UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU-CLaire

Provost’s Honors Symposium

For Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

May 2 | 1 - 6pm | Davies Center

2014
Welcome to the Fourth Annual Provost’s Honors Symposium for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity.

Thanks to the generous support of Provost Patricia Kleine, the University Honors Program, and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, we were able to create this annual event: an opportunity for selected students to present their top-notch work in a professional conference format.

This year the Provost’s Honors Symposium will showcase 95 students presenting 41 research, scholarly, and creative projects in over 30 disciplines.

Participants in the Provost’s Honors Symposium are nominated each year by their UW–Eau Claire faculty mentors or major departments. Finalists are selected by the University Honors Council, a committee that includes two University Honors students, faculty representatives from each of the UW–Eau Claire colleges, and University Honors staff:

- Ivy Bohnlein, Assistant Director, University Honors Program
- Erik Hendrickson, College of Arts and Sciences
- David Jones, Honors Faculty Fellow
- Spencer Morgan, University Honors Student, and Honors Living-Learning Community representative
- Vicki Samelson, College of Education and Human Sciences
- Rita Sperstad, College of Nursing and Health Sciences
- Angie Stombaugh, College of Nursing and Health Sciences
- Cody Thompson, University Honors Student, and Secretary, Honors Program Organization
- Ingrid Ulstad, College of Business
- Jeff Vahlbusch, Director, University Honors Program

In founding and in organizing the annual Provost’s Honors Symposium for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, the University Honors Program is pursuing one of its four main program goals: “To promote and support intellectual and scholarly achievement, great teaching, and student-faculty collaboration across the university.”

Jeff Vahlbusch
Director, University Honors Program
All Presenters, Attendees, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Community Members are Welcome!

Join Provost Kleine for her reception following the presentations at 5:15 p.m. Dakota Ballroom.

Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

Short Program will start after 5:30 p.m.
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### Schedule at a Glance

#### Session I: 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.

**Centennial**
1. Identification of Genes Affecting Cilia Function in C. elegans
2. The Role of Analogy in Inference to the Best Explanation
3. Fracture Mechanics of Nb3Sn Superconducting Filaments

**Menominee**
1. Placing the Graphic in Geographic
2. Until the Land Runs Out: Making Creative Fiction from the History of Eau Claire
3. The Social Implications of Gendered Absences in Virginia Woolf’s To the Lighthouse and The Waves

**Ho-Chunk**
5. Evaluating Instructor Preference in Children with Developmental Disabilities
6. A Dynamic Coaching Program for College Students with Traumatic Brain Injury

**Chancellors**
7. Examining Adult Public Opinion on Climate Change in the United States and China
8. Examining College Student Public Opinion on Climate Change in the United States and China

#### Session II: 2:10 – 3:10 P.M.

**Centennial**
1. Theoretical Determination of the pKa of a Strictly Conserved Lysine in Prolyl-tRNA Synthetase
2. Dynamic Coupling of Domains in Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetase
3. Exploring the Underlying Mechanism of Site-to-Site Communications in Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetases

**Menominee**
1. Bipolar Relations in the Ancient World: the Romans and Parthians in Armenia
2. Many Cultures One Family: the Santa Fe Indian School
3. Probability of Death: Railway Fatalities and Industrial Corporate Capitalism

**Ho-Chunk**
4. The Meanings of Wellness and Motivations of Participation in Fitness Fundraisers
5. Examining the Influence of Incentives on Fruit Consumption of Children Participating in an Afterschool Program
6. Examining the Influence of Incentives on Vegetable Consumption of Children Participating in an Afterschool Program

**Chancellors**
7. Self-perception and Civic Action Among Low-income Eau Claire Residents
8. Investigating Barriers Among Eau Claire Pharmacists to Addressing Healthcare Needs of Low-income Patients
### Session III: 3:20 – 4:20 P.M.  

**CENTENNIAL**

1. Model-Measurement Comparison of O₃ over Lake Michigan  
2. Interpreting Historic Lake Levels from the Internal Architecture of a Tombolo: A Ground Penetrating Radar Survey of the Grand Island Tombolo, MI, USA  
3. Airborne Particulate Matter around Frac Sand Mines and Processing Plants

**MENOMINEE**

1. Film: *From Outcasts to Warriors*  
2. Film: *Housing First*  
3. Film: *Grand Marshal Not Court-Martial*

**HO-CHUNK**

4. A Qualitative Exploration of Campus Racial Climate  
5. An Exploration in the Experiences of Student-Athletes at UW-Eau Claire  
6. Investigating Smoking Behavior on a University Campus

**CHANCELLORS**

7. Challenges to obtaining an independent and impartial Moldovan press  
8. Moldovans forced to find work abroad

### Session IV: 4:30 – 5:15 P.M.  

**CENTENNIAL**

1. The Uncertainty of Green: Socially Responsible or Sustainable? Analyzing Rhetorical Claims of Green Ranked Companies Across Industries  

**MENOMINEE**

1. It’s my turn, Kemosabe: A Historical Analysis of Ethnic Sidekicks  
2. Planned Parenthood: Unplanned Politics

**HO-CHUNK**

3. Explaining Elevated Risk for Suicide among LGBTQ College Students  
4. Understanding the Sexual Prejudices of Sexual Orientation Minorities

**CHANCELLORS**

5. Investigation of Availability of Spanish Language Children’s Literature in Eau Claire Area  
6. Assessing and Facilitating of Oral Proficiency
1. **Identification of Genes affecting Cilia Function in C. elegans**  
   Presenter: Shelby Hamlin  
   Faculty nominator: Jamie Lyman Gingerich

Many animal cells have primary cilia, which act to receive signals from the environment and transmit those signals to the nucleus of the cell so that the cell can respond appropriately. One way in which cells differ from each other is in the types of proteins that localize to the cilia (and thus which types of signals can be perceived by a given cell type). We use the nematode C. elegans to analyze cilia development and function and the role of cilia in sensory behaviors. We have identified and have begun to characterize genes that play a role in ciliary protein localization.

2. **The Role of Analogy in Inference to the Best Explanation**  
   Presenter: David Strenke  
   Faculty nominator: Brian Woodcock

Treatments of analogical reasoning often have an epistemic emphasis, but in the history of science analogical reasoning often finds a different role as a heuristic used to develop hypotheses that might function as plausible potential explanations. Within the framework of Inference to the Best Explanation as articulated by the philosopher of science Peter Lipton, this use corresponds to the first of his two filters in the process of selecting the best explanation. Darwin's theory of natural selection and Alvarez's asteroid impact hypothesis for the extinction of the dinosaurs provide good examples.

3. **Fracture Mechanics of Nb3Sn Superconducting Filaments**  
   Presenter: Maxwell Dylla  
   Faculty nominator: Matthew Jewell

Nb3Sn is a brittle superconductor and vulnerable to fracture under the stresses induced during superconducting magnet operation. In this work, we developed techniques to tensile test individual Nb3Sn filaments outside the composite wire matrix to better understand their mechanical properties. These techniques can be used to interrogate how impurity defects and grain size affect the mechanical properties of Nb3Sn and optimize Nb3Sn superconducting magnet design and fabrication.

4. **Placing the Graphic in Geographic**  
   Presenter: Josie Kallenbach  
   Faculty nominators: Ned Gannon and Paul Kaldjian

Kallenbach conducts research that integrates and expresses geographic understanding with artistic talent and devotion through text and imagery to demonstrate the power and relevance of contemporary comics and sequential graphic art to examine cultural perceptions and inform notions about people and place in positive ways.
5. **Until the Land Runs Out: Making Creative Fiction from the History of Eau Claire**  
   Presenter: Charlotte Kupsh  
   Faculty nominator: B.J. Hollars  
   This writing project showcases a collection of short historical fiction pieces about Eau Claire, with particular emphasis on the female perspective. The project follows the lives of members of the Johnson family, who immigrated to Eau Claire from Norway in the 19th century. As a whole, the project emphasizes a synthesis of research and creative work and the process by which the two are interrelated.

6. **The Social Implications of Gendered Absences in Virginia Woolf’s To the Lighthouse and The Waves**  
   Presenter: Becca Yahr  
   Faculty nominator: Jenny Shaddock  
   Novelist Virginia Woolf’s exploration of gender identity and culture in To the Lighthouse (1927) forms a bridge to a new interpretation of The Waves (1931). In each novel Woolf kills off the central protagonist who represents dominant understandings of gender, in order to experiment with new modes of feminine and masculine identity respectively. Mrs. Ramsay, the central force of the novel and the character upon whom all are dependent, represents the Victorian archetype of the Angel woman; her death eradicates the symbol of the Angel, expanding possibilities for reimagining women’s gender identities through the character of the woman artist, Lily Briscoe. Similarly, Percival represents the late 19th century “heroic” British colonial patriarch, occupying the central position within a group of friends. This paper will explore how his sudden and shocking death early in the novel forces several male characters to respond to this loss, building masculine identities throughout the rest of their lives in the wake of and in response to Percival’s death.

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**Ho-Chunk**

7. **Social Workers’ Experiences Working in Hospice: A Mixed Methods Approach**  
   Presenter: April Unterberger  
   Faculty nominator: Lisa Quinn-Lee  
   The purpose of this study was to gather information about social workers’ experiences working in hospice and learn whether death anxiety is associated with the formation of burnout among hospice social workers in Wisconsin and Wisconsin. Various aspects of burnout, death anxiety, and self-care were studied. Hospice social workers’ ideas of a good death were also explored.

8. **Evaluating Instructor Preference in Children with Developmental Disabilities**  
   Presenters: Elizabeth Sansing, Lauren Speckin, Forrest Toegel, and Leah Verkuylen  
   Faculty nominator: Kevin Klatt  
   The current study utilized a forced choice paired stimulus procedure to determine whether children diagnosed with developmental disabilities demonstrate a consistent preference for instructions delivered by a parent or those delivered by a program therapist and the relative effectiveness of preferred and non-preferred instructors.
9. A Dynamic Coaching Program for College Students with Traumatic Brain Injury
   Presenters: Mandi Salo and Haley Turk
   Faculty nominator: Jerry Hoepner

Impairments in self-regulated learning compromise performance of students with brain injuries as they return to college. Like many college students, these individuals benefit from study skills training and better self-assessment skills. This program uses a dynamic coaching model to foster improved self-assessment and regulation. Two college students were followed for four semesters. Changes to performance will be discussed.

CHANCELLORS

10. Examining Adult Public Opinion on Climate Change in the United States and China
    Presenters: David Hahn, Elora Leene, Emy Marier, Wesley Meives, and Helue Vazquez
    Faculty nominator: Eric Jamelske

Despite overwhelming scientific consensus, there is still much public debate and uncertainty regarding the reality of climate change and the degree to which human activities are responsible. The United States and China are of particular interest because they are disproportionately responsible for world greenhouse gas emissions. Using data from a survey of US and Chinese college students and adults, we compare climate change public opinion among a variety of respondents in these two important countries. This presentation will focus on the adult data.

11. Examining College Student Public Opinion on Climate Change in the United States and China
    Presenters: David Hahn, Elora Leene, Emy Marier, Wesley Meives, and Helue Vazquez
    Faculty nominator: Eric Jamelske

Despite overwhelming scientific consensus, there is still much public debate and uncertainty regarding the reality of climate change and the degree to which human activities are responsible. The United States and China are of particular interest because they are disproportionately responsible for world greenhouse gas emissions. Using data from a survey of US and Chinese college students and adults, we compare climate change public opinion among a variety of respondents in these two important countries. This presentation will focus on the college student data.

SESSION II: 2:10 – 3:10 P.M.

CENTENNIAL

12. Theoretical Determination of the pKa of a Strictly Conserved Lysine in Prolyl-tRNA Synthetase
    Presenter: Thomas Bartholow
    Faculty nominator: Sudeep Bhattacharyya

Using theory and computations, we studied the role of a highly conserved residue of Prolyl-tRNA synthetase, a member of an enzyme family that is crucial for protein biosynthesis in all living organisms.
13. **Dynamic Coupling of Domains in Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetase**  
   Presenter: Alexander Strom  
   Faculty nominator: Sudeep Bhattacharyay

Using coarse-grained and atomistic simulations and computing their principal components of motion, we studied the dynamic coupling of domains in aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases, the enzyme families that are crucial for protein biosynthesis in all living organisms.

14. **Exploring the Underlying Mechanism of Site-to-Site Communications in Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetases**  
   Presenter: Heidi Schmit  
   Faculty nominator: Sanchita Hati

Aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases (AARSs) are key enzymes in protein biosynthesis in all living cells. They catalyze the covalent attachment of amino acids (the building blocks of protein) to the corresponding transfer RNA (tRNA). Many AARSs are considered allosteric as the tRNA binding at a specific site of an AARS induces structural change in another distant site that facilitates catalysis. To date, the molecular mechanism of site-to-site communications in AARSs has remained poorly understood. We have been exploring the underlying mechanism of allosteric communication in these enzymes by employing computational and experimental techniques. Preliminary results of our experimental work will be presented.

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15. **Bipolar Relations in the Ancient World: the Romans and Parthians in Armenia**  
   Presenter: Christopher Dictus  
   Faculty nominator: Matt Waters

The Roman and Parthian Empires were two great powers with imperialistic tendencies that dominated the ancient world in the first century CE. Tensions between the two nations arose into military conflict over the succession of the Armenian throne, eventually leading to the crowning of Tiridates in 66 CE. This project analyzes the relationship between the two great powers, from the perspective of the buffer state of Armenia as a “zone of contention,” and analyzes what features of the two competing powers (Rome and Parthia) perpetuated this conflict.

16. **Many Cultures One Family: the Santa Fe Indian School**  
   Presenter: Robert Bell, graduate student in History  
   Faculty nominator: Jane Pederson

The Santa Fe Indian School is best known for the art created there. However, Bell researched student interactions that created a Native American community which crossed tribal lines. Between 1900 and 1930 progressive educators at the school replicated John Dewey’s educational ideas and experiments which paired with the Pueblo ethnosophy to foster pan-Indianism. The goal: an educated Native American rooted in Native American culture.
17. **Probability of Death: Railway Fatalities and Industrial Corporate Capitalism**  
   Presenter: Zachary Freese, graduate student in History  
   Faculty nominator: Jane Pederson

This project vividly describes deadly railroad accidents in the industrializing north, 1850-1880, and the intellectual defense of “self-regulation” and corporate freedom. Philosophically and politically, Charles Francis Adams Jr. justifies corporate power and “self-regulation” by deploying Darwinism, classical economics, and statistics. Freese argues, as critics did at the time, that preventable deadly railroad accidents established that “self-regulation” failed.

**Ho-Chunk**

18. **The Meanings of Wellness and Motivations of Participation in Fitness Fundraisers**  
   Presenter: Michelle Bolwerk  
   Faculty nominator: Peter Hart-Brinson

Using ethnographic and interview methods, this paper examines the meanings of wellness and motivations of participants at seven fitness fundraisers in the Chippewa Valley. Because fitness fundraisers attract participants for both individualistic and altruistic reasons, the social and civic significance of these events is unclear. This paper assesses the meanings that fitness fundraisers have for participants.

19. **Examining the Influence of Incentives on Fruit Consumption of Children Participating in an Afterschool Program**  
   Presenters: Tiffany Christner, Nicholas Douglass, Mitchell Fischer, and Jisu Kim  
   Faculty nominator: Eric Jamelske

In this study, we observe fruit and vegetable consumption of children attending an afterschool program, first establishing a baseline FV intake and then using a variety of incentives including healthy messages/fun facts, raffle prizes and praise designed to increase FV intake. In addition, we also explore how the presence of less healthy food choices impact children’s FV consumption. We have data for more than 150 children over the period from September 2012-May 2013 across seven different condition phases. This presentation will focus on fruit consumption.

20. **Examining the Influence of Incentives on Vegetable Consumption of Children Participating in an Afterschool Program**  
   Presenters: Lainee Hoffman, Aaron Lickel, Jonathan Pumper, and Lucy Ramquist  
   Faculty nominator: Eric Jamelske

In this study, we observe fruit and vegetable consumption of children attending an afterschool program, first establishing a baseline FV intake and then using a variety of incentives including healthy messages/fun facts, raffle prizes and praise designed to increase FV intake. In addition, we also explore how the presence of less healthy food choices impact children’s FV consumption. We have data for more than 150 children over the period from September 2012-May 2013 across seven different condition phases. This presentation will focus on vegetable consumption.
Chancellors

21. Self-perception and Civic Action among Low-income Eau Claire Residents
   Presenters: Kali Boldt and Gabby Schmidt
   Faculty nominator: Ruth Cronje

Investigation of the self-image of low-income residents of Eau Claire (using a survey) and possible correlation of this self-image with willingness to take civic action in response to proposed cuts to the federal SNAP food stamp program.

22. Investigating Barriers among Eau Claire Pharmacists to Addressing Healthcare Needs of Low-income Patients
   Presenter: Cody Thompson
   Faculty nominator: Ruth Cronje

Investigation of the perceptions of Eau-Claire area pharmacists of low-income patients as well as pharmacists’ awareness of locally available healthcare resources, including pharmaceutical company patient assistance programs, that can provide low-income patients in our community with help in paying for their medications.

Session III: 3:20 – 4:20 p.m.

Centennial

23. Model-Measurement Comparison of O₃ over Lake Michigan
   Presenters: Nathan Fuhrman
   Faculty nominator: Patricia Cleary

The non-attainment status of federal ozone standards in the region surrounding Lake Michigan demonstrates the efficient ozone production in urban and off-shore air masses. The measurement of ozone in air masses over Lake Michigan was conducted from 2008-2010 via routine ferry routes from Milwaukee, WI, to Muskegon, MI, and was evaluated for spatial/temporal trends by comparing 2009 data to the national ozone air quality forecast model to test the ability of the model to predict ground level ozone in that region. Trends in the agreement between measurement and model forecast O₃ show some diurnal and seasonal changes that may reflect the influence of emissions or meteorological constraints on the forecast model.

   Presenter: Sean Morrison
   Faculty nominator: Harry Jol

Lake Superior coastal landscapes provide an idyllic setting to study regressive and transgressive barriers. The subsurface stratigraphy of a coastal landscape can reveal the nature of its evolution. One such landscape, the Grand Island Tombolo, MI, USA, was surveyed using ground-penetrating radar (GPR). A complex series of radar reflections indicates buried beach and shoreface deposits of the historic Grand Island Tombolo.
25. **Airborne Particulate Matter around Frac Sand Mines and Processing Plants**  
   Presenters: Zach Kroening, Jennifer Schmitz, Bethany Valentine, and Kristin Walters  
   Faculty nominator: Crispin Pierce

With 135 permitted frac sand mines and processing plants now in Wisconsin, little is known about fine particulate (PM2.5) levels in adjacent homes, businesses, and communities. These fine particulates contain silica and are associated with cardiovascular and lung diseases. Year-round data collection has found PM2.5 levels of 5.82–50.8 µg/m³ in five 24-hour samples around frac sand mines and processing sites. This project has helped collect data essential to the understanding and remediation of potential health risks in Wisconsin communities.

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### Menominee

26. **Film: From Outcasts to Warriors**  
   Presenters: Jerrika Christianson, Austin Shimko, and Dylan Vorass  
   Faculty nominators: Pam Forman and Ellen Mahaffy

When three queer UWEC students travel to San Francisco, they realize how closed down they have been all their lives. Realizing how the lack of queer curriculum in their schooling has hindered their development, they met with educators and activists in the San Francisco community to witness the positive impact queer curriculum has had on schools, and will continue to have with the implementation of California’s FAIR Education Act. They reflect on the positive impact that taking the LGBTQA Studies: San Francisco Travel Seminar has had on their self-concept. With the tools of queer theory and learning about LGBTQ social movements, they position themselves as committed to fulfilling their calling as “Powerful Queer Warriors,” and educating others on heterosexism.

27. **Film: Housing First**  
   Presenters: Nate Cooper, Neil Robmann, and JR Smathers  
   Faculty nominators: Pam Forman and Ellen Mahaffy

When thinking of San Francisco, most envision a progressive and romantic city that is loving and tolerant of all types of people. LGBTQ movements are engrained in the history of San Francisco, and many perceive it to be the “Gay Mecca.” However, with a recent influx of high paid tech workers, real estate prices have skyrocketed, and many real estate speculators have begun to unfairly use a California state law called the Ellis Act to evict tenants so they can increase the income on their properties. Although the LGBTQ community accounts for roughly 15% of the San Francisco populace, they disproportionately make up 29% of the homeless population. Our film is a call for action to stop this trend of evictions and homelessness in San Francisco before the city loses the culture and atmosphere that has made it the place it is today.

28. **Film: Grand Marshal Not Court-Martial**  
   Presenters: Elina Lane, Amber Smith, and Ryan Spaight  
   Faculty nominators: Pam Forman and Ellen Mahaffy

After the announcement that Bradley Manning had won San Francisco Pride's honorary title of Grand Marshal, an outcry ensued. In response, Pride rescinded his Grand Marshalship—calling it a "mistake" and denouncing Manning's whistle-blowing as an "insult to everyone, gay and straight, who has ever served in the military of this country." This action sparked a committed response from queer activists who believed Pride's actions were evidence of how far it has strayed from its radical roots, and that the organization sits firmly in
the back pocket of its corporate sponsors. Grand Marshal Not Court-Martial examines the popular discourse surrounding the intersection of queer identity and military politics (i.e., Don’t Ask Don’t Tell).

**Ho-Chunk**

29. **A Qualitative Exploration of Campus Racial Climate**
   
   **Presenters:** Justina Kinard, Bethany Sekora, Melady Vue, and Nancy Yang
   
   **Faculty nominators:** Leah Olson-McBride

   The purpose of this research project was to deepen and expand our understanding of campus racial climate here at UW-Eau Claire. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with over 40 participants, 30 of whom identified as persons of color; these interviews focused on opinions and experiences related to campus racial climate. Questions ranged from “how do you think UWEC does when it comes to handling racism on campus?” to “how often to you interact with classmates of a different race?” The data was analyzed to determine key themes related to students’ experiences and found differences in perception among students of color and white students.

30. **An Exploration in the Experiences of Student-Athletes at UW-Eau Claire**

   **Presenters:** Ashley Bell, Amari Butler, Jennique Demers, Garrett Doubleday, Hayley Duerwachter, Hannah Ibs, Kelly Kammerer, Nicholas Riley, Tessa Ryan, Tiffany Thalacker, Jamie Theobald, Jordan Timm, Aimee Urben, Karli Weidinger, Pada Xiong, and Kevin Zarske

   **Faculty nominator:** Holly Hassemer and Leah Olson-McBride

   The purpose of this research project was to explore the experiences of student-athletes at UW-Eau Claire. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with over 50 current male and female student athletes; these interviews focused on the athletes’ perceptions of the impact of athletic participation on their financial, social, and academic lives. Questions ranged from “what are your favorite parts of being on a sports team?” to “do faculty members treat you differently because you are on a sports team?” The data was analyzed to determine key themes related to if and how sports participation impacts student-athletes’ college experiences.

31. **Investigating Smoking Behavior on a University Campus**

   **Presenters:** Elizabeth Kerber and Forrest Toegel

   **Faculty nominators:** Michael Axelrod and Kevin Klatt

   The purpose of the study was to determine the location and frequency of smoking on a university campus in relationship to changes in weather. Naturalistic observations of smoking behavior occurred in several smoking and nonsmoking areas designated by the university’s smoking policy. Findings suggest that smoking occurs more often in high traffic, non-designated smoking areas than in smoking areas assigned by the university’s smoking policy.

**Chancellors**

32. **Challenges to Obtaining an Independent and Impartial Moldovan Press**

   **Presenter:** Rachel Minske

   **Faculty nominator:** Jan Larson

   The Moldovan news media, citizens, and politicians agree that many obstacles remain before the country’s news media can be fully independent and impartial. Over a three-year period, researchers completed in-
depth interviews with Moldovan journalists, politicians, and citizens to understand the main obstacles facing the country’s news media. Video news packages have been created to highlight key obstacles and improvements on the country’s road to an impartial press.

### 33. Moldovans Forced to Find Work Abroad

**Presenter:** Ginna Roe  
**Faculty nominator:** Jan Larson

Moldovans unable to find work in their own villages and country leave their children behind in search of employment and money to support their families.

### 34. The Uncertainty of Green: Socially Responsible or Sustainable? Analyzing Rhetorical Claims of Green-ranked Companies Across Industries

**Presenter:** Emy Marier  
**Faculty nominator:** Paula Lentz

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) and corporate sustainability (CS) have traditionally been the primary terms companies use to claim ethical management of social and environmental issues. However, uncertainty exists regarding what these terms mean as CSR and CS reflect business practices. This project examines the rhetoric that top green-ranked companies use to claim CSR or CS.


**Presenter:** Jason Kolano  
**Faculty nominator:** Tarique Naizi

Increased demand for energy – combined with the climate change crisis currently impacting the planet – has resulted in a call from certain politicians, organizations, and concerned individuals to pursue alternative sources of energy production in the United States. Renewable energy alternatives such as wind, solar, and geothermal have commanded much attention in recent years as the negative environmental consequences of decades of fossil fuel consumption (and, more crucially, the carbon emissions released into the atmosphere through their combustion) have altered the global climate. In addition to the aforementioned renewable alternatives, nuclear energy – long regarded as an antiquated and potentially hazardous relic of a bygone era – has reemerged as a possible solution to meeting growing demand while reducing carbon emissions.

### Menominee

### 36. Film: It’s My Turn, Kemosabe: A Historical Analysis of Ethnic Sidekicks

**Presenters:** Erin Ferrell, Sarah Knauber, Ellen Larson, and Jessica Trampf  
**Faculty nominator:** Katherine Rhoades

This student-produced film analyzes the historical and contemporary roles of ethnic sidekicks in films. It examines and challenges specific ethnic stereotypes and misrepresentations in films over time by focusing especially on the evolving role of Tonto as the faithful sidekick to the Lone Ranger.
37. **Film: Planned Parenthood: Unplanned Politics**  
   **Presenters:** Jessa Quick, Anna Schwanebeck, and Ryan Spaight  
   **Faculty nominator:** Pam Forman

Planned Parenthood: Unplanned Politics follows the closing of the Chippewa Valley Planned Parenthood in May 2013. The film makers interview a staff member of Planned Parenthood in Milwaukee, an anti-choice activist, a current state legislator, a Women’s Studies lecturer, and UWEC Women’s Studies capstone students in this compelling investigation of what it means to reduce access to health care and to put women at risk for unwanted pregnancies in our state.

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**Ho-Chunk**

38. **Explaining Elevated Risk for Suicide among LGBTQ College Students**  
   **Presenters:** Peter Ehlinger and Taylor McMillian  
   **Faculty nominator:** Jennifer Muehlenkamp

LGBTQ-identifying students are at greater risk for suicide than heterosexual peers but there is a lack of research explaining why this is the case. This study evaluates whether the Interpersonal-Psychological theory of suicide can help explain the high rates of suicide among LGBTQ students. Self-identifying LGBTQ students completed an online survey assessing different features of suicide risk, minority stress theory constructs, and elements of the interpersonal psychological theory. Mediation analyses will evaluate whether the interpersonal psychological theory variables apply to, and can explain the elevated suicide risk in this population.

39. **Understanding the Sexual Prejudices of Sexual Orientation Minorities**  
   **Presenters:** Marta Rusten and Taylor Vossen  
   **Faculty nominator:** Angela Pirlott

Our research investigates non-heterosexuals’ sexual orientation stereotypes and prejudices. Derived from a qualitative study assessing non-heterosexuals’ stereotypes, we quantitatively assessed sexual orientation minorities’ perceptions of threats and opportunities posed by different sexual orientation groups. Non-heterosexuals’ prejudices were mainly elicited by heterosexuals (men in particular), and driven largely by four threat perceptions: heterosexuals push opposing values, discriminate, are physically aggressive, and create uncomfortable sexual situations.

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**Chancellors**

40. **Investigation of the Availability of Spanish Language Children’s Literature in the Eau Claire Area**  
   **Presenter:** Kelly Hughes  
   **Faculty nominator:** Manuel Fernández

This project consists of a field study / survey of Eau Claire libraries identifying which ones hold Spanish language literature for children of different ages through adolescence and in what variety. The project has cataloged the information and provide a selected annotated bibliography. Findings will be disseminated to local, interested parties, perhaps through the Centro de Conexión’s web page.
41. **Assessing and Facilitating of Oral Proficiency**  
**Presenter:** Jennifer Barth  
**Faculty nominator:** Martina Lindseth

The objective of this ongoing, multi-year project is to better understand how students acquire language proficiency in a non-immersion environment, e.g. in a classroom setting at UWEC. This research helps to gauge improvements in students' oral proficiency and indicates to what extent this development can be influenced and facilitated by specific activities in class.

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MAY 2, 2014 1-6PM
W.R. Davies Student Center
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