



21st Annual
FRONTIERS

**IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
POSTER EXHIBITION**

April 13, 2018

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

April 14, 2018

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Schedule of Events

Poster Exhibition Friday, April 13, 2018
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 14, 2018
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Student and Faculty Reception Friday, April 13, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Introduction and Welcome

Caroline McGuire, Director, Office of Undergraduate Research

Presentation of the Mentorship Excellence Awards

Faculty Awards

Andrea Voyer, Assistant Professor, Sociology

Presented by **Savannah-Nicole Villalba '18** (CLAS)

Nicholas Eddy, Assistant Professor in Residence, Chemistry

Presented by **Pranjali Ichalkaranje '18** (CLAS)

Graduate Student Award

Laura Mickelsen, Ph.D. Candidate, Physiology and Neurobiology

Presented by **Eric Beltrami '19** (CLAS) and **Jacob Naparstek '18** (CLAS)

Closing Remarks

Jennifer Lease Butts, Assistant Vice Provost, Enrichment Programs and Director, Honors Program

About Frontiers in Undergraduate Research

The Frontiers Poster Exhibition is a multidisciplinary research forum and the largest showcase of undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative projects at the University of Connecticut. Frontiers 2018 is the twenty-first annual Frontiers event sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR). This year's poster exhibition includes 285 students presenting posters for 252 research and creative projects.

The projects span the disciplines and include both independent research and work pursued in collaboration with other undergraduates as well as graduate student and faculty mentors. The presenters are among the top students at UConn and include Honors students, University Scholars, winners of OUR funding competitions, and nominees and winners of prestigious national scholarships. We hope you enjoy meeting our wonderful students and learning about their exciting work.

About the Office of Undergraduate Research

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) is a resource for students interested in enriching their undergraduate experience through participation in research, scholarship, and creative activity. OUR provides information and advising to assist students in identifying relevant opportunities, as well as several funding programs to support the students and their faculty mentors.

Many of the Frontiers presenters have received financial support for their projects from the OUR, which awarded over \$500,000 in 2016-2017 to students for their research and creative work over the summer and during the academic year. These awards are funded by the Office of Undergraduate Research with generous support from the Deans of the schools and colleges, the Office of the Vice President for Research, the Office of the Provost, and private donations from many, many alumni, parents, and other friends of UConn and undergraduate research.

Sequential Listing of Poster Presentations

This listing of projects includes the undergraduate student authors and their faculty mentors. Many projects also include the contributions and mentorship of dedicated graduate students and post-doctoral scholars. In most cases, research is grouped according to the student's major and/or project topic.

Friday presentations are listed on pages 3-22; Saturday presentations are listed on pages 23-41. An alphabetical listing of presenters begins on page 43.

FRIDAY PRESENTATIONS

HALLWAY

1. SyringeGuard – An Alternative to Safety Syringes

Gina DiGiacomo, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Christine Meehan, Adjunct Professor, Nursing

Advisor: Patrick Kumavor, Assistant Professor in Residence, Biomedical Engineering

2. Implementing Small Scale Vertical Axis Wind Turbines on UConn Campus

Amy Robinson, Electrical Engineering

Bailey Andrew, Electrical Engineering

Advisor: Ali Bazzi, Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

3. A Healthy Food Inventory of Waterbury, CT

Savannah-Nicole Villalba, Sociology and Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Andrea Voyer, Assistant Professor, Sociology

4. Peer Tutoring and Translation: Mentoring for Equitable Education

Kathrine Grant, English and Secondary English Education

Priscilla Grillakis, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Isabella Horan, Elementary Education

Madeleine Rusk, Elementary Education

Advisor: Ronald Beghetto, Professor, Educational Psychology

Advisor: Michele Back, Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

Advisor: Eliana Rojas, Associate Professor in Residence, Curriculum and Instruction

Advisor: Adrian Garcia-Sierra, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

FRIDAY

5. The Effects of Road Salt Pollution on Soils and Tree Health

Katherine Bell, Environmental Science and Molecular and Cell Biology

Kelsey Witik, Environmental Science

Advisor: Ashley Helton, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

Advisor: John Volin, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs and Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

NORTH READING ROOM

6. Foxhead Manor: A Whimsical and Paranormal Journey through Gilded Age New England

Emily Regan, Art – Illustration

Advisor: John O'Donnell, Assistant Professor, Art and Art History

7. Michel Debré and the Children of the Creuse

Stone Li, History and French

Advisor: Sylvia Schafer, Associate Professor, History

8. The Fallen Woman and the White Slave: Representations of the Prostitute in American Fiction and Nonfiction, 1870-1917

Helen Stec, History and English

Advisor: Peter Baldwin, Professor, History

Advisor: Wayne Franklin, Professor, English

Advisor: Micki McElya, Associate Professor, History and Director, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

9. The Western Madwoman: A Feminist History and Economic Study in Novel Form

Rebecca Hill, English and Economics

Advisor: Ellen Litman, Associate Professor, English

Advisor: Delia Furtado, Associate Professor, Economics

Advisor: Veronica Makowsky, Professor, English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

10. Daughters of First Generation Immigrants: Sexual and Reproductive Health Screening Behaviors and the Role of Mother-Daughter Communication

Laurel P. Gibson, Communication and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Amanda Denes, Associate Professor, Communication

11. Flusser 2.0: Remediating Ideas, Reimagining Texts

Katherine Riedling, Computer Science and Engineering and German

Advisor: Anke Finger, Professor, Literature, Cultures and Languages and Digital Media and Design

12. A Comparison of Approaches: Promoting Empathic Attitudes in Family and Peer Scenarios of Intergroup Exclusion

Monica Vise, Human Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Alaina Brenick, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

13. The Effects of Feelings of Home and Loneliness on Housing Stability Following Transition from an Institutional Setting to a Community Setting

Alexandra Grimaldi, Allied Health Sciences and English

Advisor: Julie Robison, Professor, Center on Aging, UConn Health

14. Emotion Regulation in Early Childhood: The Impact of Mothers' Socialization and Gender

Erica Magrath, Human Development and Family Studies and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Beth Russell, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

15. Sexting Victimization: A Comparison of Victimization Justifications Across Gender and Sexuality

Sarah Van Antwerp, Human Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Alaina Brenick, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

16. The Association Between Co-morbidities and Diet and Exercise Among African American Breast Cancer Survivors

Caira Ward, Human Development and Family Studies and Africana Studies

Advisor: Edna Brown, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

FRIDAY

17. Influence of Differentiation in Family of Origin on Conflict and Communication Processes of Young Adult Couples as Moderated by Current Stress Level: A Dyadic Analysis

Casey Cunningham, Psychological Sciences and Human Development and Family Studies

Rachel Ho, Human Development and Family Studies

Jordyn Isabelle, Psychological Sciences and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Shannon Weaver, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

18. Cracking the Code: A Method for Designing and Implementing a Writing Center Honor Code

Daniel Johnson, English and Political Science

Joseph Greenwald, Marketing

Kaylee Thurlow, Secondary English Education and English

Advisor: Tom Deans, Professor, English and Director, University Writing Center

19. Assessing Our Practice: A Writing Center Fellow-To-Fellow Support System

Khari Reynado, Economics and Human Rights

Odia Kane, Cognitive Science and Political Science

Advisor: Tom Deans, Professor, English and Director, University Writing Center

20. Breaking Out From Tradition: Redesign of Large Physiology Lecture Increases Engagement, Inclusion, and Student Outcomes

Jordyn Dickey, Biological Sciences

Advisor: John Redden, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

21. Is One Greater than Fourteen?: The Christian Right, Freedom of Religion, and Masterpiece Cakeshop

Liam Williams, Political Science and English

Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl, Assistant Professor in Residence, Political Science

22. Accountability in Government?: Assessing Ethics in Connecticut Municipalities

Samuel Rostow, Political Science

Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl, Assistant Professor in Residence, Political Science

23. So You Think You Can Marry? An Analysis of Factors that Influence Legal Age to Marry Laws in State Legislatures

Lauren Graham, Political Science

Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl, Assistant Professor in Residence, Political Science

24. The Syrian Chess Game: USA, Russian, Saudi Arabian and Iranian Intervention in the Syrian Civil War

Lorenzo Dahdal, Political Science

Advisor: Jennifer Sterling-Folker, Alan R. Bennett Honors Professor and POLS Honors Director, Political Science

25. A Smudge on the White Collar: Media Effects on Perception of Financially-Motivated, Non-Violent Crimes

Alexis Summers, Political Science

Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

26. A Study in Contrasts

Steven Della-Giustina, Political Science

Advisor: Eleanor Daugherty, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students

Advisor: Jennifer Sterling-Folker, Alan R. Bennett Honors Professor and POLS Honors Director, Political Science

27. In A House Built By Slaves: Manifestations of White Womanhood in American First Ladies

Megan Handau, Political Science and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Advisor: Evelyn Simien, Professor, Political Science

28. The Path to Dispossession: Community Relations and Elitism in City of New London

Kevin Fitzgerald, Political Science and Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Ronald Schurin, Associate Professor in Residence, Political Science

29. Veiled Truths: Islamophobia, the Burkini Scandal, and the Appropriation of 'Women's Rights' in France

Alexander Holmgren, Political Science and French

Advisor: Zehra Arat, Professor, Political Science

30. Effects of Structured Phonetic Variation on Voice Recognition

Divya Ganugapati, Cognitive Science

Advisor: Rachel Theodore, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

31. The Effects of Middle Eastern Involvement on Western States' Susceptibility to Homegrown Islamist Terrorism

Morgan Boudreau, Individualized Major: Islamic and Arabic Studies
Advisor: Zehra Arat, Professor, Political Science

32. Speak Softly and Carry A Big Satellite: The Changing Nature of American Foreign Interventions in the Information Age

Venkatram Gopal, Political Science and Economics
Advisor: Kristin Kelly, Associate Professor, Political Science

33. Power, Privilege and Politics: Income Inequality's Effect on Voter Turnout in U.S. Presidential Elections

Nicholas Fuller, Political Science
Advisor: Beth Ginsberg, Assistant Professor in Residence, Political Science

34. Stop! Don't Go "Green": Why Increased Concern Over Climate Change Hasn't Led to Successful Activism in the U.S.

Kayla Ahmed, Political Science and Human Rights
Advisor: Oksan Bayulgen, Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Political Science

35. The Crowd Counting Consortium: Analyzing Protests in Post-Trump America

Fizza Alam, Political Science and Economics
Advisor: Jeremy Pressman, Associate Professor and Co-Director of Crowd Counting Consortium, Political Science

36. Not Just Theory: Anarchism as a Practical Path to Native American Political and Cultural Sovereignty

Hannah Einsiedel, Political Science and Anthropology
Advisor: Jane Gordon, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science

37. Pollution, Resistance, and Representation in Latin American Cities

Emily Steck, Political Science and Human Rights
Advisor: Veronica Herrera, Associate Professor, Political Science

38. Eccentric Exercise to Promote Immediate Beneficial Adaptations to Muscle

Kyle Kalotai, Chemistry
Advisor: Lindsey Lepley, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

39. Structural Variations in Circulating Lipopolysaccharide may Increase Severity of Exercise-Induced Heat Illness

Skyler Wright, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Elaine Lee, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

40. Legislators' Perceptions and Knowledge of the Athletic Training Profession

Sararat Tosakoon, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Rebecca Stearns, Assistant Professor in Residence, Kinesiology

41. Past the Tap: Water News in Connecticut

Savannah Blantz, Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Bandana Purkayastha, Professor, Sociology

42. Auditory Brainstem Responses to Self-Generated Sounds

Liz Gernert, Cognitive Science

Advisor: Erika Skoe, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

43. Neural Determinants of Phonetic Category Structure in Children

Emma Hungaski, Cognitive Science and Speech Language and Hearing Sciences

Advisor: Rachel Theodore, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

44. Context Counts: The Role of Frontal Brain Areas in Bilinguals' Speech Perception between Different Language Contexts

Noelle Wig, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences and Psychological Sciences

Alondra Marmolejos, Speech, Language, and Hearing Science and Psychological Sciences

Katherine Sabo, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Advisor: Adrian Garcia-Sierra, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

45. Setting the Boundaries: How Native Language Impacts the Plasticity of Phonemic Perception

Kaleigh Constantine, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Christine Cammisa, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences and Spanish

Kristen Fagan, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Advisor: Adrian Garcia-Sierra, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

46. On a Native Note: Brain Responses to Speech Sounds in Different Phonetic Contexts

Sarah Polcaro, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Tayla Duntz, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Allison Tozzi, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Adrian Garcia-Sierra, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

47. The Relationship Between the Language Difficulty of Driving Manuals and Failure Rates on the Learner's Permit Knowledge Test

Kaitlyn Flint, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Advisor: Tammie Spaulding, Associate Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

48. A Battle on Opiates: The NICU Nurse's Perspective on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Courtney Lopiano, Nursing

Advisor: Xiaomei Cong, Associate Professor, Nursing

49. Societal Influences On Breastfeeding

Tiffany Chanla, Allied Health Sciences

Advisor: Ruth Lucas, Assistant Professor, Nursing

50. The Effect of timp-1 on Inflammatory Signaling in a Model of Cutaneous Inflammatory Pain

Nathan Kozlowski, Nursing

Advisor: Kyle Baumbauer, Assistant Professor, Nursing

51. Drug Metabolism with the Phenobarbital Induced Cytochrome P450 Gene Family

Avish Patel, Physiology and Neurobiology and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Xiaobo Zhong, Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

52. The Effect of Critical Polymer Characteristics on In Vitro Performance of Parenteral PLGA Microspheres

Haris Qureshi, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Diane Burgess, Distinguished Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

53. The Benefits and Limitations of an Amine Column LC Purification System

Stephanie Gomez, Medical Laboratory Sciences

Advisor: Dennis Godek, President, MediSynergics LLC

54. Analysis of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Avian Blood Spots by Ultra-Performance Liquid Chromatography Utilizing Simple Liquid Extraction and Phospholipid Solid-Phase Extraction Preparation

Benjamin Reale, Chemistry

Andre Jang, Biological Sciences

Sreya Julakanti, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Research Scientist, Center for Environmental Science and Engineering

55. Trifluoromethylation of Indoles using Photocatalysis

Madeline Williams, Structural Biology and Biophysics

Advisor: Nicholas Leadbeater, Associate Professor, Chemistry

56. Illuminating the Path to the Photocatalytic Oxidation of α -CF₃ alcohols

Joshua Paolillo, Chemistry

Advisor: Nicholas Leadbeater, Associate Professor, Chemistry

57. Multicomponent Flexible Film of Organometallic Polymers with Polyimide as High k and Low Loss Dielectric

Caroline Anastasia, Chemistry

Advisor: Gregory Sotzing, Professor, Chemistry

58. Assessing the Anti-Proliferative Activity of Alpha-Substituted [13]-Macro-Dilactones

Ryan McLean, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Mark Peczuh, Associate Professor, Chemistry

59. Synthesis of Site-Specific Oligonucleotides Containing 2'-deoxyadenosine Adduct Formed by 6-nitrochrysene and their Biological Studies

Margaux Verlaque-Amara, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Ashis Basu, Professor, Chemistry

60. Synthesis and Binding Strengths of Lumazine-derived Carbon Nanotube Surfactants

Adam Reinhold, Chemistry

Advisor: Fotios Papadimitrakopoulos, Professor, Chemistry

61. Enhancing the Oxidizing Power of an Environmentally Benign Oxoammonium Salt by Electronic Modification of a Remote Group

Zachary Stempel, Chemistry

Sadie Kiendzior, Chemistry

Advisor: William Bailey, Professor, Chemistry

FRIDAY

62. Evaluating The Effect Of Missing Data On Proportions In The Non-Inferior Clinical Trial

Tanner Brooks, Mathematics/Statistics

Advisor: Ofer Harel, Professor, Statistics

63. Information Theory for Conditioned Markov Chains

Sailesh Simhadri, Computer Science and Engineering

Advisor: Iddo Ben-Ari, Associate Professor, Mathematics

64. Black Scholes using the Central Limit Theorem

Anthony Sisti, Mathematics/Statistics

Rajeshwari Majumdar, Mathematics/Statistics and Political Science

Advisor: Maria Gordina, Professor, Mathematics

65. Applications of Multiplicative LLN and CLT for Random Matrices

Rajeshwari Majumdar, Mathematics/Statistics and Political Science

Anthony Sisti, Mathematics/Statistics

Advisor: Maria Gordina, Professor, Mathematics

66. Big Dreams – EP

Julian Yuliawan, Individualized Major: Music Entrepreneurship

Advisor: Jeffrey Ogbar, Professor, History

Advisor: Peter Diplock, Assistant Vice Provost for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and Adjunct Faculty, Management

67. Track-and-Field Guide for Visually Impaired Athletes

Niccolò Meniconi, Engineering Physics and Music

Advisor: John Chandy, Professor and Associate Department Head, Electrical and Computer Engineering

68. Development of UCONN Health Heart Failure Mobile Application (UHFMA)

Eun Cho, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Minjung Kim, Assistant Professor, Calhoun Cardiology Center, UConn Health

69. Comparative Genomics of the Juglandaceae

Alexander Trouern-Trend, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Jill Wegrzyn, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

70. Designing a Genotyping Array for Genomic Selection in Loblolly Pine

Madison Caballero, Molecular and Cell Biology

Olivia Maher, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Jill Wegrzyn, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

71. Collecting Data for Association Genetics: Tripal Plant PopGen Submit Pipeline

Peter Richter, Computer Science and Engineering

Advisor: Jill Wegrzyn, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

72. Periodical Cicadas: Investigating the Monophyly of Brood V

Diane Hassanieh, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Chris Simon, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

73. Particle Acceleration Simulation

Sam Markelon, Computer Science

Advisor: Kyungseon Joo, Professor, Physics

74. Real Nanoparticles Have Curves: Exploring the Polar Phase Topology of Superellipsoidal Nano-inclusions

Hope Whitelock, Physics

Advisor: Serge Nakhmanson, Associate Professor, Materials Science and Engineering

75. ssDNA and Bicellar Nanodisc Complexes: A Template for siRNA Delivery Systems

Sricharan Kadimi, Chemical Engineering

Advisor: Mu-Ping Nieh, Associate Professor, Chemical Engineering

76. Production and Utilization of Biochar from Slow Pyrolysis of UConn Dining Hall Food Waste

Katherine Saltzgeber, Chemical Engineering

Advisor: Ioulia Valla, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

77. Resilience of Interdependent Infrastructure Systems

Stephen Hutchingson, Civil Engineering

Advisor: Jin Zhu, Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

HALLWAY

78. Enhancing Breeding Efforts through Fruit Quality Analysis of World's Largest Aronia Collection

Peter Apicella, Horticulture

Jacob Griffith Gardner, Horticulture

Advisor: Mark Brand, Professor, Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

79. EXIT: A Short Film

Matthew Bilmes, Digital Media and Design

Advisor: Timothy Miller, Visiting Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Design

80. The Khmer: A Solo Art Exhibition

James Keth, Art – Painting and Biological Sciences

Advisor: Cora Lynn Deibler, Professor and Acting Department Head, Art and Art History

81. WickAway: An Automatic Candle Extinguisher / Decorative Candle Holder

Trevor Svec, Computer Engineering

Philip Gitman, Chemical Engineering

Advisor: John Ayers, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Advisor: Luyi Sun, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Institute of Materials Science

82. Low-Profile Assistive Arm Exoskeleton

Ryan Gadea, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Kazunori Hoshino, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

SOUTH READING ROOM

83. Connecting Science to the Digital Arts Through Scientific Animations

Mary Accurso, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Mary Bruno, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Anna Lindemann, Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Design

84. Reconstitution of GABAergic Postsynapses in Host Cells

Karthik Kanamalla, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Angel de Blas, Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

85. Risk Stratification System for Use in Epilepsy Monitoring Units and Correlation with Adverse Events

Benjamin Redenti, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Jennifer Madan-Cohen, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics and Neurology, UConn School of Medicine

86. Investigating Behavioral and Genetic Effects of Beta-Hydroxybutyrate on Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Derek Lee, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Geoffrey Tanner, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

87. Localization of Olfactory-Related Cytochrome p450 Genes in the *Drosophila melanogaster* Olfactory Sensilla

Rhea Sindvani, Physiology and Neurobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Karen Menez, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

88. Role of Cyp6w1 in Odor Degradation and Olfactory Signaling

Aleena Raajpoot, Physiology and Neurobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Karen Menez, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

89. Systematic REsearch on Shootings (STRES): Using Traditional and Exploratory Methods to Identify Predictors of Firearm Suicide and Gun Violence Across the Nation

Michaela Matos, Mathematics

Joshua Lovett-Graff, Chemical Engineering and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Oshin Mathew, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Blair Johnson, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kun Chen, Assistant Professor, Statistics

90. Processing "Thunder" is More Difficult than "Rainbow" While Performing an Auditory Task

Jonathan Serino, Biological Sciences

Roisin Healy, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Eiling Yee, Assistant Professor, Psychological Sciences

91. Longitudinal Outcome of Attention Modification Training for Social Anxiety: The Impact of Dosage on One-Week and One- Month Follow Up

Morgan Livingston, Psychological Sciences

Adam Mealy, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kimberli Treadwell, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

FRIDAY

92. Home Environment and Its Effects on Cognitive Dynamics of Learning and Academic Achievement

Haruki Cubeta, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Adam Sheya, Assistant Professor, Psychological Sciences

93. A Multi-Scale Model of Iron Biochemistry in the Mouse

Arlie Koziol, Pathobiology

Advisor: Pedro Mendes, Professor, Center for Quantitate Medicine, UConn Health

94. Observational Learning in Rats

Aditi Agrawal, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor and Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Psychological Sciences

95. Observational Learning in a Food Foraging Task

Thomas Shao, Physiology and Neurobiology

Danni Dong, Psychological Sciences

Nathalia Hernandez, Molecular and Cell Biology and Spanish

Karen Mathew, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor and Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Psychological Sciences

96. Influence of the Social Environment on Rats Exploring a Novel Open Field

Thomas Pietruszewski, Psychological Sciences

Nathalia Hernandez, Molecular and Cell Biology and Spanish

Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor and Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Psychological Sciences

97. Loss of p53 Function Increases Severity of Brain Tumors Induced by FUS1 in a Mouse Model of Supratentorial Ependymoma

Erica Randazzo, Physiology and Neurobiology and Pathobiology

Advisor: Joseph Loturco, Professor and Department Head, Physiology and Neurobiology

98. Effects of the Serotonin Transport Inhibitor Fluoxetine on Effort-Related Decision Making in Male and Female Rats

Erin Hurley, Cognitive Science

Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

99. Selection of Voluntary Physical Activity in a Rat Model of Binge-Eating Disorder

Bryanna Ye, Psychological Sciences

Molly Flynn, Psychological Sciences and Biological Sciences

Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

100. The Novel Dopamine Uptake Inhibitor CE-123 Reverses the Effort-Related Effects of the Dopamine Depleting Agent Tetrabenazine

Rebecca Schwartz, Biological Sciences and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

101. Effect of Ketamine on Effort Related Operant Tasks: Deconstructing the Pathology of Motivation Disorders

Seamus Rafferty, Physiology and Neurobiology and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

102. Pyruvate Kinase Isoform M2 Influences Autophagy and Related Processes in Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cells

Matthew Lin, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Li Wang, Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

103. Understanding the Role of Lateral Hypothalamic GABAergic Neurons in Generating Complex Behavioral States Using In Vivo Chemogenetic Activation

Eric Beltrami, Physiology and Neurobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Alexander Jackson, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

104. Neuroanatomical Characterization of Lateral Hypothalamic GABAergic Neurons and their Projections in the Mouse Brain

James Costanzo, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Alexander Jackson, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

105. Neuroanatomical Characterization of Lateral Hypothalamic Somatostatin Neurons and their Projections in the Mouse Brain

Jacob Naparstek, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Alexander Jackson, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

106. Neuropathology of Hypoxic Ischemia in P6 rats: Therapeutic Effects of Treatment with Epo

Emma Mills, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

107. Behavioral Assessment of Ush2a KO Mice

Alexzandrea Buscarello, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

108. Maternal Immune Activation (MIA) in Mice: A Study to Phenotype ASD-Related Communication Behaviors and Analyze Maternal Health Outcomes in the US

Komalpreet Gulati, Individualized Major: Cognitive Neuroscience and Human Rights
Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

109. The USH2A Gene: An Analysis of Ultrasonic Vocalizations in a Mouse Model of Usher Syndrome Type 2

Kiana Akhundzadeh, Individualized Major: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience
Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

110. The Role of MicroRNA 181c-5p in Post-Stroke Social Isolation

Maria Antony, Molecular and Cell Biology and Allied Health Sciences
Advisor: Rajkumar Verma, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, UConn Health

111. Analysis of Trypanosoma brucei PAP1 Intron

Zachary O'Connor, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Arthur Gunzl, Professor, Genetic and Genomic Sciences, UConn Health

112. Identifying a pH Sensing Protein Associated with V-ATPase

Angelique Gilbert, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Vishwanatha Rao, Assistant Professor in Residence, Neuroscience, UConn Health

113. Actin Nucleation Factors that Control Autophagy are Important for Zebrafish Organ Development

Alyssa Mathiowetz, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Kenneth Campellone, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: David Daggett, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

114. Single-Cell Characterization of Bipotent Neuromesodermal Progenitor Cells and their Niche in the Developing Mouse Embryo

Sara Islam, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Craig Nelson, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

115. C1ql1 Gene in the Cochlea Linked to Hearing Sensitivity

Rohit Makol, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: David Martinelli, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, UConn Health

Advisor: Duck Kim, Professor Emeritus, Neuroscience, UConn Health

116. Bacteria as an Alternative Food Source for Termite Gut Protists

Courtney Wallace, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Daniel Gage, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

117. Signaling Pathways of Metallothionein Induced Chemotaxis

Jennifer Messina, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Michael Lynes, Professor and Department Head, Molecular and Cell Biology

Biology

118. Gut Microbiome Influence on Chronic Infection Response in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Alexa Friedman, Individualized Major: Human Health Sciences

Advisor: Nichole Broderick, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

119. The Central Domain of WHIMP Can Direct Localization to the Cell Cortex

Ganna Brych, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Kenneth Campellone, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

120. Identifying WHAMM Residues Critical to Microtubule, Golgi, and Autophagosome Localization

Alyssa Coulter, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Kenneth Campellone, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

121. Comparative Genomics of Two Bacterial Isolates from the Female Hawaiian Bobtail Squid Reproductive Symbiosis

Jaydeen Sewell, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Spencer Nyholm, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

122. Gene Flow in *Endomicrobium* sp., an Enteric Protist Endosymbiont in Eastern Subterranean Termites (*Reticulitermes flavipes*)

Shane Hussey, Molecular and Cell Biology and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Advisor: Daniel Gage, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

FRIDAY

123. What Makes a Mutant? Parametrization of RNA Interference in *Oncopeltus fasciatus*

Adam Chiu, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Elizabeth Jockusch, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

124. Comparative Transcriptome Analysis Reveals New Diversity in Frog Skin Defense Mechanisms

Megan Civitello, Biological Sciences

Advisor: John Malone, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

125. Electrical Stimulation Mediated Mesenchymal Stem Cell Differentiation for Nerve Regeneration

Joshua Moskow, Biomedical Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering

Advisor: Sangamesh Kumbar, Associate Professor, Orthopedic Surgery, UConn Health

126. Bioengineered Nanofibrous Scaffolds Loaded With Resveratrol Preserve Cardiac Function Following Myocardial Infarction

Mitali Banerjee, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Nilanjana Maulik, Professor, Surgery, UConn Health

127. No Difficulty with Activities Associated with Anterior Knee Pain in Autograft and Allograft Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction

Brenda Milla, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Stephanie Petterson, MPT, PhD, Director of Research, The Orthopaedic Foundation

Advisor: Kevin D. Plancher, MD, MPH, Clinical Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

128. Analyzing the Role of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Signaling in the Repair of Osteoarthritic Cartilage

Bridget Oei, Environmental Science

Advisor: Caroline Dealy, Associate Professor, Reconstructive Sciences, Orthopaedic Surgery, Center for Regenerative Medicine and Skeletal Development, UConn Health

129. Deferoxamine-Conjugated Polymer for Injectable Hydrogels for Regenerative Engineering

Paige Holden, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Lakshmi Nair, Associate Professor, Orthopedic Surgery, UConn Health

130. An Economical & Ergonomic Hydrocephalus Software System

Garrett Soler, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Kazunori Hoshino, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

131. Development of Flexible, Waterproof Electrodes using Screen Printed Conductive Fabric

Caitlin Eaton-Robb, Biomedical Engineering and Spanish

Advisor: Ki Chon, Professor and Department Head, Biomedical Engineering

132. Agarose Bead Implantation of PEDF to Treat Growth Plate Injury in Mice

Natasha Patel, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Liisa Kuhn, Associate Professor and Associate Department Head, Biomedical Engineering, UConn Health

133. Temporal Changes in Muscle Development in the Chicken Embryo as Influenced by Probiotic Supplementation

Maya Schlesinger, Animal Science

Advisor: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

134. Investigating the Effects of High Maternal Milk Production During Gestation on Circulating Concentrations of Insulin and Glucose in Holstein Calves

Alexandra Cabra, Animal Science

Veronica Pleasant, Animal Science and Pathobiology

Randi Szabo, Animal Science

Advisor: Kristen Govoni, Associate Professor, Animal Science

135. The Effects of Maternal Milk Production during Gestation on Offspring Immunity in Holstein Calves

Veronica Pleasant, Animal Science and Pathobiology

Alexandra Cabra, Animal Science

Randi Szabo, Animal Science

Advisor: Kristen Govoni, Associate Professor, Animal Science

136. Effects of Maternal Milk Production on Calf Growth and Blood Biochemistry

Randi Szabo, Animal Science

Alexandra Cabra, Animal Science

Veronica Pleasant, Animal Science and Pathobiology

Advisor: Kristen Govoni, Associate Professor, Animal Science

FRIDAY

137. Effects of Plant Traits and Water Quality on Carbon Fluxes in Freshwater Wetlands

Mary Donato, Natural Resources and the Environment

Advisor: Beth Lawrence, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

138. Nontidal Encystment and Excystment Factors on a Tide Pool Ciliate

Rachel Cole, Marine Sciences

Advisor: George McManus, Professor, Marine Sciences

139. Investigating Dissolved Gas Concentrations and Alkalinity in a Long Island Sound Time Series

Jessica Hinckley, Marine Sciences

Advisor: Penny Vlahos, Associate Professor, Marine Sciences

140. Human-Black Bear Conflicts in Northwestern Connecticut

Cynthia Garcia, Environmental Studies and Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Anita Morzillo, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

141. Growing Gourmet Mushrooms with Brewers Grain, Coffee and Sawdust

Cameron Collins, Sustainable Plant and Soil Systems and Individualized Major: Global Perspectives in Sustainable Agroecology

Advisor: Gerald Berkowitz, Professor, Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

142. Microbial Succession of a Newly Developed Aquaponics System

Tanzin Begam, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Kendra Maas, Facility Scientist, Microbial Analysis, Resources, and Services (MARS)

SATURDAY PRESENTATIONS

HALLWAY

1. SyringeGuard – An Alternative to Safety Syringes

Gina DiGiacomo, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Christine Meehan, Adjunct Professor, Nursing

Advisor: Patrick Kumavor, Assistant Professor in Residence, Biomedical Engineering

2. Implementing Small Scale Vertical Axis Wind Turbines on UConn Campus

Amy Robinson, Electrical Engineering

Bailey Andrew, Electrical Engineering

Advisor: Ali Bazzi, Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

3. A Healthy Food Inventory of Waterbury, CT

Savannah-Nicole Villalba, Sociology and Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Andrea Voyer, Assistant Professor, Sociology

4. Peer Tutoring and Translation: Mentoring for Equitable Education

Kathrine Grant, English and Secondary English Education

Priscilla Grillakis, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Isabella Horan, Elementary Education

Madeleine Rusk, Elementary Education

Advisor: Ronald Beghetto, Professor, Educational Psychology

Advisor: Michele Back, Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

Advisor: Eliana Rojas, Associate Professor in Residence, Curriculum and Instruction

Advisor: Adrian Garcia-Sierra, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

5. The Effects of Road Salt Pollution on Soils and Tree Health

Katherine Bell, Environmental Science and Molecular and Cell Biology

Kelsey Witik, Environmental Science

Advisor: Ashley Helton, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

Advisor: John Volin, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs and Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

NORTH READING ROOM

6. Foxhead Manor: A Whimsical and Paranormal Journey through Gilded Age New England

Emily Regan, Art – Illustration

Advisor: John O'Donnell, Assistant Professor, Art and Art History

7. CHU

Yanlin Hu, Art – Sculpture/Ceramics

Monica Bock, Associate Professor, Art and Art History

8. Immigration Through the Eyes of Hawaiian Buddhism

Kiana Cao, Art – Graphic Design

Advisor: Cathy Schlund-Vials, Professor, English and Director, Asian and Asian American Studies Institute

Advisor: Angela Rola, Director, Asian American Cultural Center

9. Underrepresentation of Minorities in Gifted/Talented Programs: A Policy Analysis in Three States

Yassine Sahbani, Economics

Advisor: D. Betsy McCoach, Professor, Educational Psychology

10. Exploring Problems and Problem Resolutions in Multicultural Children's Literature

Anna McCormick, Elementary Education and English

Advisor: Jean Marsden, Professor, English

Advisor: Catherine Little, Professor, Educational Psychology

11. An Analysis of Education Apps

Abigail Plouffe, Elementary Education

Advisor: Catherine Little, Professor, Educational Psychology

12. Project Opening Doors: Evaluation of Cash Incentives on AP Enrollment and Passing Rates in Connecticut High Schools

Jacqueline Ose, Secondary Biology Education and Biological Sciences

Advisor: Morgaen Donaldson, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership

13. High School Seniors' Perceptions of the Accessibility and Helpfulness of Supports in their College Exploration and Application Process: Results from a College Preparation Program for Youth in Foster Care

Haley Morgan, Human Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Preston Britner, Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

14. The Implications of Ethnic-Racial Socialization for Emerging Adults' Development Across Ethnic-Racial and Gender Groups

Thessiana Mesilus, Psychological Sciences and Human Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Annamaria Csizmadia, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

15. How Personality and Physical Attractiveness are Associated with Sexual Behaviors

Paulina Anderson, Human Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Eva Lefkowitz, Professor and Department Head, Human Development and Family Studies

16. Children's Narrative Storytelling: Associations Between Expressivity in Early Childhood and Mother's Supportiveness and Emotion Regulation

Kaleigh Dillon, Human Development and Family Studies and Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Advisor: Beth Russell, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

19. Behavioral Biases in People at Risk for Problematic Gambling

Skyler Sklenarik, Psychological Sciences

Mirella Fernandez, Psychological Sciences

Michelle Padua, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Robert Astur, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

20. Sistahs Supporting Sistahs: Exploring the Communication of Support about Racial Microaggressions in Black Women Friend Groups

Alleyha Dannett, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Human Rights

Frances Ashun, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Communication

Advisor: Shardé Davis, Assistant Professor, Communication

21. WSRAP Undergraduate Research Experience: *Cross-Cultural Expansion of School Climate Efforts*

Britney Reynolds, Psychological Sciences and Management Information Systems

Advisor: Tamika La Salle, Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology

22. The Impact of Fit Cultivated by Language on the Degree Retention and Attainment of Women and Underrepresented Minorities in Undergraduate Engineering Programs

Vernessa Kingsbury, Anthropology and Human Rights

Advisor: Chrystal Smith, Assistant Professor in Residence, Anthropology

Advisor: Rebecca Campbell, Research Assistant II and Adjunct Instructor, Curriculum and Instruction

23. Informant Report of Cognitive Functioning in Geriatric Depression: Correlates with Objective Cognitive Tests and Structural Imaging

Debra Tomasino, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kevin Manning, Assistant Professor, Psychiatry, UConn Health

24. Birth Cohort Changes in Depression in Adolescents: A Meta Analysis

Taylor Mangini, Psychological Sciences and Human Development and Family Sciences

Advisor: Blair Johnson, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

25. The EEG Mu Rhythm and Language Abilities in 18- and 24-month-olds

Dilsara Liyanage, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kimberly Cuevas, Assistant Professor, Psychological Sciences

26. Ghosts of the Past: How Postwar Border and Population Changes Influence the Modern German Right

Ian Barron, Molecular and Cell Biology and Philosophy

Advisor: Charles Lansing, Associate Professor, History

27. Supporting Survivors: The Affordable Care Act and Federal Health Policy Addressing Intimate Partner Violence

Erin Dunn, Political Science and Human Rights

Advisor: Charles Venator-Santiago, Associate Professor, Political Science

28. The Path to Dispossession: Community Relations and Elitism in City of New London

Kevin Fitzgerald, Political Science and Urban and Community Studies

Advisor: Ronald Schurin, Associate Professor in Residence, Political Science

29. Deconstructing the Societal Impacts of Economic Freedom

Rajeshwari Majumdar, Political Science and Mathematics/Statistics

Advisor: Thomas Hayes, Assistant Professor, Political Science

30. What about a Woman President?: Understanding the Effects of Voter Stereotypes on Women Candidates

Sydney Carr, Political Science

Advisor: Evelyn Simien, Professor, Political Science

31. Female Congressional Candidate Emergence in the Trump Era

Kyle Adams, Political Science

Advisor: Paul Herrnson, Professor, Political Science

32. What's in a Name? An Improved Conceptualization and Measurement of Women's Empowerment

Rebecca Kaufman, Political Science and Human Rights

Advisor: David Richards, Associate Professor, Political Science

33. Female Genital Mutilation in the United States: A Legal Framework

Mary Szarkowicz, Political Science and Accounting

Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

34. An Unlikely Populist: Donald Trump and the Rhetoric of Elite and Minority Resentment

Jared Quigley, Political Science

Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl, Assistant Professor in Residence, Political Science

Advisor: Peter Baldwin, Professor, History

35. 2018 Midterm Elections: Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Isaac Lastra Alejos, Political Science

Advisor: Paul Herrnson, Professor, Political Science

36. Veteran Participation in Congressional Midterm Elections

Nicole Lac, Political Science

Advisor: Paul Herrnson, Professor, Political Science

37. We Love Big Brother: An Analysis of the Relationship Between Nineteen Eighty-Four and Modern Politics in the United States and Europe

Edward Pankowski, Political Science

Advisor: Sarah Winter, Professor, English

SATURDAY

38. White Opioids in a Black and White World: How Racial Bias Influences Medical Negligence

Sahar Iqbal, Political Science and Individualized Major: International Health and Law

Advisor: César Abadía-Barrero, Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Human Rights

39. From the Courtroom to the Classroom: How States Respond to School Finance Litigation

Joy Sgobbo, Political Science

Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

40. The Third Party is the Charm: Mediator Negotiations with Israel and the Palestinians

Anand Veeraraghav, Political Science and Sociology

Advisor: Jeremy Pressman, Associate Professor, Political Science

42. Identification of Barriers and Facilitators of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan

Erin Milner, Nursing

Advisor: Deborah McDonald, Associate Professor, Nursing

43. Using a Focus Group to Evaluate the Utility of Interactive Modules for Self-Management of Low Back Pain

Amanda Pinto, Nursing

Advisor: Angela Starkweather, Professor and Associate Dean, Nursing

44. Neonatal Admission Temperatures: Are We Doing Enough?

Audrey Apanovitch, Nursing

Advisor: Jacqueline McGrath, Professor, Nursing

45. Reducing Glove Waste in the Medical Environment

Ellen Quintana, Nursing

Advisor: Christine Meehan, Adjunct Faculty, Nursing

Advisor: Diane Van Scoter, Associate Professor in Residence, Management and Engineering for Manufacturing

46. Development of a Contraception Workshop for Public High Schools in Connecticut

Christina Van Deventer, Marketing

Kristin Burnham, Pathobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Thomas Van Hoof, Associate Professor, Nursing and Community Medicine and Health Care, UConn Health

**47. Improving Low Back Pain Self-Management with Technology:
Differences in Gene Expression from Pre- to Post-Intervention**

Leena Kader, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Angela Starkweather, Professor and Associate Dean, Nursing

**48. A Battle on Opiates: The NICU Nurse's Perspective on Neonatal
Abstinence Syndrome**

Courtney Lopiano, Nursing

Advisor: Xiaomei Cong, Associate Professor, Nursing

**49. Perceptual Ratings of Informativeness and Efficiency of Discourse in
People with Chronic and Mild Aphasia**

Allison Finn, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Jennifer Mozeiko, Assistant Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing
Sciences

**50. Does Having a Language Impairment Matter?: A Pilot Study
Investigating the Nonverbal and Verbal Contributions of the Accused to the
Perception of their Guilt**

Melissa Purdy, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences and Human
Development and Family Studies

Advisor: Tammie Spaulding, Associate Professor, Speech, Language, and
Hearing Sciences

51. Reassessing Our Responses to the Everyday Language of Oppression

Anneliese Lapidés, Biological Sciences and Human Development and Family
Studies

Advisor: Kathleen Tonry, Associate Professor, English

**52. Interpersonal Coordination of Goal Directed Actions: A Novel
Methodology**

John Farrar, Cognitive Science

Advisor: Adam Sheya, Assistant Professor, Psychological Sciences

**55. Longitudinal Stability of Hostile Attention Allocation, Attention Bias,
and Hostility Symptoms**

Adam Mealy, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kimberli Treadwell, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

SATURDAY

56. Examining Factors Related to the Food Insecurity-Obesity Paradox in Low-Income Mothers and Fathers

Emily Taylor, Dietetics

Advisor: Amy Mobley, Associate Professor, Nutritional Sciences

57. Impact of State-By-State Adoption of Key Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Provisions on PED Patients

Margaux Verlaque-Amara, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Aoife Heaslip, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

58. Factors Associated with the Implementation of a Health Education Program in a Small, Rural, Impoverished Community: An Ethnographic Assessment

Rachel Sanacora, Individualized Major: Global Health

Advisor: César Abadía-Barrero, Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Human Rights

59. Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown Etiology in a Sri Lankan Agricultural Community

Deborah Foster, Allied Health Sciences and Anthropology

Advisor: Stephen Schensul, Professor, Community Medicine and Health Care, UConn Health

60. Cross Sectional Time Series Analysis on the Impacts of Race on Homeownership

Caroline Brooks, Molecular and Cell Biology and Sociology

Advisor: Richard Williams, Associate Professor, Sociology, University of Notre Dame

61. The Linking-Unlinking Game

Jake Murphy, Mathematics

Advisor: Adam Giambone, Visiting Assistant Professor, Mathematics

62. The Psychology of Baseball: How the Mental Game Impacts the Physical Game

Kiera Dalmass, Statistics

Advisor: Haim Bar, Assistant Professor, Statistics

63. Enhancing the Oxidizing Power of an Environmentally Benign Oxoammonium Salt by Electronic Modification of a Remote Group

Zachary Stempel, Chemistry

Sadie Kiendzior, Chemistry

Advisor: William Bailey, Professor, Chemistry

64. Nanocoatings with Outstanding Thermal Insulation and Flame Retardancy for Aerospace Applications

Monica Zhang, Chemical Engineering

Advisor: Luyi Sun, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Institute of Materials Science

65. Stretchable Methyl Ammonium Lead Iodide Perovskite Solar Cells for Photovoltaic and Piezoelectric Energy Harvesting

William Tait, Chemical Engineering and Environmental Engineering

Advisor: Luyi Sun, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Institute of Materials Science

Advisor: Alexander Agrios, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

66. Big Dreams – EP

Julian Yuliawan, Individualized Major: Music Entrepreneurship

Advisor: Jeffrey Ogbar, Professor, History

Advisor: Peter Diplock, Assistant Vice Provost for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and Adjunct Faculty, Management

67. Track-and-Field Guide for Visually Impaired Athletes

Niccolò Meniconi, Engineering Physics and Music

Advisor: John Chandy, Professor and Associate Department Head, Electrical and Computer Engineering

68. Effect of Silk-Based Hydrogel Topography on Intestinal Epithelial Cell Morphology and Wound Healing In Vitro

Marisa Boch, Chemical Engineering and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Kelly Burke, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

69. Analysis of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Organochlorines in Blood Spots by Gas Chromatography and Tandem Mass Spectrometry (GC - MS/MS)

Francis Sternberg, Chemistry

Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus, Chemistry

Advisor: Anthony Provasas, Research Scientist, Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering

SATURDAY

70. The Design, Synthesis, and Characterization of Polyureas Established through a Rational Co-Design Approach for Use in Dielectric Applications

Sydney Scheirey, Chemistry and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Gregory Sotzing, Professor, Chemistry

Advisor: Yang Cao, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Advisor: Ramamurthy Ramprasad, Professor, Institute of Materials Science

71. Efficient Method for the Identification of Common Herbicides in Rain Water and from Air Filters by UPLC-MS/MS

Steven Kolakowski, Chemistry

Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Research Scientist, Center for Environmental Science and Engineering

Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus, Chemistry

72. Fabrication of a Unique Device to Accurately Characterize Materials' Thermoelectric Properties

Christopher Choi, Materials Science and Engineering and History

Advisor: Michael Pettes, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering

73. Analysis of Growth and Stiffness of Cancer Spheroids Using 3D-Printed Microtweezer Device

Norah Cowley, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Kazunori Hoshino, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

74. Using a Cylindrical Coordinate System to Facilitate Multi-Material 3D Printing

Dennis Scheglov, Mechanical Engineering

Advisor: Xu Chen, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Advisor: Iddo Ben-Ari, Associate Professor, Mathematics

Advisor: Jeffrey Meunier, Lecturer, Computer Science and Engineering

75. Technological Implementation in Industry

Robert Oakley, Civil Engineering

Advisor: Jin Zhu, Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

76. Comparison of Chirped and Unchirped Superlattices as Buffer Layers for Metamorphic InGaAs/GaAs (001) Devices

Xinkang Chen, Computer Engineering

Md Islam, Computer Science and Engineering and Electrical Engineering

Advisor: John Ayers, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

HALLWAY

78. Enhancing Breeding Efforts through Fruit Quality Analysis of World's Largest Aronia Collection

Peter Apicella, Horticulture

Jacob Griffith Gardner, Horticulture

Advisor: Mark Brand, Professor, Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

79. EXIT: A Short Film

Matthew Bilmes, Digital Media and Design

Advisor: Timothy Miller, Visiting Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Design

80. The Khmer: A Solo Art Exhibition

James Keth, Art – Painting and Biological Sciences

Advisor: Cora Lynn Deibler, Professor and Acting Department Head, Art and Art History

81. WickAway: An Automatic Candle Extinguisher / Decorative Candle Holder

Trevor Svec, Computer Engineering

Philip Gitman, Chemical Engineering

Advisor: John Ayers, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Advisor: Luyi Sun, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Institute of Materials Science

82. Low-Profile Assistive Arm Exoskeleton

Ryan Gadea, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Kazunori Hoshino, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

SOUTH READING ROOM

83. Connecting Science to the Digital Arts Through Scientific Animations

Mary Accurso, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Mary Bruno, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Anna Lindemann, Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Design

84. Computational Analysis of Poliovirus Structural Dynamics Using a Coarse-Grain Model

Maneesh Koneru, Structural Biology and Biophysics and Chemistry

Advisor: Eric May, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

85. Assessing the Impact of Uncertain Gene Tree Rooting on Phylogenetic Reconciliation Using a Simulation Framework

Soumya Kundu, Computer Science and Engineering

Advisor: Mukul Bansal, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering

86. Effect of Acid Rain on Gene Expression in Forest Tree Saplings

Alexander Trouern-Trend, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Jill Wegrzyn, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

87. Mitochondrial Genome Evolution in Unisexual Polyploid Salamanders

Omar Padua, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: John Malone, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

88. Associations Between Marijuana Use and Time Spent Playing Different Types of Video Games Alone and with Others

David Bachoy, Physiology and Neurobiology and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Christine Ohannessian, Associate Professor, Pediatrics, UConn Health

Advisor: Rhiannon Smith, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Kaitlin Flannery, Assistant Professor, Psychological Sciences

89. The Effect of Rehydration after 24 Hour Dehydration on the Perception of Fatigue and How Challenging it is to Concentrate: A Preliminary Study

Leslie Dunn, Individualized Major: Health and Wellness

Advisor: Lawrence Armstrong, Professor, Kinesiology

90. Antibiotic Discovery in Soil

Emilio Loret de Mola, Individualized Major: Global Health

Advisor: Nichole Broderick, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Patricia Rossi, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

91. Isolation of Antibiotic Producing Bacteria from Soil

Amanda Pan, Pharmacy and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Patricia Rossi, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Nichole Broderick, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

94. Mutational Frequency of MEN1, CDC73, and CASR in Sporadic Parathyroid Adenoma

Ryan Ramos, Molecular and Cell Biology and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Jessica Costa, Assistant Research Professor, Center for Molecular Oncology, UConn Health

95. Identification of Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli-Encoded Noncanonical Inflammasome Inhibitors

Sree Kolli, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Sivapriya Kailasan Vanaja, Assistant Professor, Immunology, UConn Health

96. Effect of MELK Inhibitor OTS167 in Combination with Chemo and Targeted Therapies in Triple-negative Breast Cancer

Elizabeth Silver, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Powel Brown, Professor and Chairman, Department of Clinical Cancer Prevention, MD Anderson Cancer Center

97. The Role of a lncRNA, HAGLR, on the Progression of Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Shashank Mishra, Physiology and Neurobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Xiaobo Zhong, Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

98. Fluorescent Phosphoantigen Prodrugs as Ligands of the BTN3A1 Receptor

Caroline Liu, Molecular and Cell Biology

Andrew Wiemer, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

99. Generation of Human Tumor-Associated Antigen Specific T Cells and Characterization of Their Effector Function and Activation Induced Cell Death (AICD) Pathway

Feny Rasania, Pathobiology

Advisor: Arvind Chhabra, Assistant Professor in Residence, School of Medicine, UConn Health

100. VGlut2-positive Colon Nerve Afferent Morphology in TNBS-induced Visceral Hypersensitivity

Dhruv Shah, Molecular and Cell Biology

Bin Feng, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

101. Dysbiosis Identified in Early Neoplastic Colonic Lesions - Early Microbiota Alterations that May Be Linked to Colon Cancer

Derek Pan, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Daniel Rosenberg, Professor, Medicine, UConn Health

102. Tumor-Specific Insertion of an Immunogenic Epitope via CRISPR/Cas9

Ryan Englander, Molecular and Cell Biology and Chemistry

Advisor: Pramod Srivastava, Professor, Immunology, Eversource Energy Chair in Experimental Oncology, UConn Health

SATURDAY

103. Validation of a Novel Blocker for Epilepsy-Associated KCNQ2 Channels

Elizabeth Rodier, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Anastasios Tzingounis, Associate Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

104. Modulation of Inhibitory and Excitatory Transmission in Layer 2/3 Pyramidal Neurons of the Rat Prefrontal Cortex by Adenosine

Benjamin Redenti, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Maxim Volgushev, Professor, Psychological Sciences

105. Indy Reduction Maintains Fly Health and Homeostasis

Pooja Patel, Molecular and Cell Biology

Jacob Macro, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Blanka Rogina, Associate Professor, Genetics and Genome Sciences, UConn Health

106. Investigating Genetic Determinants of Ketogenic Diet Therapy for Seizure-Like Activity in *Drosophila Melanogaster*: TKO Bang-Sensitive Metabolic Mutants

John Marco Watson Pérez, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Geoffrey Tanner, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Anastasios Tzingounis, Associate Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

107. Identification of Genes Used in Sperm Storage Within the Female Reproductive Tract of *Drosophila Melanogaster*

Audrey Dellert, Physiology and Neurobiology

Jianjun Sun, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

108. Symbiotic Benefits of the Hawaiian Bobtail Squid Accessory Nidamental Gland Bacterial Consortium in Egg Protection Against Algae

Jessica Bertenshaw, Molecular and Cell Biology and Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Spencer Nyholm, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

109. Investigation of the Proteins Involved in Centromere Establishment

Megan Boyer, Molecular and Cell Biology and Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Barbara Mellone, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

110. Assessing Specificity and Functional Impact of CRISPR-Cas9 engineered MSH2 variants via Off Target and Microsatellite Instability Analyses

Akriti Mishra, Molecular and Cell Biology and Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Christopher Heinen, Associate Professor, Medicine, UConn Health

111. Post-Mitotic Transcriptional Termination in HeLa Cells

Alexis Dziubek, Molecular and Cell Biology and Pathobiology
Advisor: Leighton Core, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

113. Understanding the Role of Minor Splicing in Motor Neuron Function and ALS Disease Pathogenesis

Kyle Drake, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Rahul Kanadia, Associate Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

114. Optimizing Light Pulse Sequences for Optogenetic Suppression of Auditory Cortical Responses to Rhythmic Sound Sequences

Timothy Nolan Jr., Biomedical Engineering and Individualized Major:
Computational Neurobiology
Advisor: Heather Read, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences and
Biomedical Engineering

115. Investigating the Effects of Varied Tonal Cues on Pup and Pro-Social Rat Vocalization Discrimination

Caitlyn Cody, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Heather Read, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences and
Biomedical Engineering

116. Effort Related Motivational Effects of the Pro-Inflammatory Cytokine Interleukin-6 and the Dopamine D2 Receptor Antagonist Haloperidol in CD-1 Mice: Assessment with a Touchscreen Apparatus

Adam Jarvie, Biological Sciences
Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

117. Signaling Pathways of Metallothionein Induced Chemotaxis

Jennifer Messina, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Michael Lynes, Professor and Department Head, Molecular and Cell
Biology

SATURDAY

118. Pretreatment with Intravenous Fish Oil Reduces Hepatic Ischemia Reperfusion Injury in a Murine Model

Denis de la Flor, Physiology and Neurobiology

Geoffrey Tanner, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

119. The Mechanism Behind Minimal Lipid Accumulation in Whole Body MicroRNA-200c Knockout Mice After an Alcoholic Binge Diet

Grace Lee, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Li Wang, Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

120. Identifying Novel Transcription Factor Interactions in CNS Projection Neurons

Jacky Yang, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Ephraim Trakhtenberg, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, UConn Health

121. Co-localization of Protocadherin 8 and Protocadherin Gamma C4 in GABAergic Synapses

Michael Taylor, Biological Sciences

Advisor: Angel de Blas, Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Celia Miralles, Research Assistant III, Physiology and Neurobiology

124. Building Microdrives to Record Memory in Live Rats

Thomas Pietruszewski, Psychological Sciences

Megan Pattoli, Pathobiology and Molecular and Cell Biology

Mahathi Kumar, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor and Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Psychological Sciences

125. Out With the Old, In With the New: How Our Brains Remap in Response to Changing Surroundings

Miriam Katz, Physiology and Neurobiology

Kori Citrin, Psychological Sciences

Nikita Roy, Biological Sciences

Divya Subramanian, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor and Associate Department Head of Graduate Studies, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Geoffrey Tanner, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

126. The Effects of Stress on the Relationship Between Estradiol and Memory

Mirella Fernandez, Physiology and Neurobiology

Allison Arnista, Psychological Sciences

Kyrstyn Jenkins, Biological Sciences

Callista Love, Physiology and Neurobiology

Advisor: Robert Astur, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

127. Defining the Parameters of Using FRET Based BioReporters in High Throughput Plate Reader Format

Xiuyi (Alexander) Yang, Molecular and Cell Biology

Advisor: Adam Zweifach, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

128. The Effect of Different Manufacturing Conditions on Product Quality of PLGA Microspheres

Suleyman Bozal, Structural Biology and Biophysics

Advisor: Diane Burgess, Distinguished Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

129. Distribution and Localization of Novel Iodine Nano Particles in the Human Glioma 1242 Growing in the Brains of Mice

Benjamin Billings, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Henry Smilowitz, Associate Professor, Cell Biology, UConn Health

130. An Economical & Ergonomic Hydrocephalus Software System

Garrett Soler, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Kazunori Hoshino, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

131. Motion Classification Using Accelerometers and Pattern Recognition Algorithms

Caitlyn Mundrane, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Insoo Kim, Assistant Professor, Medicine, UConn Health

132. Hybrid Skin Models for Cosmetic and Pharmaceutical Product Evaluation: Design, Fabrication, and Characterization

Naseem Sardashti, Biomedical Engineering

Advisor: Sangamesh Kumbar, Associate Professor, Orthopedic Surgery, UConn Health

Advisor: Swetha Rudraiah, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Saint Joseph

SATURDAY

133. Temporal Changes in Muscle Development in the Chicken Embryo as Influenced by Probiotic Supplementation

Maya Schlesinger, Animal Science

Advisor: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

134. Juvenile Amphibian Growth and Survival in Response to Litter Type

Benjamin Breslau, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Tracy Rittenhouse, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

135. Conservation and Habitat Restoration of the Globally Imperiled Northern Metalmark Butterfly (*Calephelis borealis*) (Lepidoptera: Riodinidae)

Weston Henry, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Landscape Architecture

Advisor: David Wagner, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

136. Avery Point EcoHusky Rain Garden Project

Annalee Mears, Marine Sciences

Abigail Kwiat, Marine Sciences

Advisor: Syma Ebbin, Associate Professor in Residence, Agricultural and Resource Economics

Advisor: Christine Green, Adjunct Faculty, Instruction and Research, UConn Avery Point

137. Evidence for Increased Hydrothermal Activity during Deglaciations

Sarah McCart, Marine Sciences

Advisor: David Lund, Associate Professor, Marine Sciences

138. A 1+1D Study of CDT Lattice Gravity

Daniel Kovner, Physics

Advisor: Thomas Blum, Professor, Physics

139. What's so Super(conducting) about STO?

Hope Whitelock, Physics

Advisor: Barrett Wells, Professor, Physics

140. Scandium Fluoride Growth and Study of Negative Thermal Expansion

Bryan Dunn, Physics

Advisor: Barrett Wells, Professor, Physics

Advisor: Boris Sinkovic, Associate Professor, Physics

141. Response of Jericho Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) in Fishless Nitrogen Cycling Aquaponics System

Kelly Pfeiffer, Psychological Sciences

Advisor: Julia Cartabiano, Adjunct Faculty and Manager, Spring Valley Student Farm

Alphabetical Listing of Presenters with Poster Numbers

F denotes a Friday presentation; S denotes a Saturday presentation.

Accurso, Mary – 83
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Agrawal, Aditi – 94F
Ahmed, Kayla – 34F
Akhundzadeh, Kiana – 109F
Alam, Fizza – 35F
Anastasia, Caroline – 57F
Anderson, Paulina – 15S
Andrew, Bailey – 2
Antony, Maria – 110F
Apanovitch, Audrey – 44S
Apicella, Peter – 78
Arnista, Allison – 126S
Ashun, Frances – 20S
Bachoy, David – 88S
Banerjee, Mitali – 126F
Barron, Ian – 26S
Begam, Tanzin – 142F
Bell, Katherine – 5
Beltrami, Eric – 103F
Bertenshaw, Jessica – 108S
Billings, Benjamin – 129S
Bilmes, Matthew – 79
Blantz, Savannah – 41F
Boch, Marisa – 68S
Boudreau, Morgan – 31F
Boyer, Megan – 109S
Bozal, Suleyman – 128S
Breslau, Benjamin – 134S
Brooks, Caroline – 60S
Brooks, Tanner – 62F
Brych, Ganna – 119F
Burnham, Kristin – 46S
Buscarello, Alexzandrea – 107F
Caballero, Madison – 70F
Cabra, Alexandra – 134F, 135F,
136F
Cammisa, Christine – 45 F
Cao, Kiana – 8S
Carr, Sydney – 30S
Chanla, Tiffany – 49F
Chen, Xinkang – 76S
Chiu, Adam – 123F
Cho, Eun – 68F
Choi, Christopher – 72S
Citrin, Kori – 125S
Civitello, Megan – 124F
Cody, Caitlyn – 115S
Cole, Rachel – 138F
Collins, Cameron – 141F
Constantine, Kaleigh – 45F
Costanzo, James – 104F
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Cowley, Norah – 73S
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Dong, Danni – 95F
Drake, Kyle – 113S
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Farrar, John – 52S

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Flynn, Molly – 99F
Foster, Deborah – 59S
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Gopal, Venkatram – 32F
Graham, Lauren – 23F
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Special Thanks

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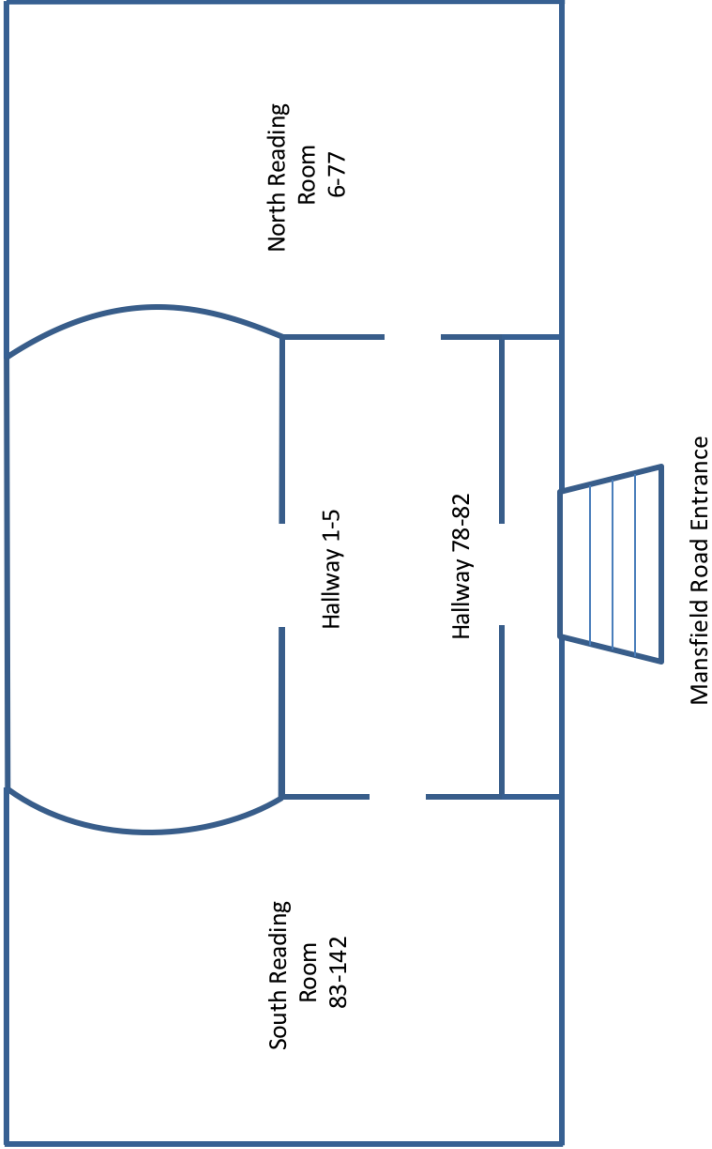
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