

APRIL 16, 2011 | 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

James Commons and Curtin Special Events Room, Campus Center

A Word from the President

Welcome to Scholars Day!

Thank you for joining us at Scholars Day 2011, one of Le Moyne's most significant annual celebrations. This day represents our highest aspirations and values as an academic institution. Today we stand in awe as those values are expressed by these impressive young scholars. Each one of them has honed a unique perspective on his or her academic discipline through careful thought and hard work. The long, challenging process of research and scholarship culminates now. It translates into shining success – a success in which our entire community takes great pride. Our faculty members have done their work; these students have learned very well. Today, others will learn from them. Our scholars have begun to understand what it means to pursue truth and to create new knowledge.

We know that the curiosity, drive and persistence of these scholars will serve them well in the future. Indeed, these qualities will serve all of society well. To the students, their families and their professors: congratulations on your collective achievement. Thank you for inspiring us to continue striving for excellence in our own work here at Le Moyne College.

Fred P. Pestello, Ph.D. President

A Word from the Provost

The literature on undergraduate research programs reveals a wide variety of benefits, including greater student interest in the field, greater understanding of how problems are defined and approached (i.e., how to think like a scientist or psychologist or historian), greater student confidence in the ability to conduct research and greater involvement in the learning process through active rather than passive learning.

Undergraduate students who engage in research report an increased awareness of how smaller pieces of knowledge contribute to a greater understanding of their disciplines, gains in problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, and the ability to apply theoretical knowledge to real problems.

Today's showcase of undergraduate research and scholarly work at Le Moyne College underlines the achievements of our students, the dedication of their faculty mentors and the College's commitment to academic excellence. Thanks for joining us in this celebration of scholarship.

Linda M. LeMura, Ph.D. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

A Word from the Dean of Management

The success of any educational institution can be measured by the lifelong knowledge partnership forged between faculty and students. This commitment usually begins early in the student's academic career and, if properly nurtured over time, can result in the remarkable level of success achieved by Le Moyne College students participating in this year's Student Scholars Day program. While faculty are committed to developing the next generation of leaders in a wide variety of disciplines, students are equally engaged in leading the way to understanding the most pressing issues of our time. The relationship between student and faculty member represents the Ignatian pedagogical paradigm of context-experience-reflection-action, where students have experiences in context and, in guided reflection, discuss the lessons learned from their individual experiences and those of their peers and colleagues.

Wally J. Elmer, Ph.D. Dean of Management

A Word from the Dean of Arts and Sciences

The 2011 Student Scholars Day is testimony to your creativity, your talent, your perseverance and your work ethic. Scholars Day is also a tribute to your faculty mentors and your families, all of whom are responsible for your being here today. This event marks an important milestone as you take charge of your education and move from being a student of chemistry, a student of political science or a student of creative writing to being a chemist, a political scientist or a writer. We at Le Moyne are blessed to be among the one percent to the world's population afforded the opportunity of a first class education; your participation this day shows that you take seriously the responsibility that comes with that blessing. Congratulations to all of you.

J. Barron Boyd Jr., Ph.D. Dean of Arts and Sciences

ABOUT LE MOYNE SCHOLARS DAY

elcome to the sixth annual Le Moyne College Scholars Day, a tradition that originated with the Undergraduate Research Symposium in 1998. As is becoming a Scholars Day tradition, we are fortunate again to have the English department's Literature and Culture Conference included in this event. Scholars Day 2011 celebrates the creative and scholarly accomplishments of students across all academic disciplines. We are so excited to have you share the work of these faculty-mentored student scholars.

The importance of undergraduate research at Le Moyne is obvious when you see the outcomes for our students, including having their work published in scholarly journals, presenting the work both on campus and at professional meetings, producing art exhibitions and theatrical work, and being accepted to a wide variety of post-graduate programs of study. Following in the tradition initiated last year, we are happy to welcome the return of Le Moyne College graduate Tatyana Konyakhina '07, who is currently pursuing her doctorate in biophysics with a minor in biomedical engineering at Cornell University in nearby Ithaca, N.Y. Be sure to stay for lunch, when Tatyana will talk with us about her academic journey.

J. Christopher Zimmer, Ph.D. Chair of the Student Research Committee

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Concurrent Sessions will run throughout the day.

Scholars research talks and poster session will be held in James Commons.

Literature and Culture panel talks will be held in the Curtin Special Events Room.

9 – 9:15 A.M. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:15 - 9:30 A.M. WELCOMING REMARKS

Linda M. LeMura, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

9:30 A.M. - NOON MORNING PRESENTATION SESSIONS

12:05 - 1 P.M. LUNCH

12:35 - 1:05 P.M. GUEST SPEAKER

Tatyana Konyakhina '07 Doctoral Student, Biophysics

Cornell University

1:05 - 3:35 P.M. AFTERNOON PRESENTATION SESSIONS

3:45 - 4:30 P.M. POSTER SESSION AND CLOSING RECEPTION

SCHEDULE OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS

STUDENT SCHOLARS AND POSTER SESSION SCHEDULE

Morning Session

9:30 - 9:55 a.m.

"Setting the Tone: Does Music Tonality and Musical Training Impact Listening Comprehension?"

Christina Nicolais, psychology

9:55 - 10:20 a.m.

"Prediction of Binding Sites on Intrinsically Disordered Proteins"

Russell Goodman, biological sciences

10:20 - 10:45 a.m.

"Odor Awareness and Attraction"

Michelle Woodward, psychology

LITERATURE AND CULTURE PRESENTATIONS

Morning Session

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PANEL I: RETHINKING CHAUCER

- A. Morgan Harrington: Characterization in Troilus and Criseyde
- B. Rebecca Black: Virgil's *Aeneid* and Chaucer's Narrator in *The House of Fame*
- C. Vincent Redmond: Chaucer's Transformation of Pandarus

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:45 - 11:10 a.m.

"Business Process Analysis: A Template for Next Generation Short-Haul Trucking Enterprises"

Richelle Lockett, applied management analysis, information systems and marketing Sebastian Notaro, accounting and information systems

11:10 - 11:35 a.m.

"Genetic Diversity and Host Specificity of Echinostomatid Trematodes in New Zealand Intertidal Snails"

Jason Palladino, biological sciences

11:35 a.m. – Noon
"Athletic Participation and the Effect of

Mastery Experiences on Self-Efficacy"

Dana Shannon, psychology

12:05 - 1 P.M. LUNCH

Afternoon Session

1:05 - 1:30 p.m.

"WAVELINK: Growing a Technology Company"

Matthew Werbeck, accounting Daniel Russell, accounting

1:30 - 1:55 p.m.

"Ferrocene Derivatives of Combretastatin A-4"

Andrea Veliz, chemistry

1:55 - 2:20 p.m.

"Re-examining Mircea Eliade, the Sense of the Sacred and Autonomy of Religion"

Alexander Shepard, philosophy and religious studies

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

PANEL II: THEORIZING FILM

- A. James Vanderpool: German
 Expressionism and America: The Case
 for Frankenstein
- B. Joe Kral: Chaplin's Capitalist Critique in Modern Times.
- C. Seth Edick: Gender and *It Happened One Night*

11:30 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Panel III: Modern Children's

LITERATURE AND EDUCATION

- A. Stephanie Whittemore: Building Bridges to Break Traditions
- B. Wilson Rivera: The Benefits of *Holes* as an Educational Tool for Abused Children

12:05 - 1 P.M. LUNCH

Afternoon Session

1 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

PANEL IV: THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

- A. Amy Dieffenbacher: In Defense of Emily Dickinson's Poetry
- B. Leo Qaqish: The Irregularity of Grace: Elements of Redemption in Flannery O'Connor
- C. Michelle Faulkner: *Morella and The Uncanny*
- D. Alisha Espinoza: *Gem of the Ocean:* An Ensemble Piece

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:20 - 2:45 p.m.

"Expression of the Transcription Factor Yin Yang 1 (YY1) During Regeneration of the Injured Zerbafish Retina"

Stephanie Kaiser, biological sciences

2:45 - 3:10 p.m.

"Acoustic Multilateration: Hyperbolic Positioning Via Sound Wave Time Difference of Arrival" Greg Georgiadis, physics

3:10 - 3:35 p.m.

"The Effect of Alliaria Petiolata on Oviposition Preference in CNY Melanoplus Femurrubrum"

3:35 - 4:30 P.M. POSTER SESSION

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.

PANEL V: BLOOD AND ACTION IN THE British Isles

- A. Ashley O'Mara: It's in Your Blood: Body, Family and Society in Hamlet and Richard II
- B. Andrea Veliz: A Zip Code a Day: Ulysses Just Cannot Stop Moving
- C. Rose Murphy: Laureate of Violence?: Violence in Seamus Heaney's Poetry
- D. Brian Roache: Try Harder

ABSTRACTS, FACULTY MENTORS, AND BIOGRAPHIES: STUDENT SCHOLARS RESEARCH AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

9:30 - 9:55 a.m.

"SETTING THE TONE: DOES MUSIC TONALITY AND MUSICAL TRAINING IMPACT LISTENING COMPREHENSION?"

Christina Nicolais, psychology

Faculty Mentor: Monica Sylvia, Ph.D., psychology department

Abstract: This study examined the impact of background music tonality on trained and untrained musicians' listening comprehension. Participants were presented with brief passages along with tonal, atonal or silent backgrounds and responded to comprehension questions. Results revealed significant differences between the tonal and silent conditions; trained and untrained musicians responded similarly.

Bio: Christina is a senior psychology major. Following graduation she plans to study counseling psychology in a graduate school program. Christina would like to thank Dr. Sylvia as well as Dr. Brenda Kirby and Dr. Christina Michaelson for their constant support, guidance and expertise. She would also like to thank to the Student Research Committee for kindly funding her study.

9:55 - 10:20 a.m.

"Prediction of Binding Sites on Intrinsically Disordered Proteins"

Russell C. Goodman, biological sciences

Faculty Mentor: Theresa Beaty, Ph.D., biological sciences department

Abstract: The ability to predict the three-dimensional structure of a protein from its amino acid sequence is one of the largest remaining questions in structural biology. For globular proteins, many successful algorithms for predicting protein structure have been based on sequence homology or sequence alignment. However, minimal attention has been placed on structure prediction for intrinsically disordered proteins. (I.D.P.s). Our work is based on developing algorithms for predicting binding sites and secondary structure on I.D.P.s.

Bio: Russell will be joining the Integrative Program in Quantitative Biology at the University of California, San Francisco in the fall of 2011. He would like to thank Theresa Beaty, Ph.D., for her research mentorship over the previous three years, which have in part made this project and his future graduate studies possible.

10:20 - 10:45 a.m.

"ODOR AWARENESS AND ATTRACTION" Michelle Woodward, psychology

Faculty Mentor: Theresa White, Ph.D., psychology department

Abstract: Odors play a significant role in the everyday lives of individuals. While some people are quick to notice the aroma of freshly baked cookies, fragrant lilies or the smell of a partner, others are not. Research has shown that women are more aware of the aromas around them than men. The purpose of this study is to examine whether odor awareness and olfactory cues for attraction vary among homosexual and heterosexual groups.



Bio: Michelle is a junior majoring in psychology. After graduation, she plans on attending graduate school where she will pursue her doctorate in clinical psychology. Michelle would like to thank her wonderful family and, of course, Dr. White for helping her through this process.

10:45 - 11:10 a.m.

"BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYSIS: A TEMPLATE FOR NEXT GENERATION SHORT-HAUL TRUCKING ENTERPRISES" Richelle Lockett, applied management analysis, information systems and marketing Sebastian Notaro, accounting and information systems

Faculty Mentor: Martha Grabowski, Ph.D., management information systems department

Abstract: Businesses commonly have to examine and evaluate their business processes and information architectures in order to maintain standards of quality, improve upon existing processes and compete effectively in the marketplace. This project developed a business process analysis for a regional short-haul trucking firm, which invited Le Moyne College to develop a template for the next generation of information and business processes for their business. In consultation with top management, and after interviewing the key functional leaders in the organization, the firm's existing business processes were documented, and an analysis of the organization's information architecture was undertaken. The investigators were also invited to participate in vendor analysis of new location tracking technology as an input to their analysis. Recommendations to improve the firm's business processes and information architecture were developed, along with a roadmap for the business to evolve its technology and business standards, practices and personnel. A template for other regional transportation companies faced with enormous growth opportunities was developed. In addition to the business and technical challenges on this project, team members also wrestled with ethical questions associated with new technology introduction that spurs exponential market growth with controversial environmental impacts.

Bios: Richelle is a junior triple major in applied management analysis, information systems and marketing. She will be attending the iSchool at Syracuse University to obtain her master's degree in information management, with the goal of working in the field of government information systems.

Sebastian is a sophomore dual major in accounting and information systems with a philosophy minor in the Integral Honors Program. When not focusing on his academic endeavors, he spends his time working both on and off campus, or being involved with his many co-curricular activities.

10:50 - 11:10 a.m.

"Genetic Diversity and Host Specificity of Echinostomatid Trematodes in New Zealand Intertidal Snails"

Jason Palladino, biological sciences with a concentration in neurobiology and psychology

Faculty Mentor: Devon B. Keeney, Ph.D., biological sciences department

Abstract: Host specificity is the number of hosts that a parasite can inhabit at a specific stage of its lifecycle. The present study used the cytochrome c oxidase subunit I gene to identify the number and host specificity of genetic lineages of echinostomatid trematodes infecting New Zealand intertidal mud snails. Within the host snails *Zeacumantus subcarinatus and Zeacumantus lutulentus*, two major trematode lineages possessing distinct patterns of genetic diversity and host specificity were identified.

Bio: Jason is a senior majoring in both biological sciences and psychology. He hopes to gain some experience as a research technician before going onto graduate school for biomedical research. Jason cannot thank Dr. Keeney enough for giving him the opportunity to conduct this research.

11:35 a.m.- 12:05 p.m.

"ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AND THE EFFECT OF MASTERY EXPERIENCES ON SELF-EFFICACY" Dana Shannon, psychology

Faculty Mentor: Birgit Bryant, Ph.D., psychology department

Abstract: Three measures of self-efficacy (general, physical, academic) were examined for 130 Le Moyne College students who self-reported participation in high school and college athletics. GSE and PSE scores for those who participated in both high

eth hose who did neither, while

school and college athletics were significantly higher than for those who did neither, while ASE scores were unaffected.

Bio: Dana is a senior psychology major. Upon graduation, she will be attending Ithaca College to pursue a master's degree in exercise and sport sciences with a concentration in sport psychology. Dana would like to thank Dr. Bryant for giving her a wonderful introduction to the world of research, being patient, and offering endless help, advice and support.

1:05 - 1:30 p.m.

"Wavelink: Growing a Technology Company"

Matthew Werbeck, Accounting Daniel Russell, Accounting

Faculty Mentor: George Kulick, Ph.D., associate dean of management

Abstract: In Central New York there is a growing entrepreneurial culture especially among college students. Le Moyne College

and Syracuse University are among the educational institutions that support student growth in the field of entrepreneurialism. We are building a web-interactive start-up company. The company has been named WAVELINK. WAVELINK is a transparent layer across the web that allows annotation, highlighting and illustrating on any website.

Bios: Matthew Werbeck is a junior majoring in accounting at Le Moyne College. Upon graduation he plans to continue his fledgling business, WAVELINK, and grow it to the point where it can be his sole source of income.

Daniel Russel is a junior majoring in accounting at Le Moyne College. Upon graduation he also plans to develop WAVELINK into a self-sustaining enterprise.

1:30 - 1:55 p.m.

"Ferrocene Derivatives of Combretastatin A-4"

Andrea Veliz, chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Joseph Mullins, Ph.D., department of chemistry

Abstract: This project has investigated the development of a ferrocene derivative of the anti-tubulin compound Combretastatin A-4. Throughout the project, we have explored synthesizing the analog in the cis conformation, as well as methods that can

be used to improve yield. Various analytical techniques were employed throughout the process to analyse and isolate products..

Bio: Andrea will be going on to research in the graduate program at Pittsburgh University. She would like to thank Dr. Mullins for his guidance throughout the project, the Student Research Committee for funding her work, and her friends and family for their support..





1:55 - 2:20 p.m.

"Re-examining Mircea Eliade, the Sense of the Sacred and Autonomy of Religion"

Alexander Shepard, philosophy and religious studies

Faculty Mentor: Mary MacDonald, Ph.D., religious studies

Abstract: Mircea Eliade's major contribution to the study of religion is his study of religion and spirituality as a human function in its own right. The modern standpoint is generally to tie religion to environmental, cultural, and/or economic variables. A new look at the works of Eliade shall force people to take a new look at the old question of "What is religion?"

Bio: Alexander is a sophomore philosophy and religious studies double major. After graduating he hopes to study the philosophy and history of religions at the graduate level.

2:20 - 2:45 p.m.

"Expression of the Transcription Factor Yin Yang 1 (YY1) During Regeneration of the Injured Zerbafish Retina"

Stephanie Kaiser, biological sciences

Faculty Mentor: Patrick Yurco, Ph.D., biological sciences department

Abstract: It is well accepted that the zebrafish is capable of significant regeneration of its retina following injury. Experiments in several labs have demonstrated some of the genes that may facilitate this regenerative process including ash1a and Notch3 (Yurco and Cameron), but much of the genetic and molecular details of the cellular repair mechanism have yet to be described. To help expand our knowledge of these events we investigated the spatiotemporal profile of the transcription factor yin yang 1 (YY1) during the regeneration of the injured zebrafish retina

Bio: Stephanie is graduating from Le Moyne College with a bachelor's degree in biological sciences, with minors in chemistry and psychology. Stephanie will be attending Upstate Medical University in the fall to pursue her doctorate in biomedical science. She would like to thank Dr. Yurco for his mentorship, encouragement and support.

2:45 - 3:10 p.m.

"Acoustic Multilateration: Hyperbolic Positioning via Sound Wave Time Difference of Arrival"

Greg Georgiadis, physics

Faculty Mentor: David Craig, Ph.D., physics

Abstract: Multilateration is a method of surveillance that is rapidly growing among the planet's various airspace-monitoring agencies. The concept and underlying mathematics that provide the theoretical model are fairly simple. The filtering of the received data to eliminate a type of double vision the system will encounter in the real world is quite challenging. This study's goal was to create a functioning acoustic multilateration system that can compensate for that real world double vision.

Bio: Gregory is a senior physics major with a minor in philosophy. This research is in part a continuation of his work at Sensis Corporation where he was part of the A-SMGCS radar group. After graduation in May, he plans to either start a career as an engineer or to pursue a master's degree abroad.

3:10 - 3:35 p.m.

"The Effect of Alliaria Petiolata on Oviposition Preference in CNY Melanoplus Femurubrum"

Carolyn B. Monaco, biological sciences Christopher R. Haydanek, biological sciences

Faculty Mentor: Sherilyn Smith, Ph.D., biological sciences

Abstract: With the presence of *Alliaria petiolata* increasing throughout the North American continent, there is an increasing need to understand the effects that this plant has on native environments. Evidence has been provided to suggest that defensive compounds created by *A. Petiolata* have negative effects on native animal species in addition to a phytotoxic effect on native plants. Provided with this information, this study examined the effects those chemicals have oviposition site selection of the common Redlegged Grasshopper, *Melanoplus femurrubrum*.

Bios: Carrie is a senior chemistry major with a biological sciences minor. She will be continuing on to the Le Moyne Physician Assistant Studies Program in August.

Chris is a senior biological sciences major with a religious studies minor. He will be continuing on to a post-baccalaureate program in Health Sciences at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in the fall.

POSTER SESSION

"Identifying Genes in Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Using microRNA."

Kevin Namitz, biological sciences Patrick Chambers, biological sciences

Faculty Mentor: Beth Mitchell, Ph.D., biological sciences

Abstract: Cilia are cell structures whose function is to make cells mobile in fluid, or move fluid around stationary cells. Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD) is a disease whereby the normal function of cilia in the body is altered. This alteration is caused by a mutation in the gene (DNA sequence) that encodes one of many proteins in the cilia. The goal of this project was to determine if two specific genes might play a role in PCD.

Bios: Patrick is a senior biological sciences major with high hopes of attending medical school in the fall.

Kevin is a senior biology major with aspirations of attending medical school.

Both students would like to acknowledge the hard work and patience of Dr. Mitchell while advising them in this research.

"Breaking Tradition: Changing Beliefs to Resolve Cognitive Dissonance in Gay and Lesbian Christians"

Catherine Farrell, sociology

Faculty Mentor: Matthew Loveland, Ph.D., sociology

Abstract: For gay and lesbian Christians, tension arises when their religion conflicts with their sexuality. In many cases this cognitive dissonance can be resolved by changing religious beliefs. Data analysis of a previously conducted survey was used



to discover what groups of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Christians change their beliefs. In addition, content analysis of Web sites was conducted in order to explore the ways in which gay friendly Christian organizations help their members resolve their conflicting identities.

Bio: Catherine is a senior sociology major with a concentration in research and theory and minors in psychology and anthropology. After graduation Catherine plans on attending graduate school for either sociology or public administration. She would like to thank Dr. Loveland for all his support and guidance throughout this project.

"Characterization of Fossil Charcoal From the Jurassic-age Yan'an Formation, Ordos Basin, Central China"

Alesha Morabito, natural systems science

Faculty Mentor: Larry Tanner, Ph.D., biological sciences

Abstract: Charcoal occurs naturally in the environment as a result of wildfires. Because it is relatively resistant to damage and degradation by decomposition, it can be incorporated into many sedimentary environments. Fusain (fossilized charcoal), when present in sedimentary rocks, is observed as proof of paleowildfires and robust atmospheric oxygen levels. This research attempts to determine qualitatively the abundance of fusain in rock samples of Middle Jurassic age from the Ordos Basin in China. Fusain is identified using scanning electron microscopy to observe homogenized cell wall structure and testing resistance to chemical oxidation.

Bio: Alesha is a senior graduating with a degree in natural systems science. She plans on attending graduate school to pursue a master's degree in geology. She would like to thank her faculty advisor, professor and supervising researcher, Dr. Tanner, for his assistance and guidance throughout this long research process.

"Homogeneous and Mixed Species Leaf Packs: An Examination of Leaf Aggregation Breakdown and Invertebrate Impact"

Kathleen Iles, biological sciences Kristina Schmitt, biological sciences

Faculty Mentor: David Smith, Ph.D., biological sciences



Abstract: Leaf decomposition rates are examined for three local tree species: Sugar Maple, Green Ash and Box Elder. Packs were assembled in homogeneous compositions and heterogeneous compositions to mimic the formation of natural leaves. This experiment observes the decomposition rates of different leaf packs and the invertebrate responses they induce. Analyses are conducted to determine the differences in leaf breakdown in homogeneous composition as opposed to multiple species.

Bios: Kris is a resident of Alden, N.Y., and Katie is a resident of Skaneateles, N.Y. They are both currently sophomores at Le Moyne College studying in a pre-medicine program. They would like to acknowledge Dr. Smith for providing this research opportunity.

"Olfaction and Impression Formation" Nicole Hovis, psychology

Faculty Mentor: Theresa White, Ph.D., psychology

Abstract: Participants experienced one of three odors (lemon, onion, control) in a standard descriptive context and were asked to form an impression of a hypothetical person, whom they then rated on additional traits. Lemon and onion differentially affected the perception of the hypothetical person in terms of femininity, cleanliness and pleasantness.



Bio: Nicole is a senior at Le Moyne College and plans to graduate with a bachelor's degree in psychology this May.

Abstracts: Literature and Culture Conference

PANEL I: RETHINKING CHAUCER

A. CHARACTERIZATION IN *TROILUS AND CRISEYDE* Morgan Harrington

The interpretation of Criseyde often results in her bearing the blame for the destruction of her relationship with Troilus. Criseyde is ridiculed as being the coy, sly, deceptive woman who leads Troilus to his demise and her role in the story flips between the victim and the deceiver. Along these same lines, Troilus is supposed to be the courtly lover, but falls short as he is self-centered and almost entirely reliant on Pandarus to claim his lady. Because of this characterization, Criseyde is readily pinned with the blame for betraying Troilus and thus becomes the villain in the story. This conclusion, while easily supported, ignores certain details presented in the text. Troilus is a feeble attempt for a chivalric lover who chooses to overlook his lady's circumstances, environment and social status in order to blame her for betraying him and thus make him the victim. Arguably Criseyde is not the betrayer, but instead a savvy woman who, out of concern for her own well-being and livelihood, chooses to make decisions that result in preservation of her own life. Thus Criseyde is not the victim; she simply makes decisions that will eventually preserve her safety at the risk of losing an arguably unstable relationship.

B. Virgil's Aeneid and Chaucer's Narrator in The House of Fame

Rebecca Black

My paper discusses the impact of Virgil's epic poem, *The Aeneid*, on the speaker of Chaucer's piece, *The House of Fame*. The famous lovers, Dido and Aeneas from Virgil's piece, are each reflected by the Chaucer's speaker in the form of a dream vision piece. The enlightening journey experienced by Aeneas is parallel to the speaker in *The House of Fame*, as each feel lost upon beginning their journey, but make various conclusions and realizations by the end. Furthermore, the portrayal of Dido by the narrator is that of a sympathetic figure. The speaker focuses more on the love plot presented in the epic poem than the heroic journey of Aeneas.

C. CHAUCER'S TRANSFORMATION OF PANDARUS

Vincent Redmond

The essay aims to identify and describe changes that Geoffrey Chaucer made to Pandarus when retelling the story of Troilus and Criseyde. It also examines possible motivations that Chaucer had for the change. Through his alterations, Chaucer was able to expand the storyline and incorporate elements with which readers of his time would identify. Based upon research of over 20 different sources I found the personality of Pandarus was a major addition that allowed for Chaucer's version to engage the reader.

PANEL II: THEORIZING EARLY FILM

A. GERMAN EXPRESSIONISM AND AMERICA: THE CASE FOR FRANKENSTEIN

James Vanderpool

There is obvious credit to be given to German expressionism in America's current cinema, and James Whale's film version of *Frankenstein* was one of the first examples, and one of the films that did so most visibly. The film was simplified from its novel form, and while that was somewhat unavoidable due both to the complexity of the book and the limitations on the length of film imposed by audience attention span, *Frankenstein* borrows heavily from Murnau's *Nosferatu* (1921) and Lang's *Metropolis* (1927) in an attempt to fill in some of those missing elements. Specifically, the characterization of Dr. Frankenstein borrows heavily from that of Dr. Rotwang in the Lang film. From Nosferatu comes many of Whale's camera and lighting techniques, used to induce fear into the audience.

B. Chaplin's Capitalist Critique in *Modern Times* Joe Kral

I analyze the way Chaplin presents relationships and systems in *Modern Times*. By this, I mean I explore the way Chaplin used film techniques to represent the way in which labor and capital relate, state authority (the police) and common people (protesters/workers/prisoners), capitalists with other capitalists, and laborers with other laborers. Through analysis of these relationships, I explain how Chaplin developed a economic/social system highly critical of capitalism in *Modern Times*. His techniques as a filmmaker (visual and aural) flesh out his criticism of this economic system.

C. Gender and It Happened One Night

Seth Edick

The paper will discuss how the movie *It Happened One Night* in terms of its portrayal of gender. I argue that the contemporary belief that this film shows a woman rising up above her traditional roles is false. I use aspects on Stanley Cavell's analysis of gender, as well as comparing it to other "screwball comedies" and movies of the day.

PANEL III: CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND CONTEMPORARY EDUCATION

A. BUILDING BRIDGES TO BREAK TRADITIONS

Stephanie Whittemore

For decades, children's literature tended to follow a set structure. This structure included typically weaker female characters that, in most cases, needed to be saved by a male hero. Sometimes the female reigned supreme, but almost always the stories saw the females in distressed roles and the males as heroic opposites. Along with these roles, children's literature tended to portray fantastic settings with happy endings, allowing children to get lost within the worlds they read into. In the 1960s and 1970s, while monumental changes were occurring in America, the youth literature genre was seeing changes as well. A new genre was emerging to reflect the realism of changing America in youth literature. In *Bridge to Terabithia*, Katherine Patterson demonstrates that children's literature does not have to fit into a mold and that it can change and should change with the times.

A. The Benefits of *Holes* as an Educational Tool for Abused Children

Wilson Rivera

With the rise of social networking, bullying has become a greater concern for parents across the country. Verbal and emotional abuse has extended beyond the classroom and into the Internet. Louis Sacher's *Holes* presents a unique opportunity for educators to base a class around the text for students who are just like Stanley and Zero: victims of physical and emotional abuse from fellow classmates and even adults. By tailoring a class specifically for these students, parents and educators can assist such students in a more effective and direct manner.

PANEL IV: THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

A. In Defense of Emily Dickinson's Poetry

Amy Dieffenbacher

Despite the specificity of Emily Dickinson's poems, people have often misinterpreted them as lacking thought and coherence due to Dickinson's unusual use of punctuation and capitalization. Thomas Bailey Aldrich's claim that Dickinson lacks relevant thought pattern overlooks the specificity of stanzas in poems like Dickinson's "I dwell in Possibility." Dickinson cannot be said to lack a thought pattern because she keeps a consistent central theme, that poetry is more freeing than prose, throughout her poem. The stanzas in the poems are short which demonstrates Dickinson's need to be specific in her word choice. Dickinson does not add any unnecessary words, yet she is able to convey her argument. Dickinson seems to capitalize random words in her poems, but the words are capitalized to show they are crucial to the understanding of her central theme. Dickinson cannot be thought to lack form or coherence because her precise language conveys meaning.

B. THE IRREGULARITY OF GRACE: ELEMENTS OF REDEMPTION IN FLANNERY O'CONNOR

Leo Qaqish

Flannery O'Connor is often studied as a Catholic author whose works focus on grace and salvation, but such an approach ignores O'Connor's highly idiosyncratic take on Catholicism, rendering her a primarily religious writer whereas, in reality, she is much more concerned with the nature of knowledge, the mystery of existence and the peculiarity of grace. As such, the medium through which these phenomena manifest themselves in her writings is the grotesque. More importantly, though, the grotesque for O'Connor is more specific than what it is for Faulkner, for example, as it is not merely a complex emotional stimulus. Her grotesquery is highly Catholicized, making it the primary vehicle for learning and seeing the cost of redemption. The paper attempts to discuss the place of O'Connor's manipulated version of the grotesque within the large tradition of grotesquery. This shorter version will focus on the causes and effects of the phenomenon as it appears in works like *Wise Blood*, *Good Country People*, *The Lame Shall Enter First* and *A Good Man is Hard to Find*.

C. Morella and The Uncanny

Michelle Faulkner

Sigmund Freud identified the uncanny as an element that incites "dread or horror" within the individual, having a psychologically disturbing effect that extends beyond viscera disgust or basic fear. This universal experience, comprised of simultaneous attraction and repulsion, is frequently encountered in the literary world. However, such instigation relies on creating a realm that enables the suspension of previously discounted primitive beliefs. In this light, *Morella* adopts a darker, more macabre nature as Edgar Allen Poe evokes these disconcerting sensations.

D. GEM OF THE OCEAN: AN ENSEMBLE PIECE Alisha Espinoza

August Wilson's penultimate work in his Pittsburgh Cycle, *Gem of the Ocean*, introduces us to the matriarch whose presence enlivens other works in the cycle. Though an anchor and guide for many of the characters in the play, Aunt Ester is not the central focus of the piece. Rather, she functions as a center for the other characters who more deeply explore the themes of the play. The play's central focus is each character's struggle with freedom and purpose Post-Reconstruction. Aunt Ester is one character who experiences no struggle between her freedom and her purpose, unlike Solly Two Kings, Caesar, Black Mary and Citizen Barlow, who make this play a true ensemble piece.

PANEL V: BLOOD AND HONOR IN THE BRITISH ISLES

A. It's in Your Blood: Body, Family, and Society in Hamlet and Richard II

Ashley O'Mara

This essay investigated the role of blood, both physiological and sociological, in Shake-speare's plays, using *Hamlet* and *Richard II* as examples of the two ways in which Shake-speare engages blood. One is in the Renaissance medical sense, in which an excess of blood is associated with rebellion and passion; the other is in the concept of blood ties in characters' familial heritage and the obligations that come in honoring one's blood relations. Yet, in his plays, this distinction blurs as Shakespeare crafts an exploration of the Elizabethans' understanding of the world as a microcosm in imitation of the macrocosm. Thus, physical blood and blood ties influence each other: medically unhealthy blood engenders a moral disease that contravenes the natural laws associated with blood ties, to the point at which Shakespeare's afflicted characters murder their blood relatives. In turn, the dishonor that comes from having murdered relations then influences the dead character's family to acquire the same unhealthy blood, in order to suppress morality and seek blood revenge: committing murder against the guilty character. In this way, Shakespeare uses blood in his plays as more than just a metaphor: it becomes an entity with which characters must reckon.

B. A ZIP CODE A DAY: ULYSSES JUST CANNOT STOP MOVING Andrea Veliz

In the Victorian Era, there was some debate as to how it is best to live one's life. Questions were raised about religion, government and education, arguing the utility of these things as they relate to our daily existence. Walter Pater argued that the best way to experience life is to do just that – experience it. Pater argued that, by paying attention to the details around us and taking in everything, we could capture the most beautiful and compelling moments the world has to offer. In Lord Tennyson's *Ulysses* we can see Pater's sentiments come alive in the title character – that the essence of life lies in experience. This paper explores the two works as individual works, investigating their messages before relating the two to each other, discussing the similarities between Pater's views and Tennyson's portrayal of the Trojan hero.

C. Laureate of Violence?: Violence in Seamus Heaney's Poetry

Rose Murphy

In many of Seamus Heaney's poems, violence occurs. Born in 1939, Heaney witnessed the violence between the Unionists and the Republicans in Northern Ireland between 1969 and 1998. This struggle is called the "Troubles." The violence, however, is not addressed in an overtly political way. Heaney more portrays the effects of the violence and his own response to it. Although he is Catholic and wanted Ulster to be a part of Ireland, he does not write poems that explicitly advocate for either side. Rather, he addresses the sad nature of all violence and hopes for peace. According to Kieran Quinlan, some critics have gone so far as to call Heaney a "laureate of violence" or a "mythmaker, an anthropologist of killing" (368). Like Quinlan, I am critical of these labels. Heaney seems to be more concerned with his own inaction and responsibility than the actual perpetrators of the violence. Additionally, Heaney reveals in his poems that peace is attainable, despite the seemingly inescapable violence. I will examine Heaney's portrayal of violence in his poems *Casualty, Punishment and Mycenae Lookout*.

D. TRY HARDER

Brian Roache

There are still heroes. Knights are long dead, superheroes are a dream and the fictional characters that inspire you are just that, fictional. The heroes that people recognize are few and far between. It is hard for people to imagine themselves as heroes because the idea of it seems so far fetched, so impossible. Yet, taking a closer look at literature on heroism both in its examples and ideal, it is plain to see that heroes are not perfect, infallible, or sometimes even kind. Looking at texts by J.R.R. Tolkien, Chretien de Troyes and Gabriel Garcia Marquez, any reader can see the truth about heroes. The truth is that even the most admired heroes are still just people. If heroes are not perfection, then why must any of us be perfect so that we may be a hero, too?

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