

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

### Tuesday, April 10

- 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Paper Session I
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Paper Session II
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Paper Session III
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Student Debate: This House Would Support a Third Gender Option

### Wednesday, April 11

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Paper Session IV
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 p.m. Paper Session V
- 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. Pizza Lunch for Symposium Participants and Faculty Sponsors, Student Union Ballrooms
- 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Paper Session VI
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Paper Session VII
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Paper Session VIII
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. 3-Minute Video Research Competition

### Thursday, April 12

- 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Paper Session IX
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Paper Session X
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Paper Session XI
- 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Poster Session and Reception, Student Union Ballrooms
- 7:30 p.m. – 7:50 p.m. Awards Ceremony, Student Union Ballrooms

### Friday, April 13

- 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Lecture by Dr. Stephanie Hinnershitz  
*Different Shade of Justice: Asian American Civil Rights in the South*  
Student Union Theater with a book signing to follow

All Paper Sessions, the Student Debate, the 3-Minute Video Research Competition, and Lecture will be held in the Student Union Theatre

**TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018**

**9:30 A.M. – 10:45 A.M. PAPER SESSION I (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Ubaraj Katawal, Department of English

**“How Is That Said: Alaska vs. Georgia”**

Erica Martinez  
Department of English  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“Having Faith”**

Kendall Anne Salter  
Department of English  
Dr. Ubaraj Katawal, Faculty Adviser

**“‘Дом vs Home’: A Study of How Differences in Vowel Reduction and Morphology Create Commons Errors in the Pronunciation of Vowels in Russian English Learners”**

Joshua Hanson  
Department of English  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“Voice and Silence”**

Lydia Marie Flintroyal  
Department of English  
Dr. Jacob Jewusiak, Faculty Adviser

**“Feminine Autonomy and the Commodification of Virginity in *Measure for Measure*”**

Taylor Collins  
Department of English  
Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer, Faculty Adviser

**11:00 A.M. – 12:15 P.M. PAPER SESSION II (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Kelly Davidson, Department of Modern and Classical Languages

**“How Negrophilia in Nineteen-Twentieth France Influenced Their Musical Culture Today”**

Melissa Raquel Wilcox  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Kelly Davidson, Faculty Adviser

**“Archetypical Representations of Hispanic Families”**

Danielle Spivey  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Ericka Parra, Faculty Adviser

**“Translating, Bridging the Cultural Gap”**

Anna Ruth Shaw  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Ericka Parra, Faculty Adviser

**“Connected Through History: Moorish Influences on the Iberian Culture”**

Erica Martinez  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Amy Aronson, Faculty Adviser

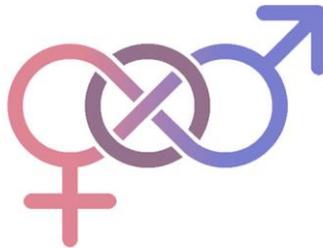




**5:00 P.M. – 6:15 P.M. STUDENT DEBATE  
(STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Michael Eaves, Department of Communication Arts

**DEBATE TOPIC: THIS HOUSE WOULD SUPPORT A THIRD GENDER  
OPTION**



Speaker of the House: Hannah Tabrizi

Pro: Travis Edwards and Shanta Johnson

Con: Kelsey Townsend and Haley Vinson

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018**

**9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. PAPER SESSION IV (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Michael Savoie, Honors College

**“A Study of the Elaboration Likelihood Model Through Voter Participation”**

Sylandi Simone Brown  
Department of Communication Arts  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser



**“The Philosophy of Veganism Expressed by Vegans”**

Mayara Camacho Storer  
Department of Communication Arts  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser

**“The Wantful Eight”**

Gabriel Ryan Gonzalez  
Department of Communication Arts  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“The Girl: Hegemony Within Counterhegemony”**

Scarlett Leigh Ashe  
Department of Communication Arts  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M. PAPER SESSION V (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Charles Johnson, Department of History

**“To Make the Eyes Open: The Spirit(s) of Black Mountain College”**

Aaron McMillan, April Salas, and Emily K. White  
Departments of Political Science, History, and  
Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Dr. Charles Johnson, Faculty Adviser

**1:00 P.M. – 1:50 P.M. PAPER SESSION VI (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Grazyna Walczak, Department of Modern and Classical  
Languages

**“Evolution’s Effect on Obesity”**

Chelsea Ramírez  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Karen Acosta, Faculty Adviser

**“Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: A Defense of Marginalized People  
Through Literature”**

Sydni Dozier  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Grazyna Walczak, Faculty Adviser

**“The Voice of The City: ‘Una señora’ José Donoso’s Short Story”**

Destiny Craig-Mojica  
Department of Modern and Classical Languages  
Dr. Ericka Parra, Faculty Adviser

**2:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M. PAPER SESSION VII (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Crystal Randolph, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

**“Forms and Fauns: The Corollaries Between C.S. Lewis’s *The Chronicles of Narnia* and Plato’s *Republic*”**

Stephanine Elizabeth Larkin  
Department of Biology and Honors College  
Dr. Dennis Bogyo, Faculty Adviser

**“Consumer Aids for Online Shopping”**

Leah Johnson, Kayla Rivera, and Priya Patel  
Department of Computer Science  
Dr. Chunlei Lui, Faculty Adviser

**“One in the Many, Many, in the One: Understandings of Existence, Identity, and the Individual in Japan”**

Audrey Whittle  
Native American and Indigenous Studies Program  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“America and the Paris Agreement: Theories of Environmental Philosophy as Applied to Changing American Policies”**

Tiana D’Acchioli  
Environmental Studies Program  
Dr. Ari Santas, Faculty Adviser



Moderator: Dr. Marc Pufong, Department of Political Science

**“Sandy Hook Shooting: Why the Suspicion?”**

Yanira Gonzalez  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Transformative Presidency: Richard Nixon, Unilateral Directives and Gains in Foreign Policy”**

Aaron M. McMillan and Matthew A. Allen  
Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser

**“The Predicting Factors for Female Incarceration Rates Across the 50 States”**

Yanet Garcia  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser



**“Police Homicide of Unarmed Citizens Across the 50 States”**

Christian Shellman  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Voter Turnout in the 2016 General Election: Does Ease of Voting Increase Voter Turnout?”**

Kennedy Horne  
Department of Political Science  
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. 3-MINUTE VIDEO RESEARCH COMPETITION  
(STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

The Undergraduate Research Council (URC) of Valdosta State University invited undergraduate students to showcase their original research through the making and presenting of a 3-minute video. The top eight student videos were chosen by the URC to be presented live at the 24rd Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium. Three winners will be chosen by audience voting as well as a panel of judges to win cash prizes and have their videos highlighted on the Valdosta State University website.

**Top Eight Finalists:**

Steven Remington, **“Experimental Learning in Engineering: Building an Electric Control System”**

Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering  
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

Lacey Reddick and Olivia Rosener, **“Generational Social Differences at VSU”**

Department of English and Honors College  
Ms. Susan LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

Kristy Clark, **“Populism and Trump”**

Department of Political Science  
Dr. James LaPlant, Faculty Adviser



Megan Slater and Hanna Moss, **“ROV’s in STEM Education”**

Department of Chemistry  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

Bree Bass and Justin Myrick, **“Study of the Central Nervous System of the Blue Crab”**

Department of Biology  
Dr. Timothy Fort, Faculty Adviser

Patrick Elliot, **“The Effect of Egocentrism on Vocabulary Development”**

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Dr. Crystal Randolph, Faculty Adviser

Carson Anderson, **“The Harmonic Series and the Desert Crossing Problem”**

Department of Mathematics  
Dr. Shaun Ault, Faculty Adviser

Caylor Mark , **“Vitamin C and Cancer”**  
Department of Chemistry  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018**

**9:30 A.M. – 10:45 A.M. PAPER SESSION IX (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

**“How Technology Influences Our Approach to Mathematics”**

James E. Henderson  
Department of Mathematics  
Drs. Iwan Elstak and Charles Kicey, Faculty Advisers

**“Conics and Generalization Through Metrics”**

Jessica Wellington and Christine Zeigler  
Department of Mathematics  
Dr. Charles Kicey, Faculty Adviser

**“Drug Legalization in America”**

Jonathan Goldthwaite  
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Dr. Christine James, Faculty Adviser

**“A Survey of Criminal Justice Professionals: Efficient Identification of Mental Disorders”**

Katlyn Ford, and Yanet Garcia  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Fred Knowles, Faculty Adviser

**2:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M. PAPER SESSION X (STUDENT UNION THEATRE)**

Moderator: Dr. Glenda Swan, Department of Art and Design

**“Developing a Novel Delivery System for a Three Pronged Epidemic”**

Domonique Arrington, Nia Myers, Zalak Patel, and Chris Slaton

Department of Chemistry

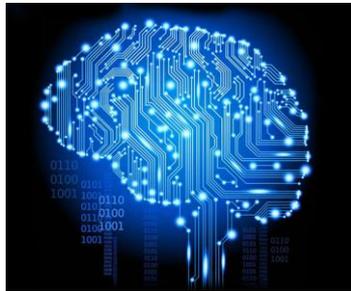
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Integration of AI in Business”**

Joshua Jones, Jacquelynn Trapani, and Andrew Wells

Department of Computer Science

Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser



**“Questionable Bravery: The Use of Native Americans as Mascots”**

James D. Dean III

Native American and Indigenous Studies Program

Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“A Brief Overview of Modern Scatting Techniques”**

Daniel M. Wade

Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences and Engineering Studies

Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

Moderator: Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

**“A Novel Approach to Coral Restoration in the Florida Keys; Post Irma”**

Raenah A. Brown, Kaler M. Tomlinson, Christopher A. Slaton, Marcus W. Diaz, Corey J. McGlynn, Yeong Hun Jeong, and Zachary C. Crews  
Department of Chemistry  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser



**“Advances of Autonomous Vehicles”**

Brandon Rawlings and Larry McAllister  
Department of Computer Science  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

**“The Federal Implementation of VAWA 2013 in Indian Country”**

Yanet Garcia, Katlyn Ford, and Pedro Ortiz  
Department of Native American Studies  
Dr. Fred Knowles, Faculty Adviser

**“Genocides: Exploring the Genocides of Rwanda and Myanmar”**

Nataly Jimenez  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Wilson Huang, Faculty Adviser

**6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. POSTER SESSION AND RECEPTION  
(STUDENT UNION BALLROOMS)**

**7:30 P.M. – 7:50 P.M. AWARDS CEREMONY AND PRESENTATION OF  
BEST POSTER AWARDS  
(STUDENT UNION BALLROOMS)**

Welcome: Dr. Richard Carvajal  
President

Remarks: Dr. Bob Smith  
Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs

Presentation of Best Poster Awards

## **POSTERS**

### **ART**

**“Doing Business in Domestic Spaces: The Caupona of Sotericus”**

Marlene Gray

Dr. Glenda Swan, Faculty Adviser

**“How Negative Images of Ancient Greek Women  
Enforce Gender Norms”**

Malinda Louise Sees

Dr. Glenda Swan, Faculty Adviser

### **BIOLOGY**

**“Easy Methods for DNA Extraction on *Cercospora archidicola*”**

Damion Anthony Castellano

Dr. Emily Cantonwine, Faculty Adviser

**“Mycology in Secondary Education”**  
Jasmine Carrie Change  
Dr. Emily Cantonwine, Faculty Adviser

**“Prevalence of *Dirofilaria immitis* Infected *Aedes albopictus* in and Around Lowndes County, Georgia”**  
Christopher Adam Slaton  
Dr. Eric Chambers, Faculty Adviser

**“Short term Effects of Hurricane Irma on the Phytoplankton of Lake Louise, Georgia”**  
Marque'l K. Gould  
Dr. James A. Nienow, Faculty Adviser

**“The Effect of Nitrogen on Corn Smut, Insects, and Corn Yield”**  
Andres Contreras  
Dr. Emily Cantonwine, Faculty Adviser



**“The Importance of *Wolbachia* Bacteria in Mosquito Control and Virus Transmission”**  
Nia Keyes Myers  
Dr. Eric Chambers, Faculty Adviser

**“Variation in Alarm Call Structure Within and Across Bouts of Calling of Gunnison’s Prairie Dogs”**  
Elizabeth Delk  
Dr. William Loughry, Faculty Adviser

**“Variation in the Alarm Calls of Female Gunnison’s Prairie Dogs”**

Schylar Cheyenne Nipper  
Dr. William Loughry, Faculty Adviser

**CHEMISTRY**

**“A New Graphene Synthesis; From Research and Development to Patent Application”**

Kory D. Burns, Zachary J. Barton, Kyle V. Brooks, Angela B. Bass, Weldon C. Lane, Megan D. Slater, Caitlyn S. Heesh,  
Daniel J. Kight, and Pavan Patel  
Dr. Thomas Manning and Dr. Russ Goddard, Faculty Advisers

**“A Novel Approach to Bryostatins Synthesis”**

Weldon C. Lane  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Building a Remote Operated Vehicle to Test Water”**

Megan D. Slater and Hanna G. Moss  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Coumarin Boronic Acid: Stability and Properties”**

Ashilee T. Thomas  
Dr. Yakov Woldman, Faculty Adviser

**“Detection of Peroxynitrite in Macrophages with Coumarin Boronic Acid”**

Weldon C. Lane  
Dr. Yakov Woldman, Faculty Adviser

**“Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Temperature and Hurricane Irma”**

Raenah A. Brown, Kaler M. Tomlinson, Christopher A. Slaton, Marcus W. Diaz, Corey J. McGlynn, Yeong Hun Jeong, and Zachary C. Crews  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Fifteen Species at Bahia Honda State Park: Who Returned After Irma”**

Raenah A. Brown, Kaler M. Tomlinson, Christopher A. Slaton, Marcus W. Diaz, Corey J. McGlynn, Yeong Hun Jeong, and Zachary C. Crews  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Internal Standards, Standard Additions and Easily Ionizable Elements in Flame AA”**

Domonique S. Arrington, Julianna L. Masonheimer, James K. Clements, Elesha T. Cole, Nicole D. Stembridge, Ashilee T. Thomas, Heather B. Tomlinson, Zalak B. Patel, Matthew S. Tuten, Kaela L. Senn, and Salena D. Glenn  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Optimizing Taxol’s Medicinal Efficacy; Use of QSAR Calculations to Predict New Derivatives for a Prominent Cancer Drug”**

Nia K. Myers, John T. Exum, Abigail K. Schwartz, Rinna D. Ponder, Konnor E. MacKey, Salena D. Glenn, Jaryd A. Hynes, Nigel K. Dunbar, Nicole D. Stembridge, Caylor R. Mark, Bailee N. Coes, Kenyanna S. Parrish, Robert S. Murphy, Christopher A. Slaton, Domonique S. Arrington, Shabri I. Simpson, and Daniel J. Kight  
Dr. Thomas Manning, Faculty Adviser

**“Spectroscopic and Electrochemical Characterization of Iron (III) Oxide Nanoparticulate Films”**

Jasmine L. Harris  
Dr. Linda de la Garza, Faculty Adviser

**“Strategic Exercises in Vocabulary: Turning a Puzzle into a Patent and a Book!”**

Megan D. Slater and Hanna G. Moss  
Dr. Thomas J. Manning, Faculty Adviser



**“Synthesis of Boronic Esters on Silica, Molecular Sieves, and Anhydrous Sodium Sulfate”**

Karla H. Diaz, Mehvish Durrani, Drew Johnson, and Abbey Warren  
Dr. John T. Barbas, Faculty Adviser

**COMMUNICATION ARTS**

**“A Cultural Analysis of the Film *In Time*”**

Nina Bald and Jessica Bald  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“An Examination of Homelessness in Youth and College Students”**

Breanna Johnson  
Dr. William Faux, Faculty Adviser

**“Gender Studies Analysis for *Moonlight*”**

Shanel Brock and Wilfred Kinuthia  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“*Get Out*: An Analysis of the Film and its Underlying Messages on Race in America”**

Kaylon Baker, Jerrick Taylor, and Charles Vinson  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“Ideologies in *Hacksaw Ridge*”**

Hamilton Whitford, Shawna Lucas and Jonathan Bice  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“Language in the Media: Bill Cosby versus Harvey Weinstein”**

Jacobe D. Love  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“Let’s Talk Cultural Appropriation”**

Devion Jamal Lewis  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“Miley Cyrus and the Dramatism Theory”**

Kristina Clay  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Faculty Adviser

**“Representation of African American Women in Media”**

Paige Buchanan  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“The Burning Repercussions of Hyper-Masculinity”**

Nicholas A. Gillis  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“The War for Equality in Hollywood”**

Andrew James Herring  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser



**“Women Represented in Media and Their Pay”**

Shawna Lucas  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

**“Zootopia”**

Tamera Sanders, Eboni Register, and Avery Wright  
Dr. Nicole Cox, Faculty Adviser

## COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

### **“The Relationship between Pitch Perception and Pitch Production in Both Music and Speech”**

Jeremy W. Bowman  
Dr. Matthew Carter, Faculty Adviser

### **“What Did I Just Read? The Effects of Variable Reading Rate on Silent Reading Comprehension”**

Desiree R. Goldstein  
Dr. Matthew Carter, Faculty Adviser

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

### **“An Exploration of Red Black Trees and Applications”**

KD Adkins, Bethany Norton, Omar Batyah, Walter Hufstetler,  
and Joanne Wardell  
Dr. Anurag Dasgupta, Faculty Adviser

### **“Analysis and Simulation of Height Advantage in Tennis Games”**

Joyce Liu and Jon Liu  
Dr. Anurag Dasgupta, Faculty Adviser

### **“Application of Wireless Technology in Vehicular Environment”**

Jasson Isai Romero-Rosales and Michael Johnson  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

### **“How Advancements in Computing Sparked Innovations in E-commerce Practices”**

Alaina Johnson, Jeremy Tannenbaum, and Utsav Patel  
Dr. Chunlei Liu, Faculty Adviser

## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

**“Literacy and Culture: A Perspective from Brazil”**

Eric Castro

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Literacy and Culture: A Perspective from China”**

Arris Hill

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Literacy and Culture: A Perspective from Germany”**

Aaron Brown

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Literacy and Culture: A Perspective from Jamaica”**

Kylah S. Gilbert

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Literacy and Culture: A Perspective of Illness”**

Kyra C. Keenan

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Literacy and Culture: Generational Differences”**

Alycia Ashmore

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using *My Fair Lady* to Demonstrate Speech Pathology”**

Joycealyn Driskell

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using the Movie *Charlotte’s Web* to Teach the Life Cycle of Spiders”**

Xcia Jones

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using the Movie *The Piano* To Teach Sign Language”**

Chloe Ellison

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Using the Movie *The Wizard of Oz* in Literacy Education”**

Seth T. Young

Dr. Lucia Lu, Faculty Adviser



**ENGLISH**

**“An Analysis of Accent and Dialect in Literature”**

Ashley Franklin

Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“‘er’ and ‘ow’ Sounds, Points of Stress, and Changes in Tone:  
Australian English vs. European English”**

Taylor Moore and Taylor Stanfill

Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“How Pronunciation Changes As You Grow: From  
‘Yeyow’ and ‘Geen’ to ‘Yellow’ and ‘Green’”**

Markesia Barron and Stephanie Pryor

Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“Pronunciation and Accents between English Learners  
and Native Speakers”**

Amara LaJune Moore and Kanami Sugisaki  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“‘R’ Sounds and ‘Ought’ Endings in New York and South Georgia”**

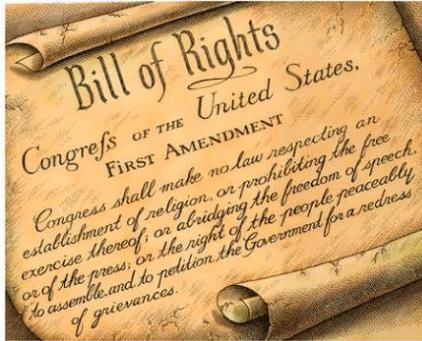
Jalyea Cheeks  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“Sounds in New Orleans, Louisiana vs. South Georgia”**

Janessa Williams and Tahjma Harris  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“The Current State of the First Amendment on College Campuses”**

Kelsey Dickerson, Darla Dunning, Alex Dunn, and Julie Jernigan  
Dr. Patricia Miller, Faculty Adviser



**“The Difference between the Accent of a New Yorker and South  
Carolinian in the Pronunciation of the  
Words ‘Porridge’ and ‘Comma’”**

James Beckman  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“The ‘ing’ Ending and the ‘o’ Vowel Sounds in an Alaska Dialect  
Versus the South Georgia Dialect”**

Lindsey Garren  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**“The Letters F and P Sound is Different; Red or Ed; Green or Geen,  
Fun or Pun; Truck or Tuck; Sounds of a Toddler vs. an Adult”**

Gwenda Hendrick and Betsy Wilson  
Dr. Li-Mei Chen, Faculty Adviser

**MATHEMATICS**

**“On the Amazing Properties of Cyclic Quadrilaterals”**

Qua’Shaiila Jackson, Laura Ramirez, and Magnolia Rodrigues Mendoza  
Dr. Iwan Elstak, Faculty Adviser

**“Toward an Understanding of Skewed Top Corridors”**

Joanne Wardell  
Dr. Shaun Ault, Faculty Adviser

**MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES**

**“Distant Relatives: A Comparative Analysis of the Arabic  
and Spanish Languages”**

Erica Martinez  
Ms. Mariya Chakir, Faculty Adviser

**“Input, Output, and Interaction in Second Language Acquisition”**

Sydni Dozier  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

**“The Effects of Language Learning and Accent on Identity”**

Jacquelyn Ann Bolton  
Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

**“The Zone of Proximal Development and Second Language Teaching”**

Amara LaJune Moore

Dr. Victoria Russell, Faculty Adviser

**“Ximena En America: English as Spoken by an English Language Learner”**

Erica Martinez

Dr. Michelle Ocasio, Faculty Adviser

**NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES**

**“Learn From Me: A Discussion of Native American Education”**

Erin Shaw

Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“The Seminole Tribe of Florida”**

Michele Jane Maxwell

Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser



**NURSING**

**“Augmenting Labor: The Examination of the Use of Pitocin on Material and Neonatal Health”**

Joseph Barthle, Amber Hughes, Jennifer Vollrath, and  
Grayson Perryman

Dr. Vicki Wetter, Faculty Adviser

**“Community-acquired Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in Student Athletes: How Preventative Strategies Will Reduce the Prevalence and Severity of Ca-MRSA Infection”**

Vanessa Cox, Kaylee Litteral, Ruth-Ann Shackelford, and  
Brandon Wilkes  
Ms. Donna Corbitt, Faculty Adviser

**“Effects of Influenza Vaccine on Children Illness”**

Kate Vonier, Liudmila Popova, Olivia Kim, and Sadiyyah Bell  
Dr. Dee Ott, Faculty Adviser



**“Impact of Traumatic Deliveries and Postpartum Depression”**

Ria Jade Williams, Grace Snaza, Audrey Mbah, and Alexis Douglas  
Ms. Denise Sauls, Faculty Adviser

**“Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and the Effects of Parental Involvement in Care”**

Brianna Williams, Deborah Marine, Levi Sirmons, and  
Ann Crummey  
Ms. Kwanza Thomas, Faculty Adviser

**“Nutrition and Wound Healing”**

Hannah Bowman, Jamie Watson, Alexis Kitchens, and Katelyn Rahn  
Ms. Paige Krispin, Faculty Adviser

**“Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Hospitalized Patients”**

Kalie Whiddon, Bridget Scherer, Shaniya Cisco, and Chandler Larkin  
Ms. Debbie Sauls, Faculty Adviser

**“Stress in College Students”**

Colton Vanover, Jodie Nobles, Jacob Gravitt, and Hadley Barthel  
Ms. Kynthia James, Faculty Adviser

**“The Childhood Obesity Crisis”**

Jakia Flowers, Crystal Swanson, Shelby Zakarian, Marie Barrett,  
and Jaison Morning  
Dr. Lois Bellflowers, Faculty Adviser

**PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**“Painting the Geisha’s Face: Orientalism and the Misrepresentation of  
Geisha in Western Media”**

Audrey Whittle  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Prison Crow: The Aftermath of Black Mass Incarceration”**

James D. Dean III  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**“Simone Weil: Concepts Regarding Social Ethics”**

Shaquana Edmond  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Faculty Adviser

**PHYSICS, ASTRONOMY, GEOSCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING STUDIES**

**“A Petrographic Analysis of Feldspar Mineralogy in Pegmatites from  
Ellijay and Ball Ground Georgia”**

Kavin T. Towne  
Dr. Mark Groszos, Faculty Adviser

**“Analyzing Frequency Signals for Argon and Nitrogen Plasma”**

James E. Henderson

Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Assessing Calcite Growth in Raccoon Mountain Caverns, TN, and Its Implications on Interpretation of Speleothems Climate Record”**

Ashley Spradley

Dr. Weimin Feng, Faculty Adviser

**“Atlantic Hurricanes of 2016-2017 and Their Effect on the Georgia Coastline”**

Amber Brittany Givens

Dr. Donald M. Thieme, Faculty Adviser



**“Characteristics of Anodized Reactive Metals”**

Savanna L. Burks

Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Construction of Economical 3D Printer Compatible with Common CAD Program”**

Junwoo Kim

Dr. Barry Hojjatie and Dr. Michael Holt, Faculty Advisers

**“Design and Construction of an Air Pollution Sensor Mounted  
on a Drone”**

Taehan Kim and Jeongho Kang  
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

**“Frequency Measurements for a Pulsed RF Plasma”**

Zachary J. Barton  
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Observing the Short-Period Variations in the Apparent Magnitude of  
Carbon Stars”**

Eric W. Burns and Kira N. Forster  
Dr. Martha A. Leake, Faculty Adviser

**“Public Art”**

Moriah Smith  
Dr. Jia Lu, Faculty Adviser

**“Remote Mineral Exploration Using Martian Analogue Data”**

John I. Piper  
Dr. Martha Leake, Faculty Adviser

**“Shoreline Change on Jekyll Island, Some Effects of Recent Tropical  
Storms”**

Brannon Shaw  
Dr. Donald Thieme, Faculty Adviser

**“Simulations for the Nitrogen Second Positive System for Electric  
Discharges”**

Bakari E. Bethea, James E. Henderson, and Daniel M. Wade  
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“To Bounce or Not to Bounce: Which Would Hurt More?”**

Megan L. Climer and Kira Forster  
Dr. Dereth J. Drake, Faculty Adviser

**“Transient Conductive Heat Transfer Analysis of Materials Subjected to Rapid Cooling or Heating”**

Lucas Jackson and Jared Warmack  
Dr. Barry Hojjatie, Faculty Adviser

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**“Egypt: A Constitution and Human Rights Practices”**

Brian A. Nicolaus and Jasson I. Romero-Rosales  
Dr. Marc G. Pufong, Faculty Adviser

**“Obesity Rates among the Fifty States”**

Siria Underwood  
Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“Presidential Over Congressional War Power”**

Tyler E. Tucker  
Mr. Paul Arambula, Faculty Adviser

**“The Second Amendment in Modern America: Factors Affecting Opinions on Gun Control”**

Lauren Abigail Corley  
Dr. Mandi Bates Bailey, Faculty Adviser



**“The Southern Strategy and Donald J. Trump: A Story of Racial Division, Exploitation, and Fear-mongering”**

Sean P. Jankowski

Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“The Trump Vote in Michigan”**

Brennan Collins

Dr. James T. LaPlant, Faculty Adviser

**“What Affects Attitudes towards Homosexuality?”**

Amirah Williams

Dr. Mandi Bates Bailey, Faculty Adviser

**PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING**

**“Attitudes and Justice towards Domestic Violence”**

Brody Wesley Lathem

Dr. Jeremy Tost, Faculty Adviser

**“Effects of Sexualized Advertising and Participant Sex on Self-Confidence and Mood”**

Julie Lauren Bennett

Dr. Mark Whatley, Faculty Adviser

**“Expectancy and Caffeine Effects on Cognition and Anxiety in College Students”**

Jacinda Miller

Dr. Joshua S. Rodefer, Faculty Adviser

**“Investigation of the Effects of Caffeine and Its Expectancies on Impulsivity and Risk-Taking Behaviors”**

Jamila Chambers

Dr. Joshua S. Rodefer, Faculty Adviser

**“Testing For All: Demographic and Use of Georgia Alternate Assessments”**

Kelly D. Childers

Dr. Meagan C. Arrastia, Faculty Adviser

**SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**“Mental Health in Valdosta and Lowndes County: Perspective from Service Providers”**

Casey Allen, Robert Bennett, Victoria Conrey, Jalissa Curley, Raegan Sandy, Tiffany Tilaka, and Cassandra Walker

Dr. Shelly Yankovskyy, Faculty Adviser



## **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH COUNCIL**

The Undergraduate Research Council of Valdosta State University was organized in the fall semester of 2011. Membership includes faculty representative from the undergraduate academic departments and programs at VSU. The Council is charged with promoting undergraduate students' interest in research, with seeking ways to promote undergraduate students' involvement in research activities, and with helping faculty identify opportunities to involve undergraduates in research. The Council supports the implementation of Valdosta State University's Quality Enhancement Plan, which promotes undergraduate engagement in discipline-based inquiry. Prior to 2011, an undergraduate research symposium was celebrated for seventeen years in the College of Arts and Sciences.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018**

Dr. James LaPlant, Chair of the Undergraduate Research Council  
Dr. Tom Aiello, African American Studies  
Dr. Glenda Swan, Art  
Dr. Timothy Fort, Biology  
Dr. Yakov Woldman, Chemistry  
Dr. Michael Eaves, Communication Arts  
Dr. Crystal Randolph, Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Dr. Anurag Dasgupta, Computer Science  
Dr. Lucia Lu, Elementary Education  
Dr. Ubaraj Katawal, English  
Dr. Charles Johnson, History  
Dr. Michael Savoie, Honors College  
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Dr. Zulal Denaux, Langdale College of Business Administration  
Ms. Emily Rogers, Library  
Dr. Charles Kicey, Mathematics  
Dr. Robert Spires, Middle, Secondary, Reading and Deaf Education  
Dr. Karen Acosta, Modern and Classical Languages  
Ms. Laura Carter, Nursing and Health Sciences  
Dr. Lavonna Lovern, Native American and Indigenous Studies; Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Dr. Dereth Drake, Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering Studies  
Dr. Marc Pufong, Political Science  
Dr. Jennifer Breneiser, Psychology and Counseling  
Dr. Fred Knowles, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
Dr. Anne Price, Women's and Gender Studies  
Dr. Lai Kent Orenduff, Dean of Undergraduate Studies

The Undergraduate Research Council would like to extend special thanks to Ms. Courtney Mayton and Ms. Reagan Bennett for their generous assistance with organizing the Symposium.