

Sixteenth Annual Academic Festival

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Message from Academic Festival Coordinators Page 1

Schedule of Events Page 2

Room Schedule at a Glance Page 22

Honors Forum Mission Page 24

Academic Festival Planning Committee Page 25

Message from Academic Festival Coordinators

Excellence matters at Skidmore College. Students write perceptive papers, conduct insightful scientific and mathematical research, choreograph breathtaking dances, and create stimulating theatrical productions. In labs, at field sites, in libraries, and in studios, our students take ownership of their curriculum and demonstrate the mix of creativity and excellence that characterizes Academic Festival.

The sixteenth annual Academic Festival brings 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 sustain the larger audiences we generated for our top-notch presenters last year. This year, we have created a lunchtime slot for departments and programs to sponsor their own sessions; some panels will extend into or begin during the lunchtime slot.

Please come to our closing reception in Gannett Lobby from 4:30 to 5:30 PM to reflect on the day's accomplishments. At the reception co-sponsored by SGA Academic Council, you will have the opportunity to participate in the third annual trivia challenge sponsored by the Literary Society (complete with prizes). We are proud to be the final event of SkidGenuity, a 30-day "celebration of the Skidmore Mind."

Schedule of Events

April 30, 2014

Refreshments available throughout the day:

*Gannett Lobby
Palamountain 2nd Floor
Tisch Learning Center 2nd Floor*

*Filene 1st Floor (p.m. only)
Palamountain 3rd floor (p.m. only)*

9:00 – 10:20 AM: SESSION 1

1. Everything Falls Apart? Challenges in a Time of Global Flux

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Feryaz Ocakli, Government & Mahesh Shankar, IA

Presenters: Emily Ferguson '14, Julia Clancy '14, Erika Wohl '14, Matthew Scotch '14, Sarah Worthen '14

The world is in flux and increasingly grappling with multitudes of new and old challenges. Tackling these challenges will require the effective use of our creative and collaborative energies. The four presenters in this panel explore this theme by addressing specific local and global challenges that traverse the physical, economic, political, and cultural realms that undergird the International Affairs Program.

2. Will I Survive?

An Argument Concerning Contemporary Theories on Personal Identity

Palamountain 202

Faculty Sponsor: Larry Jorgensen, Philosophy

Presenter: Tim Kelly '14

When one wonders whether or to what extent one's current self might continue to exist into some future moment, how should one conceive of the relationship between the person-stages of these two instances? Is it a relation of numerical identity, or of qualitative similarity? Should one be concerned with the continued existence of one's psychological, physical, or spiritual characteristics? This presentation strives to determine the truth behind such questions by means of future-science thought experiments.

3. Six Senior Capstone Projects

Bolton 281

Faculty Sponsor: John Anzalone, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Presenters: Claire Beihl '14: Ten Poems by Martin López Vega: a Translation.

Claire Rossi-deVries '14: Children of North Africa in the French Labor Market.

Melina McCormack '14: *Rencontres*: Meetings in Baudelaire's "Tableaux parisiens."

Arissa Fram '14: Female Genital Cutting: The French Response.

Alison Schaufler '14: *Rose's Night in Australia*. A play by Noëlle Renaude, translated and staged.

Sarah Benson '14: *Simple Passion* by Annie Ernaux: an annotated translation.

The senior capstones in Foreign Languages and Literatures, beyond the broad range of inquiry they represent, are also notable for two specific directions the work of the department has fostered in recent years. First, we are seeing a new emphasis on annotated literary translation; second, we are sponsoring theses that move beyond departmental boundaries, this year in Economics, Gender Studies, and Theater.

4. Society, Morality, and Power

Bolton 280

Faculty Sponsor: Eric Morser, History

Presenters: Emily Sloan '15, Emily Reiser '14, Eva Cover '14

Morality helps us shape community norms. From the colonial period to the present, questions of morality have been linked to questions of communal belonging, social access, and power in American History. The three papers in this panel will explore the changing nature of communal morality over time, using language, religion, and gender to think about how broad social norms have forged a sense of our national self.

5. Frackademic Festival: Geoscience Senior Seminar panel on Fracking in New York State

Emerson Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Kyle Nichols, Geosciences

Presenters: Mary Brill '14, Jennifer Garvin '14, Megan Killeen '14, Maxwell Koenig '14, Jonathan Markowitz '14, Jamie Potter '14, Jeremy Rosen '14, Shanna Williamson '14

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a controversial process used to extract natural gas from some geologic media. Proponents of fracking highlight the need for domestic energy, low greenhouse gas emissions of natural gas compared to coal or oil, and economic benefits. Opponents claim environmental damage both locally (groundwater contamination) and globally (global warming). The Geosciences Class of 2014 will discuss these, and other, aspects of fracking and conclude with a question and answer session.

10:30 – 11:50 AM: SESSION 2

1. Capstone Projects in Creative Writing

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: April Bernard, English

Presenters: Sydney Lea '14 and Josh Speers '14, Poetry; Maya Gittelman '14 and Miguel Roel '14, Fiction; Julia Clancy '14 and Beal St. George '14, Nonfiction

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. Research Topics in Government: Neoliberalism in Argentina and Mexico, Solar Energy NGOs in Rural India and Bangladesh, and Brazil's FIFA World Cup Bolton 280

Faculty Moderator: Aldo C. Vacs, Professor of Government

Presenters: Adam Troy '14, Megan Pini '14, Wilson Gibbons '14

The Government Department has chosen three outstanding senior research thesis projects to feature in this panel. They are: *Neoliberalism in Latin America*—the paper critiques neoliberal policies in Argentina and Mexico; *Solar Energy in Rural India and Bangladesh*—the paper explores why different NGOs in South Asia choose to nurture different kinds of capabilities; *Brazil as Host of the 2014 FIFA World Cup*—the paper analyzes the economic/political/social effects of Brazil as host of the World Cup.

3. American Studies Senior Theses: An American Potpourri Palamountain 201

Faculty Sponsor: Dan Nathan, American Studies

Presenters: Kyle Giard-Chase '14, Mack Lacy '14, Veronica Monroe '14, Becky Stern '14, Sara Vosburg '14

“‘Tell Them to Shut Up and Listen’: The Impact of Gay Men’s Masculinity on Early AIDS Activism”

Kyle Giard-Chase '14

Many Americans have forgotten the intense homophobia, fear, stigma, and loss that characterized the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s and early 1990s. This paper revisits that era by examining the influence of gay men’s masculinity on early AIDS activism. Using the advocacy group ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) as a frame of reference, I explore the intersection of grief, rage, and love with masculine gender-role expectations in the United States.

“‘Into the Gap: Collective Memory and Collective Identity in Red Sox Nation”

Mack Lacy '14

For decades, the Boston Red Sox and its fan base, Red Sox Nation, were characterized by the heartbreak that accompanied an 86-year championship drought. How, then, did this community cope with a shift in its collective identity’s fundamental reality when the Red Sox won three championships in ten years? Due to deeply ingrained cultural narratives and collective memories, baseball’s incessant nostalgia, and the historic touchstone of Fenway Park, this community’s identity simultaneously adapted and survived.

“‘It’s Such A Gamble When You Get A Face’: New York Punk Culture and the Commercialization of Hip Movements”

Veronica Monroe '14

This paper examines the rise of punk rock in New York City in the mid-1970s and the revival of punk for commercial advertising purposes beginning in the 1990s. Punk rock sought authenticity, using music as a means of artistic expression and cultural resistance. Consequently, attempts at commercial revival go against the movement’s intentions. Furthermore, I argue that the commercialization of punk rock is typical of mainstream

cooptation of hip movements more broadly.

“Recruitment and Role Modeling in City Hall: A Case Study of Women New York Mayors”

Becky Stern '14

Research indicates that women politicians are role models for young girls, sparking their interest in politics. These studies, however, do not explain why—and if—women politicians prioritize recruiting women. I investigate the disparity between what women politicians say and their actions. Surveying and interviewing women mayors in New York, I collected data that reveals women mayors believe in the power of visibility, do little women-to-women outreach, and fear self-identifying as a feminist.

“Medicine and Motherhood: How Women’s Roles in Healthcare Have Changed From the 18th Century to the Present”

Sara Vosburg '14

Having children and becoming a doctor are time-consuming and energy-demanding processes. People, especially women, who want to do both often find this to be particularly challenging. Using responses from contemporary women in medicine and historical evidence, I examine how women balance medicine and motherhood and argue that the current medical training system does a poor job of accommodating physicians with families, which may deter many women from attending medical school.

4. Outstanding Research in Mathematics and Computer Science

Emerson Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Gove Effinger, Mathematics & Computer Science

Presenters: Yaomingxin Lu '14, Adina Micula '14, Madeleine Burkhart '15, Kelly Isham '16

Four Mathematics or Computer Science students 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 brief summary of her project in the middle of the session.

5. Outstanding Sociology Senior Seminar Papers

Tisch 203

Faculty Sponsor: Kim Tauches, Sociology

Presenters: Ilona Abramova '14, Christina Gomes '14, Laura Gonzalez '14, Tegan O'Neil '14

Key themes running through these diverse papers include immigration, social mobility, food security, and education. Upward mobility among immigrants and native-born Americans is a key emphasis in the work of Gonzalez and Gomes, while Abramova explores the immigrant experience in New York City schools. O'Neil considers the relationship of income trends and food security.

6. Undergraduate Research in Chemistry and Biochemistry (continuation into lunch hour)

Bolton 281

Faculty / Student Sponsors: Raymond J. Giguere and Melanie Feen '16, Chemistry

Presenters: Leland Martin '14, Ariel Alperstein '14, Mark Benhaim '14, Jennifer Harfmann '14, Hannah Swomley '15, Joseph Marto '15

Research students in the Chemistry Department will discuss their undergraduate research projects, each conducted at Skidmore under the mentorship of Chemistry faculty.

Development of an automated microfluidic platform for analysis of organic pollutants in water

Leland Martin '14

Faculty Sponsor: Kimberley A. Frederick, Chair and Professor, Chemistry

New York's Hudson River has had periodic exposure to harmful organic materials due to industrial pollution, agricultural run-off and storm water discharge. Methods for testing for these organic materials can be problematic as they are present in low concentrations.

Microfluidics is a new field in analytical chemistry that allows for assays to be performed on small plastic chips which is both cost-efficient and easily automated. This project seeks to extract, pre-concentrate, and analyze these organic contaminants on a microfluidic chip to provide a rapid, low cost, and fully automated analysis.

Dual Routes for *Bdellovibrio* Asparaginyl-tRNA Formation

Ariel Alperstein '14

Faculty Sponsor: Kelly Sheppard, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Two routes have evolved for attaching the amino acid asparagine (Asn) to its correct transfer RNA (tRNA^{Asn}), an essential step for all known life. The one-step pathway involves an asparaginyl-tRNA synthetase directly attaching Asn to tRNA^{Asn} . In the two-step pathway a non-discriminating aspartyl-tRNA synthetase (ND-AspRS) attaches aspartate (Asp) to tRNA^{Asn} . The amidotransferase GatCAB converts the Asp to Asn. The predatory bacterium *Bdellovibrio bacteriovorus*, used in water treatment and agriculture, in addition to the direct route may employ two-step pathway using a ND-AspRS to aminoacylate tRNA^{Asn} . To determine if the two-step route is encoded in *B. bacteriovorus*, the relevant proteins are being investigated through both *in vivo* and *in vitro* assays. The work will provide insight into the life cycle of *B. bacteriovorus*.

Expanding The Genetic Code With Pyroglutamate

Mark Benhaim '14

Faculty Sponsor: Kelly Sheppard, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Pyroglutamate forms via the cyclization of glutamine residues in proteins including amyloid β -peptides associated with Alzheimer's disease and oconase, an anti-cancer agent. To study the role pyroglutamate plays in these proteins, we propose expanding the *E. coli* genetic code to include pyroglutamate by reassigning the amber stop codon to pyroglutamate. To include amino acid, we are modifying the archaeal RNA-dependent Gln biosynthetic pathway to synthesize pyroglutamate on an amber suppressor tRNA. The relevant genes were cloned into a vector for expression in *E. coli*. To determine if the

system can incorporate pyroglutamate into proteins, we developed an enhanced yellow fluorescence protein reporter system. Once established, we will use the system to test the role of the pyroglutamate in proteins.

Determination of sediment-bound heavy metals in stream and lake sediment in the Kayaderosseras Creek watershed

Jennifer Harfmann '14

Faculty Sponsor: Judith Halstead, Professor, Chemistry

Heavy metals can enter aquatic systems through terrestrial runoff or atmospheric deposition and can accumulate in stream and lake sediment. Previous work in the Kayaderosseras Creek watershed has demonstrated that water chemistry parameters – including nutrients, major anions, and major cations – are attributed to land-based non-point source pollution; however heavy metals in this watershed had not yet been investigated. Sediment samples from two lakes and eight streams in the Kayaderosseras Creek watershed were collected, sieved, and microwave digested. Levels of Cr, Cd, Cu, and Pb in the samples were determined by inductively coupled plasma spectroscopy (ICP). Heavy metal concentrations were analyzed in relation to sediment particle size to examine the effect of sediment size on heavy metal retention. Concentrations of Cr, Cd, Cu, and Pb were then investigated as a function of urban development to determine whether a correlation existed between these metals and land-use.

Atmospheric Aerosols: Reactions, Processes, and Implications

Joe Marto '14, Hannah Swomley '15

Faculty Sponsor: Juan Navea, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

The affinity of water vapor to aerosol particles is of interest for its role as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) and the subsequent chemical reactions that can occur on wet aerosols. We used a Quartz Crystal Microbalance (QCM) to quantify the adsorption and desorption of water at varying relative humidity for various aerosol components.

In a separate experiment, we have studied daytime reactions of nitric acid adsorbed onto components of atmospheric aerosol. These reactions suggest that aerosols induce the formation of nitrogen oxides, important components of the atmosphere. These aerosol-light reactions allow the study of the kinetics and reaction yields, as well as the quantification and identification of the products. We have found that semiconductive components of aerosols induce a higher yield of nitrous oxide (N₂O), a powerful greenhouse gas, than any other aerosol component.

7. Health and Exercise Sciences Senior Thesis Presentations (continuation into lunch hour)

Palamountain 200

Session Chair: Denise Smith, Health and Exercise Sciences

Presenters: Ryan McLoughlin '14, Timothy W. Brodsky '14, Alexandra Z. Sosinsky '14, Lauren Mogelnicki '14, Madeline Rosenberg '14, Brad Schuler '14, Maody Miranda '14, Nicole Li '14, Margaret Morrissey '14, Paige Clark '14, Kaitlyn Sorochnka '14, Erik Watkins '14, Sabrina Melendez '14, Savannah Redston '14, and Stephanie Viola '14

Health and Exercise Science students will present their senior thesis research, which

includes a broad range of topics. Presenters will outline the motivation for their project, describe the methods employed to answer the research question, and discuss their findings in the context of the broader research literature. Time will be allowed for a question and answer session.

The Effect of MnTBAP on the Expression of Genes Involved with Inflammation, Insulin Signaling, and Metabolism

Ryan McLoughlin '14

Faculty Sponsor: T.H. Reynolds, Health and Exercise Sciences

Obesity and type 2 diabetes are major public health problems. While exercise and diet can help prevent these diseases, these interventions are difficult to maintain. Therefore, it is important to develop innovative treatment strategies. Manganese tetrakis benzoic acid porphyrin (MnTBAP) is a super oxide dismutase mimetic that may improve insulin signaling in diet-induced obese mice. The present study investigated the effects of MnTBAP on the expression of genes involved with inflammation, insulin signaling, and metabolism.

The Antiobesogenic Effects of MnTBAP

Timothy W. Brodsky '14 and Alexandra Z. Sosinsky '14

Faculty Sponsor: T.H. Reynolds, Health and Exercise Sciences

There are few effective and financially feasible pharmacological treatments for obesity. Treatment of dietary-induced obese mice with MnTBAP, a super oxide dismutase mimetic, has been shown to reduce adiposity and improve insulin sensitivity. The purpose of this study was to determine the mechanism by which MnTBAP decreases adiposity and improves insulin sensitivity. We investigated whether MnTBAP's ability to reduce adiposity is due its effect on PAR-2 signaling.

Effects of an Educational Nutrition Intervention on High-functioning Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Lauren Mogelnicki '14 and Madeline Rosenberg '14

Faculty Sponsor: Crystal Moore, Social Work/Saratoga Bridges

Individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID) have an exceptionally higher risk for developing obesity. The purpose of this study was to examine the eating habits of a sample of individuals with ID, and implement an educational nutrition intervention to promote healthier lifestyles. The nutritional status of five individuals with ID was assessed followed by a three-week educational intervention. A post-interventional nutrition assessment was performed and compared to baseline measures.

A Comparison of Two Raw Juices with a Commercially Available Drink on Athletic Performance and Recovery Measures

Maody Miranda '14 and Nicole Li '14

Faculty Sponsor: Paul Arciero, Health and Exercise Sciences

Optimal nutrition for athletic performance and recovery is essential. This study investigated the effect of two raw juices on athletic performance and recovery. Participants, 17 athletes, were randomly assigned to consume 24 oz of one of the juices (beetroot, celery or a control). A submaximal test was performed on the ergometer

followed by a time-trial of 5 km, then 30 mins of recovery. The variables measured were RPE, lactate, glucose, blood pressure, and heart rate. Results and discussion will be presented on the day of academic festival.

The Effect of Monster Energy on Arterial Stiffness

Margaret Morrissey '14

Faculty Sponsors: Denise Smith, Health and Exercise Sciences & Jacob DeBlois, Health and Exercise Sciences

Energy drinks and cigarette smoking are often consumed by college-aged individuals, and both may result in increased arterial stiffness. Arterial stiffness impairs arteries' ability to expand and recoil. This study was designed to investigate the effect of an energy drink on arterial stiffness. Additional analyzes were performed to understand how smoking influenced this response. The results of this study will be discussed in this presentation.

Arterial Stiffness and Platelet Function with Tobacco Use

Paige Clark '14, Kaitlyn Sorochka '14 and Erik Watkins '14

Faculty Sponsors: Denise Smith, Health and Exercise Sciences & Jacob DeBlois, Health and Exercise Sciences

Nicotine is believed to be primarily responsible for the negative cardiovascular responses to cigarette smoking. The purpose of this investigation is to determine differences in arterial stiffness and platelet function at baseline and in response to nicotine in college-aged men. Three groups (smokers, smokeless tobacco users, and non-tobacco users) will undergo testing before acute exposure, immediately after, and following 60 minutes. Arterial stiffness and increased platelet function are associated with negative health outcomes.

Effect of Barefoot Running on the ROM of Ankle/foot Complex

Sabrina Melendez '14

Faculty Sponsors: Patricia Fehling, Health and Exercise Sciences & Karen Arciero, Health and Exercise Sciences

The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of six sessions of barefoot running on measures of foot health. Plantar fasciitis is a chronic condition that causes pain in the heel and sole of the foot in runners. The etiology of plantar fasciitis is not fully understood though risk factors have been identified. These predisposing risk factors overlap with the effects of running in shoes but are countered in barefoot running.

The Effect of a Strength and Flexibility Training Program on Equestrians

Savannah Redston '14 and Stephanie Viola '14

Faculty Sponsors: Patricia Fehling, Health and Exercise Sciences & Karen Arciero, Health and Exercise Sciences

Equestrians are at an increased risk for postural health issues because horseback riding causes microtraumas to the spine. The purpose of this study was to examine the effect of a four-week core, back, and lower-extremity exercise program on members of the Skidmore College Equestrian Team. Primary variables were core strength, flexibility, low back pain, standing posture, and riding position; measured using hip and low back range of motion, standing posture analysis, and riding position angles.

The Effects of Higher Protein-Low Calorie Diet Incorporating Intermittent Fasting (HPLC-IF) Induced Weight Loss on Plasma Toxins and Oxidative Stress in Obese Middle-aged Population

Brad Schuler '14

Faculty Sponsor: Paul Arciero, Health and Exercise Sciences

Weight loss is generally regarded as beneficial and may favorably alter oxidative stress but increase the release of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from fat depots. The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of a 10 week higher protein-low calorie diet incorporating intermittent fasting (HPLC-IF) on fat mass, PCBs and oxidative stress in obese population. The results may suggest that HPLC-IF diet induces significant reductions in fat mass resulting in elevated PCB concentrations but increased antioxidant capacity.

8. Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Issues in International Management, Marketing, and Finance PMH 202

Faculty Sponsors: Various, Management & Business

Presenters: Amelia Colon '14, Rachel Dance '14, Jack Fischer '14, Jessica Singer '14, Jennifer Shonborn '14, Xue Xue '14

This session will include a series of interdisciplinary studies investigating organizational and cultural phenomena across various contexts. Examples of the contexts under study stretch from the Basque region of Spain to Japan to Denmark to the markets of China as well as the Internet. Methodological approaches include a hermeneutics and content analysis, application of sociological concepts of primary and secondary socialization, and analysis of high-frequency data.

Evolution of the Mondragón Cooperative Corporation

Amelia Colon '14

Faculty Advisor: James Kennelly, Management & Business

Research will predominantly follow the evolution of the Mondragón Cooperative Corporation from its conception to its current organizational structure and competitive position today. Emphasis will be placed on how specific macro-environmental conditions (i.e. culture, politics, economic conditions) have informed the operations of Mondragón in a way that questions the sustainability and identity of a large-scale cooperative over time.

Trends in Women's Entrepreneurship

Rachel Dance '14

Faculty Advisor: Cathy Hill, Management & Business

Literature on women's entrepreneurship focuses on women's interactions with the government sector, education systems, family, and industries. Interviews with women entrepreneurs discovered a significant influence in the way parents raise their daughters that led these girls to be entrepreneurial in adulthood. Applying sociological concepts of primary and secondary socialization, research revealed values, skills, and perspectives

that women entrepreneurs gained not through interactions as adults with institutions, but through interactions and observations as developing children with their parents.

Navigating Biotechnology: Action Pharma as a Case Study

Jack Fischer '14

Faculty Advisors: Timothy Harper and Sylvia McDevitt, Management & Business

The discovery and development of novel medications is both capital (with costs averaging \$1.2B per compound) and time intensive (taking an average of 10 to 15 years to complete) generating a risky investment environment. Two days following the onset of the 2008 financial recession, a small, Danish biopharmaceutical firm called Action Pharma held a crucial meeting with venture capitalists. Action Pharma is used as a case study for managing crisis and understanding the biotechnology industry.

Social Strategy: Analyzing the Relationship Between Social Media Use and Television Viewership

Jessica Singer '14

Faculty Advisor: Christine Page, Management & Business

Since the average American spends upwards of three hours per day on social media, it is not surprising that some television networks have recently shifted their promotional efforts to these online platforms. This study examines how interacting with a television show on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram corresponds to brand attachment, brand self-connection, and separation distress.

Inscrutable Samurai: A study of Representations of Japan by *The Economist*, 1945-2011

Jennifer Shonborn '14

Faculty Advisor: Pushkala Prasad, Management & Business

This interdisciplinary study is located at the intersection of organization theory and cross-cultural communication studies. Combining the methodologies of hermeneutics and content analysis, it traces the history of textual representations of Japan by *The Economist* over 65 years. The data analysis points to the persistence of an ideologically flavored reporting pattern that is rooted in long-standing Western fears of Japan as a latent "oriental" military power. Implications for corporate and policy decision-making are drawn.

Long Memory Features of Stock Index Futures: Evidence from China

Xue Xue '14

Faculty Advisor: Aiwu Zhao, Management & Business

Using high-frequency data, this study investigates the long memory features of stock index futures in China. Previous literature has documented various evidence on the long memory features of futures series. Our study indicates that the long memory features, thus the predictability of time series, are influenced by the frequency of the data and are not stable.

LUNCH HOUR 12:00 – 1:20 PM (arranged by departments)

1. Classics Department

Ladd 206

Faculty Sponsor: Leslie Mechem, Classics Department

Presenters: Victoria Burmeister '14, Sarah Nelson '14, Kathryn Smith '14, and Ben Turnbull '15

Victoria Burmeister, '14: The Interdependent Influence of Hecate and Medea

Euripides' innovation that Medea killed her own children in his *Medea* was the original spark that began a rapid evolution and deterioration of the morality of the character over the next few centuries, and her identity as a priestess of Hecate inevitably interlinked the development of both female mythological characters. As the obscurity of death became more of a dangerous threat to Greek and then Roman society, so Hecate became a goddess associated with black arts and sorcery, and thus her priestess, Medea, gradually came to illustrate an awesomely powerful and entirely evil witch archetype.

Sarah Nelson, '14: *Xenia* in Joyce's *Ulysses*

In reinterpreting Homeric epic for his novel *Ulysses*, James Joyce drew inspiration not only from the *Odyssey*'s narrative framework, but also its social constructs. *Xenia* ("guest-friendship") as both a literary trope and cultural practice manifests itself throughout Dublin on 16 June 1904 and serves to guide the novel's action — Stephen Dedalus vies against his own "Suitors," Leopold Bloom weathers xenophobia, while Molly Bloom extends hospitality too far and undermines her husband.

Kathryn Smith, '14: "Homeric Masculinity in the *Odyssey*"

Using Odysseus as an example, I will attempt to define proper masculinity and excessive masculinity for Homeric mortals. Once I have established a baseline for gendered guidelines, I will show that these masculine norms do not apply to the gods, and I will attempt to uncover why proper masculinity differs for gods and men.

Ben Turnbull, '15: "An Old Man Wanders"

"An Old Man Wanders" is a long poem that utilizes my interest in classical mythology as a mechanism for expressing the storytelling methods of my late grandfather, a holocaust survivor and poet who was fluent in a language of rambling tales. I plan to recite a small portion of this poem in an attempt to follow my grandfather's tradition of storytelling and myth.

2. Anthropology Senior Projects: Engaging Public Issues (Poster Session)

Dana 349 Hallway – Anthropology Department

3. MB360 Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership Spring (SScP) 2014 Palamountain 202

Faculty Sponsor: Colleen Burke, Management and Business Department

Presenters: Dan Morelli '14, Tim Colvin '15, Nick Barra '15, Gabe Steerman '14, Romeo Makore '15, Ezra Levy '15, Minh Uong '14, Angela Botiba '15, Eleazer Amarteifio '15, Seth Berger '14, Dan Santos '14

Three teams of student consultants from the Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership will present their final consulting reports and strategic recommendations for the spring semester clients: the Saratoga Spring Water Company, Roohan Realty, and the Alpine Sport Shop.

4. Senior Research in Physics

Dana 277

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Odekon, Physics

Presenters: Andy Durkee '14, Anna Egner '14, Terence Fowler '14, Sam Jo '14, Surbhi Hablani '14, Adina Micula '14, Jamie Potter '14

Students will present senior research in Physics, including projects in relativity, astrophysics, oceanography, green energy, and optics.

5. Health and Exercise Sciences Senior Thesis Presentations (continued from Session 2)

Palamountain 200

6. Undergraduate Research in Chemistry (continued from Session 2)

Bolton 281

7. Senior Theses in Economics: Applied Microeconomics

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Roy J. Rotheim, Economics

Presenters:

Alexander Pavelick '14: "Tax Revenue Consequences of the Legalization of Marijuana"

Claire Rossi-deVries '14: "Socio-Economic Mobility and the Second Generation Maghrebian Immigrants in France"

Ian Tucker '14: "Changing Characteristics of the Health Care Workforce and Title 5 of the Affordable Care Act"

Erika Wohl '14: "Peace through Trade? Determining the Ideal Trade Regime for Israel and Palestine"

1:30 – 2:50 PM: SESSION 3

1. Thesis Research in Psychology

Tisch 100 & Tisch 1st Floor Hallway

Faculty Sponsor: Sheldon Solomon, Psychology

Presenters: Ausubel, Jonathan '14, Bach, Emily '14, Bellotti, Christine '14, Coffel, Michael '14, Fassak, Samantha '14, Hall, Anna '14, LaBrecque, Maura '14, Levine, Hannah '14, Loethen, Bree '14, Miller, Hannah '14, Molenda, Aneta '14, Rifkin, Lara '14, Rothman, Karen '14, Teevan, Allison '14, Tugendrajch, Siena '14, Wellen, Brianna '14, Wicks, Jennifer '14, Wilberg, Emma '14

"The Effect of Anthropomorphism on Learning and Memory"

Jonathan Ausubel '14

"Using Music to Cue Autobiographical Memories"

Emily Bach '14

"Examining the Green-Eyed Monster in Romantic Relationships: Gender, Age, Trust, and Stability as Predictors of Jealousy"

Christine Bellotti '14

"Listening to the Big Picture: The Effects of Music Induced Arousal on Creativity"

Michael Coffel '14

"The Emotive Muse: Effects of Mood on creativity"

Samantha Fassak '14

"The Processing of Negative Emotion-Laden Words during Reading: An Eye-Tracking Study"

Anna Hall '14

"Are All Artificial Sweeteners Created Equal?"

Maura LaBrecque '14

"False Recognition Errors in the Deese–Roediger–McDermott Paradigm: Auditory Versus Tactile Encoding and Accuracy"

Hannah Levine '14

"The Effects of Danger and Use in Lexical Decision and Naming Tasks"

Bree Loethen '14

"Backlash Against Gender Stereotype Violators: Penalties for Men Seeking Mental Health Treatment"

Hannah Miller '14

"The Effect of Exposure to Contrasting Social Class Perspectives on Emotion and Engagement"

Aneta Molenda '14

"The Development of Fear Beliefs Through the Verbal Information Pathway in Preschool Age Children"

Lara Rifkin '14

"The Effects of a Gratitude Journaling Intervention on Post-Divorce Adjustment"

Karen Rothman '14

"The Processing of Blend Words"

Allison Teevan '14

"Self-Affirmation and Health Information"

Siena Tugendrajch '14

"Looking Forward: The Effects of Photographs on Future Episodic Thought"

Brianna Wellen '14

"Sleep and Emotion Perception"

Jennifer Wicks '14

"The Influence of Competitive Environments and People's Perceptions on Dancers and Athletes: How Dancers and Athletes Feel About Their Bodies"

Emma Wilberg '14

2. Neuroscience Research: from Molecule to Mind

TLC 100 & Tisch 1st Floor Hallway

Faculty Sponsor: Hassan Lopez, Neuroscience

Presenters: Aaron Beck '14, Allison Catazone '14, Emily Carbone '14, Haley Dodds '14, Rose Hopkins '14, Erika Hume '14, Anna-Mariya Kirova '14, Mayumi Kohayama '15, Stephanie Madlener '14, Madeline Pelz '14, Ann-Marie Raphail '14

Select junior and senior neuroscience majors will present their independent research projects.

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

Gannett Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Mary DiSanto-Rose, Dance Department

Presenters: Salome Egas '14, Corry Ethridge '14, Kaitlin Guerin '14, Cameo Lethem '14, and Sarah Shaw '14

Salome Egas '14 - The role of a director in the collaborative process, how to face challenges and build a team when developing her Theater/Dance Project "Los Dioses del Inti Raymi."

Corry Ethridge '14 – The role of psychology in his group choreographic work "Alt Delete."

Cameo Lethem '14 - Her choreography "A Specious Piece of Reasoning" is a pseudo-narrative of six people who embark on a journey to the other side of the stage. Her choreographic method allows for emotional layering within the movement, which can later be revealed with an additional musical option. She will illustrate how two opposite musical choices can influence the way movement is perceived by audiences.

Kaitlin Guerin '14 - Worked with Sidra Bell, NY based contemporary choreographer on developing her dance solo "Rapture". She will discuss the challenges of balancing viewpoints and a taste of the professional dance world.

Sarah Shaw '14 – The solo process creating "Amy at the Meet" with guest artist Colleen Thomas and how dance as an art form relates to her other passion, swimming.

4. Art History Presentations

Palamountain 300

Faculty Sponsor: Penny Jolly, Art History

Presenters: Sara Belasco '14, Jeremy Endo '14, Colleen Hochberger '14, Lily O'Brien '14, Patsy Root '14

Sara Belasco '14

I will discuss the materials, techniques, aging, and conservation of Johannes Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* (c. 1665) in relation to creating my own copy of the painting and the role art conservation plays in art historical discourse. My topic attracts audiences from studio art, art history, and chemistry departments, and students curious about art conservation as a potential profession.

Jeremy Endo '14

I will discuss modern/contemporary Japanese manga's representations of gay rape through the lens of its primarily heterosexual teenage female audience and how it has also affected my work in graphic design. By engaging current issues of sexual dialogue, state censorship, and rape culture, my talk will appeal to those interested in art history, Japanese pop culture, gay gender studies, or graphic design.

Colleen Hochberger '14

I will explain how I created a syllabus for an Art, Law, and Power course, a subject not taught at Skidmore. My project will appeal to a wide range of students and others unfamiliar with how art and law directly intersect. It also provides a behind-the-scenes perspective on how a syllabus gets crafted.

Lily O'Brien '14

My thesis project on the role of *kente* cloth at Skidmore presents the cultural and historical significance of *kente*, an analysis of relevant theoretical approaches, and finally, a look at Skidmore's own perceptions of the textile and how these highlight the tensions relating to racial diversity on our campus. For Academic Festival, I will focus on how Skidmore developed a *kente* tradition and explain the controversial nature of *kente* on our campus.

Patsy Root '14

This project provides a purely visual analysis of Giotto's Arena Chapel (c. 1300), particularly his cycle of virtues and vices in the dado. Giotto shows remarkable visual ingenuity in the Chapel with the virtues and vices in particular: visual "rhymes," echoes, movement, and overall visual harmony abound. I uncover and discuss these complex visual relationships. Because of the chapel's visually compelling images and the project's emphasis on the importance of visual observation, this project will appeal to a wide audience.

5. Senior Theses in Economics: Topics in Monetary Economics

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Roy Rotheim, Economics

Presenters:

Anthony Giacin '14: "Policy Rules versus Discretion in Central Banking Policy"

Oliver Loutsenko '14: "Fire Sales in the Tri-Party Repo Market"

James Sherpa '14: "Quantitative Easing Monetary Policy in the US: An Empirical Analysis of its Impact on Long Term Treasury Yields"

Minh Uong '14: "A Monetary Approach to Exchange Rates: an Empirical Analysis"

6. Anthropology Senior Projects: Engaging Public Issues

Emerson Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Michael C. Ennis-McMillan, Anthropology

Presenters: Miranda Brock '14, Gabriel Herrera '14, Christine Hintze '14, William Makepeace '14, Anne Salzman '14, Bridget Smith '14

A panel of senior anthropology majors present projects on cultural issues related to sustainability, yoga practice in the US, hipsters, urban biking, ethnic conflict and reconciliation, and international development. Based on ethnographic research in the U.S., South Asia, and Africa, each presenter demonstrates ways Skidmore students develop understandings of the human experience and how anthropologists engage with public discussion about contemporary social and cultural issues.

'That's so hipster': The meaning of hipster culture at Skidmore College

Miranda Brock '14

The City in the Country: Public Discourse and Perceptions of Sustainability in Saratoga Springs, NY
Gabriel M. Herrera '14

Cultural Divides in “Bike Friendly” New York City: Is Biking an Exclusive Activity?
Christine E. Hintze '14

NGO Relations in India: An ethnography of inter-organization collaboration
William Makepeace '14

Including More Voices: Suggestions for Reconciliation Initiatives in Post-Genocide Rwanda Anne Salzman '14

The Sanctuary of the Studio: Peace and Wellbeing in Urban Yoga Studios
Bridget Smith '14

3:00 – 4:20 PM: SESSION 4

1. Capstone Projects in Literary Studies

Davis Auditorium

Faculty Sponsor: Mason Stokes, English

Presenters: Gabriel Glissen-Brown '14, Elizabeth McCrorey '14, Ashley Smith '14, Emily Willstatter '14, Hadley Turner '14, Ceanna Vangelder '14

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.

2. Responding to the Challenges of Climate Change

Gannett Auditorium

Faculty Sponsors: Amy Frappier, Geosciences and Nurcan Atalan-Helicke, Environmental Studies

Presenters: Patrick Babbitt '14 (IA), Jacqueline Carames '17 (GE), Joshua Inaba '14 (ES), Matthew Kilgore '16 (GE), Eliza Sherpa '14 (ES), Caitlin White '14 (ES)

IPCC assessments of Earth System science have shown that climate is already changing, mainly due to human activities. Climate change impacts vary across time and space, posing key challenges for humanity. Scientific uncertainties about future climate change impacts arise from natural processes and the choices people make about energy and land-use. This interdisciplinary panel discusses climate science as well as social-political-economic-practical aspects of responding to the challenges of climate change at Skidmore and beyond.

3. Issues in Education: Education Studies Senior Thesis Presentations Palamountain 200

Faculty Sponsor: Hope Casto, Education Studies

Presenters: Ashley Copperstone '14, Amy Cooper '14, Halé Hall '14, Sarah Olderman '14, Najwa Webster '14

Education Studies majors and one Self-Determined major in Multicultural Education will present their senior thesis research on topics including citizenship education, test anxiety of teachers and students in elementary and middle schools, social justice pedagogies in higher education, innovative school food programs in the U.S., and the effects of colonialism on modern day Ghanaian education.

4. Asian Studies Senior Capstone Project Presentations Bolton 281

Faculty Sponsor: Masami Tamagawa, Asian Studies

Presenters: Alexandra Bilodeau '14 and Jia Min (Yuki) Huang '14

Asian Studies seniors will offer enlightening talks based on their senior capstone projects. Alexandra Bilodeau will discuss paradoxes of the medieval female ascetic and demonstrate how renunciation for medieval Hindu female renunciatory ascetics was not only a world-denying rejection of status and gender but also a world-affirming activity. Yuki Huang offers an international comparative analysis of Boys' Love culture and demonstrates some of the findings from her online survey including differing socio-political identities.

5. Translation for the Global Stage (session may run longer) JKB Theater, Studio A

Faculty Sponsor: Eunice Ferreira, Theater

Presenters: Evan Owen '14, William Zhang '14, Natalie Linton '14, Ecem Alcin '14, Emily Moler '15, Lauren Berry-Kagan '17

Answering the call as scholar/artists, students have applied translation theory in practice and performance by translating international plays into English. Six first-ever English translations premiere in this staged reading of 10-minute excerpts. The plays wrestle with themes of identity, migration, exile, postcolonialism, the incertitude of life, betrayal, and murder. In translating playwrights from Martinique, Germany, Peru, Mexico, Spain/Chile, and Turkey, the students make an original contribution to the field of translation studies and to theatre practice in the U.S.

6. 2014 Alternative Spring Breaks TLC 201

Faculty Sponsor: Michelle Hubbs, Community Service Office

Twenty-eight students travelled to New York City; Macon, Georgia; Guatemala and Peru to participate in a variety of civic engagement activities.

4:30 – 5:30 PM

CLOSING RECEPTION sponsored by the Periclean Honors Forum
Gannett Lobby

&

TRIVIA CHALLENGE sponsored by the Literary Society
Gannett Lobby adjacent lounge

Room Schedule At A Glance

	9:00 - 10:20				10:30 - 11:50				12:00 - 1:20			
Ladd 206									Classics			
Tisch 100 / Tisch 1st Floor Hallway												
Tisch 201												
Tisch 203					Sociology							
PMH 200					Health and Exercise Sciences (Continuation into lunch hour)							
PMH 201					American Studies							
PMH 202	Philosophy				Management & Business				Management & Business SSCP			
PMH 300												
BO 280	History				Government							
BO 281	Foreign Languages and Literatures				Chemistry (Continuation into lunch hour)							
Davis Auditorium	International Affairs				English (Creative Writing)				Economics (Session Begins at Lunch Hour)			
Emerson Auditorium	Geosciences				Mathematics and Computer Science							
Gannett Auditorium												
Gannett Lobby												
Dana 349 Hallway									Anthropology (Poster Session)			
Dana 277									Physics			
JKB Theater Studio A												

Room Schedule At A Glance

1:30 - 2:50				3:00 - 4:20				4:30 - 5:30			
Psychology & Neuroscience											
				Alternative Spring Breaks							
				Education							
Art History											
				Asian Studies							
Economics (Session Begins at Lunch Hour)				English (Literary Studies)							
Anthropology											
Dance				Geosciences and Environmental Studies							
								Closing Reception & Trivia Challenge			
				Theater (Session may run longer)							

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 with promise of becoming student leaders. We 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 “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 join our community of scholars and leaders by taking an Honors course or an Honors Add-on.

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

Catherine Golden, English and Director, Periclean
Honors Forum

Lisa Bradshaw, Honors Forum Administrative
Assistant

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

Jennifer Bonner, Biology

Nurcan Atalan-Helicke, Environmental Studies

Kate Greenspan, English

Kim Marsella, Director, Office of Academic Advising

Emily Reiser '14, VP Student Executive Committee

Kim Koriath, '15, President Student Executive Committee

Caroline Hobbs '16, Honors Forum

Charles Tetelman '16, VP Academic Affairs, SGA

Special thanks to:

Isabel Gregg '14

Dan Johnstone '14

SGA Academic Council

The Literary Society

SkidGenuity

Office Services

Dining Services

Media Services

Facilities Services

Office of Communications

