

Fifteenth Annual Academic Festival

Wednesday, May 1, 2013

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Message from Academic Festival Coordinators

Excellence matters at Skidmore College as well as creative thought. Students write perceptive papers, conduct insightful scientific and mathematical research, choreograph breathtaking dances, and create provocative works of art. In labs, at field sites, in libraries, and in studios, our students have shaped the curriculum with which they engage and have demonstrated the quality of independent work that characterizes Academic Festival.

The fifteenth annual Academic Festival moves to a new format to bring the Skidmore community together to celebrate our students' achievements. Departments and Programs across the College have selected their very best students to present during four designated time slots. With no more than eight concurrent sessions in each time slot, we hope to generate larger audiences for our top-notch presenters. Initiated last year, interdisciplinary roundtables will feature students across the College presenting on civic engagement, visual communication, undergraduate research, and the Apocalypse Project. There will also be time for socializing: come for a pizza lunch in the Spa and form a team to participate in the second annual trivia challenge sponsored by the Literary Society. Please attend our first-ever closing reception, also in the Spa, to reflect on the day's accomplishments. This year's Academic Festival promotes interdisciplinary connections and captures the spirit of excellence at Skidmore, setting a new direction for our future celebrations.

Schedule of Events

May 1, 2013

Refreshments available throughout the day:

*Gannett Lobby
Palamountain 2nd Floor
Harder 2nd Floor
Tisch Learning Center 3rd Floor
Sports Center*

*Filene 1st Floor (a.m. only)
Dana 2nd floor (a.m. only)
Ladd 2nd Floor (a.m. only)
Tisch Learning Center 1st & 2nd Floor (p.m. only)
Palamountain 3rd Floor (p.m. only)*

9:00 – 10:00 AM

1. Skidmore Saratoga Entrepreneurial Partnership (SSEP) MB 360 Spring 2013 Palamountain 202

Faculty Sponsor: Roy Rotheim, Management & Business

Presenters: Kelsey Rogers '13, Julian Malakorn '13, Rebecca McCourt '14, Matthew Miron '13, Kelsey Yam '13, Anthony Giacini '14, Kathryn Jones '13, Jessica Singer '14 & Brendan Cottam '13

Students in the partnership will present their final business consultancy case studies. The businesses in the partnership enrolled in the Spring term are: ACTT Naturally (non-profit thoroughbred rehabilitation/retraining organization), the Inn at Saratoga, and College Greens (a non-profit cause related hydroponic produce grower for charity). Each group has worked with their client over the semester to incubate their ideas and help solve their business problems.

2. Technology Use in Modern Japanese Culture: Asian Studies Program Senior Theses Bolton 281

Faculty Sponsors: Masako Inamoto, Asian Studies Program

Presenters: J. Ryoko Hirose '13, Anica Odell-Smedley '13

The panel covers two different aspects of technology use in modern Japanese culture. Anica Odell-Smedley will discuss the methods by which Japanese female idol supergroup, "AKB48" is using social media and technology to achieve national and international success. Ryoko Hirose is looking at the nature of cyberbullying in Japan and discussing whether it is culturally unique or representative of a universal phenomenon.

3. Excellence in Health and Exercise Sciences Research Sports Center 201

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul J. Arciero, Health & Exercise Sciences

Presenters: Joe Phalen '13, Michael Mozer '13, Tyler Masters '13, Miguel Santiago '13, Michelle Finan '13 & Nataly Mendoza '13, Lauren Conway '13, Molly Gile '13

Exercise and Heat Stress: Effects on the Immune System
Joseph Phalen '13

Faculty Sponsor: Professor Gwendolyn Elphick, Health & Exercise Sciences

In this study we wanted to further elucidate how heat stress alone and the combination of heat stress and exercise affect the immune system molecules. This was done by observing the effects of heat stress on a human cell line. Furthermore, blood samples from a previous study involving exercise in heat were analyzed. Each experiment that was carried out analyzed the concentration of specific immune system molecules.

The effect of maximal intensity cycling on right ventricular function during exercise in endurance trained and normally active college-aged males"

Michael Mozer '13, Tyler Masters '13, Miguel Santiago '13

Faculty Sponsor: Denise Smith, Health & Exercise Sciences

The purpose of this study was to evaluate right ventricular function during a graded exercise to max test between high aerobic trained and normal aerobic trained young males. Since little is known on the "normal" function of the right ventricle during exercise, this study is two-pronged in that we investigated how the right ventricle responded to increased aerobic workloads.

The effects of a 10-week exercise training program utilizing weighted shorts on energy expenditure and body composition in middle-aged women.

Michelle Finan '13 & Nataly Mendoza '13

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Arciero, Health & Exercise Sciences

Recent literature has shed light on the possibility the contractile history can increase future muscular ability. This is based on the idea of postactivation potentiation (PAP), which hypothesizes that activating a greater number of motor units during training or warm up, an athlete will consequently have the ability to do so during competition. The use of weighted gear during training has been found to induce PAP and enhance performance. It is still unclear, however, if training with weighted gear can decrease fat mass and improve body composition in a previously untrained population.

The effects of SSRI antidepressant medication on bone health and muscle function in college-aged students

Lauren Conway '13 and Molly Gile '13

Faculty Sponsors: Patricia Fehling, Casey Schofield, Psychology) & Dr. Michael Smith, The Sage Colleges

Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI) are prescribed to approximately 40% of college students to treat disorders such as depression and anxiety by altering levels of serum serotonin. These medications have been shown to negatively impact bone health and muscle function in an older population, but has not been tested in a younger population. Therefore, this study described the effects of SSRIs on the bone and muscle health in young healthy college-aged students.

4. It's the Economy Stupid! New Ideas from the Next Generation of Economists (Part 1)

Harder 203

Faculty Sponsor: Ngina Chiteji, Economics

Presenters: Leyla Stomberg '13, Suren Tripathi '13, Julian Malakorn '13

In 1848, famed economist J.S. Mill wrote that economics is a discipline that investigates the conditions under which societies and individuals become prosperous. Today we might characterize this as an interest in poor nations' ability to raise the standard of living for their citizens and in the factors that determine levels of well-being here in the United States. The papers for this panel examine such issues, blending insights from disciplines such as history, art, education, and international affairs to enrich their analyses.

The African Growth and Opportunities Act: Sustainable Growth in Sub Saharan Africa?

Leyla Stomberg '13

The Kicks of a Dying Horse: The Causes and Dimensions of State Failure and its Implications for Economic Growth in Less Economically Developed Countries

Suren Tripathi '13

Does Attending a Diverse College Lead to Higher Wages?

Julian Malakorn '13

10:15 – 11:15 AM

1. Undergraduate Research in Chemistry and Biochemistry

Dana 240

Faculty Sponsor: Raymond J. Giguere, Chair of Chemistry

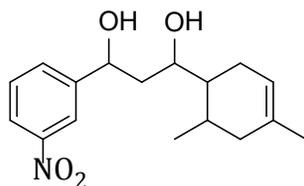
Presenters: Brian Geraghty '14, Brenda Olivo '14, Erika Riederer '14

Synthetic Strategies for the Organic Chemistry Laboratory

Brian Geraghty '14

Faculty Sponsor: Kara Cetto Bales, Senior Teaching Associate, Chemistry

We are interested in synthesizing and characterizing **1** with the aim of developing a project that would allow students to gain experience in multi-step organic synthesis. The goal is to move away from the more traditional "recipe" style laboratory experiments to a research-based curriculum. Although **1** has not been previously prepared, we reason that it can be synthesized via a number of fundamental reactions commonly used in the undergraduate organic chemistry laboratory. We suggest synthesizing this compound in a convergent manner, where two different building blocks are synthesized independently through a series of chemical reactions and then combined forming the desired product (**1**). The first building block has been prepared successfully. These reactions, as well as our progress thus far will be presented.



1

Characterization of Model Proteins to Test Alcohol Modulation of Ligand-Gated Ion Channels

Brenda Olivo '14, Erika Riederer '14

Faculty Sponsor: Rebecca Howard, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Pentameric ligand-gated ion channels in the cys-loop receptor superfamily mediate direct modulation of neurological function by alcohol, yet the absence of high-resolution structures of human receptors in this family has restricted our understanding of this process at the molecular level. Recent crystal structures of the cys-loop receptor homolog GLIC from bacteria, and of GluCl from nematodes, provide opportunities for novel insights into the structural determinants of modulation in this family of proteins. For further GLIC research, we generated site-directed mutations in GLIC designed to alter alcohol binding. We injected mutant GLIC DNA into frog oocytes, and have begun to characterize the function of these channels by two-electrode voltage clamp electrophysiology. We have also begun the novel characterization of alcohol effects on GluCl by synthesizing RNA in vitro and expressing it in frog oocytes. Complete characterization of these model proteins will support a detailed understanding of the structural basis of ion channel gating and modulation.

2. Capstone Projects in Literary Studies

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: The English Department

Presenters: Chloe Barker-Benfield '13, Maura Bekelja '13, Anna Millhauser '13, Laura Naparstek '13

This panel will showcase some of the best of the English department's capstone projects in literary studies. Students will give an overview of their work and read a short excerpt. There will be time for questions and comments from the audience.

3. Remembering the Vietnam War

Tisch 301

Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer Delton, History

Presenters: Thomas Zacharia '15, Julia Martin '15, Paige DiAntonio '15, Elliot Daniels '15

Students from HI 249C The Vietnam War interviewed a variety of people about their experiences during and their memory of the Vietnam War, 1954-75. A panel of four students will present what they learned. The featured interviews include a *Stars and Stripes* reporter, two veterans, parents of students, and a veteran from the South Vietnamese Army (ARVN).

4. It's the Economy Stupid! New Ideas from the Next Generation of Economists (Part 2)

Harder 203

Faculty Sponsor: Ngina Chiteji, Economics

Posters by: Francis Henares '13, Matthew Miron '13, Beatrice Moller '13, Paige Mushaw '13, Elizabeth Rogers '13, Catherine Rosenberg '13, William Romano '13

In 1848, famed economist J.S. Mill wrote that economics is a discipline that investigates the conditions under which societies and individuals become prosperous. Today we might characterize this as an interest in poor nations' ability to raise the standard of living for their citizens and in the factors that determine levels of well-being here in the United States. The papers for this panel examine such issues, blending insights from disciplines such as history, art, education, and international affairs to enrich their analyses.

How Does Market Structure Influence Firm-level R&D Spending?

Francis Henares '13

Increased Crime's Effect on Individual View of Patriotism, the Federal Government, and Local Law Enforcement

Matthew Miron '13

The Economics behind the Contemporary Art Market: How to Value Prices in an Uncertain Market

Beatrice Moller '13

Country Happiness: Measuring Subjective Well-being and the Factors that Determine It

Paige Mushaw '13

The Economic Efficiency of Wolf Hunting

Elizabeth Rogers '13

A Critical Analysis of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21):

Finding a Sustainable Source of Financing for Infrastructure in the United States

Catherine Rosenberg '13

Large Scale Asset Purchases: A Consideration of Policy Efficacy

William Romano '13

5. The Skidmore Prison Project

Palamountain 200

Faculty Sponsor: David Karp, Social Work

Presenters: Melissa Hatten '13, Francie Hiza '13, Jean Ann Kubler '13, Sondra Lipshutz '13, Hope Spector '13, Dorothea Trufelman '16, Siena Tugendrajch '13, Matthew Weale '13

This session will explore the major challenges inmates face upon release, such as finding employment, housing, and reconnecting with family. We will discuss our major service-learning project of delivering a series of workshops for inmates at Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility, a medium-security prison for men located eight miles from campus.

6. “Virtual chapels, therapeutic rosaries, gendered altars, and make-shift memorials: Critical perspectives from Religious Studies.”

Emerson Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Gregory Spinner, Religion

Presenters: Sathya Andavolu ‘13, Jenna Kellett ‘13, Colin Manjoney ‘13, Danielle Suchman ‘13.

This panel presents research recently conducted in Religious Studies. Andavolu discusses both traditional and contemporary uses for Catholic rosaries. Kellett analyzes the gendered objects placed upon Wiccan altars and the rhetoric used for constructing neopagan sexualities. Manjoney reflects critically on how victims, particularly from Sandy Hook Elementary, are publicly mourned and commemorated. Suchman takes us on a virtual tour of sacred spaces created by modern artists such as Matisse, Le Corbusier and Rothko.

7. Putting Art History into Practice

Filene 115

Faculty Sponsor: Katie Hauser, Art History

Presenters: Hilary Knecht ’13 and Kat Moynihan ‘13

Teaching American Indian culture in a high school and curating an innovative exhibit at the Tang Museum - who knew Art History majors could do such practical, exciting and rewarding work?! Join us to hear about two Art History seniors’ cumulative projects that helped a wide audience see the world differently.

“Curating *Crowded*”

Hilary Knecht ‘13

Faculty Sponsor: Katie Hauser, Art History

Interested in what goes into curating an exhibit at the Tang? This is the presentation for you! Hilary explains how to develop curatorial ideas and determine an exhibition layout; she also addresses the need for writing for varied audiences and purposes. This behind-the-scenes peek into museum curating suggests basic steps and shares unexpected obstacles in the curatorial process.

“Teaching Lakota Beadwork”

Kat Moynihan ‘13

Faculty Sponsor: Andrew Finegold, Art History

Kat shares her experience teaching American Indian history at the high-school level. This intensive, and rewarding, process required preparing six thorough lesson plans that demonstrate how American museums and mass media inaccurately represent

American Indian history and visual culture. By unveiling the biased construction of American Indian culture, Kat's work has the potential to change students' long-standing and thus-far entrenched racist perceptions of American Indians.

8. World Cultures and Literatures

Ladd 206

Faculty Sponsor: Diana Barnes, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Presenters: Leanne Dwyer '13, Orli Handmaker '13, Rachel Weller '13

Ethnicity (SEE Integration):

Theory of French Identity and Second Generation Immigrants in France.

Leanne Dwyer '13

Second generation French immigrants face discrimination, motivating them to embrace cultural practices representative of their ethnic heritage in rebellion against the traditionally uniform nature of French identity.

The Representation of the Vicious Circle and the Permanence of Narcotrafficking in Colombia through Sicaresca Literature

Orli Handmaker '13

This presentation considers the historical development of Colombia's narco-culture and economics, and how, through literature, this is manifested, specifically through the Colombian novel *Sangre ajena*, by Arturo Alape.

This student is a candidate for honors in Spanish and Economics and her project is informed by research conducted for both departments.

La Santa Muerte in popular narrative and literature: Saint Death humanized and venerated through Mexican corridos and devotional poetry.

Rachel Weller '13

This presentation discusses the manifestation through literature of the recent cultural and social development of the increasing devotion to la Santa Muerte (Saint Death) in Mexico.

12:00 – 1:00 PM - Literary Trivia

The Spa

Literary Trivia Challenge brought to you by Skidmore's Literary Society

Organizers: Amanda Ostrove '13, Maya Gittalman '14, Emily Reiser '14

The Skidmore Literary Society, Skidmore's only club dedicated to the appreciation of literature, presents a literary trivia challenge! The topics will be wide-ranging, including anything from *Beowulf* to Shakespeare to Harry Potter. Come see if you are the literary trivia master! All are welcome, including groups and individual players. There will be prizes!

1:00 – 2:00 PM – Interdisciplinary Roundtables

Palamountain 3rd Floor Rooms

1. The Apocalypse Project

Palamountain 300

Roundtable Chairs: Mark Hofmann, Math and Computer Science, Death from the Skies Cluster

Erica Bastress-Dukehart, History, Plagues and Peoples Cluster

Roundtable Participants:

Emily Paul, '13 History, Plagues and Peoples Cluster

Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman, '15 Government, History, Plagues and Peoples Cluster

Camden Cawley, '13 Management and Business, Surviving Off the Grid Cluster

Christine Kopec, Management and Business, Surviving Off the Grid Cluster

Jill Linz, Physics, Apocalyptic Thought in History and Literature Cluster

Violeta Lorenzo, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Apocalyptic Thought in History and Literature Cluster

Participants of the Apocalypse Project—both students and faculty—will discuss the Project and how we might use what we learned to inform scientific literacy at Skidmore.

2. Civic Engagement

Palamountain 302

Civic engagement refers to a range of activities both in and outside of the classroom to encourage richer, more meaningful involvement in public life. It entails research, deliberation, principled advocacy, direct action, or service that advances solutions and enhances quality of life in the local, regional, national or global community. The goal of this roundtable is to introduce and explore diverse examples of civic engagement by students. The session will include three equal portions. First, each participant/group will describe their project broadly and describe their project's relevancy to civic engagement. Second, a faculty moderator will pose questions to the panelists. Third, the floor will be open for questions from the audience.

The roundtable is sponsored by three Civic Fellows: Lei Bryant (Music), Rik Scarce (Sociology), and Josh Ness (Biology & Environmental Studies).

“Development at Saratoga Arts: How to Create Long-Term Fundraising Success in the Arts”.

Presenter: Romy Kushnick '13

An internship at Saratoga Arts has taught me the importance of strong fundraising techniques for non-profit arts organizations. One component of my internship is to create a development plan to implement fundraising strategies Saratoga Arts will introduce over

the next 2 to 3 years. Through this work I propose Saratoga Arts builds solid relationships with the community to foster education and appreciation of the arts. By cultivating relationships it allows the public to participate in the community as well as make charitable donations to their local art center in order to continue growth and future success of the organization.

“The Relationship Among Involvement in the Saratoga Springs Senior Citizen Center, Perceived Social Support, and Depression in Elders.”

Presenter: Zuliany Rosario ‘14

Collaboration with the Saratoga Springs Senior Center as a service learning volunteer and researcher has helped me develop a deeper understanding of the role of the Center in the lives of older adults. I have assisted members with computer issues, helped organize monthly dinners, and helped put together the monthly newsletters. This work prompted me to do research on the importance of the Center in its users’ lives. I found that individuals who use the Center frequently tend to have higher levels of perceived social support and lower levels of depression, which reveals the importance of this community resource.

“Underneath: Exploring Dimensions of Identity Among Young Adults”

Presenter: Sydney Magruder ‘14

This photography exhibit is intended to serve as a gateway to productive discussion of what constitutes “identity” in today’s society: Is it race? Is it gender? Is it a compilation of life experiences? This exhibit models a newer, modern idea of civic engagement; encouraging each other to speak out, dig deep, and tell their own stories in a space that honors each beautiful, unique journey. Through black-and-white portrait photography combined with short personal statements, we explore the humanity of our subjects and of each other. Underneath is meant to provide a place for oft-marginalized groups to declare their humanity.

“Breaking In: Educating Inmates Through an Environmental Literacy Program”.

Presenters: Sarah LaBella ‘13, Kristen Stearns ‘13, and Sondra Lipshutz ‘13

Historically, certain groups have been excluded from, and marginalized by, environmental campaigns. Prison inmates are a nontraditional population within the environmental movement, one that we believe has great potential for contributing to environmental activism and civic engagement upon re-entry. This spring, we created and delivered a curriculum focused on environmental education and green job opportunities to a group of 20 inmates at Mount McGregor Corrections Facility. The lessons changed the inmates’ perceptions of the environmental, the accessibility of green jobs, and their belief in ways that they can help the environment while helping their communities and themselves. Further, the work changed our perceptions of our own roles in the larger environmental and civic communities.

3. Undergraduate Research

Palamountain 303

Roundtable Chairs: Jennifer Bonner and Denise McQuade

Roundtable participants: Evan Friedler '13, Management and Business; Siena Tugendrajch '14, Psychology; Hilary Cranston '13, Biology; Evan Stater '13, Biology; Leah Shorser-Gentile '13, Biology

“Privacy Implications of Emerging Online Intellectual Property Legislation Through an Internationally Comparative Focus”

Evan Friedler '13, Management and Business

This past summer, I helped to research and co-author a working thesis on a timely international political issue. My research served as an extension of the Privacy Law and Intellectual Property courses I took in prior semesters, and aligned well with my post graduate plan to attend Law School.

“Mental Health Literacy Campaign to Destigmatize Social Phobia”

Siena Tugendrajch '14, Psychology

With the aid of a Student Opportunity Fund, I have researched mental health literacy, the knowledge and recognition of mental health disorders that contribute to the management and prevention of these illnesses, to create an educational public health campaign to effectively help Skidmore students understand social phobia.

“A new approach to identify a potential *cusF* promoter”

Hilary Cranston '13, Biology

While copper is an essential micronutrient, excess concentrations of copper ions are toxic to cells. Working with the model bacterium *Escherichia coli* and its *cus* copper/silver-resistance determinant, we aim to identify an additional transcription start for *cusF* as suggested by microarray data

“Comparative efficiency of copper-exporting P-type ATPases native to *Enterobacter cloacae*”

Evan Stater '13, Biology

Bacteria have developed various systems to protect against heavy metal toxicity, such as the copper-exporting P-type ATPase. The copper-exporting ATPase native to *E. coli* (CopA) is well-characterized; however, CopA-like proteins have not been studied in other related species. We aim to characterize potential copper exporting P-type ATPases from *Enterobacter cloacae*.

“Undergraduate research and internships”

Leah Shorser-Gentile '13, Biology

Doing research with a faculty member has taught me what it means to work with other scientist in a collaborative effort. I've gained the ability to recognize that my work influences the collective output of the research laboratory, which has made me more responsible and a better candidate for summer internships.

4. Visual Communication

Palamountain 304

Roundtable Chair: Deb Hall

Roundtable participants: Marielle Briant '13, *Anthropology*, Isaac Chansky '13, *Computer Science*, Elena Scott '13, Joe Klockowski '14, Siwei Song '14, *Studio Art*, Aaron Beck'14, *Biology*

“Art Beyond the Gallery: Can the Significance in Art be Public although it is Individually Grasped?”

Marielle Briant '13, *Anthropology*

My research project shows that while art is a way of articulating one's inner life and is oftentimes associated with personal enterprise, art is re-affirmed and redefined through community *engagement*. The idea of engagement will be heavily discussed to encompass everything from mere, visual engagement to active, physical participation in a public arts project.

“Creativity Matters: A class creates an Ipad E-magazine for distribution on iTunes”

Isaac Chansky '13, *Computer Science*

Mike Eckmann's computer science class and Deb Hall's design class worked together to write, design and program interactive articles that include original art, video and audio about creativity on a local scale. I am compiling the articles into an emagazine that, with the help of a Student Opportunity grant, will be published on iTunes.

“Creating Branding and Identity”

Elena Scott '13, Joe Klockowski '14, Siwei Song '14

By showing preliminary sketches and explaining process we will show how choice of type, color and imagery convey the attributes and qualities of a company or organization. We will talk about how the use of visual communication in logo and branding design influences us.

“Dissection and lateral mounting of zebrafish embryos and analysis of spinal cord development: Demonstrated through videography”

Aaron Beck'14, *Biology*

Videography is an emergent way to convey scientific methodology that stems from the “digital age” and the relative inexpensiveness of producing and disseminating video information. As scientists, demonstration as a means of educating is prominent, and videography expands our influence to a larger audience.

2:15 – 3:15 PM

1. Outstanding Senior Research in Mathematics and Computer Science

Harder 202

Faculty Sponsor: Mathematics & CS

Presenters: Carol Brown '13, Isaac Chansky '13, Sam Gunther '13, Loren Santana '13, Tommy Wagner '13

Five senior Mathematics or Computer Science majors will start and finish the session with a group discussion of the joys and difficulties of doing research in these areas, and each will deliver a short summary of his or her project in the middle of the session.

2. The Art & Science of Dance:

- **The Exploration of the Choreographic Process – From Masterworks to Senior Capstones**
 - **The relationship between core stability, fatigue & injuries in college-age dancers**
- Dance Theater**

*Faculty Sponsors: Mary DiSanto-Rose Ed.D. – Associate Professor of Dance
Sarah DiPasquale PT, DPT – Lecturer in Dance*

The Exploration of the Choreographic Process – From Masterworks to Senior Capstones

Hannah Garland '13; Chloe Prasinis '13

Hannah Garland will discuss her research on how dreamscape is used as a choreographic tool, specifically by Ohad Naharin in *Minus 16*, as performed by Alvin Ailey and its impact on her choreographic work “Sincerely”. Chloe Prasinis will summarize her choreographic process of melding movement and language specifically the stories of 5 dancers as the soundscape for her dance “Spring Cleaning”.

The relationship between core stability, fatigue & injuries in college-age dancers

Hannah Garland '13; Amanda Ostrove '13; Lucia Ruggieri '13

Their findings suggest that increased fatigue may decrease core stability, which may put dancers at an increased risk for injury.

3. Honors Initiatives

Pohndorff Room, Scribner Library

Faculty Sponsors & Student Co-Chairs: Catherine J. Golden, English, Alex Williams '15, Kate Greenspan, English, Sarah Wright, English, and Brandon Dyer '15

Presenters: Students in EN 228H, “The Victorian Illustrated Book,” and Students in HF 300, Add-on to EN 342, “Chaucer and the Classical World,” and EN 362, “Shakespeare and Medieval Sources”

Respondents: Maya Gittelman '14 and Hugh Ward '13

This session features Honors classes in which students engaged the “life of the mind.” Students in “The Victorian Illustrated Book” designed a library exhibition from the Norman M. Fox Collection entitled “Humans and Animals on Display: A Victorian Menagerie.” Students in an HF 300 Add-on to “Chaucer and the Classical World” paired

with students in “Shakespeare and Medieval Sources” to explore Shakespeare's engagement with Chaucer, Ovid, and more. The session will conclude with a tea party in the Pohndorff Room.

N.B. The session will begin in the library entranceway where 4 of the cases are.

4. Special Topics in Consumer and Organizational Psychology and Arts Marketing Palamountain 202

Faculty Sponsors: Christine Page, Management & Business

Presenters: Andrew Craig '13, Kathryn Jones '13, Isaiah Crossman '13, Zack Fagiano '13, Alexandra Abisso '13, Cinyuki Chung '13, Catherine Chang '13, Kate Imboden '13

Consumer psychology topics include how smart phone deprivation impacts anxiety and self-esteem, how different means of supporting a charitable organization influence loyalty to the organization, how brand story-telling affects brand loyalty, how different apologies following a bad service encounter impact service provider attitudes, and how Generation Y perceives food. Organizational psychology topics include how personality differences of coaches and players impact team performance, and how 360 degree feedback influences work-group performance. And the arts marketing topic assesses the effectiveness of web marketing efforts of various art museums.

5. Political Science Research in Regional and Global Security: Theoretical and Empirical Findings

Tisch 301

Faculty Sponsor & Student Co-Chair: Dr. Roy H. Ginsberg, Wilson Gibbons '14

Presenters: Aaron Shifreen '13; David Solomon '13; Jeremy Wood '13

This panel on regional and global security issues features three Government majors who have completed their senior honors theses. The panelists are Aaron Shifreen (“Colonization to Revolution: Italo-Libyan Relations Throughout the Twentieth Century”), David Solomon (“Testing the Waters: Historical, Legal, and Political Insights Into China’s Enduring Interests in the South China Sea”), and Jeremy Wood (“Fighting the Tide: The Ebb and Flow of the International Drug Control Regime, 1908-2008”).

6. “Something You Have Never Seen Before”

Falstaff’s

Faculty Sponsor: David Porter, Classics; Marc Woodworth, English

Presenters: the 25 students in this term’s EN280 class (cross-listed with Classics), “Writing from Myth”

An Emotional Odyssey

The students of English 280, “Writing from Myth,” offer a journey to the far corners of the emotional world. Board the Ship of Desire with Odysseus and his lusty companions;

challenge the gods in the Game of Pride; visit the Mortuary of Mythic Memories, the Entrance to Entrancement, and the not-quite Blissful Fields of Joy. Music, poetry, drama, imagination, tragedy, comedy, and much more. Audience participation for the daring. THIS PERFORMANCE IS NOT TO BE MYTHED.

7. Engaged Anthropology: Local and Global Cultural Encounters Emerson Auditorium

Faculty Sponsors: Michael C. Ennis-McMillan, Anthropology

Presenters: Kathryn Chin '13, Eden Dotan '13, Sara Gross '13, Maia Binhammer '13, Anna Tracht '13

A panel of senior anthropology majors present projects on cultural issues related to Chinese art, Israeli military service, US historical archaeology, and study abroad in various countries. Based on ethnographic and archaeological field research, each presenter demonstrates ways Skidmore students develop understandings of the human condition in the past and present. The presenters also discuss how anthropologists engage with public discussions about contemporary social and cultural issues.

Becoming Authentic: Global Perspectives on the Value of Chinese Imitation Antiques
Kathryn Chin '13

The increased popularity of Chinese antique collecting has led to rising concerns about counterfeit art objects, especially outside of China. Within China, however, customers value fakes as accurate reproductions. Based on conversations, interviews, and observations conducted in Dali, Yunnan, China, this project examines the perspectives of museum curators, government officials, and antique shop owners. Investigating imitation antiques provides insight into the public discourse of imitations, and raises questions about the notions of value and authenticity.

Mothering and the Military: Exploring the Maternal Perspective on Service in the Israeli Army

Eden Dotan '13

At eighteen, nearly every Israeli citizen is enlisted in the army for two to three years, during which time their families are tremendously involved and affected. Based on interviews of eight mothers of soldiers, I created a documentary that explores, through the lens of motherhood, views on the Israeli army. The interviews demonstrate that while the army is seen as an important institution, mothers feel emotional controversy regarding their children's service and hope for peace.

Life and Work at the Woodlawn Estate Stables: Making Archaeology Public in Saratoga Springs, NY

Maia Binhammer '13 and Sara Gross '13

This presentation focuses on a new public archaeology project that shares the findings of student excavations at Skidmore with a broader public by employing a number of approaches including a museum exhibit, public lecture, and site walkthrough. The

discussion covers the history of the Woodlawn Estate stables site, public archaeology in Saratoga Springs, and methods of archaeological curation.

Studying Abroad: An Exploration of Ethical Considerations facing US College Students
Anna Tracht '13

This project examines Skidmore College students' experiences abroad and their perspectives on the reciprocity they experienced with their hosts. The interview data demonstrate student concerns about what they offer to hosts while abroad, and that economic disparity between the students and their hosts can complicate these relationships. This report contributes to a broader understanding of the exchanges involved in study abroad programs, while using an anthropological approach to benefit future study abroad students.

3:30 – 4:30 PM

1. Capstone Projects in Creative Writing

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: April Bernard, English

Presenters: Lindsay Camp '13, Alex Kallner '13, Sara Low '13

This panel will showcase some of the best of the English department's capstone projects in creative writing, and will feature readings in nonfiction, fiction, and poetry.

2. Issues in Education: Education Studies Senior Thesis Presentations

Palamountain 200

Faculty Sponsors: Hope Casto, Education Studies

Presenters: Margery Huemmler '13, Allison Putnam '13, Sandra Stonebraker '13

Education Studies majors will present their senior thesis research on topics including policies on gunplay in elementary schools, connections between classroom management techniques and elementary students' gender, and math anxiety among elementary teachers.

3. Thesis Research in Psychology, Biology and Neuroscience

Tisch 100 & 1st Floor Hallway Tisch

The Biology department, Psychology department, and Neuroscience program invite you to a joint poster session featuring our best students presenting their experimental research.

Session A: Disease and Behavior - Lessons from the Nervous System (TLC 100)

Faculty Sponsors: Bernard Possident, Biology Dept., Hassan Lopez, Psychology Dept.

Presenters: Lucia Ruggieri '13, Ross Garson '13, Guerry Perez '13, Michael Hyde '13,

Laura Dudek '13, Riley Alsman '13, Sarah Minney '13

1. Effects of coconut oil on the circadian rhythm of Alzheimer Disease *Drosophila melanogaster* model

Lucia Ruggieri '13, Ross Garson '13, Guerry Perez '13

2. Effects of copper on circadian activity rhythms in a transgenic fruit fly model for Alzheimer's Disease

Michael Hyde '13, Laura Dudek '13, Riley Alsman '13

3. Long term effects of adolescent cannabinoid and estrogen treatment on adult female sociosexual behavior

Sarah Minney '13

Session B: Senior Thesis Research in Psychology (1st floor hallway, TLC)

Faculty Sponsors: Faculty, Department of Psychology

Presenters: Alexa Banculli '13, Emily Barker '13, Jennifer Brown '13, Molly Duffy '13, Jaruda Ithisuphalap '13, Anna Jacques '13, Jacob Mazur-Warren '13, Julia Mazzarella '13, Cara McCabe '13, Sarah Minney '13, Karin Obaid '13, Sara Watchko '13

1. Reading sonnets: The effect of rhyme scheme on eye movements

Jennifer Brown '13

2. Coping with divorce

Cara McCabe '13

3. The contribution of specular highlights to 3D shape perception

Julia Mazzarella '13

4. You don't know what you're talking about: the effect of an unknowledgeable demonstrator on children's imitation learning

Emily Barker '13

5. The role of social anxiety in cognitive processes during reading

Alexa Banculli '13

6. Sex ratio and sexual decision making

Sara Watchko '13

7. The effect of fabrication on memory accuracy: does the focus of the fabrication matter?

Jaruda Ithisuphalap '13

8. Body awareness and its effects on perceptual accuracy in college women

Anna Jacques '13

9. Burnout and work satisfaction among teachers
Molly Duffy '13

10. The us-them divide and social anxiety: two cognitive processes motivating interpersonal behavior
Jacob Mazur-Warren '13

11. Take your pick: examining the influence of health in undergraduate food choices
Karin Obaid '13

4. Stars, Sediment, and Smectics: Research in Physics Harder 203

Faculty Sponsor: Kendrah Murphy, Physics

Presenters: Sophie Richards '13, Matthew Koskinen '13, Brian Dowe '13, Ahmad Almanassra '13

Physics majors present thesis research, discussing the cross-correlation of young stars and nebulae in the galaxy M33, which provides new clues to the physics of star formation; the measurement of acoustic backscatter properties of sediment suspended in water, which will elucidate the dynamics of such sediment near riverbeds, lakes, and oceans; the formation and evolution of liquid crystal domains through microscopic imaging, which has potential applications in fields such as optics, optical displays and photonics.

5. Worlds Together and Worlds Apart: Connections and Collisions under Conditions of Globalization Palamountain 202

Faculty Sponsor: Pushkala Prasad, International Affairs

Presenters: Megan Burke '13, Anna Farrell '13, Camille Netter '13, Philip Pratt, '13

As the world comes into increasing contact, both conflicts and co-operations seem to escalate. The four presenters in this panel explore this theme with differential emphases on the four worlds (physical, economic, political and cultural) that undergird the International Affairs Program. They examine the ideologies behind community gardens in four cities, structural differences between OPEC and ICA (International Coffee Agreement), cybersecurity dynamics between China and the U.S.A. and fantasies of French women in the American cosmopolitan imagination.

6. 2013 Alternative Spring Breaks Tisch 201

Faculty Sponsor: Michelle Hubbs, Community Service Office

Presenters: **Habitat for Humanity** - Maddie Kemp '15, Caylin Lo '15, Ileana Paules-Bronet '15, Jiakun Fu '15, Rachel Comp '15, Andrew Shi '15, Victoria

Byrnes '15

Medlife – Brittany Dingler '15, Emily Damon '15, Zoe Hardy '13, Alex Dorgan '14, Nicole Sue '15, Sarah Watson '14, Lauren Mogelnicki '14

NYCUP – Eleazer (Kojo) Amarteufio '15, Adrian Appleman '15, Adrian Cowles '13, Rebecca Datus '15, Meti Debela '16, Anna Hall '14, Christian Hemerling '15, Timothy Kim '15, Ann-Marie Raphail '14, Ibrahima Thiam '16, Heather Zhang '15

Three groups of Skidmore students spent their Spring Break participating in civic engagement projects. Students from Benef-Action travelled to Vero Beach, Florida to work with Habitat for Humanity. Students from Pre-Health Club travelled to Equador to work with Medlife and students led by Christian Fellowship worked with New York City Urban Project in the Bronx. Each group will present details of their trips and participants will share their experiences.

7. Senior Seminar Projects: Sociological Explorations of Food, the Body, and Campus Climate

Tisch 203

Faculty Sponsors: John Brueggemann, Sociology & Kristie Ford, Sociology

Presenters: Eric Moretti '13, Katherine Sliclen '13, Shelby Smith '13

Sociology majors present their work from SO375: Senior Seminar. A culmination of the major, this course integrates lessons from methods, statistics, theory, and substantive research areas. In this iteration, seniors carried out primary research using qualitative methods. The projects focus on one of three sociological themes: food, the body, campus climate. Here, three seniors present their work summarizing previous literature, key research questions, the findings from empirical investigation, and substantive conclusions.

Academic Festival 2013
Room Schedule at a Glance

	9:00 - 9:15	9:15 - 9:30	9:30 - 9:45	9:45 - 10:00	10:00 - 10:15	10:15 - 10:30	10:30 - 10:45	10:45 - 11:00	11:00 - 11:15	11:15 - 11:30	11:30 - 11:45	11:45 - 12:00	12:00 - 12:15	12:15 - 12:30	12:30 - 12:45	12:45 - 1:00
BO 281	Asian Studies															
PMH 200						Social Work										
PMH 202	Management & Business (SSEP)															
Davis						English Literature										
Emerson						Religion										
Dance Theater																
Ladd 206						Foreign Language & Literature										
Pohndorff																
Dana 240						Chemistry										
Harder 202																
Harder 203	Economics					Economics										
TLC 1st Floor & TLC 100																
TLC 201																
TLC 203																
TLC 301						History										
Sports Center 201	Health and Exercise Sciences															
Spa													Literary Trivia			
Filene 115						Art History										
PMH 300																
PMH 302																
PMH 303																
PMH 304																
Falstaffs																
Dining Hall																

Masterworks

A Celebration of Interdisciplinary Graduate Study

Thursday, May 2, 2013 10:00 am Zankel/Room 117

A Roundtable Presentation and Discussion of Master's Program Final Projects

Christine Campeau: "Mining Our Heritage: Oral History and Place-Based Learning in the Adirondacks"

Cultural history museums and historic sites recognize the power of storytelling to engage and educate their visitors. However, public schools ingrained in a standards-based curriculum often overlook the value of family stories and local history. The emerging discipline of place-based education offers a pedagogical approach that uses the local community as the focal point, providing a unique curriculum that extends beyond the traditional school walls. Oral history is a fundamental methodology for connecting students to regional history and culture, and is an ideal introduction to the broader theoretical perspective of place-based education. As a seasoned museum educator, Christine explores the concept of using oral history to initiate a place-based program of study by using excerpts from interviews archived at the Adirondack Museum. These narratives offer a glimpse into the richly compelling history of the mining industry in the Adirondacks and form the basis for a place-based unit of study.

Kevin Goodman: "Crossing the Threshold: A Cognitive Dissonance Interpretation of Hypnosis and Hypnotic Belief"

There are two dominant and competing research approaches to the study of hypnosis. One argues that hypnosis produces a distinct divided state of consciousness, while the second argues that hypnosis is the result of mundane social cognitive processes akin to *believed-in-imaginings*. Those who advocate the divided state of consciousness hypothesis point to a set of experiments based on what is known as the "hidden observer phenomenon," the ability of hypnotized subjects to report an experience in one context and yet deny it in another. Kevin offers an alternative account borrowed from mainstream social psychology: that the hidden observer phenomenon, if taken at face value, reflects cognitive dissonance leading to the self-perception of being in an altered state of consciousness. Kevin suggests that the resolution of cognitive dissonance during hypnosis leads to a heightened belief that they have limited agency over their actions and attribute these actions to hypnosis rather than choice.

Ariane Lewis: "Too White to be Black, Too Black to be White: A Discussion on Biracial Female Group/Individual Identity"

What does it mean to be both biracial and female? Can biracial females have ethnic identities that encompass all the ethnicities they represent? Can they form biracial identity within a group? The concept of biracial identity is often overlooked in mainstream America; people either perceive these individuals as onlookers of their respective ethnic groups, or they categorize them as one or the other. But from a biracial perspective this is far from the truth. Through the use of current research and two biracial participants, Ariane reaches into the biracial world and pulls out the individual voices of those who identify as being both black and white. Ariane begins with a close look at the concepts of identity, female identity, and biracial identity, and then explores the role of family, friends, and literature for the female with a dual ethnic heritage in an attempt to answer the questions: Does biracial identity exist within the individual female, and can it exist within a group as well?

Please join us for what promises to be an exciting series of conversations.

Other Noteworthy Projects on Campus

“Cutting It Out” Zankel Lobby

Faculty Sponsor: Penny Jolly, Art History

Using only paper, a distinctly manipulable medium, students in HF200 “Cutting It Out” have created contemporary fashion designs based on historical periods from the Elizabethan era through the 1950s. These creations, displayed on manikins, showcase the students’ abilities to exploit the variable properties of paper as well as their understanding of the political, social, and aesthetic complexities of dress design.

Periclean Honors Forum

Skidmore College is a small, highly selective liberal arts college that fosters academic inquiry and creative thought and expression. Honors Forum promotes these goals. Skidmore founded the Honors Forum in 1997 as an inclusive community of highly motivated students who have promise to become student leaders and globally informed citizens. Our goal is to encourage students to take ownership of their academic and co-curricular education and to reflect meaningfully on their personal and professional goals. The Honors Forum invites all first- and second-year students with a 3.5 GPA to apply to the Forum.

Honors Forum introduces extraordinary rigor into academic programs as students consider complex questions and examine sophisticated materials. Honors Forum students develop what we refer to as “the life of the mind” by working alongside their faculty on research projects in labs, at field sites, in libraries, and in studios, often helping to shape the curriculum with which they engage. The Forum promotes and supports student-organized co-curricular activities (e.g. lectures and panel discussions) and leadership and civic engagement opportunities where students guide fellow peers, faculty, and staff within the Skidmore community and beyond. We also encourage all students at Skidmore College to take an Honors course or an Honors Add-on to become invested in our community of scholars and leaders.

2013 Academic Festival Planning Committee and Members of the Honors Council:

Dr. Catherine Golden, Department of English,
Periclean Honors Forum Director, Chair

Lisa Bradshaw, Administrative Assistant

Tillman Nechtman, History

David Karp, Interim Associate Dean of Student
Affairs & Director of Campus Life

Jennifer Bonner, Biology

Kendrah Murphy, Physics

Marla Melito, First-Year Experience

Lauren O'Donnell '14, Student Executive Committee

Kim Koriath, '15, Student Executive Committee

Connor Grant-Knight '15, Student Executive
Committee

Ben Bechand '15, Academic Council

Mae Capozzi '15

Special thanks to:

Emily Reiser '14, Dan Johnstone '14, and Eva Cover
'14