

2023 Fall Academic Showcase

A Celebration of Florida Southern College
Student Scholarship and Research

Wednesday, December 6, 2023
4:00pm–5:30pm

Christoverson Humanities



Sponsored by the Florida Southern College Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

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2023 Fall Academic Showcase

A Celebration of Florida Southern College Student Scholarship and Research

December 6, 2023

Welcome!

Florida Southern College fosters an environment where students actively transition from being consumers of knowledge to becoming scholars who create new knowledge, insights, connections, and understanding. For over 20 years, our students have gathered at the end of each semester to present and discuss the scholarly work they have been doing in and beyond their courses.

The goal of the Fall Academic Showcase is twofold: to provide students a platform for their ideas, and to provide the wider community a window into the creative and intellectual energy that pervades our campus. Today's event provides a singular opportunity to publicly share the meaning and joy of scholarly inquiry.

We encourage you to take part in as many sessions as you can! Enjoy the conversation.

Schedule

4:00pm-4:20pm.....	Welcome	Associate Provost Roxanne Back
	Preliminary Remarks	Dr. Lori Rakes Christoverson Lobby
4:20pm-5:20pm.....	Presentations	Christoverson 206, 208, 209
5:20pm-5:30pm.....	Closing Remarks	Provost Tracey Tedder Christoverson Lobby

2023 Fall Academic Showcase Presenters – By Last Name

Room	Time	First Name	Last Name	Major	Title
209	5:00-5:20	Angelina	Alberto	English	A Nostalgic Endeavor: Recreating the Paradoxical Hope of Absurdist Fiction
208	5:00-5:20	Mia	Alikhan	Environmental Studies	The Role of Contrasting Facial Pelage in Intraspecific Communication in a Nocturnal Primate (<i>Aotus nancymaae</i>)
208	4:20-4:40	Abigail	Bennett	Political Science	My Beef with the Meat Industry: Overconsumption on a Dying Planet
208	4:40-5:00	Isabelle	Bieber	Biology	Intergenerational Learning in Conservation Biology: Using Collaboration Between Generations in Environmental Education
206	4:40-5:00	Erlinda	Loyola	Political Science	What Will Be of the Arctic?
209	4:20-4:40	McKinley	Miller	Film	That Which We Call a Story: A Defense of Adaptation
206	4:20-4:40	Reagan	Orr	Sport Business Management	Leveled Field: How Narrowing the Gender Pay Gap in NCAA Coach Salaries is Paramount to Creating Equity Among College Athletes, and Why the NCAA Should Issue Relevant Guidance to its Member Schools
209	4:40-5:00	Sierra	Robertson	Marine Biology	The Upside of Living Upstream: Spatial Ecology of Tampa Bay
206	5:00-5:20	Gabi	Zernickow	Business Administration	The Factors of Successful Foreign Expansion of Multinational Corporations

2023 Fall Academic Showcase Presentations – By Room

Room 206

4:20-4:40	Reagan	Orr	Sport Business Management	Leveled Field: How Narrowing the Gender Pay Gap in NCAA Coach Salaries is Paramount to Creating Equity Among College Athletes, and Why the NCAA Should Issue Relevant Guidance to its Member Schools
4:40-5:00	Erlinda	Loyola	Political Science	What Will Be of the Arctic?
5:00-5:20	Gabi	Zernickow	Business Administration	The Factors of Successful Foreign Expansion of Multinational Corporations

Room 208

4:20-4:40	Abigail	Bennett	Political Science	My Beef with the Meat Industry: Overconsumption on a Dying Planet
4:40-5:00	Isabelle	Bieber	Biology	Intergenerational Learning in Conservation Biology: Using Collaboration Between Generations in Environmental Education
5:00-5:20	Mia	Alikhan	Environmental Studies	The Role of Contrasting Facial Pelage in Intraspecific Communication in a Nocturnal Primate (<i>Aotus nancymae</i>)

Room 209

4:20-4:40	McKinley	Miller	Film	That Which We Call a Story: A Defense of Adaptation
4:40-5:00	Sierra	Robertson	Marine Biology	The Upside of Living Upstream: Spatial Ecology of Tampa Bay
5:00-5:20	Angelina	Alberto	English	A Nostalgic Endeavor: Recreating the Paradoxical Hope of Absurdist Fiction

Presentations

In alphabetical order by presenter's last name.

2023 Fall Academic Showcase Presentations

Student: Alberto, Angelina

Major: English

Faculty Mentor: Jennifer Leigh Moffitt

Presentation Time: 5:00-5:20

Presentation Type: Oral Presentation

Room: 209

Title: A Nostalgic Endeavor: Recreating the Paradoxical Hope of Absurdist Fiction

Abstract: “Akis Apdumti” is a multimodal vignette/screenplay hybrid that builds upon loss, inescapable isolation, and the rippling moments of resignation that precede defiance and growth. The narrative follows the futile efforts of a lonesome travel journalist who begins by looking for company and, by the end, is perhaps more alone than ever before. The author devoted special attention to a ridiculous beginning, evocative ending, and similarly powerful absurdity throughout to develop the textual and visual modes of the narrative. The vignette/screenplay draws thematic and stylistic inspiration from Daniel Handler’s *A Series of Unfortunate Events* (1999-2006), Kurt Vonnegut’s *Breakfast of Champions* (1973), and Wes Anderson’s *The French Dispatch* (2021). At its core, “Akis Apdumti” is the author’s love letter to absurdist fiction, which has intrigued and uplifted them for years despite the genre not being explicitly or traditionally hopeful (i.e., “paradoxical hope”). As the author continues experimenting with absurdist fiction, they strive to inspire hope through their own work and encourage readers to confront the absurdity of being. Only then does one have the freedom to construct the meaning and purpose of their existence.

Student: Alikhan, Mia

Major: Environmental Studies

Collaborators: Macy Wilcox and Madeline Sanders

Faculty Mentor: Christy Wolovich

Presentation Time: 5:00-5:20

Presentation Type: Oral Presentation

Room: 208

Title: The Role of Contrasting Facial Pelage in Intraspecific Communication in a Nocturnal Primate (*Aotus nancymaae*)

Abstract: Visual cues contribute to intraspecific communication and can facilitate species recognition, kin discrimination, and mate choice. Owl monkeys (*Aotus nancymaae*) are nocturnal primates with complex patterns of black and white facial pelage. The potential role of contrasting coloration in nocturnal mammals in intraspecific communication has been largely ignored in favor of hypotheses related to antipredation and thermoregulation. We conducted the first experimental test to determine if contrasting coloration in a nocturnal mammal functions in communication. We scored the behavioral responses of male-female pairs of owl monkeys ($n = 11$) to images of conspecifics with normal facial markings and to those with artificially exaggerated or reduced supraorbital medial stripes during a series of evening trials ($n = 66$). Monkeys spent more time gazing at images and scent-marking when images contained conspecific faces than when the images were blank. Male owl monkeys scent-marked most often when images contained male faces and had artificially exaggerated markings. Monkeys exhibited sex-specific responses to images of particular monkeys regardless of the size of the facial markings. We conclude that owl monkeys are indeed sensitive to visual cues present in conspecific faces and likely use these cues in intraspecific communication.

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Student: Bennett, Abigail

Major: Political Science

Faculty Mentor: Kelly McHugh

Presentation Time: 4:20-4:40

Presentation Type: Honors Presentation

Room: 208

Title: My Beef with the Meat Industry: Overconsumption on a Dying Planet

Abstract: This thesis aims to better understand why meat consumption is dramatically increasing in the United States by comparing three main societal factors: the presence of meat lobbying groups, cultural significance of meat to daily diet, and governmental response to increased meat consumption. I took a qualitative, case-study approach and conducted a comparative study between the United States, the Netherlands, and Spain utilizing existing literature and statistics. Overall, I found that the United States has the most influential presence of meat lobbying groups, largest cultural significance of meat, and least consequential governmental response to increased meat consumption, which explains why meat consumption is so high and continues to increase. The environmental implications of such a trend are dire, as emissions and pollution released by Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) are large contributors to climate change. To reverse this trend in the United States, I identified three alternative policies: stricter laws regarding campaign donations from corporations, reduced subsidies for crops used as animal feed, and a government campaign encouraging consumers to choose more plant-based options. I analyzed the political feasibility of each policy, as well as an estimation of its effectiveness. Due to the current political climate, a government campaign promoting plant-based alternatives to meat is the most politically feasible, while reduced subsidies for crops used as animal feed would be most effective in reducing American meat consumption.

Student: Bieber, Isabelle

Major: Biology

Faculty Mentor: Ashley Bowers-Macrandar

Presentation Time: 4:40-5:00

Presentation Type: Honors Proposal

Room: 208

Title: Intergenerational Learning in Conservation Biology: Using Collaboration Between Generations in Environmental Education

Abstract: As the human population continues to grow and deplete natural resources, modern society has significantly, and negatively, impacted the environment, both in terms of supply-and-demand for limited resources and how ecosystems function. In order to protect and conserve Earth's biodiversity, educational outreach plays a pivotal role. Traditional conservation measures in educational programming have lacked effectiveness and community participation. Intergenerational learning (IGL) is an alternative approach to help address the challenges and deficiencies in other conservation education methods. IGL represents a potential bridge between generational gaps by promoting educational interactions between younger and older individuals. IGL highlights the vital role of children in conservation initiatives. Children have creative minds and unique perspectives, which have the potential to teach and influence their parents and/or guardians. When considering that environmental issues are often divisive, this approach could be a key pathway in spreading awareness about conservation. To examine the effectiveness of IGL in conservation and environmental education, I will examine

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knowledge and learning in a middle school science class. Data is collected through three surveys: pre-activity and post-activity surveys to gauge the effectiveness of instruction, and a survey sent home to the parents to analyze the efficacy of IGL.

Student: Loyola, Erlinda

Major: Political Science

Faculty Mentor: Kelly McHugh

Presentation Time: 4:40-5:00

Presentation Type: Honors Presentation

Room: 206

Title: What Will Be of the Arctic?

Abstract: As the Arctic continues to be decimated by the effects of climate change, the region will become of greater interest to many. Climate change is melting away the region and unveiling several opportunities. Various stakeholders, like nations (Canada, China, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, the United States, and Indigenous communities) and industries (shipping industry, tourism industry, fishing industry, oil industry and gas industry) will begin to come forth with their own motives for exploring the Arctic as it becomes more easily accessible. These motives will eventually come into conflict with each other and lead to challenges in the area. This study seeks to make sense of the potential geopolitical conflict that will arise in the Arctic as climate changes melt away the ice and allows for the region to become more easily accessible. First it will take a look at how this potential conflict will come about and examine the reasons behind it. It will also look at existing action that aims to address the region in light of this situation and look for opportunities to enhance this action by proposing the creation of an intergovernmental body that can help assist with the drastic changes occurring. In efforts to make sense of how climate change is affecting the Arctic and bringing forth new geopolitical issues in the region, numerous pieces of scholarly research and literature will be examined and incorporated.

Student: Miller, McKinley

Major: Film

Faculty Mentor: Erica Bernheim

Presentation Time: 4:20-4:40

Presentation Type: Oral Presentation

Room: 209

Title: That Which We Call a Story: A Defense of Adaptation

Abstract: This paper and presentation are an argument against the scholarly tendency to dismiss film adaptation of literary works as cheap and uncreative. This paper goes into a defense of the values of film adaptation by exploring what three adaptations of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* (*West Side Story*, *Love Is All There Is*, and *Romanoff and Juliet*) have done to make themselves stand out against the established canon without demeaning the original work. I also talk about why they had to be adaptations as opposed to being their own disconnected story because there is value, also, in the continuing of a story. *West Side Story* serves as the adaptation that established its own canon that has been adapted from as well. *Love Is All There Is* is the adaptation I chose to represent the B movie commercialized adaptations that scholars like to sneer at. *Romanoff and Juliet* is the adaptation I chose to represent a

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film that, at first glance, could have been made without being an adaptation but was made better by that inclusion. Each film is taken apart and analyzed and brought into conversation with scholars who either agree or disagree with my stance.

Student: Orr, Reagan

Major: Sport Business Management

Faculty Mentor: Mike Nabors

Presentation Time: 4:20-4:40

Presentation Type: Honors Presentation

Room: 206

Title: Leveled Field: How Narrowing the Gender Pay Gap in NCAA Coach Salaries is Paramount to Creating Equity Among College Athletes, and Why the NCAA Should Issue Relevant Guidance to its Member Schools

Abstract: In recent years, the gender pay disparity within collegiate athletics has been under increased scrutiny. This paper explores gender inequity, focusing on pay, amongst NCAA coaches and its direct impact on college athletes' experiences, emphasizing the importance of the NCAA in providing comprehensive guidance to its member schools. This research underscores the significance of narrowing this gender pay gap as a pivotal step in achieving equitable opportunities and experiences for college athletes. This paper delves into the factors contributing to the gender pay gap among NCAA coaches, including historical biases, negotiation dynamics, and institutional practices. This pay disparity directly impacts college athletes' access to quality coaching, mentorship, and role models. The unequal compensation of male and female coaches can inadvertently perpetuate gender stereotypes and undermine the overall quality of collegiate sports programs. This paper advocates for the NCAA to take a proactive stance in addressing this issue by issuing comprehensive guidance to its member schools. We propose specific strategies and best practices that institutions can adopt to rectify the gender pay gap and promote equity among coaches. The NCAA's leadership in this endeavor can catalyze broader societal change by challenging the status quo of gender inequality within sports.

Keywords: College Athletics, Gender Equity, Coaching, Title IX

Student: Robertson, Sierra

Major: Marine Biology

Collaborators: Molly Kennedy and Mahailee Parker

Faculty Mentors: Gabriel Langford and Allison Durland-Donahue

Presentation Time: 4:40-5:00

Presentation Type: Oral Presentation

Room: 209

Title: The Upside of Living Upstream: Spatial Ecology of Tampa Bay

Abstract: Florida's Tampa Bay area is a historically understudied estuarine environment that feeds into the greater Gulf of Mexico. Through the use of spatial ecology research, we have had the privilege of better understanding the habitat usage, distribution, and population dynamics of elasmobranch species. As research assistants, we utilized acoustic telemetry equipment and gill net surveys to analyze the spatial ecology of elasmobranchs (e.g. *Carcharhinus leucas*, *Rhinoptera bonasus*, and *Sphyrna tiburo*) across seven locations. Over three months, we tagged 74 individuals (9 of whom received acoustic tags),

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added a new target species (*Carcharhinus limbatus*), and observed the potential stabilization of an ecological niche following a red tide event. This research is critical to the scientific community since it confirms nursery usage within estuarine habitats and reinforces the need for conservation in these areas. In addition to mastering numerous field techniques, we learned valuable crisis management, how to effectively communicate with a diverse team, and data organization skills. The experience we acquired during the summer has been a catalyst for each of our post-graduation plans, including graduate programs and entering the workforce. It has provided us with invaluable insight into careers in scientific research and conservation that we will continue to foster throughout our future endeavors.

Student: Zernickow, Gabi

Major: Business Administration

Faculty Mentor: Cara Mackie

Presentation Time: 5:00-5:20

Presentation Type: Honors Proposal

Room: 206

Title: The Factors of Successful Foreign Expansion of Multinational Corporations

Abstract: The business world has been increasingly “going global” in the 21st century, enabling thousands of companies to broaden their operations into foreign markets. When looking to expand into a new market, a company needs to adequately prepare themselves to avoid a failed venture. There are endless factors that play a role in a company’s success. However, a few major ones have emerged throughout preexisting literature: past experiences, organizational structure and identity, employed expansion strategies, and cultural competence. This study analyzes how these factors and best practices learned from previous cases influence United States multinational corporations’ preparedness to successfully integrate into a new foreign market. The study will be conducted through case study analyses and interviews. Reviewing past case studies of and interviewing multiple positions within companies who were successful and unsuccessful in foreign ventures will show a pattern of commonalities amongst multinational corporations (MNCs). The goal is for MNCs to be able to use these various factors as a scale to determine how prepared they are to enter into a foreign market with success. By gaining this standardized knowledge base, MNCs will be able to decrease unsuccessful foreign ventures and increase the potential benefit of globalization.

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