1. Welcome

2. Poster Sessions

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We invite A&M-SA faculty to encourage their students to submit their research presentation proposals to the 2016 Student Research Symposium to be held on the campus of Texas A&M University-San Antonio Friday & Saturday April 29 - 30, 2016

More details will be forthcoming via email in the near future.

Dr. Josie Sosa-Fey & Dr. Kate Gillen, Co-Chairs
Dr. Brent Marriott Snow
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Faculty at Texas A&M-SA provide guidance, support, and opportunities for our students to engage in research projects and discuss the results in a public forum. Presenting their research at conferences and symposia give our students opportunities to shine, and that luster reflects on our university!

One such opportunity created by the Office of the Provost, Graduate Studies and Research, and faculty, was the Inaugural Student Research Symposium held on our campus in April, 2015. This booklet provides a snapshot of research activities citing 130 research presentations by 225 students at the Inaugural A&M-SA Student Research Symposium and other venues during the 2014-2015 academic year. Hats off to our faculty and students for their excellent performance!

Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey
Symposium Chair - Director of Graduate Studies & Research

Students at A&M-SA are guided in their research projects by faculty who are experts in their fields. They have opportunities to present their research and exchange ideas with peers from similar fields of study, thus creating motivation and synergies for future research projects.

The 2015 Student Research Symposium provided the energy, motivation, and the convenience of an on-campus venue for our students to present their research in poster sessions, oral presentations, and panel discussions. This booklet provides a graphic depiction, and abstracts, of student research during the 2014-2015 academic year.
Conducting research is an integral part of education in the Health & Kinesiology program at A&M-SA. Students learn to apply class concepts to a higher level, further challenging their critical thinking skills. Hands-on research provides experiences to students that no textbook or video can offer and opportunities to present their findings to peers and learned societies completes this experience. This process of conducting research and presenting findings offers a sense of accomplishment and affirmation for students, helping to build confidence in their skills as they prepare to enter their profession.

Dr. John Smith

Students who participated in the A&M-SA Student Research Symposium not only had the opportunity to learn about and work their way through the research process, but gain experience in presenting and discussing their findings. This type of experience is invaluable as many will be encouraged to analyze and interpret data to make decisions within their field and positions of employment. The Symposium also creates in increased awareness of what students are doing within the various programs and departments at TAMUSA.

Dr. Maria Peterson
One of the most important experiences I had as an undergraduate student was conducting research with my professor. Taking an idea for an experiment from the initial stages of conceptual development through data collection to the final analysis and write up gave me a firm foundation in the scientific method. After completing that study, I knew that I wanted to pursue a life in academia. One of the most impactful experiences undergraduate students can have is conducting research with the help of their professors. Our students work with faculty members to develop empirical studies which they present at local, regional, and national conferences.

Developing a concept, building research materials, collecting data, analyzing results, and presenting their findings to an audience can be a transformative experience. Not every student will become a scientific researcher, but all of our students will live in a world shaped by scientific research and empirical studies. Through conducting research, our students develop an appreciation and understanding of the scientific method that comes from firsthand experience with conducting research and become more critical consumers of scientific research.

Dr. Cody Cox
Inaugural Student Research Symposium Oral Presentations

Student research at Texas A&M San Antonio is a unique way in which we encourage students to engage in current topics and to delve into what it means to be a Biologist. For my students the opportunity to present their findings serves as a milestone in the scientific process. Research and science are processes that take time and have multiple steps and a great deal of time. Often this is hard to convey to the students because it is so misrepresented in the media and by non-scientists (think of TV shows like CSI where they learn the identity of a killer in 30 minutes by analyzing DNA – it takes much longer than that to run the samples).

Allowing the students the opportunity to engage in the scientific process, starting small in their daily biology classes and expanding in their Undergraduate research experiences, encourages them to be a part of the scientific community and to grasp the effort that it takes to reach conclusions regarding a hypothesis in an attempt to answer a scientific question. In order to present at a symposium, or travel to a local or national society meeting, the student must synthesize the work that they have been participating in and it is amazing to watch them take ownership and pride in their work. Each time I engage with students regarding research it is particularly rewarding to watch them grasp the broader concepts in biology as they realize how it applies to their work.

Dr. Corinna Ross
The Student Research Symposium provides fantastic opportunities for our undergraduate and graduate students. Students have the chance to present their research in oral presentations, round-table discussions, and poster sessions. Our English students prepare for the Symposium throughout the year, formulating research projects on topics as diverse as colonialism in James Bond novels and depictions of gender in modern Shakespeare adaptations. Our students have also benefited a great deal from the Symposium’s interactive workshop on topics such as applying to graduate school.

Dr. Katherine Gillen

Panel Discussions

The opportunity for students to conduct original research in their field of interest is a defining component of their academic experience. Most students will recollect things about their undergraduate career that stand apart from the norm. When students experience the process of assembling a study, they become more confident in themselves and they develop a sense of passion that extends beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

When students are actually able to see the data that comes from a criminal justice agency, for example, they are able to create and develop their own questions about those data. It is an exploration that begins with some tentative hypotheses or research question, but may lead to many future studies for the student, perhaps even a graduate degree. The student benefits not only by gaining the first-hand experience from conducting the study, but they gain the opportunity to work with a mentor which can be very satisfying for both the student and their mentor.
The graduate school experience was the topic of a workshop offered during the 2015 Student Research Symposium. Students learned about what the graduate experience is like, how to navigate graduate school as a first generation student, and how to select, apply to, and succeed in graduate school.

Speakers were Dr. Shannon Walton, Director of Recruiting and Student Success, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies and Director of the TAMU System Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; Dr. Edith Esparza-Young, Assistant Professor of Bilingual Education and first generation college graduate; and Marissa Cisneros, A&M-SA graduate and sociology doctoral student at Texas A&M in College Station.

Dr. Vicky Elias

The Student Research Symposium was a great venue for psychology students. Our students complete research projects as part of a class project, and this conference affords every one of the students the opportunity to present these research projects, which mimics the real-life experience of a researcher, and prepares students for graduate school. We love traveling to conferences, but that is not possible for all of the students, due to scheduling, financial, and anxiety issues. An in-house symposium provides the conference experience to all students in an on-campus, low-stress environment. Not only are students given a safe environment for presentation, but the true conference atmosphere prepares them to travel to conventions in the future.

Dr. Amy Bobmann
The Student Research Symposium provides undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to create professional and academic proposals in either poster session or oral presentation format. The multifaceted event serves as a venue for emerging and completed Graduate Research Projects, which are part of the culminating research course for graduate degree programs, such as the Master’s in Bilingual Education.

The Symposium showcases the student-centered academic research agenda supported by the mentoring graduate faculty for each program. Graduate students also move forward to present at local, state and national conferences.

Dr. Esparza Young

The Library presented a workshop called, “Secrets to Managing Your Research” for several of the symposium’s participants after lunch. It provided students with information on managing citations, staying current in your field using various alert tools and managing articles, notes and draft papers.

Ms. Stefanie Wittenbach
Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson  
President, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

I’m glad I have the opportunity to welcome you to the first ever Research Symposium. We have over 150 students participating across all colleges here at the University. You’re very fortunate—one of the best things about being at Texas A&M University-San Antonio is your opportunity to engage with faculty and to create research opportunities that will take your learning to the next level.

I’m excited to hear there are so many oral presentations and poster sessions that are reflective of the work you’ve gathered in the classroom and will be sharing with your colleagues and peers here today. Welcome to this event, have a great time and I’ll see you when you’re ready to cross the stage at commencement.

Dr. Brent Marriott Snow  
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome to the inaugural Student Research Symposium! As you well know from your own experiences, libraries are an integral part of any research activity, and I think that it is fitting that we should celebrate our inaugural research symposium during National Library Week! So...let’s just say that we are applauding our students’ research while at the same time promoting library use and support. Congratulations to our faculty, students, and our librarians!

I am glad to see so many of you presenting your research and interacting with professors and peers in discussions about research activities that will enhance your education. I am also delighted that some of your family members are in attendance and are able to experience a tiny slice of the great education students getting at A&M-San Antonio.
Additional Student Research

Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol
Christopher Kichura presents his research findings at the Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, the first Health & Kinesiology student at A&M-SA to do so. This experience provided Chris the opportunity to represent the program and the University, to view the types of research being conducted by undergraduates at other universities across the state, and for other undergraduates and faculty to recognize the types of quality programs offered at A&M-SA.

Other Student Research Presentations
Miguel Ramirez’s paper on the Aztec Eagles in World War II, a Mexican squadron that supported the U.S. and allied forces during World War II, received best undergraduate paper at the 6th Annual Texas A&M University History Conference held in College Station in March 2015. The paper, titled “Águilas Aztecas: Mexico’s Forgotten Contribution to World War II,” provides a detailed account of the squadron’s operations in the Pacific. It also offers important insights on the changing relationship between the governments of Mexico and the U.S. during the 1940s. His paper also received third place in the 2015 Caldwell Memorial Prize competition sponsored by the Texas State Historical Agency. Miguel’s outstanding accomplishments demonstrate his commitment to excellence and highlight the efforts of the History program in developing our students’ abilities as scholars.

Dr. Edward Westermann

San Antonio 2020: Destination College
Six of our students had a great opportunity to participate in this city-wide student research showcase! This event highlighted outstanding student research during the 2014-2015 academic year. The purpose of the event was to provide motivation and encourage all students from the San Antonio area to complete their college education.

Dr. Josie Sosa-Fey
Student Research Symposium
Spring, 2015

Student Research Symposium Presentations
April 17 – 18, 2015

Presenters:  Luisa Adames, Cecilia Bailey, Emily Horton, Nastasha Leach, Edward Richter, Tammy Ross, and Emily Sanchez - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Richard Green
Title: An investigation into managers’ choice of depreciation method
Abstract: This research project presents the current state of a project to date, including the research hypotheses, an introduction to EDGAR, a brief explanation of Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL), and a discussion of how the methods developed by this group can be used by TAMU-SA faculty and staff for future research into accounting and finance topics.

Presenter: Cassie Aelvoet - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson
Title: Perceptions of an effective RTI model from an educator’s point of view
Abstract: This research aims to determine the effectiveness of Response to Intervention (RTI) in elementary school grades Kindergarten through fifth grade. The study also determines administrations and both general education and special education teacher perceptions of RTI implementation and its effectiveness in schools.

Presenters: Maricela Alaniz & Edith Pantoja - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox
Title: Effects of music on concentration
Abstract: Participants are exposed to three different conditions lasting about six minutes each, answering a math quiz. The three conditions will be: music with lyrics, music without lyrics and no music at all. The whole session takes each individual approximately thirty minutes to complete, and is conducted in a quiet room for better results. The participants randomly choose one out of six orders and sequences’ conditions. The goal of this research is to demonstrate that the type of music individuals listen to affects their concentration depending on how they perceive the music.

Presenter: Erika Aranguiz - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean Garcia
Title: Factors that contribute to the undergraduate student success of Hispanic female veterans in a selected South Texas community
Abstract: Since the enactment of the Post-911 GI Bill in 2009, student veteran populations have nearly doubled and yet few statistics and literature exist to show how this student population, most specifically Hispanic or Latina female veterans, are doing in college. The intent of this proposal and future study is to examine the factors that contribute to academic achievement and success; 1) personal and home environment, 2) higher education environment, 3) military resources.
Presenters: Rachelle Armat, Alyssa Inocencio, and Laura Cortinas - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sandra W. DeGrassi Title: Work-life balance in the workplace
Abstract: The life of a single parent in the workplace can be challenging and stressful. This paper addresses the pros/cons of employers who support work/life balance versus employers who don’t and the effects it has on the business workforce.

Presenter: Mike Artiaga - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson Title: Accommodating adult learners in higher education
Abstract: Andragogy is the principle of how and why adults learn. It is based on support systems, rather than pedagogy. This study discusses current research related to how faculty address andragogy. Preliminary findings discuss student perceptions regarding faculty communication and feedback.

Presenter: Mike Artiaga - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jose Valdez Title: Pollution’s impact on aquatic invertebrates in the San Antonio River
Abstract: The research examines the impact of the water parameters and the environment have on smaller organisms. This data can be used to interpret the effect on larger organisms, such as humans. Smaller organisms can be greatly affected by very slight changes in water parameters so over time larger differences in the water parameters could have a great effect on humans. In order to try to determine the impact on humans, we must study smaller organisms.

Presenters: Michael Avila & Jessica Rodriguez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Wowek S. Kearney Title: Who’s afraid of the big bad indices? A case study of one high poverty high minority campus’ success in the new Texas accountability system
Abstract: This campus met standards in all of the newly implemented accountability indices and received distinctions in all available categories. 93% of the students on this campus are ethnic minorities and 89% of students are categorized by the state as economically disadvantaged. Individual interviews were conducted in order to glean information on the characteristics of this high performing campus. Four themes emerged from the data: administrative support, teacher commitment to excellence, data driven decision making, and a culture of high academic expectations.

Presenters: Cecilia Bailey and Dora Garcia - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam Title: A review of FASB and IASB converge on lease accounting
Abstract: The proposed standards on new lease accounting rules will essentially bring all leases to the balance sheet. This will facilitate the long-planned converge of the two standard setting bodies- FASB and IASB. As it currently stands, generally accepted accounting principles or GAAP rule of lease accounting is two-fold method: capital and operating leases. The popularity of operating leases obviously is derived from the fact that it is “off-book”, as such it does not need to be recorded on the balance sheet, but are simply categorized under rental expenses. It is therefore widely viewed that the current system is subject to great deal of manipulation. Moreover, it does not support transparency and comparability of financial reports,
tools that creditors and investors utilize to analyze the associated risks and hopefully discover the true economic substance of reported leases. This research paper aims to present an empirical study on the impact of the proposed lease accounting framework to the financial statements and financial ratios of two known pharmaceutical retailers: CVS and Walgreens, using their most recent SEC filings.

Presenters: Guadalupe Barrera-Lozano, Estrella Casas, Kimberly Rodriguez, Marissa Cogburn, Desaree Viera, Cesaria Trevino, and Kara Garza - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann
Title: Differences in juvenile delinquent behaviors in children of divorced and single parents
Abstract: This study examines how family structure is associated with criminal behavior in adolescents. Surveys are conducted to identify if criminal behavior in adolescents is more commonly associated with those of divorced parents or single parents. We hypothesize that children of lower income status are more likely to engage in criminal behaviors than other children, that children who have close bonds with their parent(s) are less likely to commit criminal behavior, and that parent(s) with a criminal background will tend to have children who display criminal behaviors as adolescents.

Presenters: Melina Bazaldua and Monica Gutierrez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Pamela Massey
Title: Lau Remedies
Abstract: Lau Remedies is a law that provides guidelines for bilingual schools. This law was instituted because Chinese students who did not know English had no clue what was going on in the classroom since no accommodations were made for these students. This law has greatly impacted the education of non-English speaking students because of court ordered accommodations.

Presenter: Sarah Benavides - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson
Title: Pipe line to prison: The alternative
Abstract: Pipeline to prison is a concept that depicts a connection in which students are lost in the school system without proper behavioral interventions and eventually end up in behavioral units, detention centers, or prison. Positive behavior intervention programs (PBIS) help administrators, educators, and families stop the pipeline to prison. The research explores perceptions and expectations of teachers and administrators regarding implementation of PBIS programs.

Presenters: Starla Blake, Adam Gordon, Maria Ramon, and James Swafford - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox
Title: The effects of guided meditation on stress
Abstract: Meditation does not have to be long and elaborate, nor does one have to have a guru to guide one through the meditation. One does not need to light candles and sit cross legged chanting a mantra. With today’s media, a podcast and a quiet space for less than ten minutes can be effective. This study predicts that listening to a short guided meditation decreases the heart rate (pulse), respiration, and the systolic (the pressure of the heart when contracting) readings in those who use guided meditation, even for a single event.
Presenters: Krisa Bly, Samantha Chagoya, and Edward A. Richter - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam
Title: Cyber security
Abstract: The general public is losing trust in companies that are not taking extreme measures to ensure their consumers sensitive information safety. The consequences of a security breach could lead to the complete downfall of a company and potentially the economy. Many companies are keeping cyber security low on their priority list; some don't even discuss it at all. With the exponential growth in cyber traffic and the internet on the way to being recognized as a utility, we need to act fast and implement a great system that will help regulate these breaches and find what security measures will work and are able to stand the test of time.

Presenters: Sherline Bond-Kubecka and William Janssen - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam
Title: Stock repurchases - Good value or illusion?
Abstract: Companies are repurchasing their own stock at higher than normal levels in comparison to recent years. In 2013 alone Barclay's estimated that US companies have spent $535 billion, which accounted for 2% of the S&P 500. Companies base these repurchase decisions for various reasons including meeting projected earnings per share (EPS). The prevalence of executive stock options could represent financial incentives to repurchase their own stocks to achieve higher EPS for later stock sale.

Presenter: Beverly Bragg - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen
Title: Convent space and the theater stage in Early Modern Drama
Abstract: A common setting for plays that addressed religious conflict was the monastery or convent. These buildings were a common sight in England in the early sixteenth century. During the 1530’s however, Henry VIII and his primary advisor Thomas Cromwell began to dissolve England’s monasteries and by 1540, most all of the monasteries were gone. During the 16th and 17th centuries, it was the secular space of the theater stage that allowed playwrights and actors to address concerns associated with the Reformation. Like the reformers who repurposed religious items into secular objects, night after night the theater repurposed secular space into convents, brothels and romantic gardens as they performed plays that addressed religious matters as well as secular matters.

Presenter: Marc Calderon - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Porter
Title: Women of Laredo: 1755-1850
Abstract: This research explores the lives of the women of Laredo from its founding in 1755 until the late 1840s. The different social roles and ranks of the women of Laredo in society and how they intermingled with each other, and the roles of men in the town, are discussed. The various types of legal cases shed light on the legal power the women as members of the Spanish empire, and how the benefits derived. The research explores major changes to the laws and roles of women with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the annexation of the Mexican cession into the United States.
Presenters: Jonathan Cantu, and Ashley Narvaez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  Title: Attitudes toward criminal behavior
Abstract: Mandracchia, Shaw, and Morgan (2013) studied attitudes toward criminal justice, demographic differences in attitudes toward criminal justice, attitudes toward prisoners and prison reforms, and attitudes toward the death penalty. This research examines their attitudes toward criminal activity. We predict that those who associate with people who do criminal activity (CA) will find CA more acceptable, and that people who are primed with prosocial religion will have more acceptable attitudes towards CA than those not primed with prosocial religion.

Presenters: Martin Carias and Adam Lorenz - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Corinna Ross  Title: Small mammal population survey at Texas A&M
Abstract: We are conducting a survey of the small mammal population in the undeveloped scrubland behind the A&M-SA campus using Sherman traps baited with sunflower seeds. This study is collecting data about the species, weight, size and habitat where caught for the mammals (primarily rodents) that are trapped. There has not been a survey done of rodents in Bexar county for many years and so this work is important in starting to gather new data concerning changes in kind, number or diversity of rodent populations. Further, because the area being surveyed is scheduled to be developed at some future date, this data will be important in deciding what kinds of habitat changes should be made or avoided to ensure that construction does not unnecessarily alter local animal populations. While still in progress, this survey has already identified three Peromyscus, one Reithrodontomys, two Biomys and three Sigmodon after 1170 trap nights. The low catch rate may be due to the majority of the survey thus far being conducted in winter, starting in mid-January.

Presenter: Joanna Carrillo - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Hsiao-Ping Wu  Title: Effective ways of teaching Bilingual Education
Abstract: An effective one-way dual language program consists of successful consistent implementation, an effective model, appropriate academic language modeling, and clear academic goals and expectations from students and teachers.

Presenter: Jessica Cecko - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Porter  Title: The effect of the Mexican Revolution on San Antonio
Abstract: The upheaval of the decade-long Mexican Revolution (1910-1920) severely disrupted political, economic and social stability in Mexico. An estimated one to two million perished during that time period. Tens of thousands more fled, pouring across the northern border into the United States. San Antonio was recipient to thousands of these displaced persons. In particular, San Antonio played a critical role in the initiation of the Revolution, and continued to be a center for dissenter and political exiles. The latter half of the Revolution saw the largest uptick in immigrants crossing the border when violence, famine, economic devastation, and political instability reached its peak. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, county and federal census data are used as quantitative primary sources to establish a demographic baseline. Contemporary newspapers, oral histories, genealogical information, and biographies provide a more personal, qualitative insight into the legacy and effect of the Mexican Revolution on San Antonio.
Presenter: Francisco Cervantes - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean Garcia Title: The impact of the iPad on the development of literacy skills for English language learners grades K through 2nd in Texas
Abstract: The purpose of this research proposal is to explore and evaluate the current use of iPads as a possible emerging avenue for English Language Learners students in the State of Texas.

Presenters: Mallory Clark and Kristina Castillo - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam Title: COSO
Abstract: COSO provides guidance in the areas of risk, internal control and fraud deterrence through frameworks. In 2013, COSO undated the Internal Control –Integrated Framework, that sets out seventeen principles. These changes are discussed, as well as the impact COSO has on the accounting profession.

Presenters: Susan Clarke, Luisa Adames, and Brandon Parazo - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam Title: Social mood and accounting regulations
Abstract: We are going to discuss how social mood and socioeconomics affect accounting regulations. Regulations tend to be reactive, rather than proactive, and are linked to how the economy is doing.

Presenter: Rima Cousin - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey Title: Outsourcing or offshoring
Abstract: Revolution in technologies coupled with favorable international trade laws and regulations has made global economy a place of endless possibilities; globalization provides a great opportunity for emerging and existing businesses worldwide to venture out into new untapped market or introduce new products. Most companies are choosing to outsource their non-core activities, in order to divert their resources toward core activities. Most successful and preferred areas of outsourcing include information technology, human resource and employee development, and business processes.

Presenter: Anisha Dandona - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey Title: Outsourcing HR: A risk or a scope?
Abstract: What used to be a one-stop-shop for all the employee needs has converted from a physical entity to an automated “800” number, or a software portal. Research indicates that the firms are outsourcing their HR functions. This research discusses advantages/disadvantages of outsourcing HR, theories explaining the outsourcing trend, and factors to consider while outsourcing will be evaluated.

Presenter: George DeLeon - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson Title: A study of children with Down Syndrome
Abstract: The purpose of this study is to look at what school districts are doing around the county and to also show the long term effects associated with families who have children with DS that do not have the knowledge of a healthy lifestyle, and the many issues that come with these children outside of their schooling. Finally, this study will look at the adaptive physical education courses in the school districts now and how they are helping with these children’s physical health and what they are doing to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Presenters: Patricia Del Toro and Elena Rabinovich - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. W. Kearney
Title: Prodigious reading scores with special education students
Abstract: Educators and school administrators strive to find ways to improve academic performance of students with reading challenges and students with special needs. This particular case study aims to present an investigation from one elementary school that performed above the state standard in the area of reading for special education population. Researchers inquired about perception of teachers and administrators regarding the achievement of special education students in reading.

Presenter: Amanda Dement - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann
Title: Death anxiety in middle-aged and older adults
Abstract: The hypothesis of the current study is that the middle-aged adult would not have greater death anxiety than an older adult. Fifteen participants completed the survey, and although there is small negative correlation between age and death anxiety, it is not significant. In addition, age was dichotomized into middle and older adults, and no significant different was found between the two groups. Results indicate that more research needs to be done on death anxiety using a larger sample.

Presenter: Sanjuana Dolph - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Hsiao-Ping Wu
Title: How education technology will help accelerate learning for bilingual and ESL students
Abstract: The use of educational technology is a very important tool to accelerate learning in bilingual and ESL fields. Integrating technology in the curriculum will be beneficial for the bilingual and ESL teachers. The lack of research in this field points to the need for more research. The existence of new technology tools in education, and the desire of leaders in education to incorporate these tools, creates a need for open discussion about the pros and cons.

Presenter: Sonia Dorantes - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean Garcia
Title: The impact of the ESL support on the graduation rates of secondary bilingual students in the juvenile justice system
Abstract: Latino youth are detained at higher rates than their white counterparts and face many education challenges. Latino youth have the highest dropout rate, and when they are detained due to criminal activity, their chances of not graduating high school increases exponentially. This study examines factors that cause Latino youth to be detained, and how services received while in the justice system can help them obtain their high school diploma. If the appropriate services are given and Hispanic youth are able to receive rehabilitation services along with their education, it would allow them to break the cycle of incarceration.
Presenter: Deborah Escalante - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria B. Peterson  
Title: Are students with disabilities receiving the required life skills and job training curriculum before they graduate high school?
Abstract: This research investigates and demonstrates that the existing programs within the special education classrooms of Bexar County School District may be insufficient in providing individualized curriculum and/or transitional training necessary for each student with disabilities to seek independent/supported living, employment, or post-secondary education after high school graduation because individualized programs are not feasible due to lack of: funds, staff and physical availability, training and/or professional development, and personnel/administrative support.

Presenter: Victoria Escobedo - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  
Title: Function-based interventions used in schools
Abstract: This poster presentation aims to find out whether or not schools underutilize function-based interventions, which correspond with response to intervention, prior to the creation of a behavior intervention plan.

Presenter: Lila Espinoza - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: Beware the Freaks!
Abstract: I present Tod Robbins’s short story Spurs along with the film that was inspired by it, Todd Browning’s Freaks. Are the concepts of humanity still prevalent in both stories and do both tales reinforce the ideology of being weary of freaks. Although each story explores the premise of dehumanization and revenge from either an individualistic perspective while the other allows audiences to view the freaks in a more collectivistic perspective. Is revenge condoned with evoked by being dehumanized? Because translation of text in media impacts our society, how does this method of translation affect the original work? Is it better to see freaks in our mind or on screen?

Presenter: Eric Evans - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  
Title: Science, technology, engineering, & mathematics (STEM) education and the use of virtual technology to assist with students in special education
Abstract: This research aims to see whether teachers will have a positive attitude toward the idea of virtual reality classroom benefiting students who receive special education services.

Presenter: Nicole Frisbey - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jackson Ayres  
Title: Geopolitics of Caribbean tourism in Bond novels and films
Abstract: In culture studies of the James Bond phenomenon, some theorists have suggested that the novels are written as travel-text; however, there is insufficient research available discussing what the purpose of this travel-text poses in cultural studies - specifically, how England still benefit from this production of tourism in a geopolitical way through the novels and film adaptations of Bond.
Presenter: Mireya Fuentes - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Edith Esparza Young
Title: Alebrije
Abstract: An alebrije is the product of paper mache to construct what in this case is a small structure of different features of animals that the student has thought of through imagination and previous knowledge of existing animals. Objects and structures such as an alebrije allows the student to tap into their previous knowledge to make connections to new information to understand the content and language being taught.

Presenters: Kristina Garcia and Brooke Hall - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith
Title: A comparison of body fat monitors in adult females
Abstract: Obesity is an epidemic problem that is associated with many other diseases. There are many commercial monitors to track percentage of body fat (%BF) for those looking to improve their composition. The purpose of this study was to compare %BF readings from three different composition monitors.

Presenter: Catie Garza - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jackson Ayres
Title: Exploring deviance: Heterosexual and homosexual foils in John Waters’ Pink Flamingos
Abstract: This research is about homosexual and heterosexual relationships, and their purpose, in John Waters’ Pink Flamingos. The argument is that the depiction of homosexual relationships in the film is complicating the ideas of the culturally accepted notion that homosexuality is deviant by proving the deviant nature of heterosexuality.

Presenter: Stephanie Garza - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean Garcia
Title: Birth order and its impact on academic success of first generation Latino students
Abstract: The purpose of this study is to find out the impact that birth order has on the academic success of first generation Latino students.

Presenter: Jessica Gonzales - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen
Title: Dildos demonstrate agency
Abstract: Thomas Middleton and Thomas Dekker’s Roaring Girl stages and interrogates socially constructed and performed gender roles inside and outside the playhouse. This discussion aims to explore self-symbolism through the use of prosthesis that exemplifies human agency.

Presenter: Karina Guardiola - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Edith Esparza Young
Title: Increased exposure through thematic lesson for second language learner
Abstract: Experience at Texas A&M San Antonio indicates that second language learners benefit from increased exposure to print and language in cooperative learning activities. Creating thematic lesson plans is a great way to accomplish this.
Presenters: Jessica Guzman, Nichelle Fuentes, & Yadira Contreras - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  Title: GPA and academic performance affected by social media, electronic devices, and entertainment
Abstract: The hypothesis for this study is that the greater the use of social media, the lower the students’ grade point average (GPA) and academic performance. Researchers believe that these results can help individuals improve time management, GPA, and academic performance.

Presenters: Darren Hamilton and Krystal Suarez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  Title: Visual reaction time upon cognitive stimuli
Abstract: The purpose of this study is to determine how much distraction cell phones have on participants’ cognition load during a visual reaction time test. Data will be collected by performing field research around public areas.

Presenter: Christopher Harris - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey  Title: Impact of pay for performance programs on South Texas Medicaid medical providers
Abstract: Pay for performance has been around for over a decade. This paper will review the literature and previous studies on pay for performance (P4P) programs in the medical field, specifically examining Medicaid.

Presenter: Christy Hayden - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey  Title: Barriers in today's workforce are not hindering women from becoming successful leaders
Abstract: Barriers and obstacles in the workforce in the form of behavioral, cultural, and social constraints have been a significant obstruction for women in the global workforce of business and politics. Women are learning to understand and recognize those factors involved that deter women’s efforts of progression towards their goal of becoming recognized leaders in today’s global work environment.

Presenter: Kassandra Hill - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  Title: Misidentification in special education
Abstract: The purpose of this research is to focus on teacher perceptions of students who have been disproportionately placed in special educational programs due to race, gender, and age.

Presenter: Cathleen Holub - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  Title: DOMS after acute strenuous exercise and massage
Abstract: This study is designed to determine if Swedish massage therapy reduces DOMS at 24- and 48-hours after a single bout of resistance exercise to fatigue.
Presenters: Allison Huerta and David Perez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dean W. Wiemers  
Title: Estimating plant biodiversity on A&M-SA property  
Abstract: The diversity of plant life is essential for terrestrial ecosystems. The continued expansion of Texas A&M University-San Antonio will remove plant communities and may create an avenue to allow invasive plants to infiltrate the property. Our objective is to document the current plant diversity on campus.

Presenters: Catherine Jefferson, Kyle Middleton, Michael Martinez, Sarah Gonzales, and Martin Connor - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  
Title: An examination of the relationship between dispositional empathy and prejudice toward lesbians and gay men  
Abstract: This research will study participants’ dispositional levels of empathy, and their levels of prejudice toward lesbians and gay men. Based on previous research, we hypothesize that participants who score higher on perspective-taking and empathic concern, will have lower levels of prejudice toward lesbians and gay men.

Presenter: Judith Jones - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tamara Casso  
Title: The impact of stress on women in the workplace  
Abstract: The demands of heavy work production, long hours, multiple tasks, low pay and feeling undervalued contribute to stress disorders in women. Women are a vital part of the workforce; however, they can be placed in environments where employer’s expectations surpass the employee’s physical abilities. Many have incurred physical and mental health disorders in addition to lack of sleep and changes in weight, problems with relationships and parenting.

Presenter: Melissa Kanatzar - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  
Title: Military mobility and its effect on the education of special needs family members  
Abstract: When military members are required to move from one duty station to another, it affects the whole family. This is even more so for those family members with special needs. This presentation will briefly discuss some of the obstacles these families encounter.

Presenter: Chris Kichura - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: Cooling and performance  
Abstract: This study will assess the performance before and after an application of cooling. It was hypothesized that anaerobic performance would be significantly increased after cooling compared to no cooling. Results from the data did indicate an increase in performance but not significant enough given the t value for anaerobic capacity. The duration of pre-cooling via cooling vest and ingestion of ~16oz of ice water was not effective to produce a significant difference in short term anaerobic performance using the Wingate Test.
Presenters: Karen Krull, Abigail Suneson, and Lisa Skinner - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Weixing Ford  
Title: The medical Tricorder
Abstract: The new product we work on is a medical tricorder, called TriDoc. It is a personal, non-invasive, small hand-held, state of the art medical device that will allow consumers to self-diagnose most of their medical conditions at home. It works as a scanner that is able to read vital signs such as oxygen levels, blood pressure, blood sugar levels, etc. as well as diagnose numerous health conditions. The device has the ability to store data for future retrieval, and communicate with a smartphone App that can also transmit the information to the doctor. We used SWOT analysis for the strategic positioning of the product and corresponding marketing program.

Presenter: Lindsay Lange - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tracy Calley  
Title: Efficacy of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation for treatment-resistant major depressive disorder
Abstract: A new non-invasive neuromodulation technique, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) has emerged as an exciting alternative to more drastic treatment methods for TR-MDD (Treatment-resistant Major Depressive Disorder). This research reviews the existing literature to evaluate the therapeutic efficacy and durability of rTMS for TR-MDD. rTMS combined with psychotherapy will be evaluated as a potential augmentation strategy.

Presenters: Alejandro Leal, Jennifer Reeves, and Emmalee Horton - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam  
Title: Certifications for accountants
Abstract: My team and I will be discussing certifications that accounting professionals and students can obtain during their careers. There is strong evidence supporting the idea that obtaining an accounting certification can substantially increase your pay while also making yourself more marketable and credible in a competitive environment.

Presenters: Angela Lincoln and Heejin Kwon - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam  
Title: Leasing accounting financial reporting
Abstract: A concern that is arising is how companies are choosing to use off-balance sheet financing to account for leases. This research paper will discuss the issues and concerns of the current lease accounting standards, as well as how IASB and FASB are looking for more consistent, ethical standards to apply to lease accounting.

Presenter: Samantha Lopez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Murakami  
Title: Teacher attrition in today’s schools. What can administrators do to reduce teacher attrition?
Abstract: The purpose of this study is to understand possible determinants of teacher attrition. The study examined existing data such as campus specific improvement plan documents, campus specific Texas Academic Performance Reports, and interviews with the assistant principal, one academic facilitator and one teacher. By retaining high-quality teachers, school principals can build consistency, positive traditions, and camaraderie in schools.
Presenter: Virginia Lopez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean Garcia    Title: Funds of knowledge teaching approach
Abstract: How do bilingual educators use the “funds of knowledge” approach in the classroom to bridge the gap between homes and classrooms in the south Texas elementary schools.

Presenter: Oscar Magana - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey    Title: The importance of cultural awareness for global managers
Abstract: This paper promotes a focus on the importance for managers to be culturally aware in order to become successful in a global economy and global marketplace.

Presenter: John Martinez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth T. Murakami    Title: Positive father impact
Abstract: The purpose of this study was to explore parent involvement in schools. The Watch DOGS Program, which is based on father volunteers, has been recognized as a predictor of academic engagement and success among students, especially in elementary schools. This program also shows an opportunity to increase the visibility of positive male role models in the school.

Presenters: Luis Martinez, Joe Dupuy, and K’la Irvin - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam    Title: Audit reporting changes: easing the transition
Abstract: The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) has proposed changes to audit reporting that, if approved, will lead to the most sweeping changes in audit reporting since the board was formed by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. One of the proposed changes would require paragraph/s from the auditor identifying complex areas of the audit found in the course of the auditor’s engagement with a publicly-held company.

Presenters: Mike Maspero, Albert Garcia, and Greg Rodriguez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith    Title: The effects of an altitude training mask on physiological and perceptual variables while at rest and during exercise
Abstract: The use of altitude training masks by the average person has increased in recent years with numerous endorsements by famous athletes, yet few studies can be found on the acute effects during exercise while wearing an altitude training mask (ATM). The effect of the mask is not great enough to elicit significant changes in perceptual or physiological variables.

Presenter: Jessica McLamore - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson    Title: IEP specific accommodations in secondary general education classroom
Abstract: This research aims to see if secondary general education teachers are overwhelmed by Individuated Education Program specific accommodations, and to see if the teachers fully understand how to implement such accommodations in the general education classroom setting.
Presenter: Heather Meagher - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  
Title: College readiness of students with disabilities in Texas  
Abstract: This research aims to determine whether the standards with which students with disabilities are taught in high school are preparing these students to be college ready.

Presenter: Matthew Mendez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jackson Ayres  
Title: Ken Kesey’s Cuckoo Hand  
Abstract: In the 1962 novel, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, Ken Kesey uses hand imagery throughout to mark important passages and to set off key ideas. This method provides the reader with a more tangible and automatically human response to the emotive power of gesture, observing people in a familiar way.

Presenters: Erika Mendoza, Kayla Galvan, and Christy Hayden - College of Business  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sandra DeGrassi  
Title: Are employees totally rewarded? Dissecting a total rewards statement and its impact.  
Abstract: The study took a comprehensive look into the effect a detailed Total Rewards Statement can have on employee engagement, commitment, and satisfaction.

Presenter: Angeles Miguens - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sabina DeVries  
Title: Mindfulness as a self-care tool  
Abstract: This paper explores mindfulness as a self-care tool for professionals in the health service field. Mindfulness has been shown to be an effective tool to prevent stress, and to increase healthy life style of practitioners.

Presenters: Raymond Moore, Marissa De La Rosa, and Daniel Rodriguez - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The effect of music on the 1RM bench press test  
Abstract: While studies demonstrate the effect of music on perception of effort as favorable, there are conflicting views on whether or not it increases performance. While previous research demonstrated the effect of music on performance, this study indicates music is not a sufficient stimulus to increase performance during weight training, specifically during a one-repetition maximum lift.

Presenters: Luis Morales, Tevi Lawson, and Eusahaane Randall - College of Business  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam  
Title: Waiting for convergence  

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Presenter: Jorge Moran - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  
Title: Emotion-focused therapy for anxiety test taking
Abstract: The research seeks to determine whether using emotional freedom technique (EFT) before and after test taking will lower anxiety levels when taking a test using critical thinking questionnaires from math algebra problems and reading English grammar.

Presenter: Aaron Patino - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisors: Dr. Jackson Ayres & Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: Machete as neo-exploitation
Abstract: Contemporary audiences of today find themselves in the midst of a new wave of exploitation films that harkens back to the 1970s in a merely superficial manner. This essay uses Robert Rodriguez’s Machete (2010) in order to define a genuine reincarnation of 1970s classic exploitation films.

Presenter: Anna Perez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: Hamlet as the lord of misrule
Abstract: This paper explores Shakespeare’s Hamlet as seen through the lens of film director Gregory Doran. Intensifying the play’s metatheatrical elements, Doran positions Hamlet as The Lord of Misrule, presides over the chaos he creates placing Denmark’s people as his oversized puppets.

Presenter: Melissa Perreault - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jackson Ayres  
Title: Pretty powerful: The great cover up of the female comic book character
Abstract: Female comic book characters have been under scrutiny because of costuming choices of their various illustrators, but recent changes of covering them toward so called equality is only another form of body shaming.

Presenter: Karla Ponce - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The relationship between exercise questionnaires and pedometer counts
Abstract: Questionnaires and pedometers are often used to quantify activity levels in the general population. The Godin Leisure Time (GLT) and International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ) have been established as valid and reliable activity questions in previous research. In this population, however, due to the low coefficients, these questionnaires may not be valid. The self-made Likert-type (SM) may be a better activity questionnaire to use in place of the previous two.

Presenter: Sharon Reddick - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey  
Title: Women in the business profession of interior design
Abstract: This research shows the increase of registered Interior Designers within the Texas Board of Architects. Women working in architecture and interior design have increased the qualitative and quantitative statistics with percentages greater in the last decades.
Presenter: Adriana Reyna - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Hsiao-Ping Wu  
Title: How deportations affect Hispanic children  
Abstract: The effects of deportations on Hispanic children can have negative physiological, emotional, and economic consequences.

Presenter: Jacob Reyna - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The effects of Kinesio tape on baseball pitching velocity and fatigue  
Abstract: The use of Kinesio tape has increased exponentially over the last couple of years due to claims of performance enhancing effects and high exposure at elite levels. The researcher developed a Kinesio taping condition to see if any performance benefit could be found. This study did not illicit a positive or negative outcome on performance; further research is needed in this area to determine the effectiveness of Kinesio tape on pitching performance.

Presenters: Michael Richter, Angela Clark, Katherine Mesa, Claudette Eady, and Monica Guerrero - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  
Title: Millennials succumb to narcissistic personality disorder with the help of technology  
Abstract: With the advancement in technology and a clear generational gap, Millennials are faced with problems unique to their generation. Companies, such as Google and Rackspace, have molded their infrastructure to adhere to characteristics of the Millennials. Consistently being wired in, Millennials have an unwavering drive for free expression. All of these distinctive qualities indicate that this generation is becoming characteristically narcissistic.

Presenters: Anu Rimal and EricaRodgeruiz - College of Business  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dennis Elam  
Title: Revisions to external audit report  
Abstract: These revisions will increase the informational value, usefulness, and relevance of the auditor’s report, and expand the auditor responsibility. The areas of debate of our topic consist of: Are these new implementation practical, and beneficial to all parties, are they too intrusive? What effect will it have on company’s future?

Presenters: Lorenza Rios, Deborah Tamez, and Tiffany Gonzales - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  
Title: Pigments of attraction  
Abstract: The purpose of this research is to show how skin pigmentation of people affects how one rates attractiveness.

Presenter: Andrea Rodriguez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Francis X Galán  
Title: Soldaderas: The role of women during the Mexican Revolution  
Abstract: When insurrection broke out during Porfirio Díaz’s regime, women took up arms and fought alongside men as fierce rebels, and unscrupulous autocrats clashed in a struggle for control of Mexico’s future.
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Presenter: Teresa Ruiz - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jackson Ayres  Title: Han’s Vortex Island, Orientalism and the complicated codification of Asian masculinity in Enter the Dragon
Abstract: This essay focalizes Enter the Dragon’s (1973) motif of imagery and illusion, situating Han’s island as an allegorical vortex of contradictory forces.

Presenter: Brian Saenz - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  Title: I am listening, but I would rather stare at my phone
Abstract: The present experiment is looking into how well people communicate with cellphones being used in a dyadic setting.

Presenter: Catherine Sanchez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  Title: Teacher perceptions of high school students who exhibit behavioral issues
Abstract: The purpose of this research is to get better understanding of why students who exhibit behavioral problems in school are perceived by teachers as less likely to reach out for help.

Presenter: James Sanchez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria Peterson  Title: Teacher perceptions of PBIS effectiveness
Abstract: Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) focuses on positive behaviors with the goal of eradicating problematic behaviors with school-aged children. This study aims to disseminate teacher perceptions of PBIS program effectiveness and implementation in one South Texas public school setting.

Presenter: Lisa Sanna - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  Title: You are messing with the wrong man! A Breakdown of Heteronormative Gender Identities and Constructing Genderqueerness in Andy Fickman’s She’s the Man
Abstract: This paper examines Andy Fickman’s 2006 film She’s the Man, by analyzing the film’s attempt to deconstruct heteronormativity through the portrayal of Viola Hastings and Duke Orsino as genderqueer characters.

Presenters: Juanita Sepulveda and Alma Arriola - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mishaleen Allen  Title: Pre-service view to a teaching profession: Voices from the field
Abstract: When venturing into the professional world of education, one needs to have every advantage in developing a true image of the classroom. Through innovative partnerships with community programs for at-risk students, graduate students gained the needed experience and skills for future teacher-student interactions as well as co-teaching experience with colleagues.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Presenter: Maria Serna - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Edith Young
Title: Two-way dual language program
Abstract: Research investigated the Model of Two-Way Dual Language focused on the positive impact in schools. The program is based on the integration of two groups of students (language minority, and language majority, in schools in the United States): Both groups learning together in a systematic way; where both groups become bilingual, and bilateral, functioning in two languages.

Presenter: Sylvia Soto - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Edith Young
Title: The influence on brain development of children under the age of seven due to musical experiences
Abstract: Music is a form of art, educational, social and an emotional subject that has been used for many years in the classroom because of its extensive benefits. This study examines the effects of music on the brain of children under the age of seven and the intellectual abilities that are gained due to musical experiences.

Presenters: Tracie Stacy and Sarah Morales - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann
Title: Shyness and romantic relationships: Emphasis on loneliness, self-esteem, and romantic partner conflict
Abstract: Rowell & Coplan found shyness to be negatively associated with romantic relationship quality (2013). Investigators wanted to extend this research using variables such as loneliness, self-esteem, and romantic partner conflict and hypothesized that singles would score lower on shyness and loneliness, and higher on self-esteem than those not in a relationship.

Presenter: Jenny Strang - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean García
Title: The impact of the home, school and community on the learning of migrant students in a selected south Texas community
Abstract: The purpose of the study was to examine the different aspects of students in elementary school system kindergarten through second grade level.

Presenters: Elizabeth Tambunga and Selina Montejano - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox
Title: Relationship quality
Abstract: Does viewing sexually explicit material affect one’s relationship quality in a negative or positive way? The aim of the study was to see if there is a difference between how males and females in monogamous relationships feel about their partner viewing sexually explicit material.

Presenter: Joseph Valadez - College of Education & Human Development
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nancy Compean García
Title: Retention of Latino students and the factors that contribute to high rates of dropouts in a selected South Central Texas city school district.
Abstract: The purpose of this study was to examine some of the factors that contribute to the high dropout rate of Latino students in small school district, such as Garland Independent School district.
Presenter: Maria Veloso - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey  
Title: Impact of training on employee performance, business performance, and innovation
Abstract: Training is one of the most critical factors in organizational performance and growth. In a recent review of current studies, the results concur with research that positively links training to business success, while presenting different business training methods.

Presenters: Jessica Viera and Gabriela Moraga - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  
Title: Math and me
Abstract: The goal of this study is to discover how sedative music affects participants while they are under stress.

Presenter: Brenda Weldon - College of Business
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Josephine Sosa-Fey  
Title: Transformation of whistle-blowing
Abstract: The medical industry promotes whistle-blowing to strengthen organizational ethics globally. This forward thinking promotes whistle-blowing which leads to job security, leadership support, rewards as a benefit, and whistle-blower protection.

Presenters: Elizabeth Woodruff, Jaclyn Horton, Debbie Muro, and Yesenia Perez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  
Title: Self-esteem and obesity in women
Abstract: Are self-esteem and obesity connected? In a self-esteem study conducted in Germany, women reported lower self-esteem when their obesity was caused by their own lifestyle, than when their obesity was caused by a disease. (Nestler, Egloff, 2012).

Presenters: Sydney Yarborough, Savannah Yarborough, Perla Silvia, and Carmen Paniagua - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  
Title: The effects of advertisement
Abstract: Our study attempts to determine the consequences of print media on self-esteem/body satisfaction in women. The study used self-reporting, to determine if there exists a significant difference in self-esteem and/or body satisfaction in groups of women after viewing thin-idealized lingerie models as compared to groups of women viewing plus-sized lingerie models.

Presenter: Roman Ybarra - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Durant Frantz  
Title: Recidivism in domestic violence
Abstract: The purpose of our research was to determine factors that would allow us to better predict individuals who are more likely to recidivate after having been arrested and charged with domestic violence charges.

Presenters: Ashley Youngblood, Brenda Pena, Roberta Singer, Kris Palmer, Nathan Andrews, Jillian Sotomayor, Robertson Turner, Falcon Myers, Zachary Hilliker—College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Vicky Elias  
Title: Marriage: A closer look
Abstract: How do changes in socioeconomic status and gender roles affect the institution of marriage?

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Other Student Research Presentations

Presenter: Cynthia Alanis - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The relationship between physical activity and belief that kinesiology majors should pass a physical fitness test.  

Presenters: Delores Alarcon, Kristy Boone, Jessie DeLaCruz, Monica Medrano and Angela Valadez - College of Business  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kathleen Voges  
Title: Strategic plan to export Texas pecans to China  
Presented at: Free Trade Alliance Business Plan Competition.

Presenter: Kimberly Beasley - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The relationship between exercise and happiness  

Presenter: Diana Beltran - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Debbie Vera  
Title: Building better nutrition one vegetable (or fruit!) at a time!  
Presented at: San Antonio Association for the Education of the Young Child, A&M-San Antonio.

Presenters: Martin Carias, and Adam Lorenz - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Corinna Ross  
Title: Small mammal population survey, Texas A&M-SA  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.

Presenter: Catherine Carreon - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Theresa Dorel  
Title: Increasing advocacy awareness: How to navigate the system in special education  
Presented at: San Antonio Association of Early and Young Childhood Annual Conference.

Presenter: Deborah Escalante - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maria B. Peterson  
Title: Are students with disabilities receiving the required life skills and job training curriculum before they graduate high school?  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.

Presenter: Cynthia Esparza - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tamara Hinojosa  
Title: American Indian and Alaska Native women: Providing mental health services after sexual assault.  
Presented at: Association of Adult Development and Aging, New York, NY.
Presenter: Stephanie Fillmon - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: Derailing the monomyth: Gender and genre in Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere*.  
Presented at: Intersectional Approaches to Popular Fiction and Film, English Graduate Conference.

Presenter: Antonio Garza - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: Writing center as Borderland: Initiating students of color into the academy.  
Presented at: El Mundo Zurdo 2015, University of Texas at Austin.

Presenter: Caitlin Garza - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: The ‘Girl’: An examination of Teresa in James Dashner’s *The Maze Runner*.  
Presented at: Intersectional Approaches to Popular Fiction and Film, English Graduate Conference.

Presenters: Cesar Gutierrez, Van Hoang, Arturo Rivas and Leticia Vega - College of Business  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kathleen Voges  
Title: A strategic plan to sell biodegradable plastic containers in the U. S.  
Presented at: Free Trade Alliance Business Plan Competition, Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

Presenters: Jessica Guzman, Nichelle Fuentes, and Yadira Contreras - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Amy Bohmann  
Title: GPA and academic performance affected by social media, electronic devices, and entertainment.  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.

Presenters: Darren Hamilton and Krystal Suarez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cody Cox  
Title: Visual reaction time upon cognitive stimuli.  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.

Presenter: Cathleen Holub - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: DOMS after acute strenuous exercise and massage.  
Presented at: Texas College of Sports Medicine.

Presenter: Junyoung Hong - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisors: J. D. Smith, Dr. C.N. Ross, and Dr. S. Lee  
Title: Comparison of multiple sets and single set of resistance training on muscle strength and power.  
Presented at: Texas Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting.

Presenters: Allison Huerta and David Perez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dean Wiemers  
Title: Estimating plant biodiversity on Texas A&M-University-San Antonio Property.  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.
Presenter: Chris Kichura - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: Cooling and performance.  
Presented at: Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol.

Presenters: Mike Maspero, Albert Garcia, and Greg Rodriguez - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John Smith  
Title: The effects of an altitude training mask on physiological and perceptual variables while at rest and during exercise.  
Presented at: City of San Antonio 2020: Destination College.

Presenters: Benjamin McGehee and Amarillys Barquin - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Megan Wise de Valdez  
Title: Calling behavior of adult male Acheta Domesticus crickets infected with Paragordius virus.  
Presented at: Southwestern Association of Parasitologists and American Society of Parasitologists.

Presenters: Carlos Medina and Katy Morgan - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tamara Hinojosa  
Title: Biphobia, masculinity, and identity: Implications for counselor educators and supervisors.  
Presented at: Texas Association of Counselor Education and Supervision.

Presenter: Carlos Medina - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tamara Hinojosa  
Title: Behind the label: A holistic approach to addressing lesbian college student needs.  
Presented at: Texas Counseling Association, Austin, TX.

Presenter: Ayesha Morin - College of Education & Human Development  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Debbie Vera  
Title: Encouraging language to bloom in the classroom: Strategies for children with limited language.  
Presented at: San Antonio Association for the Education of the Young Child, Texas A&M University - San Antonio.

Presenter: Miguel Ramirez - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Edward Westermann  
Title: Águilas Aztecas: Mexico’s forgotten contribution to World War II.  
Presented at: Sixth Annual Texas A&M History Conference, College Station.

Presenter: Lisa Sana - College of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen  
Title: But Edna. My goodness. She was a birthmother: An examination of ‘othering’ the birthmother in Lois Lowry’s The Giver.  
Presented at: Losing/Becoming Self, Graduate Conference, Louisiana State University.
Presenter: Sheridan Santens - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen   Title: Chuck Palahniuk’s *Choke: A Gag Reflex to the Masculinity Crisis of the 1990s.*
Presented at: Losing/Becoming Self, Graduate Conference, Louisiana State University.

Presenter: Mercedes Torrez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen   Title: Revising a cosmopolitan composition: The ambiguous relationship between world Englishes and the writing center.
Presented at: South Central Writing Center Association, The University of Texas at Austin.

Presenter: Mercedes Torrez - College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gillen   Title: Disability, transgression, and fetishized fascination in reimagining the cultural haunting of San Antonio’s legendary *Donkey Lady.*

Presenter: Stephanie Womack – College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Rodolfo Valdez Barillas   Title: Preliminary acoustic monitoring for bat population of southern Bexar County, Texas.
Presented at: Texas Society of Mammologist annual meeting, Texas Tech University Center.