

Clarion University of Pennsylvania

Honors Program Senior Presentations



November 16, 2009

Center for Academic Excellence & Founders Hall
7 p.m.



Opening Ceremony Program

Monday, November 16, 2009
7 p.m.
Center for Academic Excellence

Welcome and Introductions..... Ben Trodden
Honors Program Student Director

Remarks Bridget O'Donnell
President, Student Honors Association

Presentation of Seniors and Faculty Advisors Dr. Joseph P. Grunenwald
President, Clarion University

Closing Ben Trodden
Honors Program Student Director

Seniors will be dismissed immediately following the ceremony to prepare their presentations.
Please remain seated until they have been dismissed.

Join us in Founders Hall immediately following the opening ceremony.

Senior Honors Presentations

Academic Year: 2009-2010

Justin Aughinbaugh

Marian Barber

Rachel A. Beveridge

Luke Peter Bobnar

Kenneth Bonus

Sara Bryan

Craig J. Butler

Emily Ann Byrtus

Jessica Carbaugh

Micky Joy Carey

Marissa Coffey

Bryce Davis

Elizabeth Donovan

Rich Eckert

Theresa Anne Eshenbaugh

Laurie Grieshofer

Christine Gustafson

Dani Hughes

Hannah Jaussen

Paul Kuberry

Jamie Maloney

Corey McCullough

Levi Daniel Miller

Kimberly Mogush

Cassandra G. Mosier

Clay G. Nolan

Stefanie Lynn Parker

Dana Peterson

Lindsay Leigh Pingor

Sara Pratt

Daniel Clyde Rearick

Jamie Richard

Ashley Marie Riggs

Justin Michael Rock

Kristen M. Savatt

Brian J. Sigmund Jr.

Heather Simpson

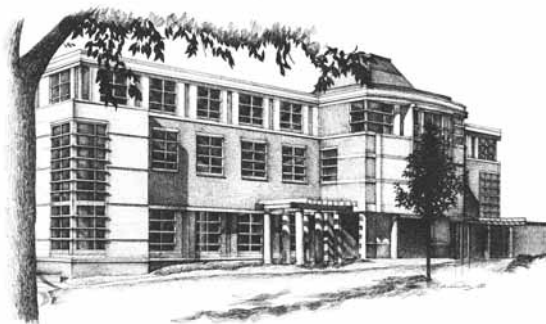
Ian Snyder

Betsy Sutliff

Andrew Thompson

Ashley Lynn Urik

Alexandra Wesley



Carlson Library



Founders Hall

Senior Presentations 2009-2010

Founders Hall

Session 1

Education, Room 104

Faculty Moderators: Dr. Sally M. Sentner
Dr. Kathleen Welsch (rehearsal)

Student Moderator: Colleen Cunningham

Nonfiction Literature in the Primary Classroom

By Dana Peterson

The Effects of Using Multiple Intelligence-Based Activities on the Voice of Children's Writing

By Theresa Anne Eshenbaugh

Examining the Impact of Outstanding Teacher Read-Alouds on Students' Reading Fluency and Dispositions

By Cassandra G. Mosier

Professional Development Using the Backward Design Model

By Clay G. Nolan

Senior Presentations 2009-2010

Founders Hall

Session 2

Education, Room 105

Faculty Moderators: Dr. Sonja Heeter
Dr. Patricia Kolencik (rehearsal)

Student Moderator: Danielle Pugliese

Arts Integration in the Elementary Classroom

By Lindsay Leigh Pingor

Developing the Effective Use of Gestures in the Classroom by Pre-Service Teachers

By Kristen M. Savatt

A New Deal for History Students

By Brian J. Sigmund Jr.

Culture Kits in the Elementary Classroom

By Rachel A. Beveridge

Senior Presentations 2009-2010

Founders Hall

Session 3

Sciences and Social Sciences, Room 107

Faculty Moderators: Dr. Andrew C. Keth

Dr. Donna M. Ashcraft (rehearsal)

Student Moderator: Emily Cunningham

Word Recognition in Noise

By Kimberly Mogush

*Reef Fish Hybridization in Bermuda: A Population of *Holacanthus* Crosses*

By Andrew Thompson

College Students' Perceptions of Athletes and Non-Athletes: Behaviors and Consequences

By Sara Pratt

Senior Presentations 2009-2010

Founders Hall

Session 4

Multidisciplinary, Room 114

Faculty Moderators: Dr. Marilyn K. Harhai

Dr. Chad Smith (rehearsal)

Student Moderator: Heather Good

Development Through Female Athletics

By Micky Joy Carey

Relationships between School Library Media Specialists and Test Scores

By Elizabeth Donovan

Spanglish:

A Nueva Munera of Communication

By Dani Hughes

Hip Hop and Classical Literature in the Classroom

By Betsy Sutliff

Acknowledgements

The Honors Program is supported by the generous contribution from Honors faculty, alumni, and friends. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions to our students and their scholarship.

Clarion University Foundation, Inc.
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The Mochnick Family
Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

Honors Alumni Association Board

Victoria Reid '05, Chair
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Kristin Hallagan '06
Hannah Turner '08
Jennifer Feicht '96

Rachel A. Beveridge

Culture Kits in the Elementary Classroom



I will be presenting the construction, implementation, and value of social studies culture kits in the upper-elementary classroom. My presentation will include information on how to effectively construct a culture kit as well as how to implement it in the classroom. Three elementary school teachers will be invited to receive a culture kit to rotate among them and use in their classrooms. The teachers will complete a survey concerning whether they thought the experience was valuable, whether they would chose to use it again, and in what other areas of education they could foresee it being of use to them. I hope to show that culture kits are valuable instructional tools that enhance learning

*Dr. Brian E. Maguire, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Rachel Beveridge is from Strattanville, Pa. She has a major in elementary education and a minor in French. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. Her career plans are to obtain a teaching position and pursue graduate studies at Idaho State University.

Micky Joy Carey

Development Through Female Athletes



The burden of poverty and underdevelopment is not shared equally between men and women. Women are subject to many disadvantages in which cultural assumptions about female status hold women back from pursuing greater human capacity. One cultural assumption lies in the realm of athletics. Sweat and muscle on a female still disgusts some in certain cultures. Athletics and/or sport are an institution that empowers people. Since women disproportionately bear the problems associated with poverty, athletics provides one solution in which women can grow immensely. In turn, this betters society as a whole because of the importance in the role of the woman. This paper examines how sport increases the rate of human development from a young age to professionals in the Olympics. It also describes how females specifically benefit from athletics depending on the economic status of their country, and then compares this phenomena across regions.

*Dr. Rod D. Raehsler, Economics Department
Faculty Advisor*

Micky Joy Carey is from Lancaster, Pa. She has a dual major in international business and Spanish. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. During her undergraduate career, she was a member of the Women's Volleyball Team and awarded the Bob Carlson Athletic Award. As part of her undergraduate studies, she completed study abroad in Costa Rica and Ecuador. Her career plans are to attend graduate school in economics.

Elizabeth Donovan

Relationships Between School Library Media Specialists and Test Scores



The presence of school librarians can influence student achievement. The goal of this study was to investigate how the lack of a school librarian affected student achievement and teacher satisfaction in one high school. Document analysis of teacher interviews revealed concerns regarding the absence of a school librarian. Within one high school, Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) reading test scores for the year preceding the retirement of the school librarian and the first year without a librarian were compared. Comparison of the eleventh grade PSSA reading test scores of a similar high school with a librarian also took place. Findings revealed categories of concern for reading achievement.

*Dr. Janice Krueger, Library Science Department
Faculty Advisor*

Elizabeth Donovan is from Edinboro, Pa. She has a major in library science. She will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Her career plans are to obtain employment as a school librarian and pursue graduate studies.

Theresa Anne Eshenbaugh

The Effects of Using Multiple Intelligence-based Activities on the Voice of Children's Writing



The focus of this project was to improve the voice of children's writing through the use of activities that incorporate the multiple intelligences. More educators today are using Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences within strategies for individualized learning. Additionally, with the push for passing standardized tests, the technical aspects of writing are focused on more in the classroom, which leaves less time for the teacher to promote children's imaginations.

For this study, a creative writing camp was formed with activities and centers that included all the multiple intelligences. The camp was designed to focus on and improve the aspect of voice in children's writing. Two stories were collected from each child at the beginning and end of the camp. They were assessed by independent raters on the following criteria: focus, word choice, writer's voice, read-aloud piece, and creating a picture.

*Dr. Deborah A. Ellermeyer, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Theresa Eshenbaugh is from Pittsburgh, Pa. She has a major in elementary education and early childhood education. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. Her career plans are to obtain a teaching position in the Pittsburgh area and pursue graduate studies.

Dani Hughes

Spanglish: A Nueva Manera of Communication



Walk the streets of almost any urban area in the United States and listen to the language of its people. What you'll hear is evidence of a developing trend; you catch a few words in English, followed by another few words in Spanish. What is it? Spanglish. It's a growing phenomenon in the United States that borrows components from both Spanish and English. This concurrent use of more than one language is called code switching. Many people embrace Spanglish as an ever-changing language quite willingly while language purists resist it. However, to the dismay of the opposition, the growing number of Spanish-speaking people crossing our nation's borders could thrust Spanglish into becoming one of the most widely spoken languages in the United States, thus altering our country's identity and making a lasting impact on American culture.

*Dr. Kathleen E. O'Donnell, Modern Languages Department
Faculty Advisor*

Dani Hughes is from Clarion, Pa. She has a dual major in Spanish and French and a minor in international business. She will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree. During her undergraduate career, she was the Women's Volleyball Team captain and recognized as a scholar athlete. She was the recipient of the Outstanding Student Award in Spanish and in French. Her career plans are to attend graduate school.

Kimberly Mogush

Word Recognition in Noise



Classroom listening conditions are often poor, with most elementary school classrooms having a lot of background noise. This results in an unfavorable listening environment with a poor speech-to-noise ratio, making it difficult for students to hear the teacher. The purpose of this study was to determine college students' ability to recognize words in noise levels that might typically be found in kindergarten classrooms.

*Dr. Colleen A. McAleer, Communication Sciences and Disorders Department
Faculty Advisor*

Kimberly Mogush is from Trafford, Pa. She has a major in speech pathology and audiology. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. During her undergraduate career, she was a member of the Dance Team and in Concert Choir and Show Choir. Her career plans are to attend graduate school at Clarion University.

Cassandra G. Mosier

Examining the Impact of Outstanding Teacher Read-Alouds on Students' Reading Fluency and Dispositions



A great deal of research supports the notion that reading aloud to children both in school and at home is highly beneficial to the development of reading skills and to their overall academic performance. Less research has been done, however, to suggest that the quality of such read-alouds impacts or affects the benefits students reap from them. Prosody, which includes the features of the quality of pitch, tone, expression, and phrasing when reading aloud, is the point at which fluency promotes comprehension. In planning my project, my interest was in whether students' positive attitudes are nurtured and whether learners become more aware of their expressive readings and whether they are more able to articulate the elements of prosodic reading when exposed routinely to prosodic reading aloud. I also examined how students' own fluency and prosody reflected the fluency and prosody with which they have been read. Over a period of about six weeks, I met regularly with a student to examine these correlations. My presentation is a summary of my observations and deductions from this experience.

*Dr. Brian E. Maguire, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Cassandra Mosier is from Kersey, Pa. She has a major in education with an area of concentration in reading. She will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. She was selected for membership in the Honors Society of Phi Kappa Phi and induction into the Kappa Delta Pi Honors Society (Education). She has received multiple scholarship awards, including a scholarship to attend the Chautauqua Writer's Festival and the Laura Taylor Booth Presidential Scholarship. She served as a member of AmeriCorps at Keystone SMILES in Knox, Pa., and was the student membership coordinator of Seneca Reading Council, the local council of the Keystone State Reading Association, for 2008-2009. Her career plans are to attend graduate school at Clarion University for a Master's in Education degree and certification as a reading specialist.

Clay G. Nolan

Professional Development Using the Backward Design Model



Education has been, and is currently facing, the need for reform, a reform that goes beyond the No Child Left Behind Act. Educational reform usually goes hand in hand with professional development experiences for faculty, which is handled by the principal. While this forum presents a practical base for enhancing teachers' repertoires, the research shows that many of these experiences are very ineffective. The research states that planning is a crucial tool to make the professional development experience a success. Hence, this project will focus on the use of the backward design model for planning an effective experience for faculty.

*Dr. Marilyn S. Howe, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Clay Nolan is from Shinglehouse, Pa. He has a major in elementary education and a minor in athletic coaching. During his undergraduate career, he was selected for the James Gemmell Student Leader Award, elected to Student Senate, and received the Outstanding Student Service and Commitment Award. He was elected president of Student Honors Association and received the Sigma Tau Gamma Honors Scholarship as well as multiple scholarship awards. He will receive a Bachelor of Science degree and plans to obtain a teaching and coaching position along with graduate studies.

Dana Peterson

Nonfiction Literature in the Primary Classroom



Being an education major, I have visited a number of elementary school classrooms during my time at Clarion University. One thing I have noticed is that students in first and second grades love reading stories and enjoy being read to. These students seem to excel at determining the plot, characters, and events of a story. However, the number of nonfiction books being read in these classrooms seems to be limited. It appears that textbook reading in fourth grade classrooms represent children's first real experiences with expository texts. For my project, I decided to do an extensive review of the literature on this topic. I also chose to examine the nonfiction literature available in local libraries. By scrutinizing nonfiction books in libraries and online, I created a list of high-quality, age-appropriate nonfiction books to provide to teachers. I will share this information throughout my presentation.

*Dr. Kathleen R. Murphy, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Dana Peterson is from Pittsburgh, Pa. She has a major in elementary education and early childhood education. During her undergraduate career, she was the recipient of multiple scholarship awards. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree and plans to obtain a teaching position as well as graduate studies as a reading specialist.

Lindsay Leigh Pingor

Arts Integration in the Elementary Classroom



Too often in today's schools the arts are being neglected due to the growing limitation of resources and the many demands on teachers. However, there are numerous reasons to integrate the arts into everyday curriculum. For instance, in accordance with Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences, students require diverse methods of instruction to achieve deep understanding and connections among different areas of the curriculum. The arts provide a unique approach to teaching that appeals to certain types of learners. This study focuses on the need for arts integration in the elementary classroom as well as the connection between teachers' enjoyment and knowledge of the arts and their actual use of the arts in their classrooms. In addition, the project includes the development of a pamphlet offering various ideas for arts integration in the general education classroom.

*Dr. Sylvia W. Stalker, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Lindsay Pingor is from Delmont, Pa. She has a major in elementary education with a concentration in the humanities. She will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. During her undergraduate career, she participated in University Theatre productions, was a member of Show Choir, S-PSEA, Kappa Delta Pi, Alpha Phi Omega, and the Honors Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Her career plans are to obtain employment in education and in performing arts settings and, in the future, attend graduate school.

Sara Pratt

College Students' Perceptions of Athletes and Non-Athletes: Behaviors and Consequences



The purpose of this study is to examine whether college students' perceptions of student athletes differ from that of non-athletes when presented with various scenarios that are common on college campuses. These scenarios include athletes and non-athletes being involved in situations that suggest possible academic dishonesty, a possible DUI traffic violation, and a confrontational fight. The participants consist of 160 college students taken from various courses at Clarion University. They completed a questionnaire asking their opinions about what might have been involved in each situation, such as alcohol, and what consequences should be incurred by those involved. Gender and the participants' involvement in college and/or high school sports will also be considered and evaluated.

*Dr. Dave A. Schlueter, Psychology Department
Faculty Advisor*

Sara Pratt is from Norton, Ohio. She has a major in psychology and a minor in business. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. She is co-captain of the Women's Basketball Team (2008-2010) and elected to Student Senate. She received the John W. Mochnick Honors Scholarship and multiple scholarship awards. Her career plans are to attend graduate school in sports psychology or clinical psychology.

Brian J. Sigmund Jr.

A New Deal for History Students



The topic of history education is one that is beginning to have a body of knowledge built for it. Researchers are discovering new methods of teaching on a regular basis and are continually developing new ideas to aid how students learn, particularly in the subject of history. As students become more adept at using the Internet and are learning increasingly more visually, a shift in instructional strategies must occur. Because of this, there have already been dramatic shifts in educational styles, with more to come. These shifts in learning styles and in pedagogy will soon begin to have a dramatic impact on history classrooms. But with all of these changes what direction should history education take? With my research, I hope to identify and describe the old methods of classroom instruction and, using the latest journal research combined with fresh ideas, further develop the latest ideas on educating students in history classrooms, including new approaches utilizing the Internet and electronic gaming for educational purposes.

*Dr. Todd J. Pfannestiel, History Department
Faculty Advisor*

Brian Sigmund is from Pittsburgh, Pa. He has a major in secondary education social studies and a minor in history. He will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. During his undergraduate career, he was selected to participate in the 2009 State System Summer Honors Program in Belgium and France. He also attended two regional and one national conference for InterHall Council. His career plans are to attend graduate school.

Andrew Thompson

Reef Fish Hybridization in Bermuda: A Population of *Holacanthus* Crosses



Coral reefs are biodiversity hotspots harboring about 5,000 of the oceans' fish species. A more thorough understanding of fish biodiversity will lead to better management and protection of reef species. It has been hypothesized that the two Atlantic Pomacanthids *Holacanthus ciliaris* and *Holacanthus bermudensis* have produced a viable hybrid population in Bermuda. For this study, 20 suspected hybrids with intermediate coloration were collected from Bermuda, and eight *H. ciliaris* were collected from Belize. DNA was isolated from these specimens using fin and gill tissue and extraction kits. The polymerase chain reaction was used to replicate the DNA with two mitochondrial (Cyb and COI) and two nuclear (TMO and S7) primers. The PCR product was then sequenced, and the sequences were aligned and edited with Geneious. Population analyses including AMOVA and FST

calculations were conducted with Arlequin, and coalescent time was derived using DNAsp. Phylogenetic trees were constructed with Geneious using Bayesian analysis to show genetic relationships. All individuals collected from Bermuda were confirmed hybrids with *H. ciliaris* being the maternal contributor. Therefore, it is concluded that hybrids, instead of pure *H. bermudensis* are found at this location. Different nomenclature is suggested for *Holacanthus bermudensis* as its pure form is not native to Bermuda, and binomial nomenclature cannot be based on hybrids (ICZN 23.8). Since *Angelichthys townsendi* was the original name applied to the species in 1914, it is proposed that the name of this species be changed to *Holacanthus townsendi*.

*Dr. Andrew M. Turner, Biology Department
Faculty Advisor*

Andrew Thompson is from New Castle, Pa. He has a major in biology, a minor in chemistry, and a concentration in ecology and evolutionary biology. He will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. During his undergraduate career, he completed a research experience at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute and conducted research in limnology at the University of Pittsburgh's Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology. He received an Open Water Diving Certification from Scuba Schools International and was inducted into the Honors Society of Phi Kappa Phi. His career plans are to attend graduate school in the evolution and ecology of fishes.

Kristen M. Savatt

Developing the Effective Use of Gestures in the Classroom by Pre-Service Teachers



Research has been conducted regarding the use of gestures in the classroom. It has been established that teachers communicate much information through their use of gestures, while students can provide valuable feedback about their receptiveness to instruction through their gestures. It is logical, then, that teachers should take advantage of these indicators. I was interested in whether or not knowledge of this research would lead to teachers' recognition of gesture use in the classroom and application of this information to their instruction.

I sought to create a professional development opportunity for pre-service teachers in order to gain their input regarding positive strategies for bringing the research to life in the classroom. I designed the program so that, through questioning and discussion, participants had the opportunity to see how the others applied these strategies and altered their teaching. This presentation shares the insight I gained through this investigation into successful inclusion of gestures in the classroom in an effort to enhance professional development while fostering an effective learning environment for students.

*Dr. Brian E. Maguire, Education Department
Faculty Advisor*

Kristen Savatt is from Coraopolis, Pa. She has a major in elementary education. She will receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. During her undergraduate career, she was awarded a Board of Governors Scholarship and inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Her career plans are to obtain a teaching position and pursue graduate school in reading specialization.

Betsy Sutliff

Hip Hop and Classical Literature in the Classroom



Over the past few years there has been more and more publicity about using hip hop language and lyrics in the classroom to teach students and to motivate them to learn. The majority of these hip hop lessons focus on language arts instruction. The goal of this study is to investigate how hip hop is used in classical literature lessons for high school students. Online lesson plans from educational publishers, organizations, and those of individual hip hop professionals and teachers are compared for the use of hip hop in language arts in general and in classical literature specifically. Publisher and organization lesson plans are individually examined for formal lesson plan criteria and evaluated according to the criteria taught in Clarion University education classes. Individual plans are also evaluated according to Clarion's criteria and all plans are coded to indicate the degree of compliance and clarity.

*Dr. Janice Krueger, Library Science Department
Faculty Advisor*

Betsy Sutliff is from Mechanicsburg, Pa. She has a major in library science and minors in business administration and information systems. She will receive a Bachelor of Science degree. During her undergraduate career, she was awarded multiple scholarships and inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. She worked as a Writing Center consultant for three years. Her career plans are to participate in the Washington Center Internship and pursue graduate school in museum studies, digital information, and archives.

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Dr. Ralph N. Leary, English Department

Professor James R. Lyle, Communication Department

Dr. Hallie E. Savage, Honors Program

Dr. Laurie Occhipinti, Anthropology, Geology & Earth Science Department

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Senior: Paul Kuberry

Senior: Emily Byrtus

Junior: Kayla Beck

Junior: Amy Powers

Sophomore: Kaitlyn Allen

Sophomore: Kendra Stewart

Freshman: Shana Miller

Freshman: Angela Loewen

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Secretary: Heather Good

Treasurer: Laurie Grieshober

Committee Chairs

Program and Community Development: Marquis Lewis

Community Service: Courtney Frederick

Fundraising: Alyssa Geist, Regina Finelli

Student Relations: Kaitlyn Allen

Special thanks to those assisting us in this evening's arrangements,
Events & Scheduling Office, and PAGES.

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