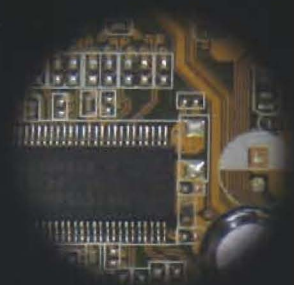


A N N U A L U N D E R G R A D U A T E



R E S E A R C H & S C H O L A R S H I P



C O N F E R E N C E 2 0 0 8





Fifth Annual
Undergraduate
**RESEARCH &
SCHOLARSHIP**
Conference 2008

STUDENT UNION BUILDING

APRIL 14, 2008

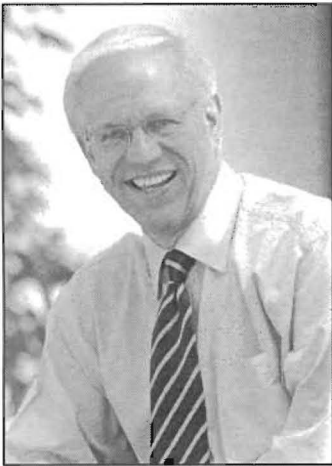
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Poster Session	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Jordan and Hatch Ballrooms
Art Display	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Bergquist Lounge
Podium Presentations	1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Alexander, Barnwell, Farnsworth and Lookout Conference Rooms
Performing Arts	1:45 – 2:15 p.m.	Jordan Ballroom
Speakers and Awards	3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Jordan Ballroom
Sona K. Andrews, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs		
Mark Rudin, Vice Preseident for Research		
Sharon McGuire, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies		

Welcome to Boise State's 5th Annual Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference. This conference provides undergraduate students at Boise State an opportunity to share their research projects and be recognized for their exceptional work.

Congratulations to those students who have been selected to present their projects at this important event. Boise State has been a place where students come first, with award-winning faculty dedicated to excellent teaching. Faculty sponsors who assist and support these students with their research should be commended for their commitment to learning and their dedication to the personal success of our students. The projects being presented span an extensive range of subjects. Each project reflects the effort of our students through academic research and exploration.



As President, I am committed to supporting the process of discovery and research. The University is transforming itself into a metropolitan university dedicated not only to an outstanding undergraduate experience, but also to the pursuit of groundbreaking research and technology. I will continue to encourage growth in research opportunities and activities as part of the undergraduate educational experience at Boise State University.

I hope you enjoy the conference and thank you for your support of this annual event.

Warm regards,
Bob Kustra, President

Welcome to the Fifth Annual Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference. With every passing year we see greater student participation and a continuation of the outstanding quality of their work. Our institutional strategic plan, *Charting the Course*, has defined student involvement in research as one of the hallmarks of Boise State University defining itself as a Metropolitan Research University of Distinction. This conference is a tangible example of progress on achieving this goal.

Our students participating in today's conference represent the diverse range of academic disciplines at Boise State University. They have each demonstrated a drive and determination that exceeds that of the average student. Through their hard work, they have gained research and presentation skills that will prepare them for the world beyond academia. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I congratulate these exceptional students and honor them for their outstanding work.



I would also like to extend my appreciation to our faculty sponsors. Their dedication to enriching the learning environment at Boise State University is another testament to our vibrancy and growth. We know they have countless demands on their time and we thank them for their commitment to our students and for creating opportunities for scholarly achievement.

For those of you joining us today, I encourage you to visit all of the venues represented and meet with our students to learn about the research and work they have conducted. You will not be disappointed. On behalf of Boise State University, I thank you for your support and hope that you enjoy this year's conference.

Sona Karentz Andrews
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

PROGRAM COVER DESIGN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP CONFERENCE

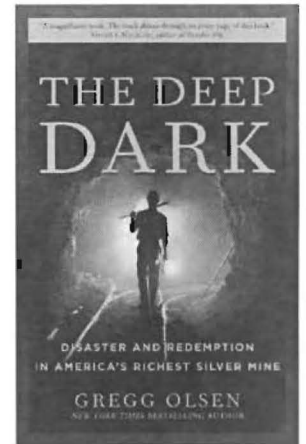
Jason Barrera, David Carrillo, Meagan Cramer, Jennifer Drews, Tammarra Golightly, Andy Harl, May Hernandez, Brittney Kaercher, Sarah McCarthy, Eli Meuler, A.J. Ogden, Dan Omas, Greg Rowe, Nichole Rowley, Ruth Rusch, Morgan Sorenson, Colby Thueson, Kristina Torkelson, Lindsey Ward, Erin Williams, Chase Wilson, and Francesca Wilson.

*College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Art
Faculty Sponsors: Stephanie Bacon and
Jennifer Wood*

Students in Art 204, Graphic Design Studio II were presented with a unique opportunity to design the program cover for the 2008 Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference. This is an example of a research project for a graphic designer. The student designers prepare themselves by researching the university colleges and many programs that are represented in the conference. Class instruction includes subjects in representation, semiotics and denotation of images as a way to present the concept for communication. Through use of peer and instructor review, each student developed their own design as a way to visually represent the conference. Some designers used metaphoric principles, others by use of a visual pun while some tried to capture the essence of the undergraduate research experience. This year's cover design was selected by a jury of senior graphic design students, faculty and conference committee members. Congratulations to Sarah McCarthy, First Place; Andy Harl, Honorable Mention; May Hernandez, Honorable Mention; and Morgan Sorenson, Art 488 Graphic Design Studio IV Students' Choice. All cover design submissions are displayed in the Bergquist Lounge in the Student Union Building.

THE DEEP DARK EXHIBIT AND PANEL PRESENTATION

The 2007 – 2008 First Year Read selection is Gregg Olsen's book *The Deep Dark: Disaster and Redemption in America's Richest Silver Mine*, which is about the 1972 Kellogg, Idaho mining disaster. With books in their hands after summer new student orientation, multiple classes incorporated *The Deep Dark* into their coursework. This session will display information on the book and disaster. A student panel will share examples of how the book was integrated into their learning. Next year's First Year Read book is *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.



JORDAN BALLROOM

1:45 PM – 2:30 PM

“BLACK FLOWERS”

*Stephanie Frahs, Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Marla Hansen*

I am still fairly new to the whole choreography experience. This piece was simply an experiment for me to see how I could come up with movement to the different rhythms in music. Everything about this piece is an exploration about the music; how it makes me feel and in turn how I feel dancers could move to it. Hopefully this piece has turned out to be visually interesting with how the dancers move in relation to each other.

“JUST SAY IT”

*Elizabeth Henscheid,
Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Marla Hansen*

When I heard the music that I’m using for this piece, I immediately started choreographing. I knew at once that this was my piece and I had to do it. I choreographed the piece with one thing in mind, human experience, and one type of experience in particular. I wanted the movement to be driven by human emotions and motives. It’s not about the dance or the movement. It’s about why I, as a human being, move the way that I do. How can I express these emotions through my movement? What emotion, what event in my life, has caused me to move in such a way? It’s not about how I came up with the movement but rather, what caused me to create THIS movement.

“LESSON LEARNED”

*Jennifer Waters,
Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Marla Hansen*

This piece is a dramatic, physical interpretation of the song, “Lesson Learned” by Alicia Keys. Many emotions will be displayed. The audience will see the words through the motion of the dancer. The intention of the artist is to create an intense feeling of sorrow yet also show a happiness that derives from loss. When people listen to music, they are not always taking in the actual meaning of the lyrics. Hopefully the audience will leave with a better understanding of the words they hear.

“THE SECRET LIFE OF GRASS STALKS”

*Josh Belville and Katie Ponozzo,
Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Marla Hansen*

This was my first choreography piece, first performed in the Spring of 2006. My purpose is to take the dance training I have received over the past two years to improve and enhance the quality of the piece, as well as showcasing student dance and performance for an audience that might not get the opportunity to experience dance.

“SHE’S LIKE THE WIND”

*Lacey VanderBoegh,
Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Marla Hansen*

This piece is simply the feeling of music and sound. The title “She’s Like the Wind” is the same as the title of the song, but it captures my thought of how this performance should unfold. She is moving through space like wind. I want this piece to make the audience breathe a little softer, and to get lost in the movement.

ROAD/ELEMENTS OF JOURNEY

*Karissa Adams, Brecca Chabot-Olson,
Erin Chance, and Mikenzie Ames;
Department of Theatre Arts
Faculty Sponsor: Richard Klautsch*

This performance piece, Road/Elements of Journey, was originally written as the final performance project for last semester's class, Development of Theatre III: Contemporary Forms and was performed last December in its finished form. It combines spoken text, piano music, sung text, and dance into a single work. Inspiration came from the landscape drama work of Gertrude Stein. The purpose of this piece is to delve into the complexity of humanity's road to addiction.



ALEXANDER ROOM

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within the hour-long session.

EFFECTS OF FINITE LAYER THICKNESS IN DOUBLE QUANTUM WELL SYSTEMS

*J.J. Durrant (McNair Scholar),
Department of Physics
Faculty Sponsor: Charles Hanna*

We have calculated the effects of the finite thickness of electron or hole layers in double-quantum-well systems on the complete set of differential capacitances that can be measured in double-layer electron systems, with or without separately contactable layers. We present results for the regime of negligible interlayer tunneling, zero applied magnetic field, and low layer densities, when the compressibility of one or both layers is negative.

ULTRAVIOLET RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY OF BaTiO₃ ULTRATHIN FILMS AND BaTiO₃/SrTiO₃ SUPERLATTICES

*Paul Turner, Department of Physics
Faculty Sponsor: Dmitri Tenne*

Ferroelectrics, materials possessing a spontaneous, switchable electric polarization, have a high potential for various device applications. Ferroelectric nanostructures, such as ultra thin films and superlattices, are increasingly central to the field of ferroelectrics. The dynamics of crystal-lattice vibrations are essential to understanding their fundamental properties. Ultraviolet (UV) Raman spectroscopy is a novel tool in the study of ultra thin films. We applied UV Raman spectroscopy to the study the phase transitions in ultra thin BaTiO₃ films and BaTiO₃/SrTiO₃ superlattices. Conven-

tional Raman spectroscopy, which uses visible excitation, is not ideal because the light penetrates deeper into the sample, allowing the signal from the substrate to dominate the spectra. UV Raman spectroscopy, on the other hand, uses ultraviolet light that is absorbed by the film so the substrate contribution is suppressed. The films and super lattice structures were grown using molecular beam epitaxy. We have studied the ferroelectric phase transitions in BaTiO₃ thin films and BaTiO₃/SrTiO₃ super lattices and how those phase transitions are affected by layer thickness and strain.

SEISMIC EXPLORATION ON BENCH GLACIER, ALASKA

*Tabish Raza, Department of Geosciences
Faculty Sponsor: John Bradford*

Seeing with sound is a familiar concept submarines and bats do it. In darkness we can gain a sense of our space by listening to the echoes of our foot steps. Seismic reflection is a method that we use to image the interior of Bench Glacier, Chugach Mountain Alaska. During August 2007 we acquired seismic reflection data to obtain information about the structure of the ice, elastic properties of ice and basement topography. Here we present the analysis of compressional and shear wave velocity experiment on Bench Glacier. Elastic properties (such as Young's Modulus and Shear modulus) of ice on the glacier may help understand the glacial processes such as fracturing and slip movement along the bed rock. This information can help us understand the glacial dynamics of Bench Glacier which may explain the effects of climate change on the glaciers around the world. Seismic reflection method involves the measurement of the two-way travel time of seismic waves transmitted from surface and reflected back to the surface at the interfaces between contrasting geological layers. Reflection of the transmitted energy will only occur when there is a contrast in the acoustic impedance (product of the seismic velocity and density) between these layers. The

strength of the contrast in the acoustic impedance of the two layers determines the amplitude of the reflected signal. The reflected signal is detected on surface using an array of high frequency geophones. From compressional wave data we were successfully able to image the bedrock under the Bench Glacier. Shear wave data helps us determine the glacial dynamics.

ALEXANDER ROOM 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within this session.

INTERNAL CONFLICT IN SUB-SAHARA AFRICA

*Erik Person, Department of Political Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ross Burkhart*

Sub-Saharan African nations have been infamous for their brutal conflicts that have taken the lives of millions of civilians, with millions more displaced. What distinguishes these conflicts is their nature of low intensity warfare, cyclically unstable state, the direct targeting of civilians, the extremely brutal nature of the killing of civilians, and the division of fighting elements along ethnic lines. Why are these ethnic conflicts so brutal and how do they sustain their level of violence for so long? Many researchers have concluded that it is due to ancient rivalries that have been in existence since primordial times. With little scholarly work having been done to study possible variables that cause these conflicts, I purpose that there are other reasons for these conflicts than just ancient ethnic hatred. This study tests using OLS regression three variables against the dependent variable which is an average score derived from the length of the conflict, number of displaced people, and the number of lives lost. Increases in political freedom, and high levels of government spending on the military are not statistically significant, with increase in

urbanization, statistically significant in decreasing the intensity of conflicts. The conclusion of this research is two parts; one is that there needs to be more research done with an increase in the quality and quantity of data in all areas in all of the nation-states in Sub-Sahara Africa. My model is representational of the low quality and quantity of data that is available for researchers. The findings of these variables lead to more questions and no definitive answers, as in the case of political freedom having a positive relationship with the intensity of conflict.

HUMAN RIGHTS & MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS: EVALUATING RECIPIENT RECORDS & LENDING PRACTICES

*Geneva Román (McNair Scholar and Honors College),
Department of Political Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ross Burkhart*

This study examines the role of recipient human rights records in the loan allocation of multilateral development banks. Correlating the loan amounts awarded to recipients with their human rights environments determines whether or not human rights are a substantial consideration in multilateral lending practices. By analyzing the African Development Bank, African Development Fund, Inter-American Bank and the International Monetary Fund this study also sheds light on whether international financial institutions are upholding their legally bound human rights obligations. This study uses Ordinary Least Squares and General Least Squares regression models and finds that human rights have little effect on the lending process. Human rights are not a substantial consideration in multilateral lending practices and multilateral development banks are not fulfilling their international legal obligation to advance human rights. It is up to international political institutions to ensure that they do.

GLOBALIZATION AND THE AMERICAN INCOME GAP: ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF LIBERAL ECONOMICS AND IMMIGRATION ON INEQUALITY

*Simon Tu (McNair Scholar),
Department of Political Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ross Burkhart*

While enjoying the most rapid economic growth of all large industrialized nations, inequalities in the distribution of income have grown faster in the United States than in most developed nations since the late 1960s. Previous empirical analysis examined the effects of increasing globalization on income inequality by employing a definition of “economic globalization” that focuses solely on the neoliberal variables of international trade and capital flows. By excluding international labor flows from the definition of economic globalization, previous studies ignored an essential factor of production and assessed the effects of globalization on income disparities inaccurately. This study assesses the impact of increasing international integration on the American income gap through an empirical examination of trade, capital and labor mobility. The research relies on ordinary least squares regression to test the relationship between the three major modes of neoliberal economic integration—trade, foreign direct investment (FDI), portfolio investment—and international labor mobility—authorized and unauthorized immigration—on an income inequality ratio for the years 1980 to 2005. Of the model’s five variables, three are statistically significant. By expanding the definition of economic globalization to include international labor mobility, this work contributes to the literature and extends the debate into the area of the demographic change in the unauthorized population in the United States.

VOTER TURNOUT IN STUDENT ELECTIONS: A MULTIPLE REGRESSION ANALYSIS OF ELECTIONS FOR THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

*Britton Holdaway,
Department of Political Science
Faculty Sponsor: Ross Burkhart*

Rice and Lewis (2005) performed a regression analysis on student government elections held at 94 universities spread across the United States. The results of their model show significant relationships between institutional and demographic factors in voter turnout in those elections. Additionally, their model showed a possible correlation between voter turnout in local elections and student government elections. The intent of this research is to investigate whether the model developed by Rice and Lewis accurately explains voter turnout in student elections at Boise State University. This research will test whether the variables determined by their model are significant relative to the Associated Students of Boise State University (ASBSU), and it will test whether there is a correlation between voter turnout in local elections and student elections. Finally, the research will investigate if there are any other factors not included in Rice and Lewis’s model that significantly explain voter turnout in ASBSU elections. The results of this study will allow for a better understanding of student involvement in university governance, as well as give additional knowledge to voter behavior in general. The results could be useful in helping student leaders activate more students in university and community involvement, as well as add insight into how people vote as an aggregate in normal elections.

BARNWELL ROOM 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

*Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations.
Feel free to come and go within the hour-long session.*

GENDER, COMPETITION, AND POWER IN TOY RACE TRACK COMMERCIALS

*Veronica DeGiorgio, Department of English
Faculty Sponsor: Gail Shuck*

As time passes, television is becoming ever-more important influence on the perceptions and identities of those who watch it. Language is a powerful tool that can be used to assert power and endorse ideologies in subtle ways, and for television, be it a soap opera, a sitcom, or even a commercial, language is its stock and trade. Humans can use language to create a sense of authority in one group and inferiority in another, of camaraderie between some groups and insurmountable differences between others. This power of language becomes especially important when discussing children, who are still developing their identities as individual human beings and as members of a larger society. This impressionability, coupled with the unprecedented amount of time that contemporary American children spend watching television, gives the medium a great amount of influence over the nation's youths. In this discourse analysis, several commercials featured during the same young adult program were reviewed, and two in particular were selected. Both advertised similar products: a toy race track. One of the products targets young males, while the other targets young females. The language used was examined to determine which gender ideals and stereotypes are affirmed, and which are challenged. Articles on gender in television advertising, as well as sources focusing on gender and language in general, were used to gain a clearer understanding of the way that commercials portray gender and perhaps influence gender identity. The results of close analysis of the commercials, however, revealed that the situation is more complex than one might expect, and that traditional

gender stereotypes for both sexes may at times be simultaneously rejected and confirmed.

SLAYING STEREOTYPES: A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF MENTAL ILLNESS IN "BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER"

*James Gatfield, Department of Communication
Faculty Sponsor: Rick Moore*

The mentally ill typically find themselves inaccurately portrayed in the media, as everything from "psycho monsters" to "bumbling fools." This can encourage dangerous stereotypes about the mentally ill, hampering necessary treatment and research. In order to combat this, quality media that positively portray the subject need to be recognized. The focus of this project was to perform a content analysis on the portrayal of mental illness in the popular television series Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Prior to the research, three hypotheses were created to guide the analysis:

- H. 1: Buffy contains examples of mental illness present in the characters of Angel, Drusilla, and Willow.
- H. 2: Each character represents one particular mental illness: Angel-Dissociative Identity Disorder; Drusilla-schizophrenia; Willow-drug addiction.
- H. 3: Buffy presents a positive representation of the mentally ill.

The characters were chosen in order to gain an accurate cross section of the material. This allowed the research to account for differences between heroes and villains, and examine varying types of mental illness. Next, they were analyzed in four areas: behavior, behavior of other characters, relationship to world, and relationship to other characters. The research found that whereas each character featured both positive and negative aspects to their portrayals, the series overall approached mental illness from a realistic perspective. Mental illness did not define characters, rather, enriched them. The mentally ill in Buffy struggled to cope with society in a manner similar to the real world. These findings suggested that Buffy, despite being frequently dismissed due to its subject matter, is filled with rich material that allowed viewers to ponder mental illness in a controlled environment that mirrors the real world.

MOTIVATIONS OF EXTENDED JAZZ WORKS WITH A VIEW TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF JAZZ

*Nicolas Wynkoop (Honors College),
Department of Music
Faculty Sponsor: Mike Samball*

My research focuses on the development of jazz works of extended forms. It addresses the types of motives and conditions that have historically led artists to create extended works. For example, consider economic, political, and racial factors. Jazz has been through the most trying and moving periods of tension and resolution in our country, highlighting divisions, and sometimes in breaking them down. Another motive is the technological advance in recording, and the growth of the movie industry. As technology opened doors, jazz was there to go through them. Further motives include creativity, convictions, and religion of artists, and the spark created when they collaborate. This discussion be conducted by examination of pivotal extended pieces of jazz history; pieces such as Duke Ellington's "jazz symphony" Black, Brown, and Beige, or John Coltrane's "jazz suite" Ascension. Particularly, I will note the development of these pieces, from composition, to project financing, to the performance setting, to its performers, and to its public reception. Special attention will be given to the blurring of divisions



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLAS WYNKOOP

between improvisational soloing and composing, between arranging and performing, and between form and action. Jazz is a place where composition and solos may only differ in the time they take, where arranging and performing soar together to new heights with complex chord structures, and where action may begin by following form, but action may also begin to dictate form.

BARNWELL ROOM 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within this session.

MAKING IT STICK: HOW RESEARCH INFLUENCED THE VIEWBOOK FOR THE BSU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

*Adrienne Martin, John Waite, Ron Youhouse, Alexis Wible, Suzanne Ivie, Laura Ball, and Tim Maxfield,
Department of English
Faculty Sponsor: Russell Willerton*

A recent New York Times bestseller called 'Made to Stick' outlines six qualities that make a message powerful and memorable, or "sticky." These qualities are simplicity, unexpectedness, concreteness, credibility, emotions, and stories. The School of Social Work needs to update the 'viewbook' that introduces its programs and faculty to people across the valley and the state. We are using an online collaborative tool called a wiki to share information about social work and to discuss what makes a message "sticky." Our presentation will show the wiki we used, what we learned from using it, and how we applied that information to the viewbook.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF POBLANO IDENTITY IN COLONIAL ART AND ARCHITECTURE: TALAVERA POTTERY AND CATHEDRAL ARCHITECTURE, 16TH - 18TH CENTURIES

*Vivianne Sanchez (McNair Scholar),
Department of Art
Faculty Sponsor: Janice Neri*

During colonization in the 16th century both the Spanish and indigenous population underwent a dramatic cultural change that art historians constantly research. Puebla, Mexico reveals layers of identity through a different approach Spain utilized to pursue to build its society. As Mexico's first industrialized city, it is also the first Mexican city that was not built upon existing indigenous civilization. Because of this difference in cultural assimilation, Poblanos consisted of indigenous people and Spanish encomenderos, similar to land owners, who were organized together at the turn of the 16th century. Through cathedral architecture and Talavera pottery, an ambiguous sense of identity is created. Cathedral architecture offers a window into how the Church used shared symbols of the sun and moon between Christianity and Aztec beliefs to peacefully assimilate the two cultures. This may have proven not to be the most effective method of converting the indigenous population but nevertheless offers the reader a visual method used in merging cultures. Talavera pottery in Puebla becomes a staple of the city's art craft, which holds its roots in both indigenous and Spanish production. Undemeath



17TH-18TH CENTURY CATHEDRAL PUEBLA, MEXICO. PHOTO COURTESY OF VIVIANNE SANCHEZ

the European decorative style is an ancient pottery technique that conveys the message of two cultures fused together to create a distinct, Poblano identity. The same metaphor of Old World Spain wrapping itself around New World indigenous beliefs is examined in cathedral architecture. Visually, the styles are characteristic of Spanish Baroque with an underlying tribute to Mesoamerica's ancient past. This research takes a look into the possibilities of these two art forms examining a visual bridge between two very different worlds with shared roots.

THE USE OF MULTIPLE COMPARISON WITH LONG MEMORY PROCESSES AND ITS APPLICATION TO STOCK RETURNS

*Jason Arnold (McNair Scholar),
Department of Mathematics
Faculty Sponsor: Jaechoul Lee*

Recent empirical results indicate that many financial time series, including stock volatilities, often have long memory dependencies in which distant observations are still highly correlated. Comparing volatilities in stock returns is a crucial part of the risk management of stock investing. The study develops multiple comparison methods for comparing individual mean volatilities of stock returns using an ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) model with long memory errors. The proposed statistics are modified versions of current multiple comparison methods based on uncorrelated error assumptions. The performance of the methods will be examined via a Monte Carlo Study. I will elaborate suggested methods with a simulation study using R or other relevant statistical software. For an exposition of the new multiple comparison procedures with long memory time series data, I will collect several stock data with long memory pattern and compare their mean volatilities by applying the proposed multiple comparison procedures. Based on their results, our goal is to more accurately assess the volatilities of stock values.

PODIUM PRESENTATIONS

THE PUBLIC REPUTATION OF ADA COUNTY

*Shira Heikkola, Department of Communication
Faculty Sponsor: Mary Frances Casper*

The purpose of this case study was to explore how the public relations efforts within Ada County have portrayed the area's public reputation, and how the people of the area and nation have perceived that public reputation. Research attempts to show how public relations experts in the area have used the framing theory to emphasize the positive aspects of the county while de-emphasizing the more negative aspects. This has resulted in a positive public reputation within Ada County and the nation as a whole.

FARNSWORTH ROOM 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within the hour-long session.

THE FUNERAL THAT NEVER ENDS

*Chad Mendenhall, Carolyn Sproat, and Meredith Borud, Department of Communication
Faculty Sponsor: Laurel Traynowicz*

This study used Bakhtin's Theory of Dialogics and Baxter's Dialectical Theory of Relationships to examine the five communicative strategies that are commonly used among loved ones, family members and the dying, when preparing for an imminent loss or when coping with postdeath. Bakhtin's theory suggests that a centripetal force propels everyday routines and a centrifugal force disrupts these routines, in this case, death. Baxter enhances the Dialectical Theory of Relationships with Bakhtin's Theory of Dialogics by acknowledging dialogue as a dynamic process that regulates three specific tension clusters within relationships. The results of this study revealed five specific communicative techniques that are essential in coping with loss and

bereavement within the context of professional and proletarian situations. These techniques are physical touch, frequent visits, humor, dialogue/ personal narrative, and listening. Interview and survey results indicate that the five communicative techniques create a therapeutic climate and dialogue that renegotiates and adapts the ordinary patterns of life prior to a centrifugal force such as death. Data concerning dialogue and the five communicative techniques described show significant positive outcomes in regards to death and death-coping strategies.

THE CREATION OF IDAHO'S FIRST HEALTH SYSTEM: THE MERGER OF ST. LUKE'S AND MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTERS

*David McPeak, Department of Communication
Faculty Sponsor: Mary Frances Casper*

This case study looks at the merger of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in May, 2006. This study looks at the efforts made by St. Luke's to communicate to its publics, and is done through the lens of situational theory of communication. Research included interviews with key strategy developers and implementers, and the analyzing of internal documents and news media that reveal the key messages utilized to secure a successful outcome.

PERCEPTIONS OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS REGARDING THE STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

*Kimberly Rider, Alex Servatius,
and Lani Sosnowski,
Department of Health Science Studies
Faculty Sponsor: Lee Hannah*

Background: The researchers had heard reports from students that they were reluctant to seek care from the Student Health Center (SHC) if they had

a sensitive health issue because of confidentiality concerns (i.e. concerns about being seen by others at the SHC).

Purpose: To determine if SHC confidentiality is a concern for students and if the level of concern varies with age or year in school.

Methods: To assess student perceptions regarding the SHC, the researchers developed a one-page survey, which was tested with a small number of students for readability and understanding. Surveys were distributed to classes across campus during scheduled class times. An attempt was made to select classes at different course levels within different colleges. Students enrolled in these classes were asked to voluntarily complete the survey, which asked demographic questions, as well as questions about their use of the SHC, where they would seek care if they had a sensitive health issue, and concerns they have with the SHC. Data were analyzed using SPSS.

Results: A total of 406 students completed the survey, with all classes and locations having over a 90% response rate. Overall, 116 (29%) students reported having been to the SHC. Of those students, 9.5% reported being concerned about being seen by other students at the SHC, 1.7% thought that their professors could access to their personal information, and 11.2% were concerned about discussing sensitive health issues with SHC staff.

Discussion: This study found that a small percentage of students are concerned about using the SHC and some have misconceptions about who can access their personal information. Results will be shared with campus health center staff to improve the information given to students about the SHC.

FARNSWORTH ROOM

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within this session.

DIFFICULTIES IN INTEGRATING TO DIASPORIC SOCIETIES FACED BY REFUGEE IMMIGRANTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY OF SOMALI BANTU REFUGEES LIVING IN BOISE, IDAHO

*Fred Waweru (McNair Scholar),
Department of Sociology
Faculty Sponsor: Steve Patrick*

This study explored the integration difficulties to the contemporary American lifestyle faced by Somali Bantu refugees resettled in Boise, Idaho. This refugee population has not become self sufficient even after being in the United States for three years, as compared to refugees from other countries who become self-supportive within as little as 6 to 8 months. The study analyzed Bantu refugee responses to a survey administered and translated in their native language. The significance of this study contributes a better understanding of the assimilation difficulties that Somali Bantu refugees face in the United States and will help resettlement agencies better serve this population.

DO SELF-ESTEEM AND PARENTAL AUTHORITY INFLUENCE SELF-REPORTED AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIORS?

*Nicole Svenkerud (McNair Scholar),
Department of Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Mary Pritchard*

Aggression is a primary concern throughout the United States and over the last 40 years many researchers have tried to understand how aggression manifests (Tremblay, 2002). The present study examined the relations between self-esteem, perceived parental authority, and aggression. Two-hundred sixty participants were asked about their aggressive behaviors, self-esteem, and perceptions of parental authority. Results indicated that perceived authoritarian parenting was negatively correlated with hostility and physical aggression. Self-esteem was positively correlated with perceived authoritative parenting. Individuals who reported lower levels of self-esteem also reported higher levels of anger and hostility. The present study can contribute to understanding how an individual's perception of their parents can negatively influence their thoughts and behaviors.

OUT OF THE CLOSET OR UNDER THE RUG: AN ANALYSIS OF SAME-SEX DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN IDAHO

*Carol McHann (McNair Scholar),
Department of Criminal Justice
Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Bostaph*

To date, there have been a limited number of studies that focus on the events of terror and injury, identified as domestic violence, as it occurs within the lives of homosexual couples. Through a review of academic articles and an analysis of government statistical data, this paper will address the prevalence of reported incidents of domestic violence within same-sex couples in the state of Idaho as compared to those reported nationally. The incidents of same-sex domestic violence within the state of Idaho will also be compared to incidents within heterosexual couples at the state and national levels to assess the prevalence of domestic violence within same-sex couples by using heterosexual couples as the "norm". This should enable the reader to make comparisons that enable one to understand the magnitude of domestic violence. The prevalence of such events should be evaluated to enable the enactment of programs applicable to the homosexual community that will inevitably be of benefit to all of society.

WALKING HOME ALONE: EFFECTS OF DISCRIMINATION ON PERCEIVED SAFETY

*Janie Gates (McNair Scholar),
Department of Psychology
Faculty Sponsor: Mary Pritchard*

There has been a recent focus in the scientific literature on the psychological and health effects of discrimination (Broman, Mavaddat & Hsu, 2000; Jasinskaja-Lahti, Leibkind, Jaakola & Reuter, 2006; Neblett, Philip, Cogburn & Sellers, 2006).



The focus of this study was to determine if a) higher levels of perceived discrimination would experience lower levels of perceived safety, and b) the socially non-dominant populations would feel less safe. Participants were comprised of 274 students and university employees at a northwestern university. Each completed both the Perceived Discrimination Scale as well as the Perceived Safety Scale as well as some demographic information. Multiple regression found that perceived discrimination alone was the best predictor of perceived safety. However, groups' perceptions of safety did not differ significantly based on race, age, sex, weight, origin, or sexuality. This information is useful as an addition to the psychological consequences of psychology literature.

JORDAN BALLROOM 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Each reading will be approximately 5 to 7 minutes. Feel free to come and go within this session.

2008 PRESIDENT'S WRITING AWARDS

*Winning students will read sections of their entries.
(Winners to be announced in early April.)
Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Seymour*

The President's Writing Awards originated over twenty years ago for the purpose of promoting and rewarding student academic writing. Over the past two decades, the contest has awarded prizes for a diverse selection of student essays in a number of different categories. Though largely funded by the English department, the contest solicits and encourages submissions from academic departments across the curriculum. Categories are carefully chosen each year to include many types of academic writing, including critical analysis, research reporting, and technical writing. We have also had specialized categories sponsored by various departments including Spanish, Business, and Education. Ultimately, the contest gives students a chance to highlight the work, both creative and research-based, that they have worked on during their academic careers in their specific disciplines. As the contest continues to grow we hope to see more and more types of research writing from as many departments as possible so that we can highlight the excellent work being done by students at Boise State University.

LOOKOUT ROOM

1:40 PM – 2:35 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within the hour-long session. These presentations will be in Spanish.

LOS TELÉFONOS, LOS CONTESTADORES AUTOMÁTICOS Y LOS COMAS: LA COMUNICACIÓN EN LAS PELÍCULAS DE PEDRO ALMODÓVAR?

TELEPHONES, ANSWERING MACHINES AND COMAS: COMMUNICATION IN THE FILMS OF PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

*Jessica Davidson, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Faculty Sponsor: Teresa Boucher*

Los personajes en las películas de Pedro Almodóvar tienen muchas intenciones de comunicar; usan la televisión, el teléfono y el contestador automático; pero ninguna palabra puede dar más claridad que la comunicación no verbal. ¿Qué es lo más importa, la intención de comunicar con otros para que ellos escuchen o simplemente que la voz suene? La voz puede servir como un sonido o puede crear palabras que llevan sentido. Almodóvar muestra que el mundo está lleno de frases, preguntas, palabras y letras pero estas formas de comunicación no son tan auténticas como los actos de comunicación no verbales. Almodóvar retrata la tecnología como una desintegración de la comunicación mientras que el silencio se convierte en la comunicación verdadera. En este mundo donde podemos conectarnos a cualquier persona inmediatamente por medio de la tecnología, nos encontramos sin poder comunicar sinceramente y más solitarios que nunca.

The characters in the films of the renowned Spanish filmmaker, Pedro Almodóvar, have the intention of communicating. They use television, telephones, and answering machines, but no word creates more clarity than non-verbal communication in the films of Almodóvar. Almodóvar makes us ask ourselves what is more important: the intention to have others listen or simply to speak? The voice can make noise or create words that carry importance and meaning. Almodóvar demonstrates that the world is full of questions, words, and phrases, but these forms of communication are not as authentic as acts of non-verbal communication. Almodóvar treats technology in terms of the disintegration of communication, while silence is converted into true communication. In our world where we have the capability to connect ourselves to whomever we please, whenever we please, we find ourselves unable to communicate sincerely and more alone than ever.

LA MATERNIDAD EN HABLE CON ELLA DE PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

MATERNITY IN TALK TO HER BY PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

*Veronica DeGiorgio, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Faculty Sponsor: Teresa Boucher*

La familia y el género, el sexo, son dos temas muy importantes en las películas del director español Pedro Almodóvar. Al empezar su carrera pocos años después de la muerte del dictador Francisco Franco, Almodóvar disputa las percepciones tradicionales del significado de la familia, la feminidad o la masculinidad. Representa personajes que construyen sus propias identidades, en vez de permitir que la sociedad les impongan estas identidades. Mi ensayo examina la construcción de la identidad en *Hable con ella* de Almodóvar y argumenta que la figura maternal más importante de la película es, en realidad, un hombre. Al examinar el papel de Benigno como cuidador contra el de su paciente completamente dependiente, Alicia,

espero probar que, en *Hable con ella*, la maternidad no es una cuestión de biología sino de un deseo de cuidar y proteger.

Family and gender are two very important themes in the films of Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar. Starting his career shortly after the death of the dictator, Francisco Franco, Almodóvar challenges traditional perceptions of what it means to be a family, a man or a woman, portraying characters who construct their own identities, instead of allowing these identities to be dictated to them by society. My essay examines the construction of identity in Almodóvar's *Talk to Her*, and argues that the most important maternal figure that appears in the film is, in fact, a man. Examining the role of Benigno as a caregiver against that of his totally dependent patient, Alicia, I hope to prove that, in *Talk to Her*, maternity depends less upon biology than it does upon a desire to care and protect.

LOS PERSONAJES MULTIGÉNEROS EN TODO SOBRE MI MADRE DE ALMODÓVAR

Erma Nezirevic, *Department of Modern
Languages and Literatures*
Faculty Sponsor: Teresa Boucher

Pedro Almodóvar is not only considered a film director but also an auteur and a force for change in modern Spanish society. In his film *Todo sobre mi madre* (*All About My Mother*), Almodóvar creates various multi-gendered characters that serve as a mechanism for innovation, as well as a call for freedom of personal and artistic expression. Gender theory is expanded past specific gender categorizations. Each one takes on new meanings, and the definition of each gender becomes abstract. Transgender characters such as Lola and La Agrado represent the fluidity of gender and human sexuality, and how they influence interpersonal relationships. Even a heterosexual character like Manuela, who takes on many roles in the film, is represented in a multi-gendered manner. She

acts as a mother figure as well as a spousal figure to those around her. Almodóvar shows a society that has evolved past Franco's conservatism, and has discovered its ability to live without judgment and expectations that had masked people's identities in the past.

PODIUM PRESENTATIONS

LOOKOUT ROOM 2:45 PM – 3:40 PM

Each podium presentation will be 10 – 15 minutes with a 5 minute transition between presentations. Feel free to come and go within the hour-long session. These presentations will be in French.

COUP DE SOLEIL COMME MARQUE DU DESTIN; LA TEXTUALISATION DU BANAL DANS LE SOLEIL DE SCORTA DE LAURENT GAUDÉ

SUNBURN AS A MARK OF DESTINY;
TEXTUALIZING THE MUNDANE IN
LAURENT GAUDÉ'S LE SOLEIL DE
SCORTA

*David Haisley, Department of Modern Languages
and Literatures*

Faculty Sponsor: Jason Herbeck



FROM LE SOLEIL DE SCORTA.
PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID HAISLEY

Situé parmi les oliviers de l'Italie du sud, le Soleil de Scorta nous invite à suivre le fil d'une famille affamée, toujours en lutte contre un destin impitoyable. Le pouvoir du soleil – voire la signification du destin – règne sur une vie difficile et stressée par leur situation contre laquelle il faut lutter,

mais qui ne peut pas être surmonté. Une lecture prudente du texte relève comment l'auteur utilise une simplicité du style et du lexique dans le but de textualiser, à la fois, la réalité d'une vie simple accentuée à son mieux par les événements insignifiants et un idéal qui refuse et embrasse cette même banalité. Le contenu, encodé dans le style, peut amener à une discussion des implications de ce style minimaliste sur la flexibilité du signification dans le texte, et donc si les clichés sont simplement banales ou plutôt indicatives de la nature intemporelle de son message humaniste.

Situated among the olive trees of southern Italy, le Soleil de Scorta follows an impoverished family lineage marked by struggle against an unforgiving destiny. The power of the sun – and the signification of destiny – reign over a life of hardship and tension against which one must fight, and can never fight. A careful reading of Gaudé's stylistic and lexical choices shows how the author uses a minimal style to textualize both the reality of a mundane life and the impossible ideal that refuses and embraces that very banality. The content, coded in the style, can then be addressed in regard to the implications of such stylistic choices on the flexibility of signification. It is worth considering whether the textual fixing of semantic interpretations forces the author to rely too heavily on common cliché, or if these very clichés are simply indicative of the timeless nature of his message.

UNE BREBIS DÉGUISÉE EN LOUP / A SHEEP IN WOLF'S CLOTHING

*Megan McCutchan, Department of Modern
Languages and Literatures*

Faculty Sponsor: Jason Herbeck

Inspirée par *Seuils* du théoricien littéraire Gérard Genette, j'examinerai la manière dont la présentation de *Parce que je t'aime* [Because I Love You, April 2007] de Guillaume Musso finit par décevoir le lecteur. Quoique tous les éléments péritextuels (tout ce qui entoure le texte physiquement) du roman présente le roman comme un vrai roman de suspense, le lecteur se trouve en fin de compte trompé à la fin du livre. Pour mieux comprendre comment le péritexte influence—et qui plus est détourne—la réception du texte, on va se pencher sur cinq éléments péritextuels—l'image de couverture, le titre, la quatrième de couverture, la préface, les intertitres—et un élément textuel, la police. Comme une brebis déguisée en loup n'est pas aussi féroce qu'elle ne semble l'être, *Parce que je t'aime* n'est pas le grand roman de suspense qu'il paraît être à premi.

Inspired by literary theoretician Gérard Genette's *Seuils* [Paratexts: Thresholds of Interpretation], I will investigate how the presentation of Guillaume Musso's *Parce que je t'aime* [Because I Love You, April 2007] ultimately deceives the reader. Whereas each of the work's peritextual elements (those physically accompanying the text) present the novel as a true suspense novel, the reader is sorely deceived at the end of the book. To better understand how the peritext influences—and moreover misinforms—the reader's reception of the text, I will analyze five peritextual elements—the image on the front cover, the title, the back of the book, the preface and the inter-titles—and one textual element, the font. As a sheep disguised in wolf's clothing is not as fierce as it may seem, so *Parce que je t'aime* proves to not be the great suspense novel that it first promises to be.

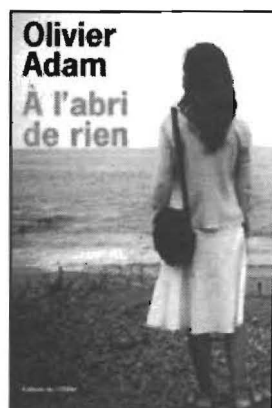
**UNE SOCIÉTÉ ERRANTE:
UNE CRITIQUE SOCIALE DE
LA DÉSORIENTATION DANS
A L'ABRI DE RIEN PAR OLIVIER
ADAM**

A WANDERING SOCIETY: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DISPLACEMENT IN A L'ABRI DE RIEN BY OLIVIER ADAM

Rhiana Quick, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

Faculty Sponsor: Jason Herbeck

A l'abri de rien (August 23, 2007) par Olivier Adam nous offre un regard intime de la société moderne. Cette société dont les stéréotypes prédéterminés dictent les normes sociales, nous impose en plus un sens de solitude même si nous nous trouvons parmi des



millions de personnes. Ce sont ces mêmes conditions sociales qui mènent Marie, la protagoniste, à abandonner sa famille sur un niveau émotif quand elle entreprend une quête pour retrouver le chemin d'une vie érodée de banalité. Je propose donc d'examiner cette société errante à deux niveaux. D'une part, il s'agira de Marie qui erre sans chemin précis à cause de son indifférence par rapport à la vie. D'autre part, je me pencherai sur les Kosovars, un peuple émigré d'un pays ravagé par la guerre et la violence et auprès de qui Marie s'engage comme bénévole dans sa quête pour trouver de la signification dans sa vie.

In *A l'abri de rien* [Sheltered From Nothing, August 23, 2007] Olivier Adam seamlessly crafts a reflection of modern society that fosters a sense of solitude in a world surrounded by others and whose predetermined stereotypes dictate the omnipresent societal norm. This stifling climate leads the main character, Marie, to emotionally abandon her family when she embarks on a quest to find meaning in a life eroded by feelings of triteness. Consequently, I propose a two-fold discussion that delves into the very meaning of a wandering society. Marie is representative of a society that wanders because of its indifference with respect to the banality of its existence, and the Kosovars—a group of refugees to whom Marie devotes all of her time and energy in a futile attempt to reclaim a sense of meaning in her own life—represent a society that literally wanders without a country or home.