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Graduate Scholar: Journal of Scholarship and Recognition

Graduate School of Eastern Illinois University

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Graduate Scholar

April 19, 2007

Journal of Scholarship and Recognition



Elizabeth Fincel
2007 Distinguished
Master's Thesis
Award Winner

The Graduate School



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

Graduate Recognition

Distinguished Graduate Student Awards

Williams Travel Award Winners

Research/Creative Activity Award Winners

Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholar

Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholar

Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholar

Thesis Awards

Master's Thesis Award Honorable Mention

Master's Thesis Award of Excellence Winner

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Winner and MAGS Thesis Nomination

Graduate Program Recognition

Graduate Leadership Award

Recognition of Unique Contributions to Graduate Education

Award of Excellence

Graduate Faculty Recognition

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award Nominees

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

Graduate Scholarship

Thesis Awards

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and MAGS Nomination

Master's Thesis Award of Excellence

Master's Thesis Award Honorable Mention

Research/Creative Activity Awards

Williams Travel Awards

Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholarship

Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholarship

Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholarship

Eastern Illinois University

Graduate Scholar

2006-2007 Academic Year

Editor: Lori Henderson

Cover Photo: Michael Babcock

Interior Photos: Beverly Cruse

The Graduate School publishes the Graduate Scholar annually to recognize and honor those who have achieved excellence in graduate education at Eastern Illinois University.

Awards Ceremony | April 19, 2007
Introductions and Opening Remarks

Mr. Brian Clarke, President of the Graduate Student Advisory Council and Master of Ceremonies
Mr. Louis V. Hencken, President
Dr. Blair M. Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Robert M. Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School

Distinguished Graduate Student Awards

College of Arts and Humanities
Announced by Dean James Johnson

Judy Dethmers- Art
Presented by Mr. Chris Kahler
Katie Griffis- Communication Studies
Presented by Dr. Shane Miller
Kathleen Rodems- English
Presented by Dr. Chris Hanlon
Robyn Carswell- History
Presented by Dr. Lynne Curry
Katherine Gillen- History (Historical Administration)
Presented by Dr. Nora Pat Small
Daniel Cather- Music
Presented by Dr. Peter Hesterman

Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences
Announced by Dean Diane Hoadley

Benjamin Tueck- Business Administration (On-Campus)
Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll
Lauren Schmid- Business Administration (Off-Campus)
Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll
Misty Baker- Family & Consumer Sciences
Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy
Audra Cisna- Family & Consumer Sciences (Dietetics)
Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy
Diana Stenger- Gerontology
Presented by Dr. Jeanne Snyder
Joshua Norman- Technology (On-Campus)
Presented by Dr. Phil Age
Aaron Harmon- Technology (Off-Campus)
Presented by Dr. Phil Age

College of Education and Professional Studies
Announced by Dean Diane Jackman

Brian Clarke- College Student Affairs
Presented by Dr. Charles Eberly
Diane Pence- Counseling
Presented by Dr. Heidi Larson
Sara Steinman- Educational Administration (Master's)
Presented by Dr. Linda Morford
Eric Frankford- Educational Administration (Specialist's)
Presented by Dr. Linda Morford
Jennifer Walker- Elementary Education
Presented by Dr. Gail Lockart
Valerie Wente- Physical Education
Presented by Dr. Jill Owen
Amy Jackson- Special Education
Presented by Dr. Joy Russell

College of Sciences
Announced by Dean Mary Anne Hanner

Joanne Crawford- Biological Sciences
Presented by Dr. Chuck Costa
Terry Lin- Chemistry
Presented by Dr. Sean Peebles
Ateka Contractor- Clinical Psychology
Presented by Dr. Anu Sharma
Colleen Slattery- Communication Disorders & Sciences
Presented by Dr. Brenda Wilson
George Lesica- Economics
Presented by Dr. Eric Hake
Molly Finley- Mathematics
Presented by Dr. Keith Wolcott
Teri Cutler- Mathematics (Math Education Option)
Presented by Dr. Marshall Lassak
Shelley Roberts- Natural Sciences
Presented by Dr. Jim McGaughey
Daniel Bottomley- Political Science
Presented by Dr. Lilian Barria
Jennifer Martin- School Psychology
Presented by Dr. Mike Havey

Williams Travel Awards

Announced by Dr. Shane Miller, Member, Council on Graduate Studies, Chair, Awards Committee
Presented by Dr. Thomas Nelson, Member, Council on Graduate Studies and
Dr. Scott Crawford, Member, Awards Committee

Fall 2006 Recipients

Daniel Bottomley, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Joanne Crawford, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

Lee Gross, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Stephen Mullin

Brittany Hoerdeman, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Karen Swenson

Vincent Hustad, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew Methven

Jeremy Klass, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Scott Meiners

Christopher Lading, Communication Disorders &
Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Rebecca Throneburg

Melanie Olds, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Stephen Mullin

Margaret Pedziwiatr, Communication Disorders &
Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Gail Richard

Timothy Rye, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Scott Meiners

Krishna I. Thomas, History
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Jin-hee Lee

Terri Thompson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Eric Bollinger

Oie-Liis Vahemma, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Samuel Vandegrift, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew McNitt

Kimberly Vernier, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew Methven

Brittney Yakey, Communication Disorders &
Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Rebecca Throneburg

Spring 2007 Recipients

Kyle Baumgartner, Economics
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Hui Li

William Beatty, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Zhiwei Liu

Robyn Carswell, History
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lynne Curry

Catherine Ciak, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Andrew Claxton, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeff Laursen

Joanne Crawford, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

Rachel Fisher, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

Ryan Galloway, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Jay Gerber, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson

Kristin Giglietti, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeff Laursen

Katie Griffis, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Melanie Mills

Corinna Hanson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

Garic Lawrence, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lilian Barria

Michelle Moreton, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Melanie Mills

Sherraun Mustafa, Counseling
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Anu Sharma

Emin Nabiyevev, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lilian Barria

Jessica Rasmussen, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson

Ben Riegle, Physical Education
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Brent Walker

Michal Serafin, Chemistry
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Sean Peebles

Terri Thompson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Eric Bollinger

Martha Wilkinson, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

Research/Creative Activity Awards

Announced by Dr. Sace Elder, Member, Council on Graduate Studies; Chair, Awards Committee
Presented by Dr. Steve Conn, Member, Council on Graduate Studies; Member, Awards Committee
and Dr. Scott Crawford, Member, Awards Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Physical Education

Fall 2006 Recipients

Alexandra Baluka, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Steven Daniel
Catherine Ciak, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer
Joanne Crawford, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentors, Dr. Zhiwei Liu and
Dr. Thomas Nelson
Jessica Rasmussen, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson
Timothy Rye, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

Spring 2007 Recipients

William Beatty, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Zhiwei Liu
Jeff Fore, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer
Peter Frey, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners
Lee Gross, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Stephen Mullin
Brandon Jutras, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentors, Dr. Zhiwei Liu and
Dr. Jeff Laursen
Jeremy Klass, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners
Kimberly Vernier, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Andrew Methven
Steve Warrner, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Graduate Scholarships

Announced by Dr. Cheryl Noll, Member, Scholarship Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Business Studies

2007 Mary Bear McClay Scholar

Teri Cutler, Mathematics Education
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Marshall Lassak

2007 Betty Wright Downing Scholar

Katie Herrmann, Communication Disorders and Sciences
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Wilson

2007 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar

Brittany Barker, Communication Disorders and Sciences
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Wilson

Thesis Award Winners

Announced by Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies

Honorable Mention

Ryan Ervin, History
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lynne Curry

Award of Excellence

Erika Cornelius, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and Midwest Association of Graduate School Thesis Nomination

Elizabeth Fincel, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Marina Marjanovic

Graduate Leadership Award and Award of Excellence

Presented by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School

2007 Graduate School Leadership Award

School Psychology, Graduate Program

Dr. Mike Havey, Graduate Coordinator

Dr. William Addison, Department Chair

2007 Graduate School Award of Excellence

Dr. Mary Herrington-Perry, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

2007 Graduate Faculty Nominees

Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Nominees and 2007 Graduate Faculty Award

Announced by Ms. Christa Smith, Student Dean, The Graduate School

Dr. Ronan Bernas, School Psychology

Student Nominator: Michael Maier

Dr. Joshua Birk, History

Student Nominator: Patrick Harris

Dr. Lynne Curry, History

Student Nominator: Robyn Carswell

Dr. Chris Hanlon, English

Student Nominators: Lisa Chamberlin, Tasha Dunaway, Ashley Klinginsmith, Scott Lutz
Emily Ramage, Kathleen Rodems

Dr. William Joyce, Graduate Business Studies

Student Nominator: Ivana Milosevic

Dr. Heidi Larson, Counseling

Student Nominator: Amy Marcoot

Dr. Jinhee Lee, History

Student Nominator: Krishna I. Thomas

Dr. Thomas McDonald, Technology

Student Nominator: Chad Cross

2007 Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor

Dr. Jinhee Lee, History

Student Nominator: Krishna I. Thomas

Special Recognition

Presented by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School



Distinguished Master's Thesis Award &
Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Nomination

Elizabeth Fincel, Master of Science in Biological Sciences

Marina Marjanovic, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Urea: a natural cryoprotectant in the freeze-tolerant wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*)

The wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*) is one of only a few vertebrates that are able to withstand freezing of their body fluids. Various organic osmolytes play a central role in physiological adaptation to freezing and other osmotic stresses in diverse taxa, but in *R. sylvatica* only one cryoprotectant, glucose, has been identified.

The objective of this study was to determine whether urea, an osmolyte that naturally accumulates in the tissues of overwintering *R. sylvatica*, also functions to limit freeze/thaw injury. Secondly, it was investigated whether hyperuremia is associated with increased osmolyte concentration to counteract any negative effect of urea.

Using a force transducer apparatus, isolated gastrocnemius muscles of wood frog and our control species, northern leopard frog (*Rana pipiens*), were tested to determine threshold stimulus, maximum twitch, and maximum tetanus twitch. Subsequently, these muscles were incubated in isotonic Ringer's solution without or with urea (40 or 80 mM in wood frog, 80 mM in northern leopard frog) and then frozen for 18 h at -2.5°C . Re-testing wood frog muscles after thawing, demonstrated that muscles treated with 80 mM urea had significantly better performance for threshold stimulus and maximum twitch than control muscles. Urea concentrations were increased in urea-treated muscles ($24.1 \pm 6.2 \mu\text{mol/g}$ muscle) compared to control muscles ($1.3 \pm 0.3 \mu\text{mol/g}$ muscle), yet within the range found in naturally hibernating frogs. Wood frog muscle incubated in 40 mM urea did not exhibit better performance after freezing than their controls, which could be attributed to the small amount of urea incorporated into urea-treated muscles ($11.2 \pm 2.6 \mu\text{mol/g}$ muscle). After freezing, urea-treated muscles for northern leopard frog showed significantly better performance than corresponding control muscle only for maximum twitch. These muscle contained similar amounts of urea ($23.37 \pm 3.46 \mu\text{mol/g}$ muscle) as wood frog muscles incubated in 80 mM urea. In vivo muscle performance experiments were performed on wood frogs injected with Ringer's solution (control) or 1 M urea in Ringer's. Muscles were tested for the same parameters as in in vitro experiments. After freezing, urea-treated muscles did not exhibit statistically better performance than control muscles. Lack of difference between experimental groups could be the result of short incubation time, resulting in low levels of urea incorporated into urea-treated muscles ($7.72 \pm 1.05 \mu\text{mol/g}$ muscle). Examining seasonal differences in osmolyte concentrations revealed several major osmolytes present in different wood frog tissues. Urea was found to be present in liver, muscle, and plasma samples; however, urea was not found to change seasonally. Lack of seasonal changes was the result of frogs overwintering in a cold room without undergoing dehydration or freezing. While freezing did not occur, wood frogs still accumulated trimethylamine oxide (TMAO) and glycerol phosphorylcholine (GPC) in high concentrations in both liver and muscle. These osmolytes exhibited significant seasonal changes from October to March and were believed to accumulate in anticipation of a freezing event and increased urea levels.

Our findings support the hypothesis that urea plays an important, previously undocumented role in freezing adaptation of *R. sylvatica* and possibly other terrestrially hibernating amphibians. This study also provides evidence that counteracting osmolytes are accumulating in high enough concentrations in anticipation of freezing to reverse urea's destabilizing effect.

Master's Thesis Award of Excellence

Erika Cornelius, Master of Science in Political Science

Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

***Unilateral Executive Power: Bush Push or Congressional Cave?
An Examination of Executive-Legislative Relations During the
First Term of President George W. Bush, 2001-2004***

The events of September 11th once again brought the unique power-sharing relationship between the executive and legislative branches into focus. The Framers of the U.S. Constitution designed the executive branch to have the capabilities to deal with direct threats to the national security of the United States. In situations such as September 11th, American citizens and Congress naturally rally-round the national leader, the president. In light of these recent events, this thesis examines the interaction between the Bush White House and 107th and 108th Congress, following the events of September 11th.

The central focus of this study is an exploration of the political interplay between Congress and the president in the area of foreign policy, with special emphasis given to war powers and military tribunals. Was the war powers interplay simply "business as usual," following the pattern of executive assertiveness and congressional acquiescence, or did the events of September 11th alter the balance of power? General findings suggest that President Bush's strong approval rating following the terrorist attack, combined with partisan politics and domestic political variables, created a tendency for congressional deference.





Master's Thesis Honorable Mention

Ryan Ervin, Master of Arts in History

Lynne Curry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

The Slave Trade, The Constitutional Convention, and the Compromises That Led to Union: A Reinterpretation

At the 1787 Philadelphia Convention, abolitionist and anti-slavery delegates were faced with a direct choice: they could either explicitly end the institution, or they could allow for it to continue. If they had decided to push for abolition, the confederation would almost certainly have dissolved onto two or three separate sovereign confederacies or countries. If they chose not to endorse abolition within the text of the Constitution, they could still restrain the facilitator of slavery, the slave trade, and continue to endorse the institution's end, while also maintaining the Union.

Because they did not abolish slavery outright, these abolitionist and anti-slavery delegates effectively brought the slave states into the fold of the Union and internalized the problem, thus making it one of national, and not local, importance. If they had decided to abolish it in 1787, at least two other southern states (South Carolina and Georgia) would most likely have followed through on their threats to back out of the convention and form their own confederacy. If this had occurred, abolitionists would therefore be criticizing a separate country, one that would be immune from any such attack. Anti-slavery efforts would have no effect, and slavery would flourish and grow in a separate sovereign southern union. Thus, by including slavery in the Constitution and internalizing the problem, the delegates made it a national problem. During the First Federal Congress, petitions to end the slave trade could not be ignored; southerners were forced to explain their rationale for continuing the trade and common citizens were for the first time directly participating in politics. Thus in the nationalistic context of Union, slavery could be debated and argued on the floor of Congress and throughout society. This was the only way the delegates could establish a firm union, while also creating the means for ending slavery in the future. The slavery provisions, while an unintended result of the Constitution, opened up slavery to debate.



Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Alexandra Baluka, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Evaluation of the Oxalate-Consuming Activities of Probiotic Microorganisms

Steven Daniel, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Natural Food and Nutrition, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

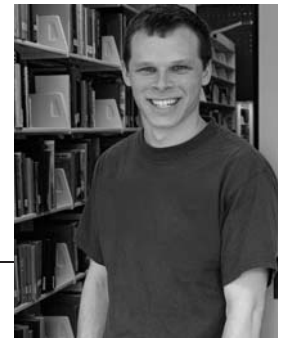
William Beatty, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Population Genetics and Intraspecific Phylogeography of the Red Squirrel in Illinois

Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner



Graduate School Research /Creative Activity Award

Catherine Ciak, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Influence of Extreme Hydrologic Events on Benthic Macroinvertebrate Community Structure

Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Illinois Natural History Survey, Research Partner

Graduate School Research /Creative Activity Award

Joanne Crawford, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Genetic Relationship of Beaver Inhabiting the Embarras River Watershed in East-Central Illinois

Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner





Graduate School Research /Creative Activity Award

Jeff Fore, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Geomorphology and its Influence on Stream Fish Community Structure in Illinois
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Peter Frey, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Effects of Maple Sugar Expansion in Upland Oak Forests
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Army Corp of Engineers - Lake Shelbyville, Illinois, Research Partner



Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Lee Gross, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*The Repatriation of the Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*) at Warbler Woods Nature Preserve*
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Jeremy Klass, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Soil Development Through Succession on Abandoned Agricultural Land
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
University of California, Davis, Research Partner



Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Brandon Jutras, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Lone Star Tick (*Borrelia lonestari*) the Parasite and its Tick Host*
Jeffrey Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Public Health, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Jessica Rasmussen, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
The Response of Phytoplankton Assemblages of Water Quality
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Research Partner



Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Timothy Rye, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Functional Ecology of Plant Successional Dynamics
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Institute of Ecosystems Studies, Research Partner

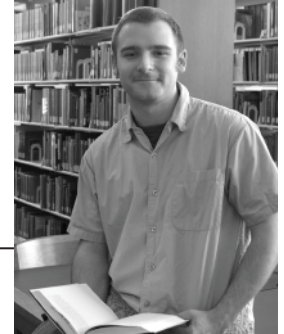


Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Kimberly Vernier, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Wood-decaying Macrofungi Associated with Tree Windfall in Old Growth Prairie Groves
Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Natural History Survey, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Stephen Scott Warrner, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Assessment of Stream Valley Segments as Determinants of Stream Habitat Quality
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

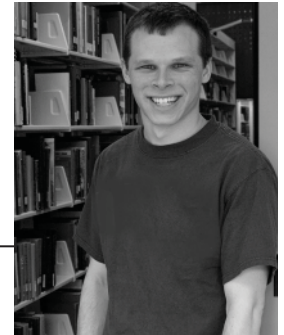


Williams Travel Award

Kyle Baumgartner, Masters Candidate in Economics
Investigating Biodiversity: An Economic Analysis of Global Endangered Species Loss
Midwest Economics Association 71st Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Hui Li, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

William Beatty, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Population Genetics and Intraspecific Phylogeography of the Red Squirrel in Illinois
Illinois State Academy of Sciences 99th Annual Meeting, Springfield, Illinois
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Daniel Bottomley, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Indonesia and the 1999 East Timor Referendum and Aftermath, a Case of Democracy
International Studies Association-Midwest, St. Louis, Missouri
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Catherine Ciak, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Effects of Extreme Hydrological Events on Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in the Sangamon River
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Robyn Carswell, Masters Candidate in History
Rethinking the Episode of Mr. Wells: A Study in the Socialism, Politics and Personalities of the Fabians and H.G. Wells
Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Evansville, Illinois
Lynne Curry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Andrew Claxton, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Bioindication of Mining Impact using Black Spot Intensity in the Saline River Basin
Annual Midwest Conference of Parasitologists, Winona, Minnesota
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Joanne Crawford, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Genetic Variation in the Beaver (Castor canadensis) and
A Comparison of Two Molecular Methods for Gender Identification in Beaver*
Illinois State Academy of Sciences 99th Annual Meeting, Springfield, Illinois
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Rachel Fisher, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
To Talk or to Type? and Understanding Performance Reviews
Purdue University's Graduate Research Conference, Hammond, Indiana
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Ryan Galloway, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Clash of Civilizations?
Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science, Normal, Illinois
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Jay Gerber, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Impact of Reservoir and Sanitary District Discharges on Stream Community Metabolism
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Charles Pederson Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Kristin Giglietti, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Parasite Survey of Post-emergence Wood Frogs (Rana sylvatica)
Annual Midwest Conference of Parasitologists, Winona, Minnesota
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Katie Griffis, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
Dirty Work: The Social Constraint of Taint and Examining New Paradigms in Media Research
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Melanie Mills, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor





Williams Travel Award
Lee Gross, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
The Repatriation of the Tiger Salamander (Ambystoma tigrinum) at Warbler Woods Nature Preserve
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Corinna Hanson, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Red Squirrel Distribution and Habitat Use in Illinois
Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting, Moline, Illinois
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award
Brittany Hoerdeman, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Explaining President Bush's Choice of District Court Judges to Elevate to the U.S. Courts of Appeals
Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Karen Swenson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Vincent Hustad, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Coprophilous Fungi of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Annual Meeting of the Mycological Society of America, Quebec City, Canada
Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award
Jeremy Klass, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Variation in Soil Biofeedbacks Associated with Microstegium vimineum
North Central Weed Science Society Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Christopher Lading, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders & Sciences
Fluent and Nonfluent School-Age Children's Performance on Challenging Phonological Tasks
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida
Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Associate Professor of CDS, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award
Garic Lawrence, Masters Candidate in Political Science
The Impact of U.S. Foreign Aid on Political Rights and Civil Liberties in Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia and the Phillipines
Illinois Political Science Association, Elmhurst, Illinois
Lilian Barria, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Michelle Moreton, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
“They like me! They really like me!” Managing Identity through Academy Award Acceptance Speeches
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Melanie Mills, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Sherraun Mustafa, Masters Candidate in Counseling
Acculturation, Religiosity and Help-Seeking Attitudes of Muslim Women in the U.S.
Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois
Anu Sharma, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Emin Nabiyeu, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Separatism in the Phillipines: the Case of a Fragile Southeast Asian State
Marquette/UWM Graduate Student Conference, Milwaukee Wisconsin
Lilian Barria, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Melanie Olds, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
A Levee Runs Through It: Habitat use by Northern Watersnakes in an Aquatic Mosaic
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Margaret Pedziwiatr, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
The Use of Social Stories to Modify Inappropriate Behavior for Individuals with Autism
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida
Gail Richard, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders and Sciences, Faculty Mentor



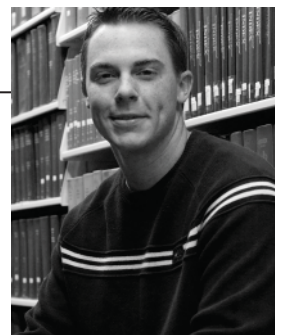
Williams Travel Award

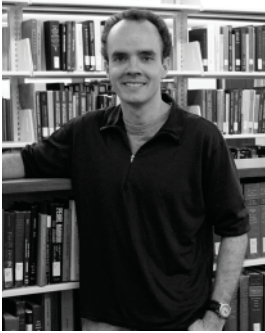
Jessica Rasmussen, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
A Lake and Reservoir Index of Biotic Integrity: Using Phytoplankton Assemblages for Bioassessment
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Ben Riegle, Masters Candidate in Physical Education
An Examination of Factors and Perceptions Related to Steroid Use in College Baseball Players
Association for Applied Sport Psychology, Louisville, Kentucky
Brent Walker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physical Education, Faculty Mentor





Williams Travel Award

Timothy Rye, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Functional Trait Ecology in a Successional System: A Comparison of Native and Exotic Species

North Central Weed Science Society Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Michal Serafin, Masters Candidate in Chemistry

Characterization of Weakly Bound HCF3-OCS, H2CF2-OCS, H3CF-OCS and HCF-CO2 van der Waals Complexes by ab initio Calculations and Microwave Spectroscopy.

International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy, Columbus, Ohio

Sean Peebles, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Krishna I. Thomas, Masters Candidate in History

MGA Lola NG Bayan: Grandmothers of the Country- The Lolas of the Filipino Comfort Women Movement

Annual Meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Madison, Wisconsin

Jin-hee Lee, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Terri Thompson, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Comparison of Avian Nest Success Among Linear Wooded Habitat and Avian Nest Success Among Hedgerow and Riparian Habitat

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha Nebraska and Illinois Chapter Wildlife Society, Moline, Illinois

Eric Bollinger, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Oie-Liis Vahemaa, Masters Candidate in Political Science

Problems with European Union Expansion: The Case of Estonia

Midwest International Studies Association, St. Louis, Missouri

Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

Samuel Vandegrift, Masters Candidate in Political Science

Examination of Feminism and Gender Gap: A Look at Presidential Elections 1976-1992

Illinois Political Science Association, Elmhurst, Illinois

Andrew McNitt, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Kimberly Vernier, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

Macro fungi Associated with Tree Windfall in Old Growth Prairie Groves

Annual Meeting of the Mycological Society of America, Quebec City, Canada

Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award
Martha Wilkinson, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
The Gallileo Society: A Case Study in Office Politics
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor



Williams Travel Award

Brittney Yakey, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
Language-Based Spelling Instruction for Children who are Hard-of-Hearing
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida
Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Disorders & Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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Established in 2004 by Wilfred (Bill) McClay, and his sister Susan Foote, in memory of their mother, Mary Bear McClay.

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Brittany Barker, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences



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