Fall 2013

Honors Research Symposium Program [Fall 2013]

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Program Schedule

Reception 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm  
Information Technology Building, Room 3301

Thesis/Capstone Presentations 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm  
Information Technology Building, Room 3202 & 3204

Presentation of Medallions 7:45 pm – 8:00 pm  
Information Technology Building, Room 3301

Madeline Bunn  
Management  
Professional Business Plan for the Future Bakery: MaddyCakes by Design  
Dr. Chris Welter

This report contains the information necessary to begin business as an all-natural wedding cake bakery in the city of Boulder, Colorado. With this information, I have thoroughly outlined how I intend to operate my business as well as a detailed projection of our future success. Other information included in the plan is a description of what we are selling and how we intend to differentiate ourselves from our competitors, an evaluation of the city of Boulder and why it was chosen as the ideal location, and an explanation of our target market segment. From this business plan I am able to answer the question of whether an all-natural bakery will be a profitable endeavor now and whether it will remain profitable in the future.

Kimberlee Beall  
Exercise Science  
An Examination of Methods used to Promote Psychological Well Being During Stroke Rehabilitation - A Qualitative Investigation  
Dr. Daniel R. Czech

Post Stroke Depression is extremely prevalent among stroke victims, even those considered to be functionally independent (Brown, 2012). This depression can affect the recovery rate of patients. Most rehabilitation programs are focused solely on physical recovery, while psychological adjustments are many times ignored (Forster, 1992). Occupational therapists do not necessarily have the training needed to aid patients increasing quality of life from a psychological perspective (McLaughlin, 2005). Thus the purpose of this study is to qualitatively examine occupational therapists perceptions on actions needed to increase the psychological quality of life of their patients and their patients' perceptions on what they need from their therapists to increase their quality of life from a psychological perspective.

Haley Cronon  
Exercise Science  
Attraction to Physical Activity of a Sample of Collegiate Female Athletes and Nonathletes - A Qualitative Methodological Approach  
Dr. Daniel R. Czech

Only 22% of adults regularly engage in sustained physical activity during leisure time, and males are still more likely than females to participate in physical activity (US Department of Health and Human Services, 1996). For women particularly, an important source of exercise motivation may be current or previous sport participation, as research has shown that long-term involvement in sport at a competitive level may positively influence women's decision to remain physically active throughout their lives (Woitas-Ślubowska, 2007). Attraction to physical activity can be grounded in the Self-Determination Theory (Deci & Ryan, 1985), which defines intrinsic and extrinsic motivation and the roles that each type of motivation plays in adherence to a task. The purpose of the current research was to use a qualitative-methodological approach to understand attraction to physical activity of a sample of collegiate females via individual interviews. Based on these results, the secondary purpose was to examine the similarities and differences between athletes and nonathletes regarding attraction to physical activity within the collegiate female sample. The interviews revealed two overarching themes: attraction and aversion to physical activity, each with subthemes. Clinical relevance is discussed as are future research and program implementation suggestions.
This study proposes another method to explore a dataset, identify its errors, and analyse it. Predictive Analytics: Another Approach

Osazee Paul                           Information Technology

The author explores the theremin and its impact on music technology by recreating the device using modern hardware and software, ending with a project that captures the essential features of the original (plus a few new ones).

Ty J. Von Plinsky                     Information Technology

Recreating the Theremin: A Modern Take on a Definitive Instrument

Dr. Christopher Kadlec

This study proposes another method to explore a dataset, identify its errors, and analyse it using the Naïve Bayes model.
Caleb Swain  Chemistry
Synthetic Parameters Influencing the Formation of Metal Organic Thin Films
Dr. Michele McGibony
Carbon Cycle 2.0, is a Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory funded effort to discover ways of managing carbon dioxide released by human activity; it has led to multi-disciplinary research in hopes of creating new or improving established carbon sequestration methods. Metal-organic framework thin films (MOFs) have shown promise in this area because of their CO2 selectivity, durability, and high surface area. Their synthesis can occur in various ways; layer by layer synthesis (lbl) utilizing a Quartz Crystal Microbalance (QCM) has proved an efficient and highly valuable means of synthesis. Metal precursor and organic precursor are passed over the substrate in a consecutive manner until the desired film thickness is reached. Analysis of the films includes detection of the frequency change observed with each layer combined with the Sauerbrey formula to calculate the mass deposited. Films synthesized with various organic linker concentrations on differing substrates were analyzed. Mass deposited of the metal precursor is greater when the linker concentration is higher. XRD is used to verify crystal orientation within the films and gas phase QCM experiments measure CO2 adsorption.

Jana Simmons  Political Science and Biology
The Impact of Gubernatorial Constituencies on Medicaid Expansion
Dr. P. Cary Christian
Roughly 5.5 million low income, uninsured Americans stand to gain coverage under Medicaid expansion in twenty-one states that are not moving forward with expansion at this time. Although the Republican Party as a whole has opposed the Affordable Care Act, many Grand Old Party governors have supported Medicaid expansion in their respective states. This thesis aims to explain the reasons why political party affiliation of the governor does not seem to influence Republican governors in choosing to support Medicaid expansion. By using Kingdon's theoretical multiple streams framework, case studies including Georgia, Florida, North Dakota, Michigan, Arizona, New Jersey, and Ohio are examined. Gubernatorial constituencies are found to largely impact the decision of governors to support Medicaid expansion.

Alyssa Johnson  Political Science
The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-Operation in Respect to Intercountry Adoption, the Intercountry Adoption Act, and Their Impact on Intercountry Adoptions
Dr. Krista Wiegand
Since 2000, the United States has begun the implementation of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-Operation in Respect to Intercountry Adoption (HCIA). In looking at the Convention as a whole as well as the process of implementation in the United States, it has become clear that the HCIA and the associated American law, the Intercountry Adoption Act (IAA) do not adequately protect biological as well as adoptive parents and children. A lack of guidelines in the HCIA also allow for financial and economical corruption to arise and dominate in the realm of adoption. Finally, the possible discrepancies in the process of accrediting adoption agencies on a country-by-country basis allow corruption and disregard for protection of families to continue. This paper will explore the pitfalls of the Convention in each of these areas and how they tie together to limit the success of the HCIA.

James Farmer  Political Science
Are There Cracks in the Democratic Peace?
Dr. Jamie Scalera
The Democratic Peace Principle is both a well-documented and a heavily scrutinized element of International Relations theory. My research aims to further analyze the principle to determine more precise conditions under which conflict can arise between democratic states. As such, my research builds on the steps to war approach of John Vasquez and Paul Senese. More specifically, my research analyzes the amount of conflict between democratic states of differing military and economic capabilities in order to see if such dyads have different dynamics than dyads with comparable military and economic might. If there are differing degrees of the democratic peace based on factors such as military and economic strength, this could indicate where future wars between democratic states would arise.
Congratulations to the Fall 2013 Honors Graduates

Kimberlee Beall
Madeline Bunn
Haley Cronon
Alyssa Johnson
Lauren Livingston
Colleen McNally
Osazee Paul
Jeffrey Silvey
Jana Simmons
Jack St. Jean
Caleb Swain
Ty Von Plinsky
Shawna Wade