

Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Annual Medallion Ceremony



Thursday, May 2, 2013

**Florida Atlantic University
John D. MacArthur Campus**

Thursday, May 2, 2013



The Spring 2013 Medallion Ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Florida Atlantic University

The Lifelong Learning Society Auditorium

Elinor Bernon Rosenthal Lifelong Learning Complex

5353 Parkside Drive

Jupiter, Florida 33458



The Spring 2013 Commencement Ceremony at 5:00 p.m.

Florida Atlantic University

Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Center

777 Glades Road

Boca Raton, Florida 33431

HARRIET L. WILKES
HONORS
COLLEGE

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY.

Spring 2013 Medallion Ceremony

Pianist

Calvin Bankert

Processional

Welcome Address

Dr. Jeffrey L. Buller, Dean

Campus Welcome

Dr. Eliah Watlington,
Associate Provost of the Northern Campuses

Benefactor Recognition: Richard (Dick) Gordon

Dr. Jeffrey L. Buller, Dean

Student Recognition Awards

Dr. Julie Earles

Graduation Address

Joseph Williams

Presentation of Medallions

Dr. Jeffrey L. Buller, Dean
Dr. Mark Tunick, Associate Dean

Wilkes Honors College Alumni Society

Niina Pollari '06

Closing Remarks

Dr. Jeffrey L. Buller, Dean

Recessional



Guests are asked to please remain seated until a group photo is taken following the recessional.

NIINA POLLARI



Niina Pollari is a poet, editor, translator, and graduate of the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 2006. Niina's outstanding thesis, "...At the Ear of Eve": Hearing, Gender, and the Physiology of the Fall in John Milton's *Paradise Lost*, won an honorable mention in the highly competitive Undergraduate Studies Essay Competition from the prestigious database, *Early English Books Online*, in 2006. Her thesis later led to an invitation to present her research at the Milton Symposium at the University of London in 2008.

Upon graduation from the Honors College, Niina headed off to Sarah Lawrence College, where she received her Master's in Creative Writing in 2008. Since then, she has presented at several conferences, including the &NOW Literary Festival focused on experimental literature, where she gave a talk on narratorship in the work of Tytti Heikkinen in October of 2011. Niina's writing has been featured in numerous literary journals as well as the *Brooklyn Rail* and Jezebel.com. *The Warmth of the Taxidermied Animal*, her translation of the poems of Tytti Heikkinen, was released in 2013 from Action Books, and she is also the author of two chapbook-length volumes of poetry: *Fabulous Essential* (2009, Birds of Lace) and *Book Four* (2012, Hyacinth Girl). In 2012, with Judy Berman, she edited a collection of essays called *It's Complicated: Feminists Write about the Misogynist Art We Love*. Currently, Niina Pollari is a project specialist at the crowdfunding website Kickstarter, where she's been since 2012, as well as coordinator for the POPSICKLE Literary Festival and a freelance translator. She is scheduled to speak in June 2013 at Book Expo America on the topics of self-publishing and crowdfunding.



DAWN FAE ADOLFSON

Concentration: Anthropology

Thesis: Para El Sur: Analyzing Contemporary Mexican Return Migration with a Case Study of Jupiter, Florida Immigrants

Advisor: Dr. Timothy Steigenga

Migration from Mexico to the United States has recently decreased while return migration to Mexico has increased, producing a net reduction in the number of Mexican migrants in the U.S. Some argue that the increase in immigration enforcement is the cause for this change because it has altered the cost/benefit balance enough to make migration less appealing and to encourage people to self-deport which is based on neo-classical theory. Interviews with migrants in Jupiter, FL and returned migrants suggest that the reasons for return are more complex and suggest that the “self-deportation” approach to U.S. immigration policy may be misguided.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Volunteering and working at El Sol teaching English with Honors College friends and thesis days with salsa, zumba, and bachata study breaks.

After Graduation Plans: I will be enjoying the summer break in Stuart, FL before beginning graduate school in the fall.

ROBERT AIRAPETOV

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Conformation of the Existence of KAR, HAD, EAR, and PP in the Lipid Metabolisms of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* and *Volvox carteri f. nagariensis*

Advisor: Dr. Paul Kirchman

Four previously known sequences of KAR, HAD, EAR, and PP were entered into a BLAST search specified for the genus *Chlamydomonas*. Each search yielded an unknown protein sequence belonging to *C. reinhardtii*. These unknown sequences were entered into BLAST again, this time with an unspecified genus. The data that resulted theoretically confirmed the unknown proteins belonging to *C. reinhardtii* to be KAR, HAD, EAR, and PP. The same process was then repeated for the genus *Volvox*, and it resulted in theoretically confirming the unknown proteins belonging to *V. nagariensis* to be KAR, HAD, EAR, and PP.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Long nights of studying and completing lab reports in the library, but getting through it with my friends.

After Graduation Plans: Take a two week vacation in Italy.



MARIA DE LOURDES AITKEN

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Development of Cell-Based Assays to Screen for GABA_B Receptor Allosteric Modulators

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Dysfunction of GABA_B receptor-mediated synaptic transmission underlies various nervous system disorders including epilepsy, depression, schizophrenia, and addiction. Currently, only one GABA_B-R orthosteric ligand is in clinical use. However, side effects such as sedation, tolerance, and motor impairment limit its use. A dissociation of the therapeutic effects from the side effects may be achievable with drugs enhancing the endogenous physiological cellular response. The development of GABA_B-R allosteric modulators has provided new modes of efficacy that may facilitate the development of novel therapeutic agents. In the present study, we investigated the side effects of newly identified GABA_B-R allosteric ligands using HEK-293 cell line expressing human/human subunits using a functional assay.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Study/snacking sessions with friends before exams.

After Graduation Plans: Attending medical school at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.



RACHAEL ARRIGHI

Concentration: Interdisciplinary Critical Theory

Thesis: Provisional Self-Evidence

Advisor: Prof. Dorothea Lemeh

A Theory.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Can't be expressed in 30 words...

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Master of Letters degree at the University of St. Andrews.

RYAN ARRIGHI

Concentration: Anthropology

Thesis: City of Walls: The Motivation and Desire Behind Gated Communities

Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Fewkes

The privatization of neighborhood space through the creation of gated communities, and the motivation and desire to reside within them.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Dr. Corr's anthropological field work studies.



AMIRA BARGHOUTHY

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: The Impact of JNK on Mitochondrial Physiology

Advisor: Dr. Paul Kirchman

C-jun N-terminal Kinases (JNKs) belong to the mitogen-activated protein kinase family. JNK activation and subsequent translocation to the mitochondria regulates reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation and cell survival. Recently, we demonstrated that bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) are highly sensitive to oxidative stress but JNKs role in this process is undefined. Herein, we show that exposure of MSCs to atmospheric oxygen increased levels of p53, p-JNK and the apoptosis regulator p-BCL2 (B-cell lymphoma 2), resulting in increased cellular apoptosis. Selective JNK inhibition may enhance the therapeutic efficacy of MSCs by preventing oxidative stress-induced cell death following transplantation of cells in vivo.

Favorite Honors College Memory: I loved working in the Chemistry labs, post-exam celebrations, dance sessions, bike rides, and sloth time with friends.

After Graduation Plans: Medical school

ARELY BAUGH

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Age-related differences in Unconscious Plagiarism

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Rates of unconscious plagiarism (UP) differ with age. McCabe, Smith, and Parks (2007) demonstrated that older adults were more likely than younger adults to provide [new] exemplars that had already been presented to them. Kersten and Earles (2010) showed that a similar process results from binding errors in memory. We propose that age-related increases in UP are due to age-related decreases in ability to bind together event-features. We expect that older adults will exhibit more UP than young adults and that this rate will relate to working memory and source monitoring errors.



ROSA BELTRAN

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: You've Got to Keep 'Em Separated: Characterizing Lagging Chromosome Prevention in Oral Cancer Cells.

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Mitosis is the separation of duplicated chromosomes into daughter cells in order to create viable offspring. There are many checks in mitosis to ensure the inherited chromosome number is correct. These checkpoints are overcome and daughter cells inherit defects which can lead to cancer. One defect is the appearance of lagging chromosomes, the result of inaccurate chromosomal separation which leads to incorrect chromosome number termed aneuploidy. Aneuploidy is one of the defining traits of cancerous cells. The potential mechanism of lagging chromosomes in the cancerous cell line is investigated in this study. Knockdown of KIFC1 was used in the cells.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Making funny videos freshman year and all of the fun times in the biology lab!

KRISTI BEROLDI

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: The Elephant in the Room: Why is it Difficult for Hospice Workers to Discuss Death with their Terminally Ill Patients? The Effects of Death Anxiety, Avoidance, and Interpersonal Issues.

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Hospice workers encounter death daily, and one would assume they are comfortable with the topic given their career. It is intriguing that some find it difficult to discuss with patients and their families. I was interested in seeing if this was due to workers' own death anxiety. I examined whether there are significant differences between hospice workers and their level of death anxiety based on occupation. I hypothesized that hospice workers with more contact with patients would indicate a higher level of death anxiety than those who have less contact. I found significant correlations between job type and death avoidance.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Finding some of my best friends, and being able to spend the last three years with them.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Master's degree at George Washington University.



KAITLYN BLUM

Concentration: English Literature

Thesis: Madness and Mimetic Violence: Laughter and Language in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night"

Advisor: Dr. Michael Harrawood

This thesis considers the malevolent humor of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, particularly in light of the philosophical position that literary critic Rene Girard posits about what he refers to as mimetic desire. Girard contends that much of human interaction is the mediation between desires to imitate, and desires to annihilate. Using Girard's critical writings as a frame of thought, I am interested in the circulation of cruelty in which the characters interact with one another. This thesis addresses the relationship of laughter and cruelty in *Twelfth Night* as the characters utilize comedy to negotiate between simultaneous desires to imitate and destroy.

Favorite Honors College Memory: From all the laughs we have shared to our profound philosophical conversations, meeting one of the best friends I have had the privilege to know is my favorite HC memory.





REGINA BROCKWAY

Concentration: Environmental Studies

Thesis: Aliens are Animals Too! Ethics and Stigmatization within Invasive Species Rhetoric

Advisor: Dr. William O'Brien

Management of nonnative invasive species (NIS) frequently involves killing individual animals as a means of protecting broader ecological values. This management approach highlights differences between discourses of environment, which value life at a holistic level, and animal rights, which value individual lives. Language both reflects and shapes belief and action, so for my analysis I compare NIS rhetoric of a prominent environmental organization and an animal welfare group. The goals are to identify prevalent themes in characterizations of NIS, highlight areas of convergence and divergence, and find out if the rhetoric points to any viable suggestions for compromise.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Freezing/Snailing with my "animal" friends, singing with MIC, gf dinners, camping in Ocala with Enviro Club, wandering the arboretum, and having long philosophical discussions with HC kids while procrastinating doing homework...

BRIAN BURNETT

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Bioprospecting and the Identification of Bio-Active Organic Compounds Found in the Venom of *Crematogaster vicina* André

Advisors: Dr. James Wetterer, Dr. Veljko Dragojlovic

In this research, we analyzed the organic compounds in the venom of *Crematogaster vicina* André found in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. We used Gas Chromatography- Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS) to test our hypothesis of the compounds found in the *Crematogaster vicina* André venom. We were able to identify several bioactive organic compounds with similar characteristics of the organic compounds found in the venom of the *Crematogaster* species of Brazil.

After Graduation Plans: Attending University of Miami MCAT Preparatory Program in June 2013.



PEDRO CAHUE

Concentration: Latin American Studies

Thesis: The Creation of a Cartel

Advisor: Dr. Rachel Corr

In this thesis I trace the origin and transformation of the cartel and its rise to power. The combination of the two anthropological models on religious transformations show the religious nature of the cartel follows patterns of revitalization movements and rites of passage.



REY CARVAJAL

Concentration: Physics

Thesis: Hohmann Transfer Orbit Applications: Spacecraft Approach and Interplanetary Travel

Advisor: Dr. Andrew Johnson

BARBARA CODY

Concentration: Environmental Studies

Thesis: Sea Turtle Conservation's Effect on Nesting Trends of Sea Turtles Along Florida's Atlantic Coast 1982-2012

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

Sea turtles have been an important factor of the world's oceans for millions of years. Until about 100 years ago, they were not protected at all, and in the last 40 years they have received greater protection. This increase in protection, along with the conservation efforts of organizations around the globe, has contributed to increased nesting trends for at least Florida's three main species of sea turtles. These three species have all had a positive increase in nesting activity along Florida's Atlantic coast since 1989. This rise in nesting activity can be positively correlated to the increased conservation efforts.

Favorite Honors College Memory: FARH 2011 & 2013. All of it.





CELESTE CORRALES

Concentration: Political Science

Thesis: Of Free Markets and Caged Humans: The Ethical and Legal Implications of For-Profit Immigrant Detention

Advisor: Dr. Timothy Steigenga

Private prisons are quickly becoming the new hosts for many of the over 400,000 unauthorized immigrants detained annually in the United States. The argument over whether to privatize is one that involves both practical questions of who can produce the most efficient results and philosophical implications. This thesis argues that privatized immigrant detention creates a perverse incentive structure that may lead to multiple problems, including greater risks for constitutional and human rights violations of immigrant detainees. I utilize Ira P. Robbins' *Legal Dimensions to Private Incarceration* (1988) handbook in order to update and explore the relevance of two legal doctrines as potential challenges to the private immigrant detention industry.

Favorite Honors College Memory: My favorite memory at the HC involved the RH2 elevator, a portable generator, and a TV with Rock Band for Xbox 360.

CAITLIN CROOK

Concentrations: Economics, Political Science

Thesis: Why Does Healthcare Spending and Quality Vary Between OECD Countries?

Advisors: Dr. Kanybek Nur-tegin and Dr. Timothy Steigenga

Members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) vary by level of healthcare expenditure and by quality of health services. Intuitively, a country with higher spending is expected to also have better quality services, but this is not always the case. A number of empirical studies find that national income is a significant explanatory variable of the variation in total healthcare expenditure among developed countries. Motivated by the discrepancy between spending and quality, I estimate the determinants of public healthcare expenditure per capita to examine the question of why OECD countries spend different amounts on healthcare.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Being awesome with great friends, beach in between classes, dancing with Owlettes, ultra music festival, studying by the pool,



long weekends, the professors' tangents, month-long spring breaks, watercoloring, reviving barons, and palace parties.

After Graduation Plans: I will be working full-time at the Palm Beach Historic Inn. I will be managing the hotel staff at two properties, responsible for marketing and operations. I eventually plan to attend graduate school and pursue an M.B.A. or Ph.D. in economics.

GINA DELCANTO

Concentration: Behavioral Neuroscience

Thesis: Memory of Faces

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Examines the relationship between facial recognition and relevant artistic experience/ability.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Collaborations with friends.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Miami.



EDWARD DOYLE

Concentration: English Literature

Thesis: The Creation of Narrative Identity in William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*

Advisor: Dr. Michael Harrawood

Concerned with what makes the narrators in William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* (1929) structurally distinct and identifiably separate from one another, I argue the three first-person narratives of the Compson brothers constitute individual identities who essentially "narrate" in order to escape the decline of their family. Using a narratological and semiotic framework, I demonstrate how the family and the text both function as a system of signs, generating the individualities of the narrators through difference while simultaneously preventing their escape because, like systems of signification, their identities depend upon juxtaposition against one another for definition.



Favorite Honors College Memory: My favorite memory from the Honors College was the accomplishment and pride I felt after really digging into segments from Immanuel Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason," at Dr. Harrawood's insistence.

IMHARIA ENOGIERU

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Some Like it Hot: The Isolation of an Aconitase Mutant Resistant to Heat-Shock Induced Oxidative Stress

Advisor: Dr. Paul Kirchman

Aconitase is an enzyme essential for mitochondrial DNA maintenance and cellular respiration. For my thesis, I mutated

Aconitase in the hopes of isolating a *Sacchromyces cerevisiae* yeast cell that was more resistant to heat shock-induced oxidative stress. Oxidative stress has been implicated as a theory of cellular aging so assaying Aconitase mutants for changes in lifespan would give an understanding of factors that influence cellular aging.

Favorite Honors College Memory: FARH 2011, Woodland nymphs seeing sunlight for the first time, Giant Cookie S'more, Planning and implementing HCSI, Interpretive Dancing with Rosa & Kaitlyn... really anytime with Rosa, Kaitlyn and Alyssa.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Doctor of Medicine degree at Harvard Medical School.



ERICA ESTEP

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Consequences of Red Imported Fire Ant on Humans

Advisors: Dr. James Wetterer and Dr. Jon Moore

A good number of references declare that the alkaloids affect the delivery of histamines (e.g., Greenberg 1988). Because histamines are the source of burning and pustules, ant poison can be deadly. One important variable that may influence abundance of fire ants is the material around a picnic area. Twenty-one benches on brick, concrete, gravel, and pavement and 34 benches on grass and sand were sampled. Colonization was determined by the presence of a red imported fire ant colony within

3 meters of the picnic table. Although air temperature varied daily for as much as 14°C, all baits were laid down at approximately the same time in order to avoid biasing the data. The brick, concrete, gravel, and pavement areas characteristically had fewer ants. Actively placing benches on anthropogenic substrates may decrease exposure to fire ants.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Meeting my fiancé and friend in lab are my favorite Honors College memories.

KAITLIN GALLAGHER

Concentration: Marine Biology

Thesis: Examining Season Effects on *Bonamia* spp. Infections in Bivalves from the Indian River Lagoon

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

Bonamia spp., a haplosporidian protistan parasite, was first reported in Florida in 2007 in oyster species cultured at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in water from the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). My study seeks to examine the season effect on parasite prevalence and infection intensity. Bivalves from three sites in the IRL were sampled in the summer, fall, and winter of 2012. Prevalence (general and species specific) was evaluated using PCR. Intensity of infection was evaluated using fluorescent *in situ* hybridization.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Late night dance party study breaks and 2 AM IHOP trips during finals week.

After Graduation Plans: Earning a Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut.



JACQUELYN GUIZERIX

Concentration: History

Thesis: From Snow White to Brave: The Evolution of the Disney Princess

Advisor: Dr. Christopher Strain

This paper traces the evolution of the Disney Princess and critically evaluates the role of the Disney Princess icon in American history using a feminist perspective. The term Disney Princess refers to Disney's ten animated princesses; collectively these females became iconic through the creation of the enormous Disney Princess marketing franchise in 2001. Since *Snow White* in 1937 and culminating with the 2012 film *Brave*, the Disney Princesses have

undergone subtle developments in appearance, attitude, relationships, and cultural heritage that have expanded the function of the Disney Princess as a contemporary role model.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Late nights in the dining hall, spring break vacations, and my second 21st birthday!

After Graduation Plans: I would like to attend graduate school for Speech and Language Pathology, and continue working with young children through beginning my own practice as a speech-language pathologist in southern Florida.

GEORGIANNE HALLAM

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Denial is Not Just a River: Relationships Between Experiential Avoidance, Personality, and Relevant Outcomes in Hospice Workers

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Is there a relationship between Experiential Avoidance and Five Factor Model personality traits? One hundred and one South Florida VITAS Hospice workers completed a survey packet measuring personality, experiential avoidance, burnout, interpersonal problems, religious preference, and death attitudes to test this hypothesis. A secondary goal consisted of constructing a model of experiential avoidance from the study variables. The data did not support a relationship between personality factors and experiential avoidance. However, relationships between EA and other relevant factors were supported.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Going to Islands of Adventure with the Honors College. It was great to hang out with all of my friends.



SARAH HARRIS

Concentration: Political Science

Thesis: Homogeneity or Heterogeneity: The Effects of Race and Religion on Jewish Immigrants in Argentina and Brazil

Advisor: Dr. Timothy Steigenga

The integration and acceptance of Jewish immigrants in Brazil and Argentina has varied from mild dislike but overall

acceptance, to violence and discrimination. These differences can be attributed to the receiving countries, because the Jewish population emigrated from the same places during the same time; what is different is the racial and religious makeup of the countries. Argentina is racially and religiously homogeneous (White and Catholic) while Brazil is heterogeneous. Thus Jews in Argentina were different enough from the rest of the country to provoke hatred; while Jewish immigrants in Brazil were less different, making other groups less desirable.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Trips to amusement parks; road tripping to GA, hanging out in the SG office, weekend long marathons of "FRIENDS" and "Big Bang Theory"; orientation weeks; Guatemala. Making lifelong friends!

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing the degree of *Juris Doctor* at Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

NATALIE HARRISON

Concentration: History

Thesis: The Richard Aoki Case: Was the Man Who Armed the Black Panthers an FBI Informant?

Advisor: Dr. Christopher Strain

On August 20th 2012, Seth Rosenfeld, a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, released an article stating that Richard Aoki, an activist in the Bay Area during the 1960s and 70s, had

been an FBI informant. Immediately following the allegations, numerous Aoki supporters rose to his defense and accused Rosenfeld of snitch-jacketing –a term referring to the FBI practice of falsely labeling a prominent member of a threatening group as an informant to decrease their status and influence within the organization. This paper is a historiographical examination of the FBI, COINTELPRO, snitch culture, Richard Aoki and those who accused/defended him.

Favorite Honors College Memory: "The dance is over, the applause subsided but the joy and feeling will stay with you forever." -W. M. Tory

After Graduation Plans: I will be teaching on an Indian Reservation in South Dakota through Teach for America.





ASHLEE HAWK

Concentrations: Economics, Business

Thesis: Singing All the Way to the Bank: An Empirical Analysis of Variables Influencing the Salaries of the Highest Paid Musicians Over the Last Five Years

Advisor: Dr. Kanybek Nur-tegin

Rosen (1981) claims top performing musicians and other superstars deserve the high paying salary they receive in his phenomenon called the “superstar effect”. I have constructed an econometric model using various income factors in order to determine which variables hold statistical significance in correlation with superstar salaries. I have accumulated a list of 46 top ranking musicians based on the salaries over the last five years from Forbes’ “The World’s Most Powerful Celebrities”.

Favorite Honors College Memory: I'm in love with right now; reflecting on memories, experiences and moments I'll never forget which have made me who I am today. Shine bright like a diamond. Pink penguins.

After Graduation Plans: My passion is the music business and I will continue my path to become a music executive.



KRISTAL HAZELLIEF

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Anchors Aweigh: Using shRNA to Map p150^{Glued} Functionality in Anchoring Microtubules at the Centrosome

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Dynactin is a multisubunit protein complex required for proper functioning of the microtubule motor cytoplasmic dynein. The p150^{Glued} subunit of dynactin possesses dynactin's microtubule binding sequences, termed the CAP-Gly and Basic domains. These domains have differential affinities for microtubules, CAP-Gly binding with a higher affinity than Basic. By testing a set of shRNA plasmids with antisense sequences to the untranslated region of p150^{Glued} we have found effective knockdown of the protein in COS-7 cells; where future researchers can introduce plasmids with altered expression of the binding domains, potentially showing a differential effect on anchoring, dependent upon which domain is present.

Favorite Honors College Memory: The many cherished moments I have had with friends from late night study parties and impromptu IHOP trips to senior movie nights and Program Board office pow-wows!

After Graduation Plans: To graduate school and beyond! I plan to attend Barry University to earn a Master of Science in Clinical Biology.



BRITNI HIATT

Concentration: Women's Studies

Thesis: Feminist Environmental Justice: Confronting Legacies of White Supremacy in Jupiter, Florida

Advisor: Dr. Wairimũ Njambi

Despite pervasive claims that the United States is a 'post-racial' society, racial segregation did not end after Jim Crow and the Civil Rights Movement. Today, environmental zoning and biotechnology land developments continue to determine which families are most exposed to risks of pollution and displacement, and which families are not. Utilizing documentation of local history and research in Women's Studies, Eco-Feminism, and Critical Race Studies, I examine the legacy of racial segregation in Jupiter, Florida, by charting the biotechnology 'cluster' encroaching upon the historical Limestone Creek community. In this feminist analysis are challenges to assumptions about race, gender, class, and the environment. In solidarity with residents of color, I emphasize accountability on the part of those who have benefitted from unjust racial legacies in order to prevent further racial segregation and land exploitation of the Limestone Creek community.

Favorite Honors College Memory: When Feminist Student Union was named Best New Student Organization for 2012, and in 2013 when students organized as the Stop Owlcatraz Coalition to stop the FAU-GEO stadium naming deal-- and won!



CHRISTOPHER HOLMQUIST

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Development of a Low Cost HPLC Controller

Advisor: Dr. Eugene Smith

The purpose of this project was to develop a low cost, easy to use, controller for a high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) system. The controller developed in this project was used to establish the flow rate of the mobile phase, detect and collect samples. An mbed microcontroller, programmed in C++, used different input/output (i/o) functions to control all three parts of the HPLC (UV-detector, and fraction collector). The fraction collector and detector were successfully set up and tested with coding to function properly. The mbed microcontroller will make HPLC a more viable and readily accessible tool.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Watching *Monty Python's Flying Circus* and playing *Champions of Norrath* video games with my roommates my freshmen year to unwind after midterms.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.



FRED JEUNE

Concentration: Economics

Thesis: Palm Beach County Property Taxes: An Example of the Leviathan Model

Advisor: Dr. Keith Jakee

During the past recession, house prices plummeted to record lows. However, empirical research found that, on average, property tax revenues for local governments have not decreased. My paper will attempt to explain this paradox by arguing that an information asymmetry exists in the process used by Palm Beach County, FL in assessing and taxing private properties. This information asymmetry, characterized by the lack of transparency in the property assessment and taxation process, is exploited by local government to conceal its revenue-maximizing behavior. The analysis of this behavior, captured through the lens of the Leviathan model, allows us to see the moral

hazard at play whereby the local government seeks to maximize its revenues through ways unclear and confusing to the general public.

Favorite Honors College Memory: My best memory of the Honors College is of the ridiculous amount of fun I had during the 2012 Spring Formal.

After Graduation Plans: I plan to work full-time for a few years in order to gain some work experience before I go back to school for a Master's in Applied Economics.

ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Concentration: Anthropology

Thesis: "For the Unity of It": Mutual Aid and Ethnic Solidarity in Tampa

Advisor: Dr. Rachel Corr

This thesis explores why people in Tampa, FL created mutual aid organizations, how these organizations have changed over time, and why members continue to join and participate. To learn more about individuals' experiences with the mutual aid societies and other ethnically based organizations in the Tampa area, I conducted a series of six interviews with members of the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) Lodge in Tampa. The results of these interviews, coupled with an understanding of the historical roots of ethnic organizations, create a rich image of how the Italian community has satisfied its dynamic needs.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Late-night yarn runs, ice cream parties in the SG office, "Oh Patrick," random all-nighters, various tea parties, road trip sing-alongs, and so many other little, beautiful moments.



RICHARD JONES

Concentration: Environmental Studies

Thesis: Fire Ants Without Fire: Impact of Reduction Mowing on Invasive Fire Ants at Gopher Tortoise Burrows

Advisors: Dr. Jon Moore and Dr. Jim Wetterer

The gopher tortoise has been in decline throughout its range primarily due to habitat destruction. Many species prey upon

tortoises including the fire ant *Solenopsis invicta*. While human alterations to habitat have incited a decline in gopher tortoises, "disturbance specialists" like *S. invicta* often thrive on such changes. This study represents a culmination of three surveys of ants at gopher tortoise burrows before and after "reduction mowing," the mechanical shredding and reduction of understory growth. The results of this study have possible implications to land management practices focused on both fire ant mitigation and gopher tortoise conservation.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Going surfing one Saturday morning, then being invited to go deepwater fishing on my return by half the school in the courtyard. And I STILL aced the test on Monday.

After Graduation Plans: I plan on volunteering abroad, continuing my education, and culminating these plans into a career in developing positive human ecologies. Otherwise, I will be cultivating new experiences and good times.

STEPHEN JONES

Concentration: Economics

Thesis: Why Security is But a Symptom: Understanding the Persistence of State Failure

Advisor: Dr. Keith Jakee

I will argue that what I term "alegality" or normative noncompliance is the primary institutional structure of failed states, where the rules have been made, but are seldom if ever followed. Without the constraint of rules, states are characterized by internal insecurity, few publicly-provided goods, a large and inefficient bureaucracy, and a highly centralized leadership. Under the assumption that leaders, bureaucrats, and individual citizens all seek to maximize self-interest, I will show that their actions result in a perpetual erosion of the state failure to persist indefinitely.

Favorite Honors College Memory: The professors, the interactions, the fun stuff we have done, and managing to survive.

After Graduation Plans: Lots of travel.





HEATHER KALISZ

Concentration: Marine Biology

Thesis: The Comparison of Two Undescribed Species of Skates, *Bathyrja* spp. 2 and *Bathyrja* sp. (*c. f. eatonii*) from the Circum-Antarctic and Subantarctic Waters Near the South Orkney Islands

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

My thesis is about the comparison of 36 different specimen measurements of two undescribed species of skates, *Bathyrja* spp 2 and *Bathyrja cf. eatonii* from the Antarctic, South Orkney Islands. This data is going to be used in the future for the *Bathyrja* spp 2 species description.

TIFFANY KAUL

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Characterization of the CFA Synthase Gene Ortholog F13D12.9 in *Caenorhabditis elegans*

Advisor: Dr. Paul Kirchman

Upon entry into the stationary phase, *E. coli* express the enzyme cyclopropane fatty acid synthase (cfas) to resist environmental stress. This study investigated the role of the cfas bacterial ortholog gene, F13D12.9, within the nematode *C. elegans* by characterizing the natural gene expression and studying the effect of its genetic manipulation on developmental stress phenotypes. It was found that the cfas ortholog expression changed with development and environmental conditions. It was also concluded that the *C. elegans*' ability to cope with environmental stress involved both external nutrient availability signals and internal cfas expression.



WILLIAM KISSNER

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Halosulfites as a Leaving Groups in Organic Synthesis

Advisor: Dr. Veljko Dragojlovic

My research entails developing new leaving groups for the synthesis of organic compounds. The goal of this research is to design leaving groups that can be replaced by weak nucleophiles, for this to happen a good leaving group is necessary. Alkyl chlorosulfinites in my experiments have been shown to perform as good leaving groups for producing the corresponding halide of the halogen salt used, with notable success when using $ZnCl_2$ (which has ~90% yield of the chloride containing compound).

Favorite Honors College Memory: Stick-it noting Chris's room.



MORGAN LEVY

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Right Mindfulness Leads to Right Livelihood: Exploring the Connections between Mindfulness, Stress, Religiosity, and Personality

Advisor: Dr. Laura Vernon

Mindfulness refers to the ability to think in the present moment and to be cognizant of one's own thoughts and physical state.

We examined whether openness to experience and religiosity affected the experience of mindfulness. Undergraduate college students underwent a 40-minute session learning about mindfulness techniques and various meditations such as body relaxation mediation, a nature meditation, and a guided imagery meditation. After completing the session, participant's completed post-treatment questionnaires and one week later they completed follow-up questionnaires. We expect that mindfulness will increase immediately following the session and will be maintained one week later.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Wonderful people!

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Nova Southeastern University.

ZOE LEWYCKY

Concentration: Women's Studies

Thesis: A Critical Feminist Science Studies Critique of the term 'Pseudoscience'

Advisor: Dr. Wairimũ Njambi

Using a Critical Feminist Science Studies perspective, I examine how the term 'pseudoscience' rewrites science's history, preventing science from being held accountable for its power structures and hierarchical narratives. I first examine the historical and cultural origins of science, the figure of the scientist, and 'objectivity.' Then, I explore science's obsession with the body in the many works and theories that have been developed since its origination in the seventeenth century. Finally, I apply critical feminist science studies to Michael Shermer's usage of the word 'pseudoscience' in his book, *Why People Believe Weird Things*. My proposed solution is that we stop using such a term in order to hold science accountable for its problematic aspects and legacies. I also suggest that we adopt Donna Haraway's concept of 'situated knowledge' to replace the concept of objectivity.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Finally having some awesome friends in my Junior year here.



STEPHANIE LÓPEZ

Concentrations: International Studies, Spanish

Thesis: Japanese Identity and Cultural Expressions in the Dominican Republic since the mid-1950s

Advisor: Dr. Carmen Cañete-Quesada

As a result of General Rafael Trujillo's desire to "whiten" the Dominican society throughout his dictatorship, various immigration laws were placed into effect in order to attract white Europeans and Asians to the Dominican Republic from the 1930s and 1950s. In a period where Europe was ravaged by wars, numerous Europeans accepted the refuge offered by the small country. However, it was not until the mid-1950s when Japanese accepted to migrate to the Dominican Republic. As a result of their migration, Trujillo accomplished colonizing the Dominican-Haitian border with people of non-African descent and growing the agriculture sector with the perseverance of the Japanese colonists.

Favorite Honors College Memory: My sophomore year, myself and 3 other friends created a music video for our GIS class describing a day in the life of an HC student.

Writing and lyrics, filming and laughing at our foolishness is my favorite memory.

After Graduation Plans: I will be teaching English in Japan for one year through the JET program.

MAXWELL MACEACHERN

Concentration: Philosophy

Thesis: On the Moral Status of Intelligent Machines

Advisor: Dr. Amy McLaughlin

This paper considers the challenges to traditional morality brought by the development of more adaptive and autonomous technologies. It considers whether intelligent machines meet the minimum standard for moral consideration and evaluates some of the sufficient conditions for such privilege.

Favorite Honors College Memory: I liked it all.

After Graduation Plans: Applying to be an officer in the US Army.



LAUREN MARTIN

Concentration: Interdisciplinary Critical Theory

Thesis: Unmaking White Supremacy: The Scientific Construction of Race and Learning How to be a White Ally

Advisor: Dr. Wairimū Njambi

For many people the 2008 election of Barack Obama as President represented the United States as a “post-racial” society. The severe backlash from the political Right in 2010 and the continued disproportionate suffering endured by minorities demonstrates the hegemonic structure of white supremacy is far from over. I will examine the scientific construction of race and racism and the historical legacy of white supremacy. Based on the theory that “no one is free while others are oppressed,” I argue that situating oneself within structures of domination and counteracting systems of oppression is an effective way to dismantle the insidious power of white supremacy. I will then offer a comprehensive guide on how to be a white ally.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Late night Taco Bell trips, dorm room dance parties, Symposium, Moot Court, Juno Beach, HC135, Feminist Student Union, late afternoon advising appointments, the hammocks, Student Government, and art classes.

After Graduation Plans: I will be taking a year off before attending Law School in order to gain work experience and study for the LSAT.

MIGUEL MARTINI

Concentrations: Marine Biology, Business Management

Thesis: Original Individual Site vs. Common Nursery Site Affecting the Susceptibility of *Montastrea Faveolata* to Black Band Disease

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

An experiment was realized in which coral plates were extracted from different colonies at different sites and all placed together at a Nursery and then later infected with Black Band Disease. The progress of the disease was carefully recorded using pictures and the conditions in all the tanks were kept as equal as possible. After ANOVA tests and non-parametric tests it was found that their original site matters more than staying at a Nursery with the same local conditions.

After Graduation Plans: Attending Cornell University in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Biology and Environmental Engineering.



MEGAN MCGUIRE

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Neuronal Plasticity in the SynGAP1 Haploinsufficiency Model of ID

Advisor: Dr. Veljko Dragojlovic

Intellectual Disability (ID) is a common neurological disorder. It is diagnosed by an intelligence score under 70 along with the presence of two or more associated/adapted behaviors. A recent study showed that sporadic ID in humans was correlated with autosomal dominant *de novo* mutations in the gene SynGap1. In this study, we explored the effect of SynGAP1 knockdown on neuronal complexity in developing mice. We calculated the complexity of neurons in the dentate gyrus of mice at age P16 and we examined neurons in the somatosensory cortex of mice at ages P16, P21, P30, and P60 and calculated the average dendritic spine densities for the Hets and WT groups. Spine development SynGAP Hets prematurely peaked at age P21 compared to the WT who peaked at age P30. SynGAP knockdown may affect early learning due to spine development prematurely peaking and missing important connections in the critical time of brain development.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Room 303. The Greenway. Water Pong. Cabo. Formals. Meeting the best girls :)

After Graduation Plans: I plan to do a year of Master's at FAU and then apply for Medical School.



BRITTANY MILLER

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Attitudes Towards Tattooing

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

I will be examining people's attitudes towards tattooing based on the Big Five personality types. Also to be factored in is whether or not these same participants have any tattoos themselves, and if not, what has prevented them from doing so.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Moving into the dorms my freshman year and experiencing all that the honors college had to offer that first week.

After Graduation Plans: Apply for a Master's degree in criminology and go on to obtain a career in criminal profiling.



ALEC MISHKIN

Concentrations: Mathematics, Physics

Thesis: Modeling Tumor Growth Using Differential Equations

Advisor: Dr. Terje Hoim

One of the most powerful tools in curing cancer is mathematical modeling. Using accumulated data, we will take a look at different models for the growth of cancer cells, incorporating the positive effect of the immune system. Using these models, we will try to find points of stability between cancer cells and effector cells.



LINDSAY NELSON

Concentration: Environmental Studies

Thesis: "Double Sustainability" in Botswana and South Africa: The Case of the San in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve and Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

Advisor: Dr. William O'Brien

The question of land access rights for indigenous peoples is a prominent theme in the management of protected areas in Africa. This comparative study addresses different government responses to land

dispossession of the San in Southern Africa. Ancestral lands of this indigenous population had been rendered off limits by the creation of Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park in South Africa and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve in Botswana. Central to this comparative analysis is the degree to which each country has embraced the concept of "double sustainability" in park management, which simultaneously emphasizes the protection of biodiversity and people's livelihoods.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Sunny days at the beach, having a pet fish freshman year, birthday celebrations, spring breaks, gf dinner, parties at the palace, ultra weekend, sharing the power bracelet

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing the degree of *Juris Doctor* at Capital University Law School.

HANNAH NORCINI

Concentrations: Psychology, Criminology

Thesis: "Memory for Criminal Events"

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

This study aimed to investigate the own-age bias within the context of criminal events. We hypothesized that older adults will more accurately recognize older adult faces, while younger adults will accurately recognize both younger and older adult faces. Thirty-two female undergraduates and 32 female older adults participated in this study during two sessions. Each participant viewed 17 brief films depicting criminal and neutral events and returned one week later to complete a line-up identification task and confidence ratings. Older adults showed more accurate recall for older adult actresses, while younger adults showed increased accuracy for younger and older adult faces.

Favorite Honors College Memory: "Meat and potatoes!" Cydney and the suitcase fiasco. "I'm sleeping."

After Graduation Plans: I will be serving in the Peace Corps as a Community Health Agent in Rwanda from June 2013-August 2015.



JONNUEL ORTEGA

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Preferences in Comic Book Endings

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

The purpose of the study was to observe the relationship between personality and preferences in comic book endings.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Talking nonsense with my roommates.

LUCAS ORTIZ

Concentration: Mathematics

Thesis: Modeling Embryonic Tubulogenesis with Polarized Particles

Advisors: Dr. Meredith Blue and Dr. Paul Kirchman

Tubulogenesis, or the process of tube growth in organisms, is driven by the formation, bending, and growth of thin sheets of cells known as epithelia. These epithelial are polarized with distinct apical (interior) and basal (exterior) sides. This study attempts to model tube growth in embryonic tissue by modeling cells as polar particles connected by a spring.

Favorite Honors College Memory: My favorite Honors College memory is when I found out my roommate had secretly kept a goat under his bed.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics at UC Denver.





DAVID PICK

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Entomopathogenic Fungus, *Isaria fumosorosea* (hypocreales: cordycipitaceae), and Aphis parasitoid, *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*, (Hymenoptera: aphidiinae) Compatibility for Managing Infestations of Brown Citrus Aphid, *Toxoptera citricidus* (Hemiptera: Aphididae)

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

The impact of *Isaria fumosorosea* (PFR 97™) on parasitism and emergence of the aphid parasitoid, *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*, of brown citrus aphids, *Toxoptera citricidus* Kirkaldy (Hemiptera: Aphididae), was assessed under caged conditions. The fungal treatment did not reduce *L. testaceipes*' parasitism rate, and no significant difference was observed in the emergence rate between fungal treated and untreated parasitoids. *Toxoptera citricidus* mortality rates were very high in both parasitoid treatments, nearing 100% towards the end of the experiment, indicating *L. testaceipes* was highly effective at parasitizing the aphids even in the presence of *I. fumosorosea*. The compatibility of entomopathogenic fungi with an aphid parasitoid demonstrates potential synergy for use in future IPM programs to manage aphid pests of citrus.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Participating in study groups for Bio Principles.

After Graduation Plans: Getting married on June 8, 2013 to Karen Haisten. I plan to eventually return to Laos to do graduate entomology research.

RACHAEL PILASKI

Concentration: Anthropology

Thesis: Belly Dancing: Praxis and Self-Identity

Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Fewkes

This particular study focuses on belly dance communities in South Florida to understand how the dancers, students, and instructors appropriate and reappropriate the praxis of belly dance to fit within their own personal contexts. This study uses participant observation and interviews to understand how Orientalism informs practitioners' conceptualizations of belly dancing within these communities. Through this work we see how the history of belly dance in the United States affects contemporary belly dancing communities and self-identity amongst dancers, and how contemporary American belly dance both challenges and reinforces Said's Orientalism.



Favorite Honors College Memory: Dancing at party events and playing ping pong with my friends my freshman and senior year. Also some of my class discussions-- I learned so much!

After Graduation Plans: I plan on focusing my studies regionally on Indonesia and working on Islam and identity there.



BROOKE RADAKE

Concentration: History

Thesis: "Death is Nothing in Comparison to Dishonor": Sarah Morgan's Diary and Women's Roles in Southern Honor

Advisor: Dr. Christopher Strain

In their studies of the code of honor in the Old South, historians Bertram Wyatt-Brown and Edward L. Ayers consider women incapable of possessing honor. However, the diary of

Sarah Morgan, a young woman living in Louisiana during the Civil War, reveals the many ways that women actively engaged in the code of honor. Southern women like Sarah revered honorable gentlemen, urged men to die rather than act dishonorably, punished cowards with their disdain, and even considered themselves to be honorable through a feminized version of the code of honor.

Favorite Honors College Memory: I've loved all of the spontaneous conversations with fellow students and with professors over the years! Thank you for your inspiration, encouragement, and friendship. I cannot imagine getting here without it!

After Graduation Plans: I plan to search for possible graduate schools while gaining more work experience.



ANA RODRIGUES

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Using Oral Cancer Cell line UPCI: SCC078 to purify NuMA protein

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Utilizing Oral cancer cell to purify NuMA, a protein involved in multipolarity during cancer progression.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Volunteering at the Quantum House.

After Graduation Plans: Obtain experience doing research and apply to graduate school next year.

DEBORAH ROSS

Concentration: Interdisciplinary Critical Theory

Thesis: White Elephant: Why the Exorbitant Cost of Maintaining Whiteness Exceeds its Value as a Possession

Advisor: Dr. Wairimū Njambi

Race is a construct which has resulted in advantages for whites and subjugation for those of color. Black/brown stereotypes have been sanctified by religion, legitimized by science, and authorized by government since the founding of America. My

thesis outlines the construction of race and its maintenance through systemic and institutionalized practices. I also explore how affirmative action for whites is taught, maintained, and unconsciously furthered when whites admit that racism is problematic, yet deny that they benefit from its existence. Finally, I explore how the white working class are at a disadvantage when they stake their claim to whiteness.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Two of my favorite memories are when I won the LUNAFEST and FAUNAA scholarships. As one would expect, I was pleased to be recognized for my hard work, but more importantly, the recognition affirmed my commitment to scholarship. In that moment I realized I was privileged to be a part of a truly extraordinary group of peers, faculty, and curriculum.



HINA SHAIKH

Concentrations: Women's Studies, Political Science

Thesis: Post-9/11 Identity Politics of Muslim Americans

Advisors: Dr. Wairimū Njambi and Dr. Mark Tunick

Many would argue that September 11, 2001 was another example of the incompatibility between the West and Islam. I argue that post-9/11 perceptions of Muslims and Muslim women are based on powerful and denigrating constructions of Muslim identities. I focus on scientific, media, and literary representations that have created and reinforced negative perceptions of Muslims as deviant and "Other." I will argue that contemporary governmental actions, through legislations and state actors, aimed towards racially profiling Muslims in the ongoing War Against Terror are unduly influenced by these scientific, literary, and media representations of Muslims and Muslim women.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Taking Honors Introduction to Women's Studies with Dr. Njambi during my first semester.

After Graduation Plans: Pursuing a Master's degree in Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Florida.

KATHERINE SHATTOW

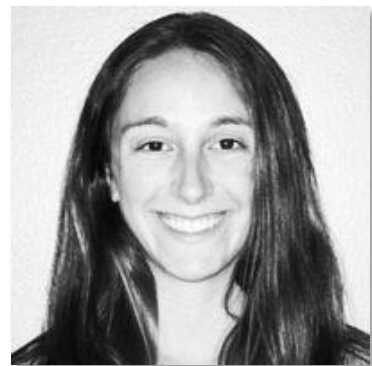
Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Comparison of Avian Populations in Jonathan Dickinson State Park

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

Data was collected from 64 points in Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Statistical analysis was then used to determine whether the time since the habitat was last burned had an influence on the avian population.

After Graduation Plans: Attending pharmacy school at Nova Southeastern University.



EMILY SMITH

Concentration: American Studies

Thesis: Out of the Shadows and Into the Spotlight: Undocumented Students in Pursuit of Higher Education at Freedom University, Georgia

Advisor: Dr. Christopher Strain

Each year an estimated 65,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools, but only 5-10% choose to enroll in college within a year of graduation. The absence of undocumented youth in higher education is primarily attributable to federal and state policies that make attaining financial assistance exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, for individuals without legal status. Recently, a handful of states have enacted tangible bans on the enrollment of undocumented students into their universities, with Georgia being the latest to do so (2010). This thesis examines the reasoning behind Georgia's enrollment ban, and provides a case study of a unique educational alternative, Freedom University, that has emerged in response.



Favorite Honors College Memory: Selecting one favorite memory is too difficult, so I'll just make it plural: DH talks, campus walks, pegging friends with snowballs that one time, and all the laughs about nothing in particular.

After Graduation Plans: Teaching middle school in San Antonio, Texas for Teach for America.



SEAN SPIGGLE

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Bald Cypress Exclusions in the Loxahatchee Floodplains

Advisor: Dr. Jon Moore

The experiment consisted of various fencing exclusions around Bald Cypress seedlings in the Loxahatchee Floodplains. Using three different plot types in five locations within this area data has been collected since July, 2012 and will continue to be collected through 2016. Currently, there are no significant differences among the exclusions yet; however the weather has become a noticeably large factor. With the busier storm season and increased rainfall, cypress seedlings have experienced extreme stress and have thus displayed high mortality rates currently.

MELISSA STIKSMA

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Keep Calm and Carry On: An Examination of Outcomes Following a Single-Session Mindfulness Meditation Training

Advisor: Dr. Laura Vernon

Mindfulness involves nonjudgmental awareness of the present moment. Higher levels of mindfulness are positively associated with adaptive psychological outcomes and negatively associated with maladaptive outcomes. We examined the effects of a 40-minute mindfulness training session comprised of psychoeducation and meditation. Questionnaires measuring mindfulness, mood, stress, and social relationships were administered pre and post session and at one week follow-up. Consistent with hypotheses, mindfulness, positive mood, and perceived relationship quality increased from pre-session to one-week



follow-up and difficulties in emotion regulation, negative mood, and perceived stress significantly decreased.

Favorite Honors College Memory: I could never encapsulate my time here. It is my home; it is where I have learned to love life. I will forever cherish every single conversation, memory, and second.

After Graduation Plans: I plan on constantly pursuing happiness and living every moment to its absolute fullest. I will take advantage of this short life to do meaningful and soul-fulfilling work.



MICHELLE STRASBERG

Concentration: Psychology

Thesis: Wait... Have I Seen this Before? Age-related differences in Unconscious Plagiarism

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Unconscious plagiarism (UP) occurs when someone unintentionally takes an idea from a different source, but believes this idea is completely original. Older adults may be more susceptible to unconscious plagiarism than younger adults due to differences in factors such as working memory span, recall ability, source monitoring ability, and general distractibility. To test this, two groups of young adults (one distracted, one non-distracted) and one group of non-distracted older adults participated in the experiment. In our study we found that distracted young adults exhibited more cases of UP than non-distracted young adults as well as older adults.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Blood buddies, St. Augustine, Bahamas cruise, Ohio, collective all-nighters, publishing a paper, discovering artistic abilities, animal family, beach between classes, Abacoa walks, late-night shenanigans, four amazing years of everything wonderful :)

CAROLINE TERRY

Concentration: History

Thesis: Lady in Waiting: The Political Influence of the Duchesse d'Angoulême on the Bourbon Restoration Period

Advisor: Dr. Christopher Ely



The Duchesse d'Angoulême, the last surviving child of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette of France, was long considered politically unimportant to those focusing on the periods after the French Revolution. Her influence, however, was much more varied and profound than initially believed. This paper first examines the ways in which the princess transcended her traditional role as a lady of the court and became the sympathetic symbol of the court in exile, rallying those loyal to the monarchy around her. Later, after rejoining her French family, the Duchesse d'Angoulême became a political force and critical voice during the Bourbon Restoration period.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Woodland Nymphs, Avengers Assemble, Super Friends Yip-Yip, Movie Nights, FARH 2011-2013, Roommate "Bonding", Halloween Horror Nights, The Burrow, Westrosi of the MacArthur Campus, Meat and Potatoes, Sonic Misadventures.

After Graduation Plans: Attending the Master's Program for College Student Personnel at the University of Tennessee.

CYDNEY TORNOPSKY

Concentrations: Psychology, Writing

Thesis: Effects of Technology on Math Testing

Advisor: Dr. Julie Earles

Many public schools are now using computers as a testing medium for their students. The goal of this project was to determine whether students perform better on these computerized tests or on traditional written tests. This project will ascertain if there is a difference between these mediums and if the school district is justified in using computers for testing. It was expected that students will perform better on traditional tests due to transfer error, the distraction of scrolling, and computer glare that is associated with computer testing. We found that there were individual differences. Some students did drastically better on paper and some did drastically better on the computer. We need to conduct more research to be able to predict which students benefit from each type of testing.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Westrosi of the MacArthur Campus, Avengers Assemble, Disney Spring Break, Movie Nights, The Wizarding World of Leadership, Roommate "Bonding," Halloween Horror Nights, Working in the Burrow

After Graduation Plans: I will be attending FAU in order to finish my prerequisites before attending FAU for a graduate degree in Communication Disorders.



DANIEL TRACY

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Investigating the Relationship Between Rimonabant and *E. coli* Food Sources in Preventing Dauer Formation in *C. elegans*

Advisor: Dr. Paul Kirchman

C. elegans, a small nematode worm, responds differently to an endocannabinoid called rimonabant, depending on the strain of *E. coli* they are fed. On The standard feeding strain, OP50, rimonabant prevents entry into an alternative developmental stage called the dauer larvae, under conditions where dauer larvae would normally form. In the feeding strain used in RNAi screening, HT115, rimonabant treatment fails to inhibit dauer entry. This makes screening for rimonabant's receptor, on the basis of its effect on dauer entry impossible. My research focused on trying to find conditions in which HT115 would show the same response to rimonabant as OP50, as well as trying to find the underlying cause of their differing responses.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Taking organic chemistry over the summer. Made new friends, studied hard, set off the smoke alarms, lived in the MPR, battled lacrosse players, and played ridiculous amounts of Super Smash Brothers.

CHRISTINA TURN

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Keep it Together: Knockdowns of Dynactin Subunits Demonstrate Varying Levels of Importance in Dynactin Structure and Microtubule Organization

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Dynactin, a multisubunit protein complex, is a processivity factor and cargo adaptor for the microtubule motor dynein.

Dynactin contributes to mitotic progression, intracellular trafficking, endomembrane organization, and centrosomal microtubule anchoring. We use shRNAs to reduce expression of dynactin's p24, p27, p62, and Arp1 subunits to determine their roles in anchoring. We confirm recent work demonstrating p62's importance to dynactin integrity and microtubule organization (Yeh et al., 2012). Binding partners p27 and p25 contribute to membrane selectivity, showing few microtubule anchoring effects. We find that dynactin requires these subunits for crucial structural support, facilitating interactions among dynactin and microtubule anchoring components.



Favorite Honors College Memory: Teaching Dr. K. "Cotton-eyed Joe" dance, Fiesta Maya, Newman Club events, ASCB conference, salsa study breaks, teaching at El Sol, volunteering in Peru, beach study sessions, time spent with professors.

After Graduation Plans: Attending Allopathic Medical School at the University of Florida College of Medicine.

CORTNEY URBAN

Concentration: Medical Anthropology

Thesis: Globalization and Diabetes: Type II Diabetes Among Disadvantaged Groups in the United States and What is to Come for Developing Countries

Advisors: Dr. Rachel Corr and Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

A comparison of disadvantaged populations with high prevalence of diabetes in the United States and what's to come for undeveloped and developing countries due to globalization.

Favorite Honors College Memory: If I am here, then that means I finished my thesis. Best. Memory. Ever!

After Graduation Plans: Visiting Austria for three months.

GUILLERMO VASQUEZ

Concentration: Chemistry

Thesis: Chlorination of Organic Compounds with Trichloroisocyanuric Acid

Advisor: Dr. Veljko Dragojlovic

Dr. Veljko and I have developed a new method for chlorination of organic compounds under mild conditions. Current methods of chlorination utilize such reagents as chlorine, thionyl chloride or phosphorous trichloride are extremely corrosive and hazardous. Trichlorisocyanuric acid is an agent used for swimming pools and many inexperienced, or poorly trained persons, have utilized it without any major accidents. The experiment method was successful with cyclohexene, norbornelyne, cis-stilbene and trans-stilbene which produced a chlorinated compound in good yield. However, camphene, diethyl fumarate, trans-cinnamic acid, 1-ethynyl-1-cyclohexanol and diphenyl acetylene were less successful and do not react readily with trichlorisocyanuric acid.





RICARDO WEHRHAHN

Concentrations: Mathematics, Economics

Thesis: Determinants of Football Performance in Europe

Advisors: Dr. Keith Jakee and Dr. Terje Hoim

Favorite Honors College Memory: Meeting and living with my roommates.

JOSEPH WILLIAMS

Concentration: Biology

Thesis: Tracking Mitotic Defects Through Live Video

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Tracking mitotic defects in oral cancer cells in order to determine the rate of successful genomic rescue and or compromise.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Having Dean Buller wear a button with my face on it and then years later making a shirt with him on it. Full circle, baby.



LESLIE WILLIAMS

Concentration: Interdisciplinary History

Thesis: Reparations, Repatriation, and Reconciliation: Negotiating Claims of Historical Injustice in the Case of the Herero Genocide

Advisor: Dr. William O'Brien

Historians argue that there are extensive links between German colonialism and the Jewish Holocaust. German concentration camps in Namibia developed extermination techniques that later enabled Jewish Holocaust, and both used the victims' bodies for scientific research. In 2012, a delegation of Namibians retrieved 20 skulls of Herero and Nama victims from Germany. The repatriation of the skulls stimulated a resurgence of debate about reparations, motivating the Left Party to make a motion in German parliament that

outlines an apology, repatriation, reparations, and continued partnership between the two nations. This historical defense of the Herero petition contextualizes the various aspects of the debate.

Favorite Honors College Memory: All forms of nerd rage and their manifestations.

After Graduation Plans: Leading youth service adventures around the world, starting my own business(es), continuing to learn through exploration!

JAVIER ZAGLUL

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: An Analysis of the Duquenois and the Froedes Colorimetric Tests

Advisor: Dr. Eugene Smith

Colorimetric testing is frequently used to identify unknown substances on the field. These tests are composed of a solution which changes colors in the presence of certain drugs. Each solution can yield a variety of colors, and responses are typically instant. The speed of colorimetric analysis has made it ideal for onsite preliminary drug tests. In particular, the Froehdes solution can identify stimulants, hallucinogens, and narcotics; and the Duquenois-Levine test can identify cannabinoids. The solutions were tested against a set of drugs at various ratios to record each solution's reactivities.

Favorite Honors College Memory: Life in the Residence Halls

After Graduation Plans: Attending Nova Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine.



DANIEL HIRAM ZENGOTITA

Concentrations: Law and Society, Interdisciplinary History

Thesis 1: The 'Insecurity, Crime and Punishment' Paradigm

Advisors: Dr. Mark Tunick and Dr. Daniel White

I analyze the historical, legal, and economic scholarship that develops an 'insecurity, crime and punishment' paradigm as a way of understanding the 'neo-liberal state'. I begin with the Civil Rights Movement and explore the development of the above paradigm from the rise of Ronald Reagan and the 'New Right' through to its later expression in policies of the Left and William Clinton. The project will conclude with a critical analysis of the 'stop-and-frisk' tactic as a modern technique of social control that is an extension of the discursive power of the 'insecurity, crime and punishment' paradigm.

Thesis 2: Camus and Sartre: Crisis, Confrontation, Collapse

Advisors: Dr. Christopher Strain and Dr. Daniel White

Albert Camus and Jean-Paul Sartre were the two most influential intellectuals in postwar France (1944). Their friendship began under the Nazi Occupation (1940 - 1944) as they were both "artists who resisted." But after the Liberation, Camus began to become discontented with the Stalinist-Communist ideology that had come to pervade leftist intellectual circles in France. As a communist sympathizer, Sartre sharply criticized Camus (for his criticism), which led to their break. My thesis seeks to understand why these two intellectuals could not reconcile their differences and use their huge collective influence to the benefit of French society and politics.



ZACHARY ZIGMOND

Concentration: Biological Chemistry

Thesis: Disrupting Methamphetamine Associated Contextual Memory by Targeting Synaptic Dynamics

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Quintyne

Methamphetamine (METH) is addictive and associated with a high rate of relapse. To see if actin polymerization could be a target for the extinction of METH seeking memories we inhibited actin polymerization in animals that had been trained in either METH or food associated conditioned place preference. Pretest inhibition of actin cycling in the basolateral amygdala complex produced immediate and persistent extinction of METH seeking behavior. Additionally, inhibiting actin polymerization 24hrs before testing disrupted seeking behavior for METH but not food. These results indicate that METH-associated memories are selectively vulnerable to disruption through inhibition of actin dynamics.

After Graduation Plans: Graduate school or lab research for another year.

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Hannah Norcini

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