

# FLORIDA COLLEGIATE HONORS CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING 2017

American Dreams, American Dreamers: visions of  
the future from the honors community of today



Morgan Schroder, Hicks Honors College

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville FL 32224



## Table of Contents

Welcome .....	3
Conference Schedule at a Glance .....	4
Embassy Suites Floor Plan.....	5
About Us .....	6
Mission and Executive Board .....	7
Scholarships .....	8
Service Project .....	8
Friday Feb. 24.....	9
Registration Tables open 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.....	9
Dinner and opening ceremony 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.....	9
Director's Reception 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. ....	9
Student Childhood Game Night 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. -.....	9
Saturday Feb. 25 .....	10
Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. ....	10
Registration Tables Open 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.....	10
Session 1: 9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.....	10
Session 2: 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m.....	16
Session 3: 11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.....	22
Lunch and Keynote Address.....	27
Session 4: 2:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.....	28
Session 5: 3:00 p.m.-3:50 p.m.....	34
Dinner as Text (on your own) 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. ....	45
Reception at MOCA 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. ....	45
Student Board Game Night and Brain Bowl 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. ....	45
Sunday Feb. 26.....	46
Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. ....	46
Poster Session 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. ....	46
Writing Contest Winners 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. ....	47
Dinner as Text Reflection, 10:00am -11:00am .....	48
Conference Closing, Annual Business Meeting, Elections 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ....	48
FCHC Executive Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ....	48

## Welcome

On behalf of the Florida Collegiate Honors Council and our conference host University of North Florida, I welcome you to the 2017 Florida Collegiate Honors Council 27th Annual Conference. The 2017 conference theme is, “American Dreams, American Dreamers: visions of the future from the honors community of today”. This theme, composed before the 2016 presidential election, suggests the multiplicity of competing dreams for our future, and the diversity of dreamers – from the “dreamers” in the immigrant community to the dreamers who will shape our technological future, to the poets and philosophers who dream of better worlds. We have tried to work the conference theme into every part of the conference. In addition to presentations on the topic, our keynote addresses, workshops on “Deliberative Democracy” and our “Dinner as Text” activity, the “conference swag” was all made by local women who arrived in the US as refugees. Their stories are below.

Regla: Regla is from Havana, Cuba and has lived in Jacksonville for the five past years with her husband Romero. They have three adult children living in Jacksonville and Havana. They also have several grandchildren. Regla enjoys cooking traditional Cuban foods, entertaining, and socializing with friends. She is an excellent crocheter and knitter and can crochet just about anything. She has crocheted for many years and enjoys creating new things as well as practicing her English skills. She is currently working on obtaining her US citizenship and looking forward to visiting her family in Cuba in the near future. *Cuban Peace Dove- Regla crocheted a dove which represents world peace.*

Habiba: Habiba is from Kabul, Afghanistan and has lived in the US for nearly three years. She and her husband, Rahfat, have seven children, and most of them live in Jacksonville with them. In Afghanistan, Habiba ran a school for orphaned children as well as owned and operated a handcraft shop. She enjoys embroidery, beaded work, crocheting, and knitting. She is an excellent teacher and is familiar with many types of crafts. She also enjoys cooking traditional Afghani foods and trying new recipes from around the world. Habiba is also learning English. Her dream is that one day she will own her own handcraft business in the US. *Afghani beaded lanyards- Habiba designed the lanyards by stringing beads by her own selection.*

Both ladies are members of a local refugee women's craft group that meets monthly to create crafts together, share and learn from one another, practice English, socialize, and participate in activities that promote general well-being. The group often sells at Art Walk downtown and is looking to expand to other markets and shops throughout Jacksonville.

Candies are from a variety of Middle Eastern and Southeast Asian nations and were purchased locally at immigrant-owned grocery stores in Jacksonville.

Enjoy your stay in Jacksonville and use the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone and explore the immigrant side of our “bold new city of the south.”

Sincerely,



Leslie Kaplan, Associate Director, Hicks Honors College, and President-Elect, FCHC

## Conference Schedule at a Glance

<b>Friday, Feb 24, 2017</b>			
4:00-8:00	Registration Tables open	Atrium	
6:30-8pm	Dinner and opening ceremony	Regency Ballroom	
8:30-10:00	Director's reception	Atrium	
	Student Childhood Game Night	San Jose/Mandarin rooms	
<b>Saturday, Feb 25, 2017</b>			
7:00-9:00	Breakfast	Atrium	
8:00-10:00	Registration Tables open	Atrium	
9:00-12:00	Breakout Sessions 1-7	Nassau Meeting Room	
		St. Johns Meeting Room	
		Jacksonville Meeting Room	
		Flagler Meeting Room	
		St. Augusting Meeting Room	
		Mandarin Meeting Room	
		San Jose Meeting Room	
12:00-2:00	Lunch and Keynote address	Atrium	
2:00-5:00	Breakout Sessions 8-14	Nassau Meeting Room	
		St. Johns Meeting Room	
		Jacksonville Meeting Room	
		Flagler Meeting Room	
		St. Augusting Meeting Room	
		Mandarin Meeting Room	
		San Jose Meeting Room	
6:15-9:00	Buses for Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) leave every 20 minutes 6:15-7:15	MOCA museum downtown Jacksonville	
	Buses return every 20 minutes 7:30-8:30		
	Reception at MOCA (hors d'oeuvres) 6:30-8:30pm, Galleries open		
5:00-9:00	Dinner as Text (on your own) at local ethnic restaurants (walking distance from hotel)	Meet in the Atrium at 5pm then travel on your own time	
9:00-11:00	Student Board Game Night and Brain Bowl	Atrium	
<b>Sunday Feb 26, 2017</b>			
7:00-9:00	Breakfast	Atrium	
9:00-10:00	Writing Contest Winners	<b>Poetry:</b> San Jose, <b>Fiction:</b> Flagler, <b>FR/SO Research:</b> St. Augustine, <b>JR/SR Research:</b> Mandarin	
9:00-11:00	Poster Session	Jacksonville and St. Johns	
10:00-11:00	Dinner as Text reflection	Nassau	
11:00-11:30	Conference Closing, Annual Business Meeting, Elections	Jacksonville and St. Johns	
11:30-12:00	FCHC Executive Board Meeting	Jacksonville	

## Embassy Suites Floor Plan



- Presentations will be held in Nassau, St. Johns, Jacksonville, Flagler, St. Augustine, Mandarin and San Jose meeting rooms.
- Opening banquet will be held in Jacksonville, St. Johns, Nassau (Regency Ballroom)
- Breakfasts and Saturday lunch will be held in the Atrium
- Deliberative Democracy sessions will be in the Mandarin and San Jose rooms

### Conference Reminders

- Be considerate of times when sessions begin.
- Please arrive to the session you are attending at least 5 minutes early.
- Show respect for presenters by turning OFF your cell phones.
- Please note: There is limited bandwidth in the rooms. By turning off your devices or putting them on airplane mode, presenters are assured success in using the internet.
- Wear your conference name badge at all times
- Show respect for other guests at the hotel
- Dress appropriately to all events
- Need information? Stop by the Registration desk. We are here to help you!

## About Us

### Jacksonville, Florida

First colonized by the French in 1562, Jacksonville is now the largest city in land area in the contiguous United States. Immigrants began arriving in Jacksonville by 1890, when the census shows over 1000 immigrants, mostly from Europe, but including 27 Chinese. Successive waves of immigrants began to settle in Jacksonville in 1890, including people from Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, as well as Italians, Greeks, Jews, and Chinese immigrants through 1920. During and right after World War II, many Filipinos arrived in Jacksonville due to the large navy presence. Since the 1980s, small populations from Bosnia, Serbia, Ukraine, Russia, Burma, Iraq, Syria, Iran, Bhutan, Cuba, Haiti, Eritrea, Congo and Sudan have been resettled, ranging in total from a few hundred to nearly 1000 a year, by Jacksonville's three resettlement agencies adding to the diversity of the city. Other significant populations include Hispanic populations from Mexico, and other Central and South American countries, as well as India. At our yearly "World of Nations" festival, the following countries are represented:

Bahamas	India	South Africa	Dominican	Palestine	Trinidad & Tobago
Cambodia	Jamaica	Spain	Republic	Peru	Turkey
China	Japan	St. Lucia	Ecuador	Philippines	United States
Colombia	Mexico	Syria	First Nation	Poland	Venezuela
Cuba	Nigeria	Taiwan	Ghana	Puerto Rico	Vietnam
					Haiti

### University of North Florida

UNF is a relatively young university - established in 1972 - and it is growing rapidly in size and stature. UNF retains its small campus feel, helped by its location amid beautiful lakes and nature trails situated on 1,381 acres. UNF is now showing up in nearly every national college ranking, putting the University at the top of some very impressive lists. UNF even received the prestigious Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement. And while the national recognition is an important benchmark of our quality and value, it is the small class sizes and individualized attention that have become hallmarks of a UNF education. Hicks Honors College is named for Ann and David Hicks, longtime community leaders, philanthropists and UNF supporters. The name officially changed to Hicks Honors College on October 15, 2015, after the couple generously donated \$7 million to the University of North Florida.

### Florida Collegiate Honors Council

The Florida Collegiate Honors Council (FCHC) is a professional association of undergraduate honors programs and colleges in Florida. FCHC is closely associated with the Southern Regional Honors Council (SRHC) and the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC). Since the early 1990s, FCHC has held an annual conference in February for Florida Honors students, faculty, directors, and deans. The conference provides an opportunity to network with Honors professionals and Honors students, to share Honors expertise, and to hear presentations from across many disciplines.

## Mission and Executive Board

The mission of FCHC is:

- To provide a forum for sharing information about and improving the quality of Honors programs;
- To provide students with greater opportunities for intercollegiate Honors program activities;
- To collaborate with the regional and national organizations which have similar goals;
- To encourage articulation and collaborative programming between Honors programs at associate and baccalaureate institutions;
- To increase the public and private awareness of and fiscal commitment to Honors programs and projects.

Name	Position	Institution	E-mail
Bobby Hom	President	Santa Fe College	<a href="mailto:bobby.hom@sfccollege.edu">bobby.hom@sfccollege.edu</a>
Jose Rodriguez	Past President	Florida International University	<a href="mailto:jose.rodriguez20@fiu.edu">jose.rodriguez20@fiu.edu</a>
Leslie Kaplan	President-Elect	University of North Florida	<a href="mailto:leslie.kaplan@unf.edu">leslie.kaplan@unf.edu</a>
Clay Motely	Vice President	Florida Gulf Coast University	<a href="mailto:cmotely@fgcu.edu">cmotely@fgcu.edu</a>
Andrew Jenkins	Secretary	College of Central Florida	<a href="mailto:jenkinsa@cf.edu">jenkinsa@cf.edu</a>
Cayla Lanier	Treasurer	University of South Florida	<a href="mailto:cclanier@honors.usf.edu">cclanier@honors.usf.edu</a>
Quakish Liner	Scholarship Coordinator	Broward College	<a href="mailto:qliner@broward.edu">qliner@broward.edu</a>
Janet Haavisto	Writing Contest Coordinator	Jacksonville University	<a href="mailto:jhaavis@ju.edu">jhaavis@ju.edu</a>
Robert Fleischmann	2 Year Public Representative	Tallahassee Community College	<a href="mailto:fleischr@tcc.fl.edu">fleischr@tcc.fl.edu</a>
Leslie Kaplan	4 Year Public Representative	University of North Florida	<a href="mailto:leslie.kaplan@unf.edu">leslie.kaplan@unf.edu</a>
Janet Haavisto	4 Year Private Representative	Jacksonville University	<a href="mailto:jhaavis@ju.edu">jhaavis@ju.edu</a>
Alexis Deveaux	2 Year Public Student Representative (1)	St. Petersburg College	<a href="mailto:adevea2@live.spcollege.edu">adevea2@live.spcollege.edu</a>
Elaney Tedder	2 Year Public Student Representative (2)	Tallahassee Community College	<a href="mailto:tedde428@mymail.tcc.fl.edu">tedde428@mymail.tcc.fl.edu</a>
	4 Year Public Student Representative		
Melisa Blasky	4 Year Private Student Representative	University of Tampa	<a href="mailto:melisa.blasky@spartans.ut.edu">melisa.blasky@spartans.ut.edu</a>
James Rowland	Webmaster	Florida Collegiate Honors Council	<a href="mailto:rowlandj@knights.ucf.edu">rowlandj@knights.ucf.edu</a>



## Scholarships

The Dr. Mary Jo Henderson Scholarship is designed for excellent state and community college Honors students who will graduate with an Associate's degree from a FCHC member institution.

The Dr. Richard Piper Scholarship is designed for university students who are graduating from a Florida Collegiate Honors Council (FCHC) four-year institution.

Dr. Irmgard Bocchino Partners in the Park Scholarship awards will cover a portion of the cost of the Partners in the Park program and are available to students who are currently enrolled in an FCHC member institution.

## Service Project

**Crafting For Wellness** is a therapeutic woman's group of local refugee women. Monthly meetings are held to reduce isolation, develop a supportive community, and practice English. During these meetings women work on crafting projects and learn and share a variety of wellness techniques. The group is in need of donations of textile craft supplies: yarn, thread for sewing, buttons, zippers, scissors, beads for jewelry making, fabric, paint brushes, acrylic paint, plastic bins in all sizes for storage, tape measures, pin cushions, new or gently used is encouraged. All colors and designs are welcome!



**Thank you for your support!**

*Crafting for Wellness is supported by Project for Healing, Inc., whose mission is to assist refugees in North Florida to live healthier, happier lives.*

# Friday Feb. 24

## **Atrium**

***Registration Tables open 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.***

## **Regency Ballroom**

***Dinner and opening ceremony 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.***

Keynote speaker Basma Alawee: "I teach not for the income, but for the outcome". That's what my parents always said. They've been teaching for 45 years and taught me how to teach." Ms. Alawee is a middle school teacher at The Foundation Academy. She came from Iraq in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Material Engineering from Baghdad Technical College. Her own experience of arriving in the United States has made her keenly aware of the issues refugees face. It was very difficult to leave the security of her career (working for the Ministry of Oil as a Material Engineer), home and family, but due to the war she needed to start fresh. Her flexible nature, resilient determination and self-motivation served her well as she made this transition. As she learned how to find a job, secure housing and complete all of the necessary paper work, she realized that these tasks are difficult for many refugees. She began to volunteer and help refugees at several organizations such as World Relief and Lutheran Social Services. Her work with refugees grew to the point that she was selected as a delegate of Florida at the UNHCR Refugee Congress in December of 2013. Her love of children and math led her to teach at The Foundation Academy. She loves introducing her students to her passion of math and science as well as organizing them to volunteer with newly arrived refugees.

## **Atrium**

***Director's Reception 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.***

## **San Jose/Mandarin Rooms**

***Student Childhood Game Night 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. -***

This is a friendly, casual, nostalgic event where you can try out new games, enjoy old favorites from your childhood, or bring your favorite game to share; and also enjoy some sweet snacks. Feel free to drop in anytime throughout the evening.

Saturday Feb. 25

**Atrium**

***Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.***

**Atrium**

***Registration Tables Open 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.***

**Session 1: 9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.**

**Nassau Meeting Room**

*“Introduction to Quantum Mechanics: A Collaborative Teaching Success Story”*

*Steven Zimmerman, Christopher Lörcher*

Topics will include project-based learning in an honors classroom, interdisciplinary collaborative teaching techniques, and engaging students with Mathematica software. In an honors seminar course entitled Introduction to Quantum Mechanics, honors students at Seminole State College were exposed to advanced concepts in physics and mathematics. This collaborative teaching effort between the mathematical and physical sciences departments has led to a fruitful student learning environment in which students with limited mathematics backgrounds and maturity were highly engaged in topics that are normally covered in a senior level quantum mechanics course. With help from Mathematica software, students explored the quantum world for themselves and presented their findings at the annual STEM Symposium at Seminole State College. This success story is a testament to what is possible when the faculty and administration work together towards student enrichment.

*“Leadership: What's it all about?”*

*Angela Mick, Alejandro Cubas Moreno*

Honor students at Hillsborough Community College are required to take a Leadership course during the first semester in the program. Throughout the course, students identify, explore and develop their own leadership skills, strengths, and style. The course is designed for each student to go through his/her own journey toward becoming a leader inside and outside of the classroom. Hear from a Faculty member and student about their own personal experiences through this journey and what they believe is most important to remember in the development of becoming a leader.

*“Peer Leadership”*

*Brooke Uyaan Lawrence*

In Fall 2016, the two of us came together as facilitation partners with no connection other than a mutual desire to create an enriching, safe environment for the incoming Honors students at the University of North Florida. After facing a variety of challenges through the course of our semester, we feel that we have learned lessons that other student leaders may find valuable. We are now setting out to inform other students about different strategies for effective peer teaching. In this presentation, we will discuss our personal experiences with creating an inclusive and empathetic classroom environment. We will be stressing the importance of making connections with students and how to do so in a professional manner. We will also be exploring the learning theories behind our teaching strategies. Additionally, we will speak

# Saturday – Session 1

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

on how student mentoring has taken a precedence in our instruction. We hope that by attending this talk, other Honors students will improve their confidence and their ability to lead among their peers.

*“Leadership Retreat from a Freshman Perspective”*

*Brett Farran, Samuel Alvarado*

We attended the 2016 Kugelman Honors Leadership retreat. As freshmen, we were new to the idea of leadership and the Honors program. We attended the retreat to discover what type of leaders we were and learn how to lead and when to follow. The retreat also built many friendships that will last throughout college and our professional lives. The leadership retreat taught us both how important and quintessential leadership is in keeping an Honors program thriving but also what leaders we can be in our professional lives.

## **St. Johns Meeting Room**

*“The American Dream and DREAMers: Then and Now”*

*Erika Christina Rolle*

This paper will inform readers of what the "American Dream" is, how it came to be and what it means now to the millions of DREAMers that currently live in the US now.

*“Does the American Dream Still Really Exist?”*

*Jesus E. Morel*

The "American Dream" was once the merry attraction that if you came to the United States of America, worked hard, pushed ahead, and followed the laws, you could get ahead. Unfortunately, after the election results, it is saddening to admit that race, creed, and skin color will most likely have everything to do with how far one may advance in this nation. President-Elect Trump's campaign rhetoric, including his proposed "ban on Muslims" is something entirely unconstitutional and a slap in the face to so many civil rights activists and anyone else fighting for equal rights and protection under the law for all. This forces me, as a young adult and college freshman, born in the US to immigrant parents to address the question: Does the American Dream still, in fact, actually exist, or is it completely deteriorating?

*“DREAMers within Communities”*

*Gustavo Alejandro Diaz Galeas*

Within the history of the United States, immigrants have presented themselves as a fresh wave of hope and resilience. The spirit that they carry ends up defining the essence of the American dream. Indeed, this idea cannot be any clearer than through the DREAMers. Brought to this country and growing up at an early age, they have been instilled with American values. Yet, the challenges faced due to their legal status has led them to feel rejection within a wider community. Despite this, the resilience of the DREAMers has led them to not give up on the American dream. Without a doubt, to begin having them feel a connection towards a wider community, the encouragement for them to become involved is of vital importance.

# Saturday – Session 1

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

*“A Diverse Dream of America”*

*Emely Oliva*

American dreamers have come to the US as immigrants seeking a better future, but the current climate, fueled by the recent election process, confronts the American ideal for a diverse population. Discussion to raise awareness through explorations of an inhospitable United States will be facilitated by a student who has experienced marginalization, firsthand. Since arriving to the US from Cuba, rather than feeling embraced, the experience has, more often than not, been that of disregard fueled by a lack of awareness and, perhaps, fear.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“Does Sex Determine the Way One Responds When Interrupted?”*

*Diana Forman-Friedman*

Past research has been published showing that females are interrupted at a greater rate than males, by both males and other females, but little research has been done to see how the interrupted person responds. This research aims to look at how males and females respond differently when interrupted. Do they keep speaking, stop speaking mid-sentence, or finish their sentence before stopping? Does the sex of the interrupter or interrupted matter? The hypothesis is that females will stop speaking more when interrupted by a male, males will finish their sentence when being interrupted by another male, and that both males and females will continue to speak when interrupted by a female. Data collection consists of viewed panel discussions and debates, and indicates the sex of the interrupter, the interrupted, and the three options of the interrupted.

*“The Need for Sexual Education and Access to Contraceptives”*

*Olivia Alice Ducram*

Instead of only being educated on abstinence, adolescents should receive a thorough sexual education that raises awareness about the different types of contraceptives, such as condoms, birth control pills, and patches. In addition, these contraceptives should be made available in schools. Statistics show that there is a significant drop in teen pregnancies in areas where schools hand out contraceptives. However, some areas only have quick anecdotes on abstaining from sex before marriage as a form of sexual education. This is irresponsible on the part of adults who advertise abstinence, yet find it inappropriate in schools to explain the hormonal fluctuations occurring at the pubescent stage. A well-rounded sexual education course should be a mandatory requirement in schools, and I will discuss how the availability of contraceptives does not encourage teen sex but instead lower rates of teen pregnancy.

# Saturday – Session 1

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

*“Collateral Damage: Lesbian Iterations of the “Kill Your Gays” Trope in Contemporary Television”*

*Nic Elizabeth Haylett*

As diversity in contemporary television surges, representation for the LGBT+ community on television has expanded, as numerous shows are creating stories that include LGBT+ characters. However, lesbians on television experience a high death toll; according to a viewer-curated list on the LGBT+ news website Autostraddle, over one hundred sixty-six lesbian characters have been killed on television since 1976. By exploring three contemporary television shows where a lesbian is killed—“Jane the Virgin”, “Jessica Jones”, and “Empire”—and comparing these to television moments where lesbian characters survive—Black Mirror episode “San Junipero”, and “The Legend of Korra”—this research will seek to understand why lesbians are so often killed or are subjected to violence on television, and study how the American sentiment toward lesbians is represented by their televised deaths. This research will be situated in Queer Studies, Women’s Studies, and Literary Studies; television shows will be the primary texts.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“Think Before You Support Pink!”*

*Ajisha Alwin*

This project, which started out as a Sociology TED Talk Project, derives inspiration from the 'Think Before You Pink' campaign and the Susan Komen Walk and hopes to create "right" awareness on the current status of breast cancer in the world. The question is, 'Are Breast Cancer Awareness Campaigns/Organizations creating "real" change in the war against breast cancer and its consequences?'. The project is currently doing a research study on the effectiveness of Breast Cancer Campaigns and Breast Cancer Awareness Merchandise. The main focus on ongoing research is people’s views on the campaigns. To analyze people’s views on the campaigns, a survey on breast cancer awareness was created on Stat Crunch and sent out and it collected 120 responses from respondents all around the world including breast cancer patients, survivors, and oncologists. An analysis was conducted on the responses and significant conclusions were drawn.

*“The Invisible Cure: Nanotech as the Future of Cancer Treatment”*

*Alberto Lopez Delgado, Dianelys Perez Morales*

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the world. Current treatments, like surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy have been increasingly improved, but the relatively low efficiency and the undesired side effects reflect the need for new ways to enhance the results. Nanotechnology seems like the most viable alternative to this problematic. It solves most of the difficulties that keep current treatments from being more efficient: it enhances the imaging and detection processes, it allows the delivery of powerful medication with unprecedented levels of precision and it allows to treat cancer cells without harming the surrounding healthy tissues. Furthermore, this technology has the potential to expand its uses, since it is still on the early phases of its development.

# Saturday – Session 1

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

*“Genetic Therapies for Cancer”*

*Abeer Dagra*

The presentation summarizes the prospect and method of the gene transfer therapy to treat cancers and includes review of some clinical trials. I would like to share what I've learned about this new researched way of treating cancers.

*“Leukemia and Its Race For a Cure”*

*Marieka A. Phillips*

Leukemia is a serious disease affecting thousands of Americans each year. Children are affected most by this disease, and it increases with age. Leukemia happens when your bone marrow produces abnormal white blood cells, which cease to function properly. This disease affects the bone marrow and lymphatic system. However, society has to work harder at finding a cure for this debilitating disease.

## **St. Augustine Room**

*“An Assistant to Firefighting: Drone Design”*

*Nicole Buczkowski, Christian Carter, Julie Summers*

It is predictable that the future of the firefighting will likely be very different from what it is now. Drone technology is rapidly developing and could be an alternative means to traditional firefighting. A drone could be equipped with various tools and would act as a first responder to incidents, potentially saving time, property, and lives more efficiently. This study delves into the possibilities that drones can offer in firefighting. The overall goal of the study is to provide a more efficient option to firefighting and first aid response to the victims. The feasibility and functionality of using drones was analyzed by considering the cost, safety, public acceptance, economical, and environmental effects, and effectiveness of the drone. A conceptual design and a CAD model of a firefighting drone is being developed. A smaller model is being manufactured to test and improve the design of the overall drone.

*“Tourism Mobile Application”*

*Xing Yee Leong*

A team of Jacksonville University students has been tasked to create a mobile application for The Historical Society of Jacksonville. This mobile application is for tourists to download and display attractions in Jacksonville. Other goals of this project is to increase Jacksonville's tourism from surrounding regions, engage Jacksonville's residents, raise awareness of Jacksonville's rich history. The project team consists of students from Computer Science, Theater, and Communications majors. The Theater students are tasked to create audio tours of each attraction. The Communications students do the Multimedia Production and publicity and Computer Science students build Android and IOS mobile application from scratch. The highlight of this application is that it splits Jacksonville's attractions into different themes with each attraction having its own page. Each page has pictures, audio tour, map and information link. In the future, we hope to add more functionality and additional tours with different themed attraction sites.



# Saturday – Session 1

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

*“Pascal's Triangle”*

*Carlota Bonnet, Luis Moros*

Blaise Pascal was a French mathematician, physicist, inventor, writer, and philosopher. He contributed greatly to physics, and he even gave him name to an unit of pressure, the Pascal. In mathematics, he invented a new form of proof, the induction method, particularly useful in Number Theory, and he developed what we now call Pascal's triangle. This triangle is full of patterns, and can be used in a large variety of fields.

*“Sexual Education for the Modern Age”*

*Hannah Tarleton, James Adaryukov*

Sex and sexuality are normal, and enjoyable, parts of the human experience. However, due to a focus on abstinence-only curricula, important aspects of these topics are often ignored or downplayed in schools, leading to grievous misconceptions down the line. We plan to construct a more comprehensive, relatable curriculum to foster acceptance, tolerance, and respect for the self and others and to dispel myths and ignorance surrounding sex and sexuality. Our curriculum will cover diverse topics related to sex and sexuality, employing methods such as anonymous surveys and questions, demonstrations, role playing, and other forms of interactivity. Once completed, we plan to propose this curriculum to local school boards for implementation and long-term use. This round-table discussion will showcase one module of the proposed curriculum.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“FUSE, Direct Connect – How do these programs impact Honors Education in Florida?”*

*Kathleen King, Charlotte Pressler, Bobby Hom*

Many programs promising to accept students seamlessly from a two year to a four year program impact Honors education in a variety of ways. Discussion will include potential limitations, opportunities, coursework implications, and changing signature programming. Similar agreements between Honors programs and colleges will help students remain in similar academic circles. Join us for this roundtable discussion as we explore options for seamless transfer of our students.

## **San Jose Meeting Room**

*“First-Year Mentoring: Shaping Leaders of the Future”*

*Catherine Gorman, Karen Muhl, Victoria Blair, Gustavo Romero*

The Florida Gulf Coast University Honors Mentor Program, founded in 2011, aims to assist with the first-year Honors student transitions to university life, as well as the Honors Program culture. Since its implementation, the Honors Mentor Program has increased communality and enhanced academic focus and performance for both mentors and mentees, achieving retention rates above 90% each year. The program's success is evinced in the leadership of the mentors and their intentional intervention strategies into first-year students' experiences. The rapid growth of the program brought training and programming challenges, as well as increased formalization and specific curriculum practices. This panel, featuring 3, second-year Honors Mentors, will discuss the ways in which the FGCU Honors Mentor Program has led to both mentee and mentor leadership development, while focusing on strategic goals and practices that are applicable to future honors communities and mentor programs.



## Session 2: 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m.

### **Nassau Meeting Room**

*“Balancing Boundaries With Students”*

*Courtney Babcock*

As an upperclassmen student in charge of a class of underclassmen students, how do you find the balance between being an authority figure with your students when you could run into them on and off campus? Student leaders are put into a tight spot when the people they are leading can also be their peers. As a student leader it is important to establish boundaries with your students. I have learned that in many ways being a student leader is like being a mentor and teacher at once. In this session I will be going over what boundaries should be established – such as respect, defining your purpose, the extent of your relationship with your students, ways of establishing and enforcing those boundaries, and the manner in which to do so in order to come off as a respected mentor and teacher without coming off as an authoritarian.

*“Trumping Negativity: How Honors Communities Better Student Experiences”*

*Sierra Hobbs, Joseph Cox*

The University of West Florida Kugelman Honors program is a tight knit group of students within a medium-sized school. The friends made while a part of this program have provided a community of love and support, helping students adjust to the transition into college and adult life. The community is not only beneficial to those living in the honors residence hall, Pace Hall, but also to those that live elsewhere. Within the Honors family we hold study groups, camping trips, movie nights, and spend so much time together we feel as though we have been apart of each other's lives for years, despite having just met. This presentation will focus on the benefits of forming this community on a student's grades, social life, and mental health, bettering the lives of the future leaders of America. We'd love to share the benefits provided from the family that Honors provides.

*“The PaRty Hour: The evolution of a student-run Public Relations Committee”*

*Leonie Dupuis, Felicia Riggs, Michelle Lapak*

A Public Relations Committee was added to the student-run Honors Council at UWF in 2015. With this being the second year the Public Relations committee is active, the endeavors of the committee have (and continue to) become a concrete process. This presentation will discuss the specifics of this solidifying “process,” explaining how information flows from the Social, Service, and Fundraising Chairs to the Public Relations Committee and then to the public. We will describe the social media outlets we use and the benefits and drawbacks of each social media platform. We will also explain how the Public Relations Committee provides leadership opportunities to both incoming and returning students by partaking in specific areas of the committee's work. We will conclude the presentation by exploring the ways we think Public Relations will play a role in the future, both within our program and across the country.

# Saturday – Session 2

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

*“What Can an Honors Student Advisory Committee Do for Your Honors Program?”*

*Aanchel Shah, Dr. Cheryl Robinson, Edson Rodrigues, Dariya Smailova, Leslie Gomez, Larkin Frost*

The mission of the Seneff Honors College Honors Student Advisory Committee (HSAC) is to promote academic excellence among honors students at Valencia. The HSAC fosters communication, plans events, makes decisions, develops partnerships, and coordinates outreach with the goal of enriching the academic experience and quality of education for honors students. The HSAC is the advisory and communication body representing honors students on issues relating to academics, fellowship, cultural enrichment, and the honors student activities budget. The HSAC Executive Board creates an assortment of events varying from those that raise scholarships funds, promote team building among Honors students, and provide service to the surrounding communities. Additionally, the HSAC E-Board is represented on the Honors Advisory Board, is involved in the current Honors strategic planning process and participated in the revision of the Honors Student Code of Conduct. In this presentation, examples of the HSAC E-Board’s roles and activities will be shared.

## **St. Johns Meeting Room**

*“Globally how does the kidney transplant process differ and how does it compare to the process in the United States”*

*Ronelia Maria Bailey*

This research attempts to examine the procedure for kidney transplant surgery in various countries. During my presentation I will compare the different processes and requirements with the United States Organ Transplant system. My main focus is investigating which country has the best formula to extend the life expectancy of kidney failure patients through the transplant procedure and how what we can implement into our system.

*“What do you do when your patient wants to cut off their..”*

*Jessica Trochez*

Bodily Identity Integrity Disorder (BIID) is a rare and misunderstood neurological disorder manifested by the desire to remove a specific body part, which in most cases, is healthy and in working order. This presentation discusses the first-ever reported case of BIID and explores the medical ethics of treating the disorder.

*“Dance Helps Parkinson Patients”*

*Hanny Caridad Mena Smith*

Parkinson Disease is a chronic movement disorder which, over time, causes patients to lose their ability to move and balance on their own. Currently, there are no cures for Parkinson Disease, only treatment options. Recent research has shown that dance could be an alternative exercise for patients dealing with Parkinson Disease. Dance uses specific cues to help dancers move and balance in any position. Using these specific cues on Parkinson patients can help control their stability and movement without having to resort to surgery or unpleasant therapies.

# Saturday – Session 2

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

*“Beauty Beyond Sight Abstract”*

*Jonathan Castro*

This essay argues that an objective beauty draws humans to love, motivates humans to work, and convinces humans of truth, rather than the common belief that beauty is found in the eyes of the beholder. Humans intently focus on an aspect of beauty, as if heeding only a single brushstroke on a canvas. Beauty dictates how humans see the world, and in return, how humans view the world dictates what they associate as beautiful. To achieve this, the paper will analyze how actors (particularly male) follow the standards Hollywood has set for attractiveness, and the use of Nazi Film Propaganda in convincing the German people the Jews were transgressing against the beauty of German “purity.” People associate beauty with what they are sensitized to, but that sensitivity can lead to places like the harsh realities of Nazi Germany. The implications suggest humans need to evaluate whether an aspect of reality has true beauty, or merely considered beautiful by wrongful association with beauty.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“The Psychology of Learning Mathematics”*

*Michael Maduro*

For some students understanding and solving mathematical problems seems like an innate skill that a person is born with. Are there students that have a limited capacity for understanding mathematics? What exactly is meant by this and whether or not there is some basis of truth to this statement is going to be covered in this presentation. To really understand what is happening with these students it seems fitting to look at learning mathematics from a psychological perspective and also look into how mathematics was first introduced to students and how this may affect the student’s future success in mathematics.

*“An Unconventional Problem in Arithmetic”*

*Mudassira B Khwaja*

We will consider a math problem that appeared in the contest book of problems from the Moscow State University’s Society of School Mathematics. Many of these problems were given to middle school and high school students from 1935 to 1952. Although the problem we are considering is one of the “easier” problems of the book, finding its solution under the pressure of an exam is by no means a trivial feat.

*“Modeling the Florescence of Quantum Dot Solutions”*

*Michael Steven Nieves*

Quantum Dots (QD) are nanostructured semiconductors that are usually 2-10 nanometers in diameter. An interesting property of Quantum dots is that solutions of these nanoparticles emit light at specific frequencies when given electricity of light. Moreover, these frequencies can be specifically tuned based on the size of the dots. Using an infinite spherical potential well, the QDs will be modeled using solutions of the three dimensional time independent Schrödinger equation. Its energy spectrum will be investigated as its quantization is a consequence of quantum confinement resulting from the small size of the QDs. Theoretical results derived will be compared to experimental values obtained from various sources.

# Saturday – Session 2

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

*“Arrangements of a Traditional Eight-ball Rack: A Combinatorics Problem”*

*Sean Clayton*

A traditional eightball rack consists of the one ball at the top, the eight ball at the center, and alternating solid and striped balls around the perimeter; no two balls of the same color in the rack may touch. This combinatorics project aimed to find the number of ways a rack of billiard balls can be arranged under these conditions. This is a problem that, to our knowledge, has yet to be solved. We began by searching for a Fundamental Counting Principle with which we could establish an algorithm for counting arrangements of balls in the rack. We ran into difficulty establishing an effective algorithm that avoided bad arrangements. This is due to the great amount of dependency between ball choices at each step, making the problem far from simple. Conceptualizing the rack as a graph, we looked at Hamiltonian circuits and programs in our attempt to find a solution.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“Long-term Impact of Prenatal Exposure to Oxycodone”*

*Daniel Adib Skaf*

Oxycodone is an opiate and is one of the components of prescription pain medication being that it is a moderate analgesic, meaning it can provide relief for moderate pain. Prescription drug abuse is a rapidly growing epidemic that affects 9 million people in the USA and has resulted in a 4x increase in overdose deaths since 1999. A high prevalence of abuse during pregnancy has led to a 300% increase since 2004 in neonatal abstinence syndrome, a serious problem that remains mostly uninvestigated. The purpose of the research I will be presenting on is to determine the lifelong behavioral impact of oxycodone (OXY) exposure and identify altered brain connectivity in adult mice exposed to OXY prenatally. Based on preliminary findings, we hypothesized that prenatal OXY exposure, and the subsequent withdrawal, alters the strength of connectivity between the pre-frontal cortex and amygdala, leading to depressive-like behavior.

*“Are Antibiotics Killing Us?”*

*Lauren Alyse Bentzel*

The problem with our increased use of strong antibiotics is that many bacteria are growing resistant. This means that soon we will have no cure for these, in some cases, life-threatening infections. The stronger we make these products, the stronger the bacteria become. However, there may be a solution to this. My research seeks to find out if there is a natural, better option. If essential oils can kill bacteria more effectively than synthetic antibiotics, there will be a slower bacteria adaption rate. To do this research, I have gathered different types of essential oils, all 100% pure. Next, five types of bacteria were cultured: *Enterococcus faecium*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Endobacter*, and *Psuedomonas aeruginosa*. After that, broth was made and the bacteria were added to the broth. Following that, the bacteria was added to a microtiter plate. The microtiter plate had different concentrations of essential oil and each bacterium was tested the same way three times on the same plate. After sitting for a week, the microtiter plate was read to see the results. Afterwards, a test was run to find the presence of biofilm. This research is currently ongoing and is not yet completed.

## Saturday – Session 2

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

*“Caffeine's Effect on Memory”*

*Randy Ulm*

College students guzzle caffeine to stay alert and interactive in class, but is that caffeine having an effect on their memory? Research conducted by Michael Yassa at Johns Hopkins University says caffeine has positive effects on long term memory, but I wanted to test its effects on short term memory. Through a trial conducted on The Islands, 30 randomly selected participants were divided into a control and treatment group; the former received 250mL of decaffeinated coffee and the latter 250mL of caffeinated coffee. Both groups took a vocabulary memory test before consumption to establish a baseline and again after the administration to compare any changes. The experiment did not result in any significant results despite research alluding to a difference between males and females and caffeine having some effect on memory. The study allowed me to conduct a scientific investigation, run statistical analysis, and work with a unique population.

*“Autophagy”*

*Mariya Muravia*

Autophagy is the cell's natural mechanism of getting rid of unwanted proteins. There are many different types of autophagy, such as mitophagy, depending on which proteins the cell digests. This process occurs on a daily basis to digest and release amino acids, producing some energy. It is increased in starved cells as they may begin to digest themselves to create more energy. Autophagy begins with a formation of a double-membrane, which then engulfs the particles needed to be digested. Next, it carries the particles to the lysosome, where digestive enzymes are released, degrading the proteins. Little is known about the complete mechanism of autophagy. However, there may be promising future research which utilizes this mechanism to combat certain diseases such as Parkinson's and MS. In this presentation, I will talk about our current knowledge of autophagy and my own research of measuring the levels of autophagy in different tissues.

### **St. Augustine Room**

*“How Creativity Can Change Your Life: Educating through Experience”*

*Robert Fleischmann, Sabrina Beall, Nathan Davis, Joseph Ene, Nathalie Estiverne, Samantha Fream, Sydney Selman*

The necessity and importance of creativity in education and the workplace abounds in our present society. Innovation and progress have become synonymous with success and survival. However, what does it mean to be creative and is creativity solely in the domain of a chosen few, or is it a skill that can be learned and transferred to others. If it can be taught, what pedagogical methods should prove to be most effective? This symposium is based on an Honors Seminar at Tallahassee Community College where students explored metacognition, creativity and experiential learning for the purpose of educating themselves and others. The workshop is interactive, including both faculty and student-designed activities that foster an understanding and awareness of core concepts of the creative mindset spanning from business management and sport psychology to the fine arts and humanities.

# Saturday – Session 2

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence Part 1 of a 2-hour workshop”  
Deliberative Democracy 1*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities. In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## **San Jose Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence Part 1”  
Deliberative Democracy 3*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities. In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## Session 3: 11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.

### **Nassau Meeting Room**

*“Viewing Life As We Age”*

*Miranda Paredes*

Discussing the theory of Gerotranscendence; how people view life as they age; and whether it be in a positive way or in a negative way. Responses from various age groups and genders which has allowed get more of an accurate idea of how people view life as they age.

*“Science Leaves a Lasting Impressionism”*

*Alexis Devaeux*

Impressionism is a term that has become inherently associated with the rebellious and revolutionary style of artists in the late 1800’s. Impressionism was the culmination of artists’ individuality and a rapidly growing interest in life from a scientific point of view. This presentation will explore the artists during the Impressionist art era who embraced individual visions and drastically changed the human experience and perspective through Impressionistic art; radically sculpted by the advancements made in: physics, psychology, and anatomy.

*“The Negative Impact of Cartoons on Kids”*

*Raven J Hanna*

Cartoons are an essential part of the daily life of kids. From bright colors to the warming voices, they all play important roles in the interest of kids. However, when this interest turns into an addiction it can affect the child's health. Children who spend too much time watching cartoons are more likely to have mental and emotional problems and will suffer in the areas of education and behavior.

### **St. Johns Meeting Room**

*“College Students’ Perception of Presidential Candidates on Social Media”*

*Nathaniel Jozef Falk, Gilarys G Garcia, Robert D. Kinder, Kyrin. M Mayfield*

This study was conducted to determine if social media platforms impacted college students’ perception of political candidates. There were one-hundred and fifty-five students who completed our survey. The data collected from the survey provided an insight about their social media platform usage per day, which social media platform they would most likely attain their political information from, and how likely they were to read political articles based on family or friends sharing them. The data illustrate that college students who view social media for more than one hour per day were more likely to vote for Hillary Clinton than Donald Trump; nevertheless, further research should be conducted in order to investigate how the usage of social media platforms over one hour affects the perception of political candidates.



# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

*“Media and Voter Perception”*

*Genesis Lenis, Kayla Lillie, Edwin Peck, Michaela Dawn Sellaro, Jose Villalobos*

This study sought to determine the effect, if any, means of communication have on the public’s perception of a presidential candidate. Approximately 139 Florida college students participated in a multi-question survey examining their media use and how the isolated media affected the perception, specifically in terms of professionalism, of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. In order to perform our calculations we used a Hypothesis Test Statistic for two means of independent samples. Our research and the survey we conducted does not allow for any concrete conclusions about how perception is affected by means of communication. Thus, more research should be directed towards how perception is affected and what affects it.

*“How Has the Internet Affected the Length and Quantity of Presidential Speeches”*

*Shannon Ruane, Jade West, Nathan Sharpe, Amber Miller, Tatyana McCauley, Alisa Aydin*

Previous research focuses on the effects of the media during presidential campaigns, while this study examines the correlation between presidential speeches and the utilization of the internet during a presidential term. This study was conducted by researching the number of speeches and the word count from Nixon’s Presidency to Obama’s last months in his second term. The averages were applied to the correlation formula. Through our research, we found that the word count of speeches had a significant increase during Bill Clinton’s presidency, and another increase during Barack Obama’s presidency. The most speeches were made during Ronald Reagan’s first term, which was during the pre-internet era. However, outside events may have influenced the amount of speeches given. Our findings suggests that there is no steady correlation from the number of words or how many speeches that were made to the pre and post internet era.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“The Apollo I Fire of 1967”*

*Rodrigo Gracia*

In 1967, the tragic Apollo I fire killed three American astronauts, Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White II, and Roger B. Chaffee. Though there were various causes for the fire, the "Space Race" was the background. It was top priority to beat the Soviet Union to the Moon, and the fast pace of work led to less emphasis on safety in the Apollo mission.

*“The Confederate "Cow Cavalry" in Florida's Civil War”*

*Michael Grey*

At the start of the Civil War, Florida was the second leading producer of cattle in the United States east of Texas. Most of the cattle out of southern Florida went to Cuba, where they were sold for Spanish gold. During the Civil War, however, due to the Union blockade of the Confederate States, access to Cuba was curtailed. While many Florida cattlemen were initially loyal to the Confederacy, some south Florida cattlemen tried to protect their herds from being taken by the Confederate Commissary Department, which paid only in quickly depreciating Confederate paper money. At war's end, Capt. Francis A. Henry probably spoke for most when he said, "Thank God it is over with, one way or the other."



# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

*“The Problem with S.W.A.T. Team Tactics and Columbine”*

*Joseph Morel*

Americans pride themselves on having the freedom to do as they please. However, that same freedom that allows Americans to be free comes with a price. That price has never been felt so tragically as on April 20, 1999 when Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold shook that freedom to the core and exposed a gut wrenching hole in our police forces. One of the nation’s greatest tragedies could have been prevented, however, because of poor information from news reporters and task force agencies, one of the greatest tragedies was, in an odd way, a success. One may ask, “What does this mean? Did the police forces aided in the success in columbine?” By breaking down the columbine incident, one will be able to see exactly where the problem lied with the police forces that responded to The Columbines Incident. As one further looks into this tragedy, the problems with command, security and strategies will show how the police forces actually aided in making Columbine a success.

*“The Impact of Non-British Pilots in the Battle of Britain”*

*Nola Berish*

This paper examines the impact non-British fighter pilots had on the outcome of the Battle of Britain, during World War II. I will discuss the major fighter planes used by the Royal Air Force and the Luftwaffe, their armament, and the strengths and weaknesses of each plane. I also describe each foreign group of fighter pilots, the unique skill sets and attitudes they brought to the battle, and how those skills aided in the fight against German invasion. The groups of pilots I will be discussing are the Americans, the Czechoslovakian pilots, the New Zealand pilots, and the Canadians. Finally, I examine the Polish fighter pilots and the extensive skill set they brought to the battle and how they, with the other groups of pilots, aided the British in preventing German invasion, and illustrated that the Luftwaffe was capable of being beaten.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“Marine Turtle Research in Indian River County and Public Outreach”*

*Melisa Blasky*

Indian River County is a prime nesting habitat for three species of sea turtles. The 2016 nesting season saw a record number of loggerhead nests and a low number of green turtle nests, not just in IRC, but also along other beaches of Florida's east coast. The Indian River County Sea Turtle Research and Monitoring Program, working through IRC Coastal Division, implemented two new programs this year to help raise awareness and increase conservation efforts in the area. This presentation will describe and explore both the Turtle Dig programs and the Turtle Friendly Business Program. It will also cover the anthropogenic issues facing sea turtles and how individuals can participate in better conservation practices, what a typical day looks like for a sea turtle biologist, both in the field and in the office, and the data collected in IRC for the 2016 nesting and hatching season.

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

*“Justification of Marine Mammal Captivity: Assessment of the Point at Which the Captivity of Marine Mammals is No Longer Ethically Valid”*

*Lauren Twele*

The discussion about the justification of marine mammal captivity has intensified to the forefront of public debate in society today. While many institutions successfully run rescue, rehabilitation, and release programs for these animals, many others only utilize marine mammals for display purposes without the organism's best interests as a first priority. In the latter case, marine mammal captivity becomes unjustified due to a multitude of factors ranging from diminished animal health, questionable authenticity of captive marine mammal research, to viable alternatives for marine mammal educational initiatives. Through an examination of multiple research and case studies, this essay proposes that marine mammal captivity programs are only justified under the specific conditions previously stated, and those that do not meet these criteria cannot defend their captivity programs from an ethical standpoint. To correct this problem, these institutions should implement rescue and release initiatives to their captivity programs, or phase out these programs entirely.

*“The Neurotoxin Dangers of Shark Fin Fisheries and Their Effects on Global Marine Ecology”*

*William Sample*

Perhaps the largest threat shark biodiversity faces today is the global market for shark fin soup. However, recent findings show that the cartilaginous dorsal, pectoral, and caudal fins contain high concentrations of potentially dangerous neurotoxins, beta-methylamino-L-alanine (BMAA) and methylmercury. These compounds result from bioaccumulation in sharks and ultimately humans through lipophilic means. BMAA is relatively unstudied, but preliminary research indicates a strong link between increased concentrations and neurodegenerative diseases. Excess methylmercury poses serious neurological and developmental consequences. This research aims to explore the link between these neurotoxins and the potential detriment they pose to those consuming shark fin soup. Additionally, this presentation will discuss the benefits of sustainable shark populations, particularly in regards to ecotourism.

*“Flight initiation distance in Anolis sagrei as compared to the flight initiation distance in Anolis carolinensis”*

*Benjamin Harden*

The green anole *Anolis carolinensis* is a small lizard that is native to the Southeast of the United States, specifically Florida in this study. The brown anole *Anolis sagrei* is another small lizard that was introduced from Cuba in the 1800's and has spread. As *A. sagrei* has spread, researchers have noticed that *A. carolinensis* has been displaced and has become more arboreal. It is thought that *A. sagrei* is less cautious than *A. carolinensis* and may be more susceptible to predation. I examined response to predation in both species by measuring flight initiation distance. This study aims to determine if there is a significant difference between the flight initiation distance of *A. sagrei* and *A. carolinensis* as well as looking at comparisons between distance from refuge, flight initiation distance, alert distance, and the start distance.

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

## **St. Augustine Meeting Room**

*“Indulging Into the American Dream”*

*Farwa Khan, Sharin Shafi*

The objective of this interactive workshop is to present an insight into the American dream through dreamers from many different backgrounds, colors, races, and faiths. The workshop is divided into two sessions. The first session focuses on presenting the gathered information and research on the topic and the second session will focus on engaging the audience. Participants will be given the opportunity to simulate an American dream that is different from theirs. Attendees will also hear stories through a student-made documentary presenting interviews from a diverse group of American dreamers such as immigrants, US citizens, community leaders, etc. Come join us as we dive into the depths of the American dream, offering different perspectives and providing an open platform for discussion.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence part 2 of a 2-hour workshop”*

*Deliberative Democracy 1*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities.

In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

## **San Jose Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence part 2 of a 2-hour workshop”  
Deliberative Democracy 3*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities.

In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## **Atrium**

### ***Lunch and Keynote Address***

Keynote Speakers from Darnell Cookman School of the Medical Arts, Jacksonville, Florida:

- Mina Hassani, senior, originally from Iran, future naturopath physician.
- Yousi Espanol, junior, originally from Colombia, future forensic pathologist.
- Handerie Pierre, senior, originally from Haiti, future psychologist.
- Tamila Darvishi, junior, originally from Iran, future cardiologist.
- Hien Van, junior, originally from Vietnam, future medical specialist.
- Valentina Sanchez, junior, originally from Colombia, future obstetrician

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

## Session 4: 2:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.

### **Nassau Meeting Room**

*“Not All Those Who Wander are Lost: The Positive Effects of Field Experience in Relation to a Lecture Class.”*

*Jade Jacobs, Bayla Bessemer*

Honors students discuss the merits of combining field experience with lecture classes in order to get a deeper understanding of the content and to develop a personal connection to the "bigger picture" associated with the information. Examples will be pulled from different classes offered by the Kugelman Honors Program such as the Honors Seminar "Wastelands to Wetlands" by the students who took them.

*“Finding the Money Tree: Honors Fundraising in Local Areas”*

*Anthony Noll, Chelsea Lowe, Courtney Swain*

Across the nation, Honors programs and colleges with student associations rely on fundraising efforts to put on quality events and experiences for their students. Some Honors student associations ask for funding from their respective student government associations to cover their needs. Others ask for funding directly from their nearby communities. In order to succeed with fundraising efforts, Honors student associations must be aware of the rules and regulations of their schools and the economic impact from their communities. This, and other points, will be discussed in the presentation.

*“Lessons in La Vita Italiana”*

*Hannah Shami*

Does a multidisciplinary approach with linked interdisciplinary course work to study abroad enhance student learning, understanding, critical thinking, and outcomes? I engaged in multiple perspectives while studying multimedia journalism, requiring me to view the experience with the eye of a modern photo and social media journalist. I used multimedia platforms including social media to share my knowledge through videos, blogs, and digital photographs. The research question seeks to answer if this experience enhanced my learning and understanding.

Following the trip and coursework, I conducted interviews designed to answer the question, focusing on the cities Venice and Assisi, Italy. The interviews were held on campus in a media studio, recorded on digital video, and then edited into a video. The study demonstrates student understandings and interpretations of a multidisciplinary approach to study abroad and how the experience impacts students' self-efficacy of their learning, understanding, critical thinking and outcomes.

*“Honors Beyond Borders, The American Dream”*

*Stephanie Agard, Melissa De la Cruz, Victoria Ilesanmi, Luis Mesias Flores*

The Honors Institute offers a variety of opportunities for students to grow as leaders and examples to many, not only within the Honors program, and in the greater community. Honors students take the skills and abilities learned and apply them for opportunities and in future endeavors. This student panel, all from various countries including Trinidad, Mexico, United Kingdom, Sweden, and Guatemala, will

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

explore the benefits, disadvantages, and expectations for diversity within the HCC Honors Institute. We will delve into the opportunities and challenges faced when entering an Honors program in the United States. More so, this panel will reflect upon what the Honors Institute has done for us, in developing to our full potential as individuals, and how we plan to take our learned experiences and skills to the global community in the near future.

## **St. Johns Meeting Room**

*“Social Media Consumption and the Perception of President Obama”*

*Brian Christopher Law, Elizabeth Berger, Mariah Latham, Christin A Colucci, Ricardo Moraga*

This study shows how the president’s engagement with the nation through social media platforms (SMP) can influence the public’s perception of his presidency. Focus will be placed on the public’s perception of Barack Obama, as he is the first American president to heavily use this new method of communication with the American people. This study observes charisma and competence as two factors that play a major role in shaping the public perception of the commander in chief. A sample of 73 online participants was surveyed to collect data. Participants were asked to take a survey which asked them to rate Barack Obama’s charisma and competence using Likert scales. The results showed that the president was generally perceived as a charismatic and capable leader, however, the data obtained from this sample gave little to no indication that social media influenced this perception.

*“History & Influence of Third party candidates in American Elections”*

*Brandon Saridjo*

Presentation on the history and influence of third party candidates in American elections and analyzing the effect they had on politics in the United States. I will explore the different third parties that are present in the US, as well as, their ideologies and leanings.

*“Why Deny?: 2016 election candidates and their stances on climate change”*

*Christy Folk*

Comparing all of the nations of the world, the partisan divide between two major political parties on the issue of climate change is widest in the United States. The extent of the divide reveals not only a decision to take no action, but a denial of the existence of climate change. One of the greatest arguments in favor of taking no action to avert the predicted disastrous effects is that the economic costs would outweigh the benefits. Projections of the economic impacts of environmental legislation vary widely and depend in part on the direction of the energy sector. The two major political party candidates, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, greatly differ in their proposed plans for the expansion of fossil fuels versus clean, renewable energy. Economic pressure from the fossil fuel industry heavily influences legislation decisions and has huge implications for the future of global climate action.

*“The National Popular Vote”*

*Caitlin Benedict*

The National Popular Vote (NPV) has been gaining momentum in the last decade. Many people are upset with how the current Electoral College system works, claiming that it does not reflect the true voice of the people. Arguments against the current electoral system include political disengagement from a large

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

portion of the U.S. population, the prominent issue of gerrymandering, and the discrepancy between the NPV winner and that of the Electoral College, which has been the outcome now of five presidential elections in U.S. history. In 2009, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact started in Maryland in order to change the way we use the Electoral College so that the elector vote and the popular vote remained congruent. This presentation focuses on the arguments for and against the NPV and how close we really are to changing the system.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“A Social Service Agency Meets the Challenge of Changing Demographics I: Healthy Families  
Highlands and Mexican Immigrants”*

*Kelsey Peña, Krystal Santos, Summer Xiong*

Healthy Families Highlands (HFH) is a non-profit organization in Highlands County, Florida that helps expectant mothers and mothers of newborns acquire good parenting skills. In recent years, Highlands Co. demographics have been changing, and HCH has been called on to meet new challenges. One such challenge is presented by the recent increase in Mexican immigration. Statistically, Mexican immigrants tend to be younger, more prone to unemployment, and less proficient in English than other Highlands Co. demographic groups. Our project looked at ways HCH can practically and effectively assist these families. We suggested that HCH could offer English language classes, help families obtain medical insurance, follow through with regular medical check-ups, and provide day care services to mothers seeking to further their education.

*“A Social Service Agency Meets the Challenge of Changing Demographics II: Healthy Families  
Highlands and Haitian Immigrants”*

*Melissa Garcia, Johnathan Hernandez, Brittany Hobart*

Healthy Families Highlands is a non-profit organization in Highlands County, Florida that helps expectant mothers and mothers of newborns acquire good parenting skills. In recent years, Highlands Co. demographics have been changing. One such change is ongoing Haitian immigration, because of natural disasters in their homeland. These immigrants present challenges to HFH. Statistically, Haitian immigrants tend not to have attained education beyond the high school level. They are typically speakers of Creole, which creates a language barrier. Low-paying service-industry jobs account for the largest occupational category among Haitians, and more than half of them lack medical insurance or receive Medicaid. Our project looked at ways HFH can practically and effectively assist these families. We recommend that HFH recruit someone with a Haitian background to work with them, in order to help close language and cultural gaps.



# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

*“The Venezuelan Crisis”*  
*Annakarina Alfonzo-Marcelino*

Because of unsustainable socialist policies, lack of diversification, and embezzlement of national funds, Venezuela is suffering one of the greatest periods of misery in its history. Factors such as high crime rates, runaway inflation, and absence of food and primary necessities have led Venezuelans to protest against the government. The Venezuelan executive branch has extreme influence in the other two branches and has avoided checks and balances; the government routinely incarcerates political dissidents. We will analyze Venezuela’s economic, political, and foreign policy landscapes, and offer possible solutions.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“St. Johns River CCA Reef Project”*  
*Cassandra Renae Veenstra*

The City of Jacksonville (COJ) and the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) successfully established two artificial reefs into the St. Johns River. These two reefs mark a new chapter in Florida Reef deployment by being the first documented artificial reefs constructed in the St. Johns River System. Our project's goal is to aid in the evaluation of inshore artificial reef benefits to the State of Florida. My research identifies invertebrates in the reef's benthic community, monitors fish populations, and evaluates reef utilization by the fishing community. Benthic Samples are collected and surveyed twice yearly, with samples collected via ponar grab or SCUBA at each site. Fish surveys involve creel sampling, we worked in conjunction with the CCA and local fisheries in determining the reefs utilization by the fishing community. In addition this project examines the ecological stability and significance of the reefs presence in the St. Johns River.

*“Coral reef presentation through bacterial competition with macroalgae”*  
*Nathaniel Price Curtis*

Coral reefs are currently degrading across the world, and one of the driving factors of this decline is eutrophication. Increased nutrients lead to increased growth of macroalgae, which competes with coral for space. Corals are unable to colonize these areas, hindering coral recovery. Under normal conditions, organisms in the coral microbiome have roles in nitrogen cycling and nitrate removal. While macroalgae are able to outcompete corals despite the loss of nitrates, the effects of denitrifying organisms on the rate of macroalgae growth is unknown. We will attempt to reduce the growth of macroalgae by enriching populations of native denitrifying bacteria in a simulated eutrophic environment. This would lead to increased removal of nitrate by microorganisms, subsequently mitigating the effects of eutrophication surrounding live corals. Healthy coral microbiomes may be an important factor in reducing the effects of nutrient loading on reefs by reducing rates of macroalgae growth



# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

*“The environment's most influential modern threat.”*

*Melissa Ramirez Bejarano*

The Energy Transfer Company proposed a \$3.7 Billion project for the transportation of crude oil from the North Dakota Bakken region to Illinois. The pipeline was originally supposed to go through the Missouri River North of Bismarck, but after much contemplation of the dangers that this pipeline could cause to the city's nearby water supply the Army Corps of Engineers rerouted the pipeline to go through Lake Oahe, which is Standing Rock Reservation's main source of drinking water and one of their sacred burial sites. Water protectors have protested the DAPL construction since the project got approved in July. These peaceful protests have gained momentum due to the different instances of police brutality towards water protectors. The protests, police brutality and construction of the pipeline continue regardless of the petition issued by the Departments of Justice, Army and Interior towards Energy Transfer to voluntarily pause all construction near Lake Oahe.

*“Measuring The Side Effects of an Environmental Crisis”*

*Sara Haman*

It is a well-known fact that human activity and the natural environment are integrally connected; this project will take a closer look into a specific environmental disaster as an illustration of how the interconnections between government, society, and nature affect the future of a community. The Indian River Lagoon, which is the most biodiverse lagoon ecosystem in the Northern Hemisphere, will be the focus of this study, as almost annually sections of this waterway are affected by toxic algae blooms that devastate both the marine environment and the people whose livelihood centers around it. The cause of these blooms is a multifaceted, and currently there is no solution implemented to stop it from happening again. This presentation will delve into why this problem occurs and further prove why prompt action to prevent the algal blooms is an economic and social necessity.

## **St. Augustine Meeting Room**

*“Improvise Your Way to a Fuller Experience”*

*Caterina Duffy*

Improv comedy is mostly known through television shows like “Whose Line is it Anyway?” and local performance groups. Generally, the term improvisation refers to instances when musicians blare out a delectable tune at a moment's notice, or those occasions when we see talented individuals birthing beautiful theatrical performances without a script. Many believe that improvisation is something beyond their grasp. This workshop will expose audience members to the basics of improvisational performance. Techniques for dramatic and comedic improv will be taught and then explained in a way that can translate to a smoother handling of everyday responsibilities. The benefits of improv are numerous and the practice of intentional improvisation can be life-changing. By the end of my workshop, it will become clear that agreeing to a “yes and” mentality opens a world of possibility that would have otherwise remained latent.

# Saturday – Session 4

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence Part 1 of a 2-hour workshop”  
Deliberative Democracy 2*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities.

In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## **San Jose Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence Part 1 of a 2-hour workshop”  
Deliberative Democracy 4*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities. In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## Session 5: 3:00 p.m.-3:50 p.m.

### **Nassau Meeting Room**

*“The Year 2030”*

*Malik A Jackson*

By the year 2030, it is predicted that society will change dramatically. The predictions of the future by year 2030 fall into three categories: technological, controversial, and scientific. The ultimate charge is for Honors to lead society through all of its predicted changes.

*“The New University”*

*Nathaniel Barragan*

This research explores needful changes to the status quo of education, focusing on the university level. While the content of education has changed over the ages, the format of the educational system in the United States has remained largely static since the colonial times: namely the lecture format. Even worldwide and historically, the lecture method has reigned since education as an idea appeared. With the advent of the technological era the world (largely) is in now, such a system is inefficient at its best and wholly destructive at its worst. This research explores an entirely different model of education: one made for the 21st century, one more efficient, and more effective.

*“The Next Era of Exploration and Colonization”*

*Azher Ali Hamid*

With a geometrically growing population and a finite amount of resources on our planet, humanity must go forth into the stars and explore new territories that will allow humanity to survive and allow us as a species to explore and utilize new resources to help humanity grow, technologically, economically, and socially. This research uses an in-depth analysis into the basics of economic theory, historical references, and current social and psychological trends of society to give an outlook on what the next era of Human exploration and Colonization will have instore for humanity.

*“Exploring Different Ways of Immortality: Is Physical Immortality Possible?”*

*Russell David Cox*

This paper reviews recent technologies that increase the longevity of humans as well as are promising futurist ideas for achieving immortality. The process by which you create an organ from scaffolding material is called the decellularization technique. Together with cryonics, genetically modified telomeres and 3D bioprinting, an overview will be given of whether or not physically immortality is possible to achieve. In the decellularization technique, cells are stripped down from animal organs using a special detergent. A new organ is then grown in the scaffolding using stem cells. In cryonics, a patient is vitrified before he dies using cryogenic organ preservation solutions and liquid nitrogen. Genetically modified telomeres give us a look into how we could change our DNA to stop aging. Finally, 3D bioprinting shows different ways in which multiple organs and tissues could be 3D printed to heal individuals in case of organ failure.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

## St. Johns Meeting Room

*“Isabella d’Este: Defying Courtly Women’s Stereotypes in Renaissance Mantua”*

*Shelby L Mickler*

Isabella d’Este, a patron of art and an early image of modern feminism, competed with men in the world of art collecting in Renaissance Mantua. She departed from the classic "courtly lady" image by flaunting her intelligence and devoting her life to collecting mythological artwork, a genre forbidden to women due to its sexual undertones. She developed significant relationships with many famous artists, who respected her as a powerful and influential figure. Her rise to social power peaked when her husband, the Marquess of Mantua, gave her reign of the city while he was in the military. This paper examines letters and writings to and from Isabella d’Este to illustrate a rare moment in the Italian Renaissance when a woman was able to take a position of power at the intersection of art and politics.

*“Power and Gender in Early Modern England: Emerging Female Leadership That Shaped History”*

*Jacinda Jade Buggy*

This proposal is one part a 45 minute panel, “Elizabethan Dreams: Propaganda, Gender, and the Study of History,” made-up of 3 Informative Presentations by Jacinda Buggy, Catherine Perez, and Phuc Nguyen. While today women in roles of power and leadership seem commonplace, 500 years ago that was but often a dream. This presentation explores the influence of two women in positions of power in Early Modern England, and how their gender would both help and hinder them. Using studies of both figures and the settings of the period, it can be concluded that Anne Boleyn and Queen Elizabeth I would be among the first examples of a shift in mentality towards strong female leadership in the 1500’s. It also examines the break-down of conservative hierarchal structures that would lead to the success of alternative methods of power.

*“Elizabeth I: The Propaganda that Allowed the Survival of a 44-Year Reign”*

*Catherine Marie Perez*

This proposal is one part of a 45 minute panel, “Elizabethan Dreams: Propaganda, Gender, and the Study of History,” made-up of 3 Informative Presentations by Jacinda Buggy, Catherine Perez, and Phuc Nguyen. Elizabeth I is often described to be the “Virgin Queen” and legendary monarch who ushered in the Golden Age of England. These are the pieces she left behind, the fragments that form to be the sum of Elizabeth’s vast propaganda. Elizabeth’s propaganda has not only enabled her to become immortalized, thus realizing the Tudor dream, but in a time of war, famine, and economic collapse, it was key to the survival of her 44-year reign.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“Elizabeth: Conflicting Perspectives of History”*

*Phuc Nguyen*

This proposal is one part a 45 minute panel, “Elizabethan Dreams: Propaganda, Gender, and the Study of History,” made-up of 3 Informative Presentations by Jacinda Buggy, Catherine Perez, and Phuc Nguyen. The pursuit of knowledge through analyzing differing ideas and perspectives is among the most important aspects of the American Dream, where the exchange of opinions is an inextricable right of citizens. Elizabeth I's reign was founded upon propaganda that is nearly impossible to sift through because of often one-sided presentations of information. For this reason, Queen Elizabeth I can be used as a case study to on the importance of separating truth from fiction. Studying opposing narratives can lead to more legitimate and authentic depictions of her reign. Observing conflicting perspectives can demonstrate the importance of dissenting viewpoints in historical academia, as well as pop-culture when a figure's image is distorted out of proportion.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“Medicinal Benefits of the Soursop”*

*Sarah Lynn Stamos*

*Annona muricata*, commonly known as the soursop or graviola, exhibits medicinal properties that can potentially lead to health benefits. It is very prominent in the West Indies, northern South America, and throughout many Asian countries and islands. The fruit of the soursop plant has been, and continues to be, used as a traditional medicine for a variety of ailments. It has been shown to help with medical problems such as stomach distress, fever, respiratory problems (such as cough and asthma) and more. The soursop is also well known for its potential benefits in fighting and preventing cancer along with suppressing inflammation. The intention of this research is to further study its benefits towards specific medical problems, with particular focus on its ability to suppress inflammation.

*“Help for the Health of the Hands that feed US”*

*Laura Elisa Mendez Castro, Rodrigo Alcala*

Lake Apopka is one of Florida's largest lakes. It is located in northwest Orange County near Seminole State College of Florida. Prior to World War II and throughout the 1950s, it was known internationally as a premier bass fishing lake. By the 1960s, however, the lake became severely polluted due to excessive pesticide and fertilizer contamination from surrounding farmlands. Biological abnormalities in the wildlife are well-documented, but scientific studies on the health of the farmworkers is virtually non-existent. Our study aims to interview people living in the vicinity of Lake Apopka regarding their knowledge of exposure to toxic chemicals as it relates to their health. Our goal is to ultimately demonstrate the need for outreach and educational programs targeted to the Lake Apopka farmworker community to dispel the existing myths and fears around lupus so that proper health care and treatment can be provided to the farmworkers.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“The Ivory Coast: Water Crisis and Solutions”*

*Carlota Bonnet*

Due to constant political conflict and civil wars from 2002-2011, the water infrastructures of the Ivory Coast greatly deteriorated. Today, the vast majority of the country has access to clean water, but a great amount of work still needs to be done.

*“Combating Food Deserts: Viable Local Solutions”*

*Max Taylor Matheu*

According to the USDA’s Economic Research Service, 23.5 million people live in food deserts across the United States. Nearly half of them are also low income. The USDA defines a food desert as a low access community where at least 500 people or 33% tract’s census population reside more than a mile from a supermarket in urban areas, and more than 10 miles in rural areas. Locally in St. Petersburg, the task of eradicating food deserts has largely fallen on the private sector. Building on the research of Rebecca Johns, Barnali Dixon, and Chris McHan of University of South Florida St. Petersburg, I will be looking at the effective and non-effective solutions that have been established, and whether or not there are other viable options outside of the private sector that can help ensure lasting positive effects on the communities of future dreamers consumed by food deserts.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“Domestic Violence Within Families”*

*Vanessa Caridad Rodriguez*

Domestic violence impacts a great number of people each day. Domestic violence related police calls have been found to constitute the single largest category of calls received by police. Domestic violence can cause a negative impact emotionally, psychologically and physically to the victims. This is a very important topic that isn’t usually discussed because it is a more private and personal battle. Domestic violence is rarely talked about due to the personal connection that it can have for that individual and personal issues aren’t normally discussed for a number of reasons, for example, emotional or financial dependence. People need to be more proactive; not only in protecting those who are in active domestic violence situations, but also be more open to talking.

*“Detecting the Genetics of Depression”*

*Stephanie L Bunch, Danielle Combs*

About 14.8 million Americans suffer from Depressive Disorders but do not receive adequate treatment for their condition. Despite the risks of this disease, a very toxic stigma surrounds depression which further exasperates the experience. Depression is known to be a chemical imbalance in the brain, but what is not known is whether there is a genetic predisposition to the disease. The main objective of this research was to determine what, if any, links there are between genetics and depression and the strength of the link. EEG and SPECT studies have shown that the brains of those with depression look different than those who do not have depression. Other diseases and mental illnesses have had strong ties to genetics and the nurture of a family, giving more evidence and justified questioning toward the genetic link to depression. The research also considers plausible treatments for depression.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“Writing a Novel in a Month”*

*Elizabeth Smoller*

NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) challenges participants to complete a 50k word novel during the month of November. Participants document their progress on an online forum where they can interact with other writers. For this project, every day I attempted to write 1667 words towards my current novel. The goal is to add 50k to my first draft by the end of the month. I spent most of October prepping for the event (refining my outline, developing character charts and world building). I then spent all of November focused on writing my first draft of my novel. I documented my progress on the NaNoWriMo website and also write weekly updates on my feelings about the event. At the conclusion of the event, I reflected on the experience and compose a presentation of tips that can help other writers who intend to participate in this event.

*“Reliability of Intuition”*

*Sydney Elise Brewner*

Every person has experienced the quick judgment of someone they have just met, or the instantaneous intuition of the right multiple choice answer on a test. However, this is more than just a feeling; intuition is the brain’s way of allowing one to have an instinct rather than a random conjecture. Two distinctive operational systems piece the brain together. One is very quick, and sometimes subconscious to humans when making decisions. The other system is more analytical and much slower. So why should humans trust their instincts when their brain is making a snap judgement based on the situation? This investigation will determine if our intuition is reliable enough to form rational and coherent decisions. It will also delve into the scientific processes that lead the brain to making instinctual choices before the body is even aware.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence part 2 of a 2-hour workshop”*

*Deliberative Democracy 2*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities. In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.



# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

## **San Jose Meeting Room**

*“Safety and Justice: How should communities reduce violence part 2 of a 2-hour workshop”*

*Deliberative Democracy 4*

This interactive workshop is appropriate for both students and faculty. Participants will engage in a 2-hour guided deliberation of the issue of safety and justice in the US with special attention to the impact on immigrants. They will not discuss or debate, but deliberate, using the National Issues Forum framework. This framework ensures a careful, nonpartisan way of presenting alternative solutions to your group and welcoming their different views. Designed to produce a rich investigation into what your group is thinking about an issue, the framework helps you arrive together at what is acceptable and what is not. The Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, American Dreams, American Dreamers, will engage participants in a national conversation entitled Safety and Justice: How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Conferees will consider a special focus on how to prevent violence toward immigrant populations in Florida in addition to the more broad national concern for violence prevention. After falling steadily for decades, the rate of violent crime in the US rose again in 2015 and 2016. Interactions between citizens and police are too often ending in violence. People are increasingly worried about safety in their communities. In the midst of the broad context for violence in American society, the challenges and plight of immigrant communities are not immune to violence. The Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting, incidents targeting Muslims and mosques, and a 6% national increase in Latino hate crimes in the U.S. with more significant increases in certain cities are examples of such violence.

## **Session 6: 4:00 p.m.-4:50 p.m.**

### **Nassau Meeting Room**

*“Radical Revision: Writing Imperfectly”*

*Brittany Wallace*

In her craft memoir *Bird by Bird*, Anne Lamott advocates for a process of radical revision in which the author gives herself permission to write a bare bones version of a story that can later be reworked through revision to create a solid second or third draft--a draft Lamott calls a "shitty first draft". The misconception that one should always strive for perfection on the first try runs rampant in the writing world. However, Lamott emphasizes the importance of not limiting or editing oneself in the first-draft process, and the value of writing down the really bad stuff out of which one can mine the really good stuff. As a writer, I have struggled to give myself permission to write something imperfect. This presentation explores how I seek to overcome the fear of imperfection and apply Lamott's theory to my own process of writing a collection of personal essays.



# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“The Evolution of Jazz from the 1920s to the 1940s”*

*Ian Andrew Vargas*

As a form of music, jazz is a particularly modern development, having its roots in early twentieth century New Orleans. The three decades spanning 1920 to 1950 were perhaps the most critical in the evolution of jazz. This research documents these changes and the conditions underlying their development. The 1920s saw the outset of the first great jazz soloists and composers as well as the advancement of new regional styles in cities such as Chicago and New York. The bleak economic climate of the Great Depression facilitated the transition away from the dominant styles of the prior decade toward commercially oriented big band swing music in the 1930s, followed by a rebirth of the Jazz Age styles in the 1940s with the development of bebop, which has come to largely define the direction of modern jazz. The impact of technological progress on jazz’s evolution during this period is also examined.

*“Parallels of Early Jewish and Christian Musical Traditions”*

*Ian Andrew Vargas*

The musical traditions of the early Church had a profound impact on the development of Western music. These traditions themselves share many parallels with early Hebrew musical customs, most notably the similarity between the liturgical activities of the Jewish synagogue and Catholic Church and the liturgical music itself. This research examines these parallels, including musical modes, the role of music in certain rituals, styles of chant, and the use of psalms. The Mosaic rituals of Judaism are compared to the early Church services, with critical similarities being examined and their origins being assessed to determine whether a direct correlation between such similarities can be attributed. While sufficient evidence exists suggesting that the development of early Church music was directly shaped in many ways by prior Hebrew customs, more evidence suggests that Greco-Roman practices were of greater influence.

*“Religion & The Modern Age”*

*Matt Allen Robinson*

Despite the challenges of being Christian in the year 2016, faith can positively redirect the course of society. My path to Christianity serves as the centerpiece of my project, a path that include learning a distorted version of the Bible in my youth, losing my faith, and rediscovering it in a dark period years later. I will then discuss how modern-day Christians have become hypocritical in their actions, causing the Millennial generation to run from the Church and other beneficial amenities, resulting in a "lost youth". Although our society seems to grow in acceptance of diverse cultural groups, it increasingly lacks a spiritual base. Due to that void, newer generations search for fulfillment in material things, resulting in hyper-sexuality and less individual thinking. I will be addressing the question of whether personal stories can affect others who no longer believe or never have, and if so, what effect that would have on society.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

## **St. Johns Meeting Room**

*“Antimicrobial Effects Of Holistic Oil Home Remedy For Diaper Rash”*

*Kenzi A Brooks*

The purpose of this experimental study was to determine the antimicrobial effects of a topical holistic oil remedy for diaper rash. Tea tree, lavender, coconut and grapeseed oils were tested against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Proteus mirabilis*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* using a Modified Agar-Well Diffusion Method. The yeast species tested were *Candida albicans*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. lusitanae*, *C. neoformans*, and *Rhodotorula rubra*. Preliminary results indicate that tea tree and lavender oils were inhibitory to all bacteria and yeasts tested. Coconut and grapeseed oils failed to show antimicrobial effects. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) and Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC) determinations were run to quantify the effects of tea tree and lavender oils on select Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria. The findings of this study is promising and as an offshoot to this, follow up work is underway to test other holistic oils with potential medicinal uses.

*“Characterization of bacteriophages specific for Vibrio spp. from the St. Johns River of Jacksonville, Florida”*

*Lyndsey S Lane*

Various *Vibrio* spp. are pathogenic, causing illness in humans. Researchers from Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida have collected *Vibrio vulnificus* from the St. Johns River water, posing a possible threat to humans. Specific bacteria can be controlled by bacteriophages. This research studies the natural bacteriophages in the St. John’s river water and sediment that target *Vibrio* species. Currently, samples from Reddie Point Preserve are being collected, isolated and tested for vibriophages. Samples are screened against *Vibrio parahemolyticus*. After isolation, the vibriophages will be characterized by morphology and genetics, hopefully increasing the knowledge of the vibriophages within the St. Johns River.

*“E.coli, the Incurable Infection”*

*Zaria Higgs, Lashawnd Johnson*

*Escherichia coli* (*E.coli*) is a bacteria found in the environment, foods, and intestines of people and animals. There are many types of *E.coli*, but this research will focus on *E.coli* 0157:H7 and non-0157 Shiga toxin-producing strains of *E.coli*. The main food products that contain these types of bacteria are beef and dairy products. Both types may inhabit the gastrointestinal tract of cattle, and potentially contaminate beef carcasses during processing. This presentation will educate you about *E.coli* infections, treatments, and preventions.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“Global Stability of Zika Virus Dynamics”*

*Savannah Victoria Bates*

The few mathematical models available in the literature to describe the dynamics of Zika virus are still in their initial stages of stability and bifurcation analysis, and they were in part developed as a response to the most recent outbreaks, including the one in Brazil in 2015, which has also given more hints to its association with Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) and microcephaly. The interaction between and the effects of vector and human transmission are a central part of these models. This work aims at extending and generalizing current research on mathematical models of Zika virus dynamics by providing rigorous global stability analyses of the models. In particular, for disease-free equilibria, appropriate Lyapunov functions are constructed using a compartmental approach and a matrix-theoretic method, whereas for endemic equilibria, a relatively recent graph-theoretic method is used. Numerical evidence of the existence of a transcritical bifurcation is also discussed.

## **Jacksonville Meeting Room**

*“Sustainable Living: Agriculture and Food Security”*

*Katherine Hernandez*

According to a 2015 National Geographic article by Rachel Baker, our world population could reach 9.7 billion by 2050. In 2011, UNICEF reported that we surpassed the 7 billion mark. This 2 billion increase in population is due to our extensive exponential growth as a species. Regardless of any other health and environmental concerns associated with our growth, these individuals need to be fed and provided with access to clean water for their survival. Here is where our next environmental dilemma for this century originates – how do we feed a growing population sustainably? Through extensive online research stemming from various environmental organizations, protection agencies, and other scientific databases, the following solutions have been found: incentives for farmers, precision agriculture, new crop varieties, drip irrigation, and smarter diets. However, research shows that all these options are only temporary and the only real solution is the education of our citizens and mass collaboration. It is scientifically clear that our survival depends on it.

*“Permaculture Gardens: Cost Effective and Self-Sustaining”*

*Garrick Roe*

A disconnection exists between people and where and how their food is produced. The driving factors in this disconnection are cost and convenience. People want food that is fast and inexpensive. This leads to people eating foods that are unhealthy and produced in a manner that is unsustainable, resulting in poor health and damage to the environment. A permaculture, or sustainable garden that utilizes natural ecological systems that are already in place, solves these challenges by being cost effective and self-sustaining. My research explores how a permaculture garden can unite people and their food sources.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

*“South Africa Sustainability Initiative”*

*Lisa Goldsworthy, Kasey DeHaan, Danielle Dickey, Selena Houck*

Eight University of Central Florida Burnett Honors College students traveled to South Africa and participated in a month long service-learning study abroad program. Several sustainability projects were completed in the township of Intabazwe and at the Nambiti Game Reserve. This group of American Dreamers believes that everyone should have access to healthy living spaces, medical care, education, electricity, and clothing. The projects completed at the Intabazwe orphanage focused on addressing these needs while providing them the resources to sustainably improve their community and create new opportunities for the people who live there. Projects completed at Nambiti involved conservation of local plant and animal species, including removing invasive species, tracking leopard ranges, and working to prevent rhino poaching. Through the projects, these students gained global leadership skills and served as representatives of the Honors community and the American Dream as we helped these communities to find their own South African Dream.

*“Aviation as a savior of our communities.”*

*David Oguche Abraham*

Aviation is a very successful establishment in our world today, and it has empowered so many nations and communities. For example, the country of Qatar has experienced increased economic growth and a myriad of positive externalities fostered by a robust aviation industry. These actions have caused a huge improvement in the economy in terms of education, highlighted by their free aviation programs, and availability of good resources, such as basic infrastructures and social amenities. As a leading model country in this regard, Qatar is the benchmark for most countries, especially the developing ones. This research examined the benefits and economic importance of various aviation organizations and the impact they have on society. In addition, this research compared the findings to those of the developing country of Nigeria. While Nigeria has an established aviation system already in place, it has not produced the desired contributions to the country as expected. Various areas of improvement for Nigeria’s aviation system are identified and discussed.

## **Flagler Meeting Room**

*“DuBois Park: An Archaeological Gem”*

*Kia Lyn Taylor Riccio*

Dubois Park, located on the edge of the Jupiter Inlet has a rich and complex history, first inhabited by native Floridians dating back more than 4,000 years. The native Floridians built complex mounds from oyster and clam shells. Soon enough the Spanish arrived, bringing rich trade goods and valuable trade-beads. A little while later, a pioneering Floridan family settled on the mounds, eventually building a sizeable house for a growing family. Dubois has been through many phases; from a Spanish trade port,

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

pineapple farm, ceremonial site, village center, to a modern beach getaway. Dubois Park is a historical and prehistorical gem of South Florida that frequently gets overlooked. During my presentation, I will elaborate on the historic significance of this site, the phases it has gone through, and the actions my affiliates and I undertake to preserve this site for future generations while learning about Florida's past.

*“Supply-Side Economics - A Twenty Trillion Dollar Legacy”*

*Landon Harper*

When Ronald Reagan won the Presidency in 1980, a new wave of “supply-side” economic thinkers took power. Their main belief is in the idea that tax cuts will not only create economic growth but will also lower the national debt through increased revenue. The national debt is approaching twenty trillion dollars while taxes are at some of the lowest levels in modern history. For many conservative political leaders, the debt is a rallying cry for change. Paradoxically, many continuously propose tax cuts which drive down government revenues and subsequently increase the debt. The purpose of this study was to present a systematic review of the correlations in taxes, spending, deficits, debt, and economic growth in post-World War II America, to determine how much, if any, validity there has been in the claims made by those who support supply-side economics.

*“North Korea, South Korea, United States”*

*Amir Muhammad*

Tensions have been rising between North Korea and the United States ever since the Korean War. To add to the already troublesome relationship, the United States is allied with South Korea. From Kim Jong Un being put on the sanctioned list to annual war games being commenced between South Korea and the United States, a possibility of a war between these two countries appears likely. It's no surprise that nuclear tests have gone underway with North Korea successfully launching their fifth nuclear attempt “towards” the United States. Until missiles are launched directly at the United States or vice versa a war is unlikely however, it's only a matter of time.

*“Globalization of Green Energy”*

*Marinelly Munoz, Dylan Spears, Quratulain Amin*

This presentation will demonstrate how effective green energy can be and its advantages, as well as, the negative consequences of continued use of fossil fuels. Our focus will be on the growing trends of the use of biofuel. The beginning will briefly describe the globalization of green energy, types of green energy and which countries are leading the transition towards its use.

## **Mandarin Meeting Room**

*“Sharing the American Dream Through Community Service”*

*Dustin Eric Lemke*

Many of our Honors Programs promote community service through service learning courses, leadership courses, or student clubs. Our goal with these projects is to support that great American idea of "to whom much has been given, much is required." But how do we make sure that our service is effective and sustainable so we aren't forcing our ideal American Dream where it isn't wanted? Join this discussion about avoiding the pitfalls of community service.

# Saturday – Session 6

4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

## ***Dinner as Text (on your own) 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.***

A cuisine based exploration and immersion in the diversity of cultures found in Jacksonville. Try out this short version of the NCHC signature pedagogy, “City as Text.” We will meet at 5:15 in the Atrium for a 10 minute orientation to Jacksonville's immigration history. On your own, anytime between 5:30 and 9:00 in small groups visit a nearby ethnic restaurant of your choice. Sunday at 10-11am we will reconvene in the Atrium to stitch together our reading of the text of the Baymeadows ethnic restaurant corridor. Since the dinner is on your own time, feel free to combine this with a visit to MOCA.

## ***Reception at MOCA 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.***

MOCA Jacksonville collects works of art ranging from 1960 to the present, including painting, printmaking, sculpture, and photography. Mingle with FCHC friends, check out the galleries and enjoy some hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks (beer and wine for those of age). Busses will run loops every 20 minutes leaving the Embassy Suites at 6:30 (last bus 7:15), and return 7:30 (last bus 8:30). Feel free to combine a visit to the museum with Dinner as Text!

## **Atrium**

### ***Student Board Game Night and Brain Bowl 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.***

Board game Night: Chill out and enjoy a relaxing evening of board games; bring your own to play or chill out on the sidelines.

Brain Bowl: Show off your intellectual prowess in this academic competition in which teams, organized by college, are pitted against one another

# Sunday Feb. 26

## **Atrium**

***Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.***

## **Rooms Jacksonville and St. Johns meeting rooms**

***Poster Session 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.***

- "Variable Mass Oscillation" Arjune Toolsie, Jordan Francis
- "The Battle between men and the mental health stigmas they confront" Mardwina Lasseur
- "Minorities and Hospital Characteristics" Dr. Hanadi Hamadi, Aurora Tafili
- "Digital Misrepresentation of the Human Body and it's Effects" Paula Christitina Davis
- "Unfortunately, Donald Trump's Presidency Is Not New" Aanchel Shah
- "AMERICAN MASS MEDIA: THE VECTOR OF ISLAMOPHOBIA" Jehojada Jesod Merilan
- "Gun Control in America" Rachael Elizabet Hobbs
- "Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Mental Health" Marissa Strebeck
- "Santeria" Nery Leon
- "Falling For Improvement: Analyzing CVA Fall Data to Improve Healthcare Systems" Anthony Noll
- "Diagnosis for Alzheimer's in our blood?" Lilian Jennette Galvez
- "Host Physiology is Affected by the Microbial Metabolism of Dietary Fats" Amanda Zoyla Velez
- "Do Our Bodies Have the Ability to Change Our Minds?" Bridget E Thoni
- "3D printing Drones/Multi-Rotors" Azher Ali Hamid
- "How Women Have Shaped the History of Mathematics" Christy Wenyi LaFlamme
- "Subjects of the Gaze: Rubens and his Female Portraits" Gabrielle Christine van Ravenswaay
- "The Dark Side of the Bulldog" Nicole Kantchev



# Sunday Feb. 26

## Rooms: St. Augustine, San Jose, Flagler, Mandarin

### Writing Contest Winners 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Poetry: <b>San Jose Room</b>	Title & Author	Author	College
First Place	Lucidity – James Frye	James Frye	University of Central Florida
Second Place	Glass Figurines – Jacqueline Cano	Jacqueline Cano	Jacksonville University
Third Place	Those Faraway Days – Carlos Alfonzo-Marcelino	Carlos Alfonzo-Marcelino	Santa Fe College
Honorable Mention	The Hero of an Hour – Bayla Bessemer	Bayla Bessemer	University of West Florida
<b>Freshman/Sophomore Documented Research or Critical Thinking</b>	<b>St. Augustine Room</b>		
1 x	Bioprospecting – Fareesa Aftab	Fareesa Aftab	Broward College
2 x	Hesse’s Siddhartha – Sean Clayton	Sean Clayton	Seminole College
3 x	Amer. Mass Media – Jehojada Merilan	Jehojada Merilan	Valencia College
4 x	Beauty Stereotyping – Ajisha Alwin	Ajisha Alwin	Seminole College
<b>Fiction</b>	<b>Flagler Room</b>		
First Place	The Spectacle – Alexandria Egan	Alexandria Egan	Santa Fe College
Second Place	The Couch and the Robot – Shauna Clifton	Shauna Clifton	Valencia College
Third Place	Memoriam – Allison Milian	Allison Milian	Santa Fe College
Honorable Mention	Modern Dreams – Ajisha Alwin	Ajisha Alwin	Seminole College
<b>Junior/Senior Documented Research or Critical Thinking</b>	<b>Mandarin Room</b>		
First Place	Gender Stereotypes Regarding Workers Who Request Family Leave – Marissa Strebeck	Strebeck, Marissa	University of West Florida
Second Place	“A Painful but Exciting Ecstasy”: Emotional Experience and Intratextual Unreality in <i>To the Lighthouse</i> – India La Haise	La Haise, India	Jacksonville University
Third Place	Developing Intelligence: Examining the Processes by Which Animals Learn and Understand Their Environment - Adam Johnson	Johnson, Adam	Jacksonville University
Honorable Mention	Castiglione in the 21st Century: We are All Courtiers – Shelby Mickler	Mickler, Shelby	Jacksonville University

# Sunday Feb. 26

## **Room: Nassau**

### ***Dinner as Text Reflection, 10:00am -11:00am***

We will ask everyone who ate at the same restaurant to gather together and compare notes, and come to consensus on some observations. Then we will share those observations and hear those of groups who went to other restaurants and see if we can stitch together a sense of what we learn about immigration in Jacksonville from this neighborhood. Anyone is welcome to listen in, whether or not you participated!

## **Rooms: Jacksonville and St. Johns**

***Conference Closing, Annual Business Meeting, Elections 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.***

## **Room: Jacksonville**

***FCHC Executive Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.***

# Sunday Feb. 26

## Thank you!

I would like to thank the following people who helped to make this conference successful:

Amber Dodge, folklorist extraordinaire, who is always my best partner in all things cultural. Thanks for helping connect me with the craftswomen who gave the conference its international flair.

James Rowland, webmaster, who went above and beyond the call of duty by answering emails day and night, fixing disappeared websites, wrangling cranky programs into submission, training new conference chairs year after year, and generally keeping everything running. You are wonderful!

Theresa Ference, Hicks Honors College Graduate Assistant, who helped from the beginning with the planning and organization of the conference, and in particular did the research to make the Dinner as Text activity possible. Could not have done it without your enthusiasm and research!

Gregg Kaufman, Kettering Foundation Research Associate, National Issues Forums Institute Board Member, and Consultant, The Deliberative Voice, who brought the Deliberative Democracy forums to UNF and now to the FCHC. Thank you for all the work you put into organizing the sessions, editing the issue guide, and training the moderators.

Thank you to Bobby Hom (FCHC President) and Cayla Lanier (Treasurer) for your patience and ongoing support. You were always there when I needed you with advice, careful analysis, and understanding.

Thank you also to the FCHC board for their support throughout all the conference calls and for pitching in wherever I needed you!

Thank you to my director, Dr. Jeff Michelman for letting me add yet one more task to my job.

Leslie Kaplan

Associate Director, Hicks Honors College

2017 Conference Chair and President-elect, FCHC

