

CURCA CURCA
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CURCA

25th Annual

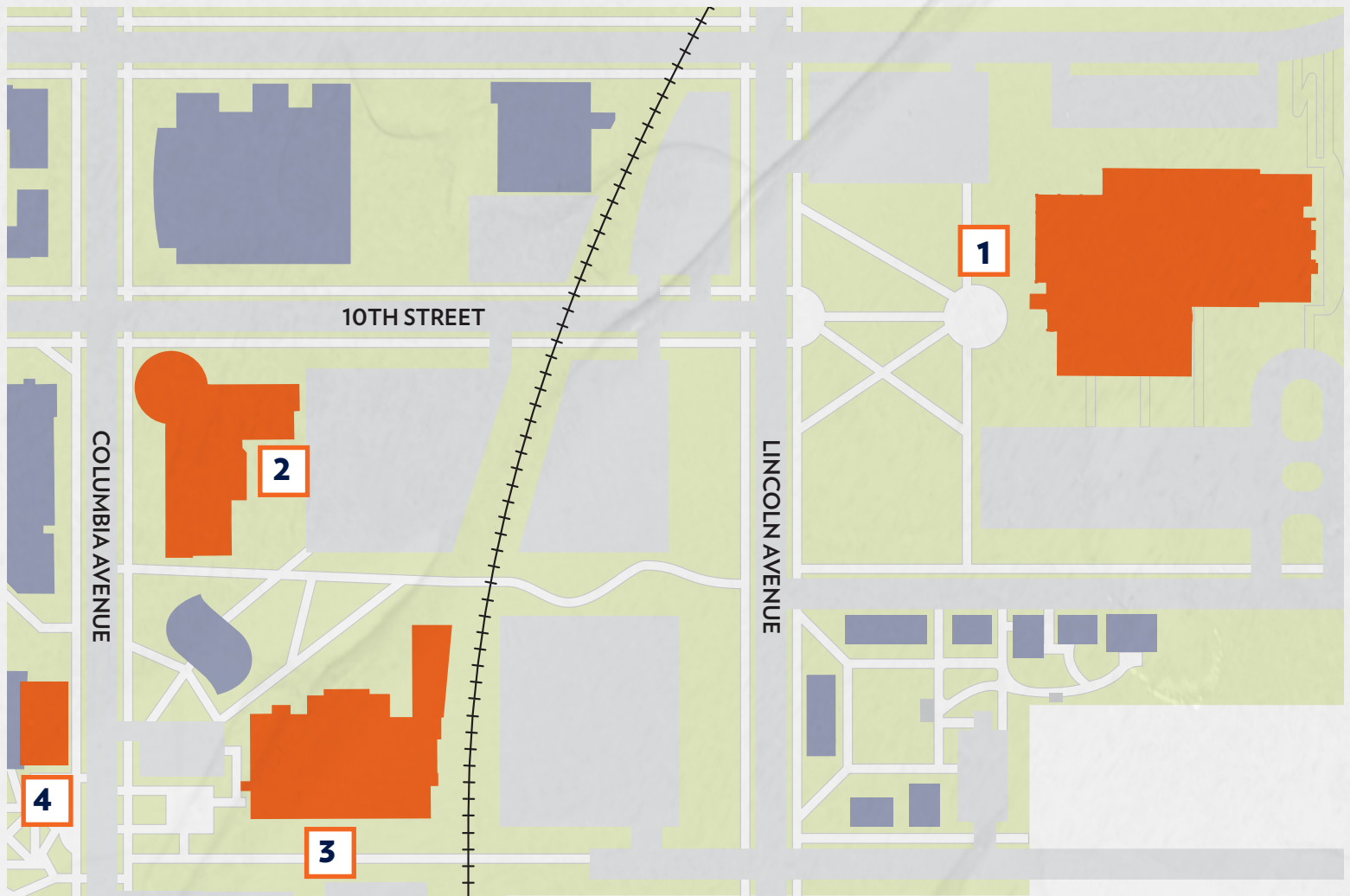
A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap
Celebration of Undergraduate Research
and Creative Activity

Friday, April 17, 2026

2:30-5:05 p.m.

 **Hope**
COLLEGE

PRESENTED BY
GENTEX
CORPORATION



- 1. DeVos Fieldhouse**
- 2. Martha Miller Center for Global Engagement**
- 3. DePree Art Gallery**
- 4. Jim and Eileen Heeringa Dance Wing / DeWitt Theatre**



April 17, 2026

Dear Friends,

I am excited to welcome you to the 25th annual **A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity** (CURCA). For over two decades, CURCA has highlighted the scholarly accomplishments of talented Hope students working collaboratively with exceptional faculty mentors in our annual signature research showcase. We are grateful for our sponsor, Gentex Corporation, an innovative technology company committed to supporting student research and scholarship at Hope College.

Hope College continues to earn national recognition for the strength and impact of its undergraduate scholarship. In the 2026 Best Colleges rankings by U.S. News & World Report, Hope was ranked **#22 nationally** among all colleges and universities—including institutions such as Yale, Harvard, Stanford, MIT, and the University of Michigan—for Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects, reflecting the College's deep commitment to student-faculty collaboration and hands-on discovery. Hope is also one of only 28 undergraduate-only institutions recognized in the Research Colleges and Universities category by the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

These distinctions affirm what is celebrated throughout this booklet: that research and creative activity at Hope are not exceptional opportunities for a few, but defining experiences that shape our students' education and strengthen our community. Our research-infused courses, ensembles, and studios foster meaningful connections between students and faculty and equip them with the professional skills necessary for their future academic and professional endeavors. These experiences, which include opportunities for independent study and course-based research, are a testament to the transformative and world-class educational experience that Hope College offers.

This year's Celebration includes 195 presentations by 363 students from 26 different departments and programs working with 105 faculty mentors. Research occurs during the academic year and summer, spans the four academic divisions, and includes independent study and course-based research. During the 2025 calendar year, Hope students made 74 conference presentations at off-campus conferences, published 30 articles or scholarly chapters, and submitted another 8 papers for publication. For the 2025 fiscal year, Hope College faculty, staff, and students received \$2,873,765 in external funding to support 36 research, outreach, public service, and educational awards.

Thank you for your invaluable participation and support for CURCA 2026. Your involvement is a testament to the strength of our academic community. To learn more about our student-faculty collaborative scholarship, please visit hope.edu/research.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi E. Kraus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Heidi E. Kraus, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic Affairs



Acknowledgements

Heidi Kraus, Shonn Colbrunn, and Maricela Mireles, Celebration Co-directors

Margaret Bradford and Events and Conferences Staff

Laura Clarke, Mike Culver, and Physical Plant Staff

Paul Willard and Public Affairs and Marketing Staff

Lindsay Scott, and Creative Dining Services Staff

Jeremy Barney, VanWynen Library

Kristi Rosendahl and Print Services Staff

Michelle Gibbs, Office of Sustainability

Leo Herzog, Deb DuMez and Computing and Information Technology

Kate Folkert, Abstract Book Graphic Designer

Frost Research Center

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Center for Teaching & Learning

For projects funded in part or whole by the National Science Foundation: Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Numbers next to presenter names in this program reference the project number on the floor of the event.

For oral presentations, the time is listed with the classroom number.

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Listing of Projects by Department or Program

All poster & laptop presentations are in DeVos Fieldhouse. Oral presentations will take place in the Martha Miller Center.

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Mentor

Sarah Lundy

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| “Vote for Woman Suffrage and Democracy at Home”: Holland, Michigan, and the Fight for Enfranchisement | Anna Stowe | 110 |

BIOCHEMISTRY & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Mentors

Dr. Leah Chase, Dr. Kristin Dittenhafer-Reed, Dr. Sean Beckwith, Dr. Benjamin Kopek, Dr. Michael Pikaart, Prof. Clayton Piehl, Dir. Lauren Cribbs, Dr. Natalie Huisman, Dr. Brent Krueger, Dr. Aaron Best

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Use of site-directed mutagenesis to determine the site of ubiquitination on system xc- | Alexandria Switzer | 26 |
| Membrane Expression of the Cystine/Glutamate Exchanger is Regulated by Nedd4L Mediated Ubiquitination in an Akt-dependent Manner | Sofia Rosenberger | 27 |
| Investigating the Role of SHMT2 in the Mitochondrial Nucleoid | Taylor Laurin, Grace Rabuck | 28 |
| Regulation of System xc- trafficking by acetylation | Bethany Smith, Emily Kieff, Bridget Hofstee, Gibson Heethuis | 33 |
| Use of site directed mutagenesis to identify sites of calmodulin binding on System xc- | Elliana Boer, Gerald Sherer | 29 |
| Real-time, live-cell dynamics of a retrotransposon membraneless organelle in budding yeast. | Awesome Abraham | 30 |
| Elucidating the molecular grammar of a retrotransposon prion-like domain in budding yeast | Alexa MacKersie | 31 |
| Optimizing Protein Digestion Methods for Bottom Proteomic Analysis of the Highly Hydrophobic Transporter Membrane Protein xCT | Katherine Hartmann, Kate McCain | 32 |
| Experimental Analysis of Escherichia coli Metabolism on D-serine | Raksa Samnang | 34 |
| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
| Studying the Relationship between System xC and Calmodulin | Caleb Oderinde | 239 4:30 – 4:45 |

2026 Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

All poster & laptop presentations are in DeVos Fieldhouse. Oral presentations will take place in the Martha Miller Center.

BIOLOGY

Mentors

Dr. Aaron Best, Dr. Brent Krueger, Dr. Virginia Beard, Dr. Jennifer Blake-Mahmud, Dr. Jianhua Li, Dr. Joseph Stuke, Dr. Jimena Golcher-Benavides, Dr. Sean Beckwith, Dr. Mike Pikaart, Dr. Natalie L. H. Huisman, Prof. Clayton Piehl, Dir. Lauren Cribbs, Dr. Kelly Ronald, Dr. Benjamin Kopek, Dr. Robert Glowacki, Dr. Virginia McDonough-Stuke, Dr. Cody Porter

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--|----------------|
| Drinking Water Quality and Access in Choma, Zambia | Madeline Shirk | 37 |
| Understanding Sexual Plasticity of Striped Maple Trees (<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i>) by Examining the Gene Expression of Floral Development | Betty Wonde, Nayad Berhane | 38 |
| Exploring the Efficacy of Anticancer Plant Extracts in Slowing Down Cancer Development | Jaclyn Decker, Maxwell McCormick, Jaden Johnson | 41 |
| Preference of Intersex and Intrasex in Bean Beetles | Isaac Bogard, Brynn Wegner, Estherqueen Koomson, Haley Miller | 39 |
| Isolation and analysis of a new J mycobacteriophage, Hidrated. | Nathan L. Atallah, Cecelia K. Berry, Summer D. Carlson, Claire M. Donovan, Megan L. Gifford, James M. Griffiths, Sophia D. Grzesiak, Catherine D. Guler, Eleora S. Jacob, Caleb J. Keilen, Samantha H. Wee, Rachel A. Weston | 60 |
| Isolation and analysis of a new C1 mycobacteriophage, Dessert | Catherine Guler, Nathan L. Atallah, Cecelia K. Berry, Summer D. Carlson, Claire M. Donovan, Megan L. Gifford, James M. Griffiths, Sophia D. Grzesiak, Eleora S. Jacob, Caleb J. Keilen, Samantha H. Wee, Rachel A. Weston | 48 |
| The Environment as a Driver of Affiliative vs. Agonistic Behaviors in <i>Neolamprologus pulcher</i> | Anissa Wille | 57 |
| Sequence constraints on retrotransposition of Ty1 in the budding yeast <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> | Mackenzie Streeter | 49 |
| Comparison of Experimental and Predicted Carbon Utilization Profiles of <i>Escherichia coli</i> Populations Isolated from a Hypereutrophic Watershed System | Frederick Melges | 50 |
| The Genetic Basis of Sexual Diversity in Maple Species | Nathan Halstead, Eleora Jacob | 51 |
| The Effectiveness of Collision-Deterrence Tools in Reducing Bird Collisions with Man-Made Structures | Mallory Matthews, Gianna Kerschbaum, Lan A. Nguyen | 52 |
| Scents of a Feather: A Review of Urbanization's Impact on Olfactory Signaling in Birds | Ariana Bruininks, Anna Mayernik, Shane Mockbil | 58 |
| Effect of Urban Noise Pollution on the Fitness of Avian Populations | Alison Wegner, Natalie Leake-Jara, Marcus Alcaraz | 43 |
| When is the Cost of Sex Too High? The Reproductive Costs of Temperature Change on <i>Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i> | Maxwell McCormick, Ava Winarski, Devon Tech, Olivia Dunphy | 42 |

Listing of Projects by Department or Program

All poster & laptop presentations are in DeVos Fieldhouse. Oral presentations will take place in the Martha Miller Center.

BIOLOGY continued

| | | |
|---|--|----|
| The Effects of Urbanization on Insectivorous and Omnivorous Avian Populations | Kate Sherman, Dulcinea Licavoli, Kaelyn Carter | 53 |
| Visualization of Reverse Transcription Complexes of Flock House Virus using Immunogold Labeling | Philip Kerber, Marcus Alcaraz | 44 |
| How microplastics impact the common human gut microbiota inhabitant, <i>Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron</i> | Lucas Engler, Mya Spisz | 56 |
| Effects of Windmill Designs on the Frequency of Bird Strikes During Migration | Isabella Dimitriou, Mara Gutierrez, Bethany Smith | 45 |
| The influence of substrate composition on effective antheridiogen signaling radius in <i>Ceratopteris richardii</i> | Erickson Kunzler, Simon Langejans, Madison Juchno, Micah Jones | 59 |
| Blinded by the Night: Artificial Light's Impact on Avian Migration | Annalise Waldron, Ainsley Cummings, Kamryn Bice | 54 |
| Turning anaerobic microbiology on its head: How different culturing conditions affects strain-level competition in <i>Bacterioides thetaiotaomicron</i> | Eleanor Burke, Katherine Langejans | 25 |
| Natural Selection can Promote de Novo Gene Formation and Help Maintain Tight Gene Packing in Phage Genomes | Estherqueen Koomson, Ethan West | 40 |
| Exploring How Changing Weather Patterns Influence Bird Migration Pathways | Carter Dean, Ethan Hannapel, Sebastian Lema | 55 |
| Seeking insight into the mechanism of mycobacteriophage stoperator function | Davi Zola de Araujo | 46 |
| Why do Birds Breed in Spring? An Analysis of Cassia Crossbill Breeding Phenology | Claire VanTol | 47 |

CHEMISTRY

Mentors

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, Dr. Elizabeth Sanford, Dr. Meagan Elinski, Dr. Brent Krueger, Dr. Diana Lee, Dr. Aaron Best, Dr. Anita Esquerra-Zwiers, Dr. Christopher Turlington, Dr. Jason Gillmore, Dr. Nathanael Kazmierczak, Dr. Zach VanOrman, Dr. Leah Chase

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Moving Beyond Carbonyls in Carbon-Carbon Single Bond Activation | Trevor VanSkiver, Megyn Fox | 13 |
| Expanding the Boundaries of Carbon-Carbon Bond Activation in Pyridyl Ketones | Karen Nimtz | 14 |
| Examining Morphological Differences in Electrochemically Polymerized EDOT Monomers | Maya Lunt | 15 |
| Frictional Behavior of Passive vs Reactive Nanoparticles in Hydrogels | Gloria Kozak | 16 |
| Chemical Reactions Activated by Friction: Towards Surface-Bound Polymer Films | Avis Streur | 17 |
| The Synthesis of a Tetra-substituted EDOT Porphyrin | Colin A. Wiechmann | 18 |

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CHEMISTRY continued

| | | |
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| Improving Drinking Water Quality, Health, and Wellbeing in Rural Ecuador | Grace Medalen, Kali Coppess, Josie Oostindie, Elizabeth King, Caleb Mak Kang Myung, Shaelyn Minor | 19 |
| Perfluorocarbon Polymers Used as Artificial Oxygen Carriers | Isaac Stewart | 20 |
| Varying α -substitution on Quinoline Hydrazones and BF ₂ -Azo Dyes | Elissya Laze, Anna Newlands | 21 |
| Sliding Behavior of Gold Nanoparticles with Polymer Capping Ligands in Acidic and Basic Solutions | Betzaida Hidalgo | 22 |
| Palladium-Catalyzed Coupling of Aryl Halides to Organometallics from Tertiary Alcohols | Joseph D'Amico | 23 |
| Sliding Induced Embedment of Nanoparticles into Soft Surfaces | Cody Marshall | 24 |
| The Construction and Benchmarking of a Magnetic Circularly Polarized Luminescence (MCPL) Spectrometer using Europium(III) Compounds | Christopher Klaver | 35 |
| Engineering Chirality in Halide Perovskite Semiconductor Materials for Spin Control | Caroline Valdes, Alexander Almy | 36 |

| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Identifying Cl ⁻ binding sites on System xc ⁻ . | Sylvie Rossman | 239 3:50 – 4:05 |
| Iron-Doped CsPbBr Nanocrystals | Caroline Valdes, Alexander Almy | 239 4:50 – 5:05 |

COMMUNICATION

Mentors

Dr. Paul Hangsan Ahn, Dr. Sarah Kornfield

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Perceived Curation and Feed Personalization Among College Students | Kaylee Yanchek | 181* |
| Is IDEO's Design Thinking Generalizable? Understanding Their Creativity as Goffmanian Dramaturgical Performance | Elyse Johnson | 124 |

| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Mother God | Riley Gruppen | 238 3:50 – 4:05 |

* Laptop presentation

Listing of Projects by Department or Program

All poster & laptop presentations are in DeVos Fieldhouse. Oral presentations will take place in the Martha Miller Center.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Mentors

Dr. Omofolakunmi Olagbemi, Dr. Brooke Odle, Dr. Ryan McFall, Dr. Michael Jipping, Dr. Charles Cusack

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|--|----------------|
| Classifying Patient Handling Techniques to Reduce Risk of Musculoskeletal Injury in Nurses | Alem Kemal | 85 |
| ASPIRES: The Academic Skills, Planning, and Intentional Relationships for Engagement and Success Application | Denisse Ramos Guzman, Bryson Quakenbush, Raighen Ly, Eleanor Koh | 86 |
| Obsidian Plugin for Collaborative Notes | Jonathan Chia, Samuel Buck | 87 |
| Writing Algorithm Demonstrations Using AI | Caiden Sunlin, Connor Vachon | 88 |
| A new website for AminoAcids.com | Camila Medrano, Gillian Donley | 182* |

DANCE

Mentors

Prof. Ray Tadio, Prof. Kara Brems, Prof. Jasmine Mejia

| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| “Trial” in Film | Sarra LaCour | 135 4:10 – 4:25 |

| Dance Performance Title | Student Presenters | Location Time |
|--|---|---|
| Edinburgh Fringe Festival Dance Project: Phase One | Emerson Douma, Makayla Henline, Makenna Iverson, Natalie Richards, Colin Van Soest, Halen White | Heeringa Dance Studio 124 3:30 – 4:00 & 4:35-5:05 |

EDUCATION

Mentors

Dr. Mihyun Han, Dr. Jane Finn, Dr. Kate Rollert French, Dr. Jared McBrady

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|---|----------------|
| How Translanguaging Pedagogy Shapes Language Ideologies in Bilingual Picturebooks | Grace Bertrand | 99 |
| Experiences of Minority Students in Higher Education and What We Can Learn From Them | Jose Saavedra, Caitlyn Keith | 100 |
| Challenging Implicit Racial Bias in Teacher Preparation: A Critical Race Theory Approach Using Counterstories | Delaney Ingbreton, Abigail Den Bleyker | 101 |
| “I’ll be honest, I have not read that yet,” and other bottlenecks students face while making historical comparisons. | Rachel Kuiper, Shane Pitcher, Samuel Byrne, Aly Potter, Isabella Bays | 102 |

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ENGINEERING

Mentors

Dr. Matthew Smith, Dr. Katharine Polasek, Dr. Brooke Odle, Dr. Christopher Wilburn, Dr. Jeffery Christians, Dr. John Krupczak

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
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| Experimental Characterization of Longitudinally Non-uniform Photothermally Driven Snap-Through in Bimetallic Arches | Jordan Craft, Joshua Lieuwen | 73 |
| Comparing Cortical Responses to Mechanically and Electrically Evoked Somatosensations | Aaron Thomas, Claudia Van Winkle, Arianna Knowles | 75 |
| How Do Compression Shorts Influence Lower Extremity Kinematics and Kinetics During a Countermovement Jump? | Isabella Schmidt | 76 |
| Green Revolving Fund | Jordan Craft, Kate Mahoney | 74 |
| Multijoint Kinematic Analysis of Nursing Student Posture Using OpenCap in a Realistic Nursing Environment | Yea Geon Song | 77 |
| Characterizing Non-Linear Temperature Profiles in a Thermally Responsive Bistable Arch | Mark O'Brien, Dontae Harbor | 61 |
| Analysis of Photothermal Coating Influence on Photovoltaic Temperatures | Isaiah Beech | 62 |
| Photovoltaic Data Acquisition using Arduino Cloud | Ben York | 63 |
| Development of a Photovoltaic Data Acquisition System | Yanyssa Ochoa | 64 |
| Testing Nano-Structured Thin Film Materials That Selectively Absorb Ultraviolet and Infrared Light | Moses Ortega-Velez | 65 |

ENGLISH

Mentor

Dr. Marla Lunderberg

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| John Donne's Feminine Consideration of the Body of Christ in "Death's Duell" | Alyssa Segura | 109 |

GEOLOGICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Mentors

Dr. Michael Philben, Professor Suzanne DeVries-Zimmerman, Dr. Kathleen Fast, Dr. Steven Bouma-Prediger, Dr. Sarah Dean, Dr. Uzonna Anyiam, Dr. Aaron Best

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--|----------------|
| Recent Carbon Accumulation Rates of Michigan Peatlands Decline with Increasing Temperature | Ben Pikaart | 96 |
| Does Kelly Take the (eu)Trophy?: A case study of Kelly Lake in the Macatawa Watershed to analyze macroinvertebrate biodiversity as an indicator of eutrophication | Sean Dummer, Anna Mayernik, Anissa Wille | 69 |

Listing of Projects by Department or Program

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GEOLOGICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES continued

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| An investigation of historic water access in Michigan | Jozaphine Navarro, Madison Steinman, Isaac Janssen | 78 |
| BogBot: An Autonomous Chamber for Measuring Peatland Greenhouse Gas Fluxes | Josiah Foor, Trenten Bolhouse | 79 |
| Shaking It Up: Modeling Earthquake Deformation | Wesley Lincoln | 80 |
| Seismic skill developmnet and focal mechanism determination for pore pressure analysis in Sichuan Basin, China | David Beaty | 81 |
| Effect of Nitrogen Addition on Methane Production in Michigan Peatlands | Emily Mathew | 82 |
| Temperature-driven shifts of nitrogen mineralization in Michigan peat bogs | London Yoder | 83 |
| Plastic Purgatory: Investigating the Effects of Plastic Litter on Water and Organic Content in Topsoil in Holland, Michigan. | Kamryn Bice, Annis Cairns, Maddie DeVries, Sebastian Lema | 71 |
| Droughts to Downpours: How Seasonal Shifts Affect the Chemistry of Lake Macatawa | Laura Bea, Megan Harvey, London Yoder | 84 |
| From Water to Wings: A Comparative Study of Michigan Odonata Larva and Water Quality | Caitlyn Brown, Claire Jennings, Levi Moon | 68 |
| From muskrats to mudflats, the changing ecohydrology of an interdunal wetlands in the Lake Michigan dunes, USA | Carter Dean, Caitlyn M. Brown | 67 |
| Salinity in Your Vicinity: Investigating Salinity Gradients in Macatawa Watershed Streams | Carter Dean, Annalise Waldron, Isabella Romans | 66 |
| Analysis of Heavy Metal Pollution in the Macatawa Watershed | Claire Jennings, Ava Sprenger | 72 |
| Environmental and Microbial Drivers of Methane Emissions Across a Michigan Peatland Transect | Anna Mayernik | 70 |

GLOBAL STUDIES

Mentor

Dr. Lauren Janes

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Conditional Tolerance? Immigration, Religion, and Democratic Values in Post-unification Germany | Nadia Fitz | 120 |
| History, Media, and the Catalan Independence Movement | Daniela Alejandra Melgar Mendez | 121 |
| Censorship and Autocracy: The Role of Freedom of Speech in Past Authoritarian Governments | Kathleen Schnorberger | 122 |
| The Philippine Revolution: Tragedy and Triumph | Keira Byrnes | 123 |
| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
| The Survival of the Critically Endangered Ainu Language in Hokkaido, Japan | Clayton DeKam | 238 4:30 – 4:45 |

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HISTORY

Mentors

Dr. Janis Gibbs, Dr. Gloria Tseng

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Coercive Evangelism in Dutch Taiwan: Rev. George Candidius's Mission Within the VOC Colonial Power Structure | Nicholas Walker | 108 |

KINESIOLOGY

Mentors

Dr. Maureen Dunn, Dr. Nigel Jiwan, Dr. Sheeba Davis, Dr. Fiddy Davis, Dr. Brian Rider, Dr. Kirk Brumels, Dr. Mark Northuis, Professor Caleigh Kenna-Shadrick

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--|----------------|
| The Effect of Passive Heating on Sprint Performance in Division III Track and Field Athletes | Lauren Adamski, Nile Devers, Sara Schermerhorn, Sophia Raymond | 154 |
| Feel the Burn: Effect of Capsaicin Supplementation on Bench Press Muscular Endurance in Resistance Trained Males and Females | Kennedi Pochmara, Alexys Abraham, Lauren Laughrey, Maggie Monroe | 156 |
| Carbohydrate and Caffeine Mouth Rinsing: Effects on Cognitive and Physical Performance in Fatigued Division III Women's Lacrosse Players | Alexa Burgess, Katie Hermann, Lina Rea, Olivia Dieppa | 157 |
| Acute Effects of Carbohydrate and Caffeine Mouth Rinsing on Lower-Body Muscular Endurance in Division III Collegiate Female Soccer Players | Avery Coykendall, Savina Centofanti, Grace Fowler, Madelyn St. John | 158 |
| The Effects of Ammonia Inhalants on Free Throw Shooting Accuracy in Rested Division III Basketball Players | Justice Mims, Madeline Finch, Guadalupe Jimenez, Allison Dumler | 159 |
| The Effect of Massage Gun Therapy During Intra-Set Rest for Biceps Brachii Muscular Endurance in D3 Collegiate Female Volleyball Players. | Cecelia Miller-Rodriguez, Sophia Talo, Jenna James, Hope Hochstedler | 160 |
| Keeping a Cool Grip: Effects of Palmar Cooling on Hand Grip Strength, Shot Accuracy, and Shot Velocity in Collegiate Male Lacrosse Players Following High-Intensity Training | John Foster, Kaden Jewett, Matthew Anderson | 161 |
| Effects of Pre-Exercise Heated Vest Use on Repetitions to Failure and Barbell Velocity During a Bench Press Exercise | Carl Bailey, Griffin Hoard, Brendan O'Donnell, Erickson Kunzler | 162 |
| Acute Effects of Traditional Finnish Sauna Exposure on Countermovement Jump Performance in Division III Collegiate Football Players | Grant Engelsman, Jack Goldie, Hunter Ames, Liam Danitz | 163 |
| Effect of Peppermint Oil Inhalation on Swim Performance in D3 Swimmers | Brynn Conklin, Ashlea Swingewood, Brianna Johnson, Katie Eggleston, Miriam Czaja | 167 |
| The Effect of Passive Heating via Heat Pads on Squat Performance | Sydney Kane, Caleb Hoekema, Lauren Adamski | 168 |
| Effects of Wearing a Weighted Pack During a Balance Training Program on Static Balance in a College Aged Population | Sophia Raymond, Laura Zupancic | 153 |

Listing of Projects by Department or Program

All poster & laptop presentations are in DeVos Fieldhouse. Oral presentations will take place in the Martha Miller Center.

KINESIOLOGY continued

| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
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| Determination of Lactate Threshold Heart Rate Ranges for Three Different Threshold Sets in Highly Trained Male Collegiate Distance Runners | Sara Schermerhorn | 155 |
| The Effect of a Cold Face Compress and Maximal Breath Hold on Time to Exhaustion in Collegiate Hockey Players | Braxton Nichols, Brenden Tarpenting, Dylan Kingsbury, Fritz Duncan | 169 |
| It's just a phase! Analyzing the personal application of mental skills across the phases of the menstrual cycle. | Maddie Breuker | 243 3:30 – 3:45 |
| Changes in Leg Vertical Stiffness Across Menstrual Cycle Phases in Division III Eumenorrhic Athletes | Nailah Barnett, Samantha Smith, Stella Bottum, Sophie Konkal | 243 3:50 – 4:05 |

MATHEMATICS

Mentors

Dr. Gina Kling, Dr. Guangliang Chen, Dr. Dyana Harrelson, Dr. Darin Stephenson, Dr. Stephanie Edwards, Dr. Brian Yurk, Dr. Yew-Meng Koh, Dr. K. Greg Murray, Dr. Jeffery Martin

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|--|--------------------|
| The “How Many” Routine as a Catalyst for Computational Fluency and Student Participation | Ella Williams, Lillian Iden | 89 |
| Analyzing Label Structure and Regional Similarity in Watershed Data via Spectral Clustering | Yifan Luo | 90 |
| Investigations in Bertrand’s Paradox | Mary Moore, Hope Weeda, Annika Cunill Krones | 91 |
| Reinforcement Learning for Positional Games on Graphs and Hypergraphs | Sidney Wright | 92 |
| The Harmonic Series and the Kempner Series | Ann Chung, Sophie Scogin, Anna Zini | 93 |
| On the real critical points of the logarithmic derivative of real polynomials and the Hawaii Conjecture | Grant Pilcher | 94 |
| A Framework for Landmark Selection in Spectral Clustering | Eli Edwards-Parker, Valen Feldmann | 95 |
| Oral Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Room Time |
| Evaluating Machine Learning Strategies for the Reconstruction of Compton Scatter Tomographies | Yihao Ni, Karsten Wiegnerink | 241 3:30 – 3:45 |
| Modeling Long-Term Seed Viability with Survival Analysis: A 30-Year Study of Pioneer Plants in Costa Rican Cloud Forests | Wyatt Snyder | 241 3:50 – 4:05 |

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MUSIC

Mentor

Dr. David Keep

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| The Spirit and the Letter: Performance Practice, Piano Pedagogy, and the Steinway Spirio | Rachel Chia | 107 |

NEUROSCIENCE

Mentors

Dr. Daniel Dorman, Dr. Leah Chase

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Temporal interference stimulation effectively reduces Parkinsonian beta band activity in a computational model of the basal ganglia network | Anna Stolle | 1 |
| Transcranial temporal interference stimulation modulates spike timing of subthalamic nucleus neurons in a computational neuron model | Kimberly Maldonado | 2 |
| Interneuron Development in an Animal Model of Bipolar Disorder | Emersyn McCann | 3 |
| Early postnatal homocysteic acid exposure leads to sex-dependent changes in rat pup ultrasonic vocalizations in an animal model of bipolar disorder | Annaliese Figurski | 4 |

NURSING

Mentors

Dr. Stephanie Johnson, Dr. Melissa Bouws, Dr. Erika Frost, Dr. Vicki Voskuil, Dr. Anita Esquerra-Zwiers

| Poster Presentation Title | Student Presenters | Floor Location |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|
| Assessment of Undergraduate and New Graduate Nursing Confidence in Caring for Actively Dying Patients | Alyssa Boersma | 5 |
| Human Interactions with Artificial Intelligence: A Pilot Study | Miracle Yunana | 6 |
| Human Interactions with Artificial Intelligence: A Pilot Study | Kjersten Heinlein | 10 |
| Self-Care Behaviors as Predictors of Mental Health Outcomes Among Undergraduate Nursing Students | Lily Dietzler, Sydney Balzer | 8 |
| Examining Substance Use and Depression Among Undergraduate Nursing Students in the United States | Lily Dietzler | 7 |
| Association of Sleep Duration and Perceived Impact of Mental Health on Undergraduate Nursing Students' Academic Performance | Sydney Balzer | 9 |
| Servant Leadership in Undergraduate Nursing Students: A Concept Analysis | Ellie Bonanni | 11 |

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PHYSICS

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Dr. Zachary Williams, Dr. Kester Ighodalo, Dr. Kyuil Cho, Dr. Paul DeYoung, Dr. Peter Gonthier

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| Improving the Stability of FACsPbI ₃ films under Ambient Conditions through Additive Strategies | Godswill Ogudoro, Erica Frey | 173 |
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| Energy-Dependent Effects of Proton Irradiation on the Superconducting Properties of Thin-Film TBCCO-2212 | Joshua Kim, Trevor Harrison, Katharina Cook, Joseph Fogt, Nolan Miles | 179 |
| Beta-Decay Feeding Intensity Distribution of ⁹³ Rb | Emma Weissling | 175 |
| Effect of Energy-Dependent Proton Irradiation on Thin-Film YBCO Superconductor | Trevor Harrison, Joshua Kim, Katharina Cook, Nolan Miles, Joseph Fogt | 180 |
| β-Decay Feeding Intensity Distribution of ⁸⁶ Br | Naomi Whitfield | 176 |
| The Analytic Connection Between the Magnetic and the Non-magnetic Compton Scattering Relativistic Cross Sections | Zachary Doctor | 177 |
| Correcting Faraday Cup Measurements Using Rutherford Backscattering | Spencer Hughes | 178 |
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| Next-Generation Neutron Detector: Study of Position Resolution via Machine Learning | Bishop Carl | 241 4:30 – 4:45 |

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Mentors

Dr. Virginia Beard, Dr. Kirstin Birkhaug

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| Faith and NIMBYism: What Factors Shape Housing Policy Preferences in Holland, Michigan? | Griffin Bloch | 132 |
| From Genes to Ideology: Mapping the Psychological Mechanisms of Political Orientation | Huntur Munns | 133 |
| Extent to Which Strength of National Identity Affects Support for Immigration Enforcement | Travis Holl | 134 |
| Judges Without Borders: Nationwide Injunctions and Public Debates over Judicial Legitimacy | Levi Rajda | 135 |
| How Does Issue Framing Impact Policy Preferences? The Political Views of Hope College Young Republicans | Levi Tilden | 136 |
| Congressional Gridlock and its Affects on the Executive and Judicial Branches | Chadwick Perrine | 137 |

PSYCHOLOGY

Mentors

Dr. Mary Inman, Dr. Alyssa Cheadle, Dr. Carrie Bredow, Dr. Sonja Trent-Brown, Dr. Emily Helder, Dr. Kendra Thomas, Dr. Lauren Slone, Dr. Benjamin Meagher, Dr. Robert D. Henry (University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Campus), Dr. Eboni Bradley

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| Weakening the relation between workplace ethnic harassment and health: The role of work group composition and Latinx's ethnic identity centrality | Elliana Johnson, Lola Buckner | 141 |
| Psychosocial Predictors of Breastfeeding in the Postpartum Year | Lorraine Holtgren, Emma Gould | 164 |
| Is Affirmation Needed to Lower Racial Defensiveness? A Community Sample Study | Alexandra Gren, Emily Polson | 165 |
| Anxious Hearts: Does Relational Insecurity Moderate the Influence of Partner-Preference Match on Relationship Evaluations? | Evelyn Addison, Anna Szuberla | 166 |
| Outdoor Preferences and Mental Health in College Students | Sabrin Suleman, Laniah Dennis | 139 |
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| Picturebooks of hope: Generating and gleaning community stories of ithemba | Ava Boen, Erica Williams, Jacob Monastra | 147 |

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| Exploring Metacognitive Appraisals in Self-Scheduled Category Learning | Lola Buckner, Tyler Gugino | 142 |
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| Student's Self-Scheduling of Category Learning | Cassie Morse, Grace Mooney Anderson | 145 |
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Mentors

Dr. Aaron Franzen, Dr. Jenny Tanis, Dr. Rodrigo Serrao

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| Road to Resources: Understanding Young Mothers' Experiences with Support Systems | Aryana Elias | 126 |
| Divergent Paths Towards Belonging: A Comparative Analysis of Latina/o/e Domestic and International Student Experiences at a PWI | Sebastian Lema | 127 |

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THEATRE

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Reagan Chesnut

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Mentors

Dr. Sarah Kornfield, Dr. Katherine Goodwin

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| “Reporting Form is no longer accepting responses”: Content Analysis of Accessibility, Inclusiveness, Approachability and Empowerment in Postsecondary Title IX Webpage Communication | Meg Voetberg | 118 |
| “Not What a Girl Should Be”: Gender Deviance and Media Narratives of Female School Shooters | Lyndsey Wisbiski | 119 |

WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES

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Dr. Daniel Woolsey, Dr. Diana Lee, Dr. Genesis Portillo

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| Layers and Ambiance: Latin American Female Perspectives in the Early 21st Century | Layla Rumble | 115 |

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| La preservación de la memoria chilena: Teaching interculturality in Laguna Verde, Chile | Maya Favors | 238 3:30 – 3:45 |

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| MATHEMATICS Evaluating Machine Learning Strategies for the Reconstruction of Compton Scatter Tomographies | Yihao Ni, Karsten Wiegerink | 241 |
| KINESIOLOGY It's just a phase! Analyzing the personal application of mental skills across the phases of the menstrual cycle. | Maddie Breuker | 243 |
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| COMMUNICATIONS Mother God | Riley Gruppen | 238 |
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| MATHEMATICS Modeling Long-Term Seed Viability with Survival Analysis: A 30-Year Study of Pioneer Plants in Costa Rican Cloud Forests | Wyatt Snyder | 241 |
| KINESIOLOGY Changes in Leg Vertical Stiffness Across Menstrual Cycle Phases in Division III Eumenorrhoeic Athletes | Nailah Barnett, Samantha Smith, Stella Bottum, Sophie Konkal | 243 |
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| GLOBAL STUDIES The Survival of the Critically Endangered Ainu Language in Hokkaido, Japan | Clayton DeKam | 238 |
| BIOCHEMISTRY Studying the Relationship between System xC and Calmodulin | Caleb Oderinde | 239 |
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