, Bree Doremus (Gerontology), Ruth Garcia (Nursing), Cassidi Kim (Gerontology), Bill Tolle (Nursing), Samuel Young (Nursing), Yooree Kim (Anthropology), Natalie Moreton (Communication), and Gary Ramirez (Preventive Medicine)
Academic Unit: Annenberg
Department: Communication
Faculty Sponsor: Michael Cody (Communication), Maryalice Jordan-Marsh (Nursing), Merril Silverstein (Gerontology), Soo-Young Chin (Anthropology), and Maria Elena Ruiz (Nursing)
Title: *Intergenerational Communication*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #98
Description: Despite growing numbers of older adults in the United States, little is known about the health communication issues for elders in minority communities. Intergenerational health communication was assessed in Korean, Spanish and Mandarin speaking communities, using focus group interviews and questionnaires with elders (age 60 and above) and family members of a younger generation. Of 131 participants, 40 were Spanish speaking, 50 Chinese, and 41 Korean. Almost half of the participants (60) earned less than \$10,000 per year. The Korean older adult women were notable for living in the same senior housing unit. Qualitative analysis generated themes about health beliefs, reliance on traditional health practices, and expectations of assistance from family members. Intergenerational solidarity, family conflict, acculturation, and health status (SF-36) were measured using standardized tools, some of which were translated for the first time. Preliminary findings suggest that that different levels of acculturation within families were associated with family conflict, health concerns may influence family communication patterns, and the more acculturated individuals are the more they rely on health professionals and the less they seek advice from family members. this faculty-mentored pilot study is a model for

university-community partnership and a foundation for multidisciplinary publications and grant applications. It also serves as a model for faculty-student research and cross-campus collaboration that includes Anthropology, Communication, Gerontology, Nursing, Preventive medicine, and Sociology. Student papers will address health status comparisons by generation for Chinese families, health communication issues in the Spanish-speaking families, and the challenges of recruiting community dwelling older adults who are members.



Name: Ellen Chen
Academic Unit: Cinema-Television
Department: Cinema Television Production
Faculty Sponsor: Frank Mabee
Title: *The Halloween Party*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Short Story
Location: Exhibit #99
Description: My short fiction, entitled "The Halloween Party," is a project that I wrote for my 112 CORE writing class. I experimented with the techniques of cut-up employed by writers such as William Burroughs and Kathy Acker in constructing my story. The story itself is an eighth-grade girl's experience during a miserable Halloween party as told through a conversation amongst herself and her friends. Her friends, whose three voices are composed from cut-up, speak in the articles of the magazines *Mademoiselle* and *Time*, as well as the novel, *The Man Who Mistook His Hat for His Wife*, by Oliver Sacks. Coupled with her inner commentary, the conversation drives the story, and the girl's self-awareness, to their climatic expressions.



Name: Adam Choppin
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: International Relations
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Gerald Bender
Title: *Prospects of Peace in the Sudan*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #100
Description: The Sudan has been plagued by war for almost four decades. Shifting alliances and unstable military governments have resulted in stagnation and an inability to negotiate an end to the wars. Fragmentation in the rebel movements further complicates the situation and fresh finds of oil for the government perpetuates it. The war in Sudan continues and the likelihood of peace seems as distant as ever. The quest for a negotiated settlement cannot be ruled out, but without new and fresh approaches it shows little promise. Diplomats, policymakers, and indeed the Sudanese themselves are now asking if peace is possible or if Sudan is destined to a perpetual state of war. It is this peace process and all its ensuing complications that constitute the focus of this study. By examining closely the events inside the government, the rebel groups, and the neighbors involved, I seek to explain why the negotiations are stalled, what is necessary to revive them, and how this process can be facilitated by outside negotiators. Due to the availability of information on the conflict and the difficulty of performing original research in the area, the documentation for this paper is drawn from recent working papers by major think tanks, speeches, interviews, daily wire reports, scholarly books and articles. My conclusions indicate that the key to creating an environment conducive to genuine compromise is the presence of genuine commitment by all parties to a negotiated peace. Unfortunately, these circumstances do not obtain in the Sudan today. Instead, both sides seem prepared to stall until each can claim a victory for themselves. Meanwhile, the war continues and millions of Sudanese are left to suffer from the

effects of a war that has already left 2 million dead.



Name: Stanley Chou
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Denis Mitchell, PhD
Title: *The Role of Emotional Reactivity in Reversal Learning*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #101
Description: There is some evidence that nonassociative emotional processes mediate taste neophobia. However, the role of nonassociative processes in T-maze reversal learning is unclear. In this experiment, the relationship between taste neophobia and T-maze reversal learning in rats was examined. First, taste neophobia was assessed in a single bottle sequential test. Fluid deprived rats received a novel saccharin solution followed immediately by their familiar tap water. The saccharin preference was calculated as a measure of taste neophobia. Then, the rats were given a “free choice” learning task in a uniform T-maze. In the initial learning phase, animals learned to avoid a mild foot shock by escaping to the right goal arm. In the reversal-learning phase, the foot shock contingencies were reversed, with the left goal arm now being safe. The number of errors as well as the latency to enter the safe goal arm were recorded to indicate the difficulty in both initial and reversal learning. The results showed a significant positive correlation between taste neophobia and reversal learning difficulty, but not between taste neophobia and initial learning difficulty. This suggests that T-maze reversal learning is importantly mediated by nonassociative emotional mechanisms.



Name: Bree Doremus and Carolina Castillo
Academic Unit: Gerontology,
Communication, Nursing, Anthropology &
Sociology

Department: Gerontology
Faculty Sponsor: Merrill Silverstein, Michael
Cody, Ary-Alice Jordan-Marsh & Soo
Young Chin

Title: *Minority families - acculturation, solidarity, and health*

Category: Social Sciences

Submission: Group

Format: Poster

Location: Exhibit #102

Description: Family relationships play an important role in health behavior. Minority health quality and potential barriers to health care have been understudied, especially with respect to the effects of changing family dynamics resulting from the acculturative process. A model linking different generations [60+ and younger family members] to acculturation, family solidarity, conflict, and health status is proposed. Traditional measures of acculturation [Marin, 1987], family solidarity [Bengtson & Schrader, 1982; Bengtson & Silverstein, 1997], conflict, and health status [SF-36] were translated for use with different populations [Korean, Chinese, Latino]. Males and females over age 60 participated in focus groups discussing family influences on health behavior. Each person completed a questionnaire assessing acculturation, family solidarity, perceptions of health, and communication patterns with family members. Additionally, participants identified two family members who were mailed questionnaires. Comparisons and contrasts between different cultural groups were assessed; results among Latino(a) families indicated that members of the younger generation who were more acculturated reported higher levels conflict and lower levels of family solidarity. Older participants who were more acculturated perceived less conflict with family members, indicating that the varying rates in acculturation among family members is related to increased conflict and less family cohesion. Older individuals with lower

family solidarity scores also had increased emotional and physical difficulties that interfered with daily social activities. Our findings have implications for enhancing health care communication among minority families and communities, and for developing strategies to strengthen family and alternative support networks.



Name: Marcie Griffith
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Geography
Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer Wo
Title: *Animal Practices-Racialization of Filipinas in Los Angeles*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #103
Description: Many factors contribute to the racialization of minority groups in the United States. Some individual characteristics, such as skin color or phenotype, are an obvious holdover from colonial times. Cultural differences - in representational practices, customs and rituals, and belief systems - are now more significant in racialization. Although not typically a focus of academic scrutiny, some of these differences involve contrasts in nature-society relations, and more specifically, animal-society relations. In order to examine the relationship between culturally based animal practices and racialization, we organized and conducted a focus group consisting of low-income inner city Filipinas living in Los Angeles, California. Analysis of focus group data reveal that Filipinos in southern California are subject to racialization by Anglos as a result of their culturally based animal practices, in particular the traditional Filipino practice of treating dogs as food animals. The experience of racialization appeared to engender cultural relativism and tolerance toward the animal practices of other non-Anglo groups.



Name: Paul Heroux
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dennis Mitchel
Title: *A Review of ADHD As A Style of Temperament*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster, Paper
Location: Exhibit #105
Description: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) has a relatively high incidence in children. Consequently a number of sometimes compatible, and sometimes incompatible theories have been advanced to explain its etiology. For example, ADHD has been attributed to an inherited neurological disorder or an unbalanced diet. Alternatively, several theories attribute ADHD to factors that stem for the social environment during development. In this paper, I briefly describe the diagnostic characteristics of the disorder, and review existing theoretical approaches. Following which, an alternate perspective incorporating biological and social mechanisms is proposed. This integrative approach suggests that ADHD is mediated by an inherited temperamental predisposition that may be further exasperated by environmental conditions. A parallel investigation of the temperament literature suggests that individuals with extroverted temperaments show three characteristic traits and the three traits of an ADHD diagnosis are nearly identical. The two conditions may be mediated by the same factors. Implications for clinical assessment are discussed.



Name: Hour Hintiryan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chambers
Title: *The role of histamine in estrogen induced conditioned taste avoidance*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #106

Description: The purpose of this study was to examine whether histamine (HA) functions as a mediator for estrogen induced conditioned taste avoidances (CTAs). CTAs are learned food aversions where an association is made between specific taste stimuli and an aversive reaction such as illness or nausea. It is evidenced that the female gonadal hormone estradiol produces CTAs. Predicated on previous research regarding the role of HA in estrogen induced CTAs, we hypothesized that preexposing animals to chlorpheniramine maleate (CM, a HA antagonist) will block the estradiol elicited CTA. In this study, animals were preexposed to CM and were administered the same dose of CM during conditioning, following exposure to sucrose solution. Twenty minutes later, a 30 mm estrogen capsule was implanted. Sucrose consumption levels were measured during extinction trials. The results indicated that although the animals were injected with the antihistamine, they still developed a CTA. Therefore, our hypothesis was not supported since it appears that estrogen does not use HA to mediate its illness effects.

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Name: Hai Hong
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology & German
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. JoAnn Farver
Title: *Peer Rejection & Victimization in Asian American Peer Groups*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #107

Description: The proposed project will investigate the correlates of bullying in Asian-American peer groups. Although there is a growing body of literature on victimization in school peer groups, much of the work has focused on children of European-American descent. Conclusions drawn from this work may not generalize to more diverse social environments or to children of different ethnic background. Child attributes that predict particular outcomes in European-American peer groups could have much different implications in peer groups that are composed primarily of children of other ethnic/racial backgrounds. The goal of the present research is to develop etiological models that are relevant for Asian-American children living in urban Los Angeles. Approximately 350 children will be identified from an elementary school in Chinatown, Los Angeles. Multi-informant reports of social behavior, victimization by peers, aggression, peer group acceptance, and levels and types of acculturation will be obtained. Analyses will focus on identifying the correlates of peer group victimization within the context of acculturation, and results will be compared with other relevant samples.

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Name: Sarah Hopfauf
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Lynn Miller
Title: *Condom Use Predictors in Urban and Rural*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #108

Description: Current research suggests that college students are more likely to be exposed to HIV than the general population; also that HIV is becoming increasingly prevalent within rural America. However, college students from rural areas have been less well studied than other at-risk populations. To understand the difference in college students' perceptions, 60 rural undergraduates and 60 urban undergraduates completed several surveys to determine their sexual risk, perceived susceptibility to HIV, and condom use self-efficacy. The predictiveness of perceived susceptibility and self-efficacy for condom use were determined for rural and urban samples. The mean differences in perceived susceptibility and perceived self-efficacy between the rural and urban samples was determined.



Name: Margurit Ikeda
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chambers
Title: *The anti-aversive effect of D-ala on estrogen induced conditioned taste avoidance*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #109
Description: Conditioned taste avoidance (CTA) is a form of associative learning between a taste stimulus (conditioned stimulus, CS) and an aversive internal state (unconditioned stimulus, US) Studies have shown that estrogen can induced CTA which suggest that this hormone can produce a

negative state. Previous studies also have demonstrated an anti-aversive effect of the sigma-opioid receptor agonist, enkephalinamide (DALA), against lithium chloride induced CTA. The results of this study suggest that Dala failed to attenuate estrogen and LiCl induced CTA.



Name: Samina Ikramullah
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chambers
Title: *Effects of Estrodial Induced Conditioned Food Avoidance With Preexposure to Scopolamine*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #110
Description: The purpose of this study was to test the hypothesis that estradiol facilitates the release of muscarinic acetylcholine (ACh) during acquisition, which in turn results in learning of food avoidance. A conditioned food avoidance (CFA) is a learned response that protects an animal from ingesting toxic substances. CFA's occur when ingestion/consumption of a food is paired with a feeling of discomfort. The ill feeling results in a CFA towards that particular food. A CFA can be extinguished when the food is no longer paired with the subsequent illness (Chambers & Bernstein, 1995). Concentrating on research gathered from previous studies regarding estrogen induction of and its stimulation of ACh release CFA, I hypothesized that if an animal is preexposed to an ACh antagonist scopolamine and is then administered estrogen, learning of an avoidance will not occur. Subjects were preexposed to a muscarinic ACh antagonist, Scopolamine methyl nitrate (SMN). During conditioning subjects were injected with SMN systemically, followed twenty minutes later with a 30mm estradiol capsule implanted at the nape of the rats' neck. The magnitude of the CFA was measured by the amount of

sucrose solution consumed during extinction.



Name: Jennifer James
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: International Relations
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. John Odell
Title: *An Evaluation of the WTO's Dispute Settlement System Relative to the Expectations of U.S. Negotiators During the Uruguay Round*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #111
Description: Academics, politicians, and trade professionals deem the first three years (1995-1998) of the World Trade Organization's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) a success. Perhaps this is so, but is today's system functioning in accordance with what U.S. negotiators envisioned throughout their debates in the Uruguay Round? The immediate answer is yes. However, closer scrutiny reveals one shortcoming. The DSB's inability to adhere to designated time-frames for various procedures. Despite this one flaw, the DSB managed to perform as a strengthened and reliable dispute settlement system in which the U.S. readily participated. Furthermore, the Appellate Body's increasingly legalistic nature met with the expectations of U.S. negotiators. Finally, the United States' expectations regarding Section 301--her powerful trade policy tool--were met as demonstrated by the DSB's uninterrupted operation following America's unauthorized use of Section 301 in the U.S.-European Union banana dispute.



Name: Pauline Kim
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Denis Mitchell
Title: *Acculturation Exhibited By Food Preference*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #112
Description: Acculturation measurements are usually subjective questionnaires that often include dietary preferences. However, dietary preferences may not reflect the actual diet of an immigrant. Acculturation is the process whereby a person, usually immigrant, acquires a new culture. The present research examines the relationship between dietary habits and acculturation in Cambodian immigrants to Southern California. The specific purpose was to determine if an objective assessment of actual dietary practices would reliably predict the degree of acculturation of individual immigrants. Subjects recruited from a Cambodian community were asked to fill out two Likert Scale questionnaires in Khmer, the native Cambodian language. One scale dealt exclusively with dietary practices, the other scale was a more traditional acculturation questionnaire, which included temperament and stress distracter items to mask the purpose of the study. Results indicate that Cambodian immigrants who ate ethnic foods all or most of the time showed less acculturation than subjects who ate typically American foods all or most of the time. It was concluded that the assessment of dietary practices is of potential utility in acculturation research because it is both less subjective and less obtrusive than traditional acculturation questionnaires that often contain questions that sometimes uncomfortable, if not embarrassing, for immigrants to answer.



Name: Shannen Lee
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Denis Mitchell
Title: *Immigrant Acculturation and Gender Difference.*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #114
Description: Cross cultural findings from temperament research and clinical studies demonstrate consistent gender differences in emotional reactivity. Both social inhibition and phobias are typically more prevalent in females than males. Insofar as acculturation, assimilation of a new culture, is mediated by similar emotional factors such as temperament, it too should show a similar pattern of sex differences - female immigrants should generally show less acculturation than comparable male immigrants. To test this prediction Korean immigrants in Los Angeles were asked to fill out a Likert scale questionnaire in Korean. The questionnaire included two separate scales - one designed to measure temperament and another designed to measure degree of acculturation. Equal numbers of men and women were administered the questionnaire in several different locations such as shopping malls, supermarket parking lots, or neighborhood parks, within the Korean community. The results are in agreement with what was predicted. When factors such as age, income, and length of stay in America were balanced, females showed less acculturation and more shyness than males. Another result was that males seemed to show more acculturation the longer they have been in America, but this relationship was not so clear in females. One can conclude that emotional factors such as shyness play an important role in acculturation and that Korean immigrants show gender differences in acculturation comparable to gender differences in other emotionally mediated processes.

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Name: Kim Luu
Academic Unit: International Relations
Department: International Relations
Faculty Sponsor: John Odell
Title: *US-Japan Guidelines for Defense Cooperation - A Single Case Study on Japan as a Reactive State*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #115
Description: My thesis is an interpretative single case study of Japan as a reactive state with respect to the US-Japan Guidelines for Defense Cooperation. I wanted to study whether Kent Calder's theory of Japan as a reactive state was applicable to foreign security policy outside of economic and foreign aid policy. My findings support that Japan is reactive in this particular case in satisfying both planks of Calder's two-part definition - first, it failed to undertake major independent foreign policy initiatives when it had the power and national incentives to do so; and secondly, it responded to outside pressures for change, albeit erratically, unsystematically, and often incompletely. By studying Japan's geostrategic and domestic political limitations, I found that Japan's reactive behavior is not simply a manifestation of acquiescence to US power, but intentional as part of a grander long-term strategy scheme to promote its own national interests in enhancing its role in the world as a major and independent power. Furthermore, this case study has important implications for our thinking on Japanese behavior in security policy, that is, Japan's foreign policy decision-making process does not behave as always expected. Instead, as this case study demonstrates, Japan reacts and behaves accordingly to the situation for a strategic purpose, even if it appears to be acquiescent and reactive.

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Name: Annie Markarian
Academic Unit: Letters of Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Read
Title: *Qualitative Differences Between Friendships Formed In AOL Chat-Rooms vs. Those Formed In Real Life*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #116
Description: The Internet connects between 40 and 50 million people through a global computer operated network (Elmer-Dewitt, 1995). As one of the newest collaborative mass media forms, computer based communication demands scholarly attention (Rafaeli & LaRose, 1993). My proposed research study will explore the social aspect of this milieu. It will delve into the differences between friendships formed online versus those formed in real life. The proposed hypothesis is that friendships originating online utilize a different set of rewards than those developed in real life settings. To test this participants will be asked to fill out an open ended online questionnaire which asks them to describe their closest online or in real life friend. These answers will then be coded and statistically analyzed using a Kappa Coefficient and T-test. The second section of the study will look at the differences between those people who form personal online relationships with those who don't. This will be determined through the demographics measure. The third realm of this study will explore the level of development that online relationships typically reach compared to real life relationships. This will be done by utilizing the Parks & Floyd (1996) scale, Levels of Development in On-Line Relationships.



Name: Paymann Moin
Academic Unit: School of Engineering
Department: BME
Faculty Sponsor: Professor David Carter
Title: *An Overview and Analysis of Physician Unionization*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #117
Description: This project consists of a study that surveys and provides an in-depth analysis of the current trend of physician unionization in the United States. The study is unique because it one of the first to be done on this subject and is the most comprehensive to date. Eventually, the project is to be used as the foundation for course materials that focus on this subject.



Name: Deborah Nazarian
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Gayla Margolin, Ph.D.
Title: *The Coping Responses of Women in High Conflict*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #118
Description: The present study examines the conflict appraisals, conflict-specific coping responses and general coping styles of women in high conflict relationships. The Coping Responses of Women in High Conflict Relationships to Simulated Marital Conflict Fifty women listened to two audio-taped vignettes of simulated marital conflict. After listening to the two conversations, women's physiological, emotional, cognitive and coping responses were measured. Open-ended questions assessed the woman's conflict appraisal and coping responses to the vignettes. Preliminary results suggest differences in the appraisals and coping responses between women from high and low conflict relationships. Understanding the coping responses utilized by women in

high conflict relationships may aid in developing appropriate intervention programs that may help these women cope with conflict, terminate the relationship, and reduce the overall amount of stress they experience.



Name: Sindy Oh
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Meyerowitz
Title: *Optimism and well-being in radical prostatectomy patients*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #119
Description: The purpose of the present study was to examine the mediating factors between optimism and emotional well-being in radical prostatectomy patients, controlling for physical functioning, physical symptoms, and urinary incontinence. In addition, the study describes the general concerns radical prostatectomy patients experience, other than cancer specific difficulties. Participants completed a subset of questionnaires collected from patients at the Norris Cancer Hospital to examine levels of optimism (LOT), emotional distress (POMS), and number, ratings, and content of general concerns and joys in 235 radical prostatectomy patients. The results indicated a significant negative correlation between optimism and emotional distress ($r = -.44$; $p < .0001$). A multiple regression analysis indicated a partial mediation between optimism and emotional distress by the extent of both of the general concerns. The study is significant for it helps us understand the ways that optimists view/perceive their world, which in turn leads to emotional well-being. This may help to structure future psychosocial intervention programs.



Name: Abigail Pare
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: PSYC
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. McClure
Title: *An analysis of cell size in the ventral pallidum of rats*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #120
Description: This study investigated the cell size in the ventral pallidum of rats whose mothers were treated with stress during a specific period of pregnancy, versus those of control rats whose mothers were not stressed. Significant emotional stress during the second trimester of gestation in humans is correlated with development of schizophrenia. This study seeks to use an animal model to advance the fetal development hypothesis of schizophrenia. Previous studies have shown this treatment to produce significant decrease in cell size in other parts of the brain such as the nucleus accumbens, and the purpose of this study is to discover if abnormalities are present in a connected brain structure. I looked at slides of stained rat brains under a microscope, with the aid of a computer, and analyzed the cell sizes in the ventral pallidum of treated and control rats.



Name: Paul Payne, Laura Armev, Bobak Ha'Eri, and Milad Ershaghi
Academic Unit: Economics
Department: Economics
Faculty Sponsor: Laura Pulido (Geography)
Title: *Mapping the Figueroa Corridor - Power, People, and Possibilities*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Group
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #121

Description: Our scholarly objective in creating this project was to understand the powers that lie behind development and redevelopment around USC, specifically in the area known as the Figueroa Corridor. We wanted to understand what organizations affect changes in the area, and we wanted to discover what entities were behind them. The results would be, we hoped, a better understanding of who has interests in the area, what their objectives in the area are, and the methods they utilize to accomplish these goals. This involved researching area history, the law of redevelopment, and the division of property in the area. Ultimately, however, we had the objective of narrowing down our research into a form that makes an abstract concept such as power accessible to people. We narrowed our research into a pamphlet-size, outlining and mapping the presence of power, and the goals and methods of such organizations. The concept is that those with extensive knowledge can visualize redevelopment as a whole, and those with less knowledge can come to better understand what is bringing about changes that may ultimately effect them. Our objective, therefore, was to create information that can be used by people throughout the community to better understand what is necessary for working together so that redevelopment can benefit everyone it affects.

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Name: Brad Pentelute
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mitchell
Title: *Flashbulb Memory Formation and Temperament*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #122

Description: Many studies have documented that emotionally significant experience result in an especially vivid or “flashbulb memory”. One proposed explanation for flashbulb memories involves the amygdala’s modulatory role controlling hormonal levels which subsequently facilitate memories retrieved. A complimentary explanation for flashbulb memory that includes emotional and temperamental components is used here. In this view, a novel social environment increases perception of social interactions and therefore, facilitates the vividness of the memory and enhances later retrieval. Moreover, the degree of flashbulb memory may be affected by temperament and prior experiences. College campuses offer an excellent opportunity to test this model because they have a population subjects who vary in temperament, familiarity with their surroundings (year in school), and recollection of specific memories (the first day of school). Accordingly, the present experiment employs a 2 x 2 x 2 factorial design with temperament, year, and memory as main factors. Student subjects from an Introductory Psychology class were identified as to year in school and administered a Likert temperament scale. They were then asked to recount the first day of classes for the present academic year (fall semester 1999). The recalled memories were independently rated for thoroughness. Factor analysis reveled significant results. Temperamentally shy freshmen showed the most vivid and detailed memories of the first day of school. It has been concluded that temperament plays a significant role in the formation of flashbulb memories.

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Name: Rebecca Ryan
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. JoAnn Farver
Title: *Community Violence Exposure and Resilience in Preschoolers*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #123
Description: This study examined "resilience" among 138 (69 girls, 69 boys) four-year-old children who are exposed to chronic community violence in high crime, inner-city Los Angeles neighborhoods. Mothers rated their children's distress, family social support networks and perception of neighborhood safety. Children's problem-solving ability and base line cognitive functioning was also measured. Results indicated that community violence exposure was associated with distress in preschoolers. The results showed that when controlling for children's age, mother's education and family conflict, families' social support networks mediated the distress associated with children's violence exposure. A second analysis showed that children's problem-solving ability also moderated distress. These findings suggest that increasing family social support networks and teaching children to problem solve may help to "inoculate" preschool children from inherent socio-emotional problems that may result from community violence exposure.

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Name: Rameses Sorrell
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Religion
Faculty Sponsor: Llynn Schwartz
Title: *rameses' osiris site*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Computer-Based
Location: Exhibit #124
Description: The osiris statue is a bronze gold leaf statue about ten inches in height. It represents a god of ancient Egypt that was thought to be one of the original children of the first children of the creator of the universe. The statue I am going to present was apparently used for ceremonial practices and seems like it was heavily used. The presentation of the piece will be on computer and is a website displaying the characteristics of the piece in all its splendor. Ways of caring for the piece, ways of telling how to date the piece, and ways of looking at the piece without destroying the delicacy of the statue itself are also displayed on this website. The original statue is old and would be ruined if handled the way it needs to be handled in order to see it in its true form and show what needs to be shown. I give background information on how I did the research and myths about the god. It should be an interesting display of information.

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Name: Mariko Taki
Academic Unit: Letters, Arts and Sciences
Department: Linguistics / Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Denis Mitchell Ph.D.
Title: *Accent Severity as a Measurement of Acculturation*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #125
Description: Acculturation, the degree to which immigrants assimilate to the dominant culture, is typically measured with questionnaires that include items about language use, but foreign language accents are seldom assessed. Prior research has shown that foreign language accents are prevalent characteristics of the acculturation process for immigrants whose native language is not English. Additionally, foreign language accents may indirectly reflect the level of acculturation. For example, an immigrant living in an ethnic neighborhood, where his native language is the primary means of communication may retain more of an accent and show less acculturation than an immigrant who lives in a more ethnically diverse neighborhood where English is routinely spoken. The present study investigates the relationship between acculturation and foreign language accents in Japanese immigrants in southern California. Accordingly, an acculturation pen and paper Lickert scale survey in Japanese was administered to those who were asked to participate by a Japanese researcher. Representatives were then asked to read a brief paragraph in English into a tape recorder. The level of acculturation was scored and the tape recordings were rated for accent severity by an experimenter who was unaware of acculturation scores. Preliminary data indicate that accent severity is a reliable predictor of acculturation among Japanese immigrants.

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Name: Paul Tillberg
Academic Unit: Thematic Option
Department: Thematic Option
Faculty Sponsor: Penny Von Helmholt
Title: *Modern Technology Changes the Meaning of Antarctica*
Category: Social Sciences
Submission: Individual
Format: Poster
Location: Exhibit #126
Description: Antarctica used to mean heroic adventure to its small group of gritty explorers. Survival was based on personal, physical exertion and the suffering which went along with that gave the explorers meaning. Now, however, most of the work of survival is done by machines, contributing to an increase in Antarctic boredom and a switch in meaning from survival to more abstract science and beauty. This reflects an important overarching trend of technology taking people's means of survival from them and giving them to technology, leaving the people to find meaning in more abstract ventures.

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