



The 4th Annual Community College
Honors Research Symposium
at Stanford University May 7, 2011

Conference Committee

Bernie Day	Foothill College
Patty Dilko	Cañada College
Katharine Harer	Skyline College
Mary Lou Heslet	Foothill College
Matthew Kennedy	City College of San Francisco
Candace Klaschus	Las Positas College
Sami Kudsi	City College of San Francisco
Joyce Lee	Skyline College
Ann Malmuth-Onn	West Valley College
Eva Mo	Modesto Junior College
Jennifer Saito	Los Medanos College
Michael Colin Short	Stanford University
Kate Shreve	Stanford University

Acknowledgements

The Bay Honors Consortium thanks Stanford University for supporting this opportunity for community college honors students. We also acknowledge the following people for their invaluable contributions:

Richard Shaw	Dean of Admission and Financial Aid, Stanford University
Travis Koch	Keynote Speaker, Stanford University
Joshua Frances	Stanford University Transfer Panelist
Ashley Good	Stanford University Transfer Panelist
Roxanne Eaceres	Stanford University Transfer Panelist
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Eloine Chapman	Web Site Development, Los Medanos College
Connie Tolleson	Program Layout, Los Medanos College
Ricoh Printing	Program Printing, Las Positas College



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Symposium Guests,

Welcome to the 4th Community College Honors Research Symposium at Stanford University!

The presentations in which you have invested countless hours reflect the scholarly work that Stanford celebrates. Your commitment to knowledge, passion for learning, and intense curiosity are the qualities that fuel the creation of innovative ideas and groundbreaking research. Today is a forum to celebrate the cultivation and exchange of ideas; an opportunity to appreciate the vast array of perspectives and experiences; a moment to reflect on the responsibility of intellectuals in a free society.

Stanford University was founded *to promote the public welfare by exercising an influence on behalf of humanity and civilization*. Pursuit of knowledge for its own sake is a beautiful, noble, and meaningful enterprise. Ultimately, however, the research you will conduct at universities has an ethical purpose: To make the world a better place. Pressing issues plague our world—who will solve them? Who will conduct the scientific research that solves cancer? Who will perform the public policy research that offers a solution for the state of public education, the environment, or Social Security? You are the leaders who have the potential to work on these issues.

This research symposium is also a time to celebrate the unique perspectives of community college students. Your diverse backgrounds and life experiences add much-needed richness to classroom conversations and the overall intellectual quality of university communities. I commend you on your scholarship and wish you the very best in your academic, personal, and professional endeavors.

With warm regards,

Richard H. Shaw
Dean of Admission and Financial Aid



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The 4th Annual Community College
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Schedule of Events

Opening Ceremony 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Travis Koch, Keynote Speaker
Modesto Junior College Transfer to Stanford University

Session I Presentations 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Session II Presentations 11:00-12:00 p.m.

Lunch 12:00-1:15 p.m.

Session III Presentations. 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Closing Ceremony. 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Performance by *The Stanford Harmonics*

Stanford Transfer Student Panel
Joshua Frances, Ashley Good, Roxanne Eaceres
Moderated by Michael Colin Scott, Stanford University

Heslet Scholar Award

Bay Honors Consortium Honors Faculty of the Year Award

Closing Comments
Richard H. Shaw, Stanford University Dean of Admission and Financial Aid

Admissions Workshop 3:45-4:30 p.m.



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Session I Presentations 9:45-10:45 a.m.

All presenters and attendees are expected to arrive no later than 9:45 a.m. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from entering the room once the session is in progress.

Room 36

Jarome Vahai

Skyline College
Mentor: Jonathan Freedman

Ancient GPS

An examination of how the pyramids and other ancient structures, such as Stonehenge, may have provided a system for calculating the circumference of the earth.

Nada Hosking

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Matthew Kennedy

Paleolithic Venus Figurines and the Role of Women in the Stone Age

A discussion of what these small stone sculptures tell us about the roles and social status of women during the Stone Age.

Wendi Beatty

Footbill College
Mentor: Brian Curran Lewis

The Hera Factor

Infidelity and Misdirected Aggression from Ancient Greece to America

An examination of how the Greek goddess Hera's retaliation toward Zeus' conquests paved the way for the misdirected violence women still exhibit towards one another.

Room 128

Tyler Vasconcellos

Cañada College
Mentor: Denise Erickson

Gustave Moreau, Precursor to Impressionism

An exploration of pre-symbolist painter Gustave Moreau's role in the transition from academic painting to "the new painting" of the twentieth century.

Nicole Jacobson

Cañada College
Mentor: Denise Erickson

Edouard Manet and the Dawning Age of Artistic Freedom

An investigation into Manet's painting techniques as influenced by the Spanish School and his contributions to modern art.

Todd McKinney

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Ken Alexander

The Secret Children of Paul Cézanne

A comparative analysis of Cézanne's influence on Matisse's and Picasso's paintings and the presentation of three self portraits, illustrating each artist's distinct style.

Room 130

Shomriël Goodman

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Jean Sieper

Women's Work

Wordsmiths and Warriors in Southern Appalachia

A presentation of women's use of poetry as personal and political protest in the Southern Appalachian region of the United States.

Tina Curiel

Modesto Junior College
Mentor: Ingrid Keroitis

The Spiritual Marriage of Mary Oliver and Jane Hirshfield

An exploration of the ways in which contemporary poets Oliver and Hirshfield, approach the subject of spirituality and how their philosophical points of view affect their work.

Madison Davis

Skyline College
Mentor: Stephanie Forester

Home Birth: Is It Safe?

An investigation into the practice of home birth to determine if it is a viable and safe option for women who want an alternative birthing experience.

Room 207

Morgan Davis

Skyline College
Mentor: Katharine Harer

The Tragedy of Women in *Othello*

An exploration of how Desdemona's and Emilia's gender and the expectations on 15th century women contributed to their deaths in William Shakespeare's tragedy *Othello*.

Kristl Commander
Joshua Commander

College of the Redwoods
Mentor: John Johnston

Walled Up Inside and Out *Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street*

An examination of Melville's symbolic use of walls, focusing on the ways in which these corporeal aspects serve as reinforcements to the psychologically pent-up lives of the two main characters.

Nina Smirnov
Olivia Assis
Michael Asuncion

Skyline College
Mentor: Katharine Harer

You're So Full of Kitsch

An investigation into the uses and abuses of kitsch, starting with Milan Kundera's interpretation in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* and moving to the role of kitsch in political persuasion.

Room 208

Kristina-Marie Gard

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Dirk Sikkema

Microorganisms for Dinner

The Invisible Life in Your Ground Beef

A presentation of research into common microorganisms found in ground beef and turkey—what are they, why are they there and what should we do about it?

Pamela Rios
Bardo Castro

Skyline College
Mentor: Christine Case

Grandma Knows Best

A demonstration of the antimicrobial activity of coyote brush, a traditional Native American herbal medicine.

Rebecca Belloso

Skyline College
Mentor: Christine Case

Antibacterial Activity of the Elderberry

A Native American Medicinal Plant

An investigation into the use of elderberry flowers and berries to treat urinary tract infections.

Room 210

Brandon Christensen

Cabrillo College
Mentor: Michael Mangin

From Monopoly to Empire

The Dutch in Java: 1808-1830

An examination of the metamorphosis of the East India Company from a monopoly focused on profits into a full-fledged colonial apparatus controlled by the Dutch in Java.

Nathaniel Clark

West Valley College
Mentor: Tim Kelly

Opium

The Afghan Farmer's Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

A discussion of why opium production has spread throughout rural farming communities in Afghanistan and how drug lords are forcing farmers to remain in the opium trade.

Erin McGrady

Footbill College
Mentor: Konnilyn Feig

Voices Behind the Veil

The Rise and Fall of Women's Rights in Central Asia

An investigation into the role of women in Central Asia through history, focusing on the rise of women during Soviet control and the whiplash of nationalism that destroyed their progress.

Room 229

Patrick Leigh

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Jennifer Saito

Mental Arson

How the Human Mind Tricked Fire Investigators

An analysis of how common cognitive errors in arson investigations led to faulty conclusions.

Jonathan
Homrighausen

Modesto Junior College
Mentor: Dawn Strongin

Neuroscience and the Experience of Mystics

A presentation of how new imaging techniques have expanded our understanding of religious experiences.

Zahra Alamire

Irvine Valley College
Mentor: Jo Brunner

Neurocybernetic Theory Meets
Neuroprosthetics

A discussion of the future implications of neuroprosthetic design systems and their potential application to tissue damage, aging and degeneration of the human body.

Room 230

Teresa Datar

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Liana Padilla-Wilson

Hands Are My Voice

An examination of text based communication and its impact on the youth in America's deaf community.

Neda Mosafaei Shirazi

Saddleback College
Mentor: Amira Rezac Wegenek

I Like Him; He Hates Her; Should I Hate Her
Too?

A presentation of the results of an online survey of college students examining the effects of peer attitudes.

Nicole Naramura
Christina Teslich

Las Positas College
Mentor: Deborah Bauer

Generation Facebook

An investigation of Facebook's manifest function of sociability to reveal how it may provide health benefits and emotional support.

Room 313

Andrew Gerhold

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Barbara Austin

The Ethics of Freeloading on The Internet

An exploration of the ethical dilemmas of file sharing from the perspectives of Utilitarianism, Kant and Aristotle.

Glen Rickerd

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Dave Zimny

The Whistle Blower as Public Enemy

A comparison of the Pentagon Papers events with the current Wikileaks controversy in order to explore questions of government transparency.

Clara Mathews

American River College
Mentor: Rudy Pearson

Shooting War: Media Coverage of Warfare

An investigation of the role of the media in shaping American opinions and foreign policy decisions.



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Session II Presentations

11-12:00 p.m.

All presenters and attendees are expected to arrive no later than 11:00 a.m. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from entering the room once the session is in progress.

Room 36

Chelsea Thompson

MiraCosta College
Mentor: Lynne Miller

Put That Fanny Pack Away!

This is Not Your Typical Vacation

A discussion of the ways in which tourism impacts the social, cultural and environmental aspects of indigenous cultures - both positively and negatively.

Shervin Nakhjavani

Footbill College
Mentor: Scott Lankford

The Case for Currency Reform

A presentation of the argument for a strictly credit-based structure to take the place of the current physical forms of money.

Quinn Griffin

Footbill College
Mentor: Scott Lankford

The World of Walletcraft

Why Virtual Currency is Worth Real Money

An examination of the practice of selling virtual wealth acquired in a video game to other players for real money.

Room 128

Ethan Aines
Mena Tajrishi

Las Positas College
Mentor: Deanna Horvath

Replicating the Primitive Camera of the 19th Century

A presentation of a duplicate model of a 19th century full format sliding box camera along with photographs created using this early photographic chemical process.

Juliana Martins
Mariana Lobo

Footbill College
Mentor: Keith Lee

The Camera Never Lies

An Analysis of the History behind Photo Manipulations

An examination of manipulated photographs, intentions behind altered images, and the ethical implications of creating false realities.

Jesse Clayburgh

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Rebeca Mauleon-Santana

Flamenco and Latin Jazz

The Bridge Between Latin America and Spain

A drum based performance exemplifying the marriage of Spanish Flamenco and Latin Jazz.

Room 130

Aida Ghorbani

Mt. San Antonio College
Mentor: William Jones

Rave New World

An investigation into the psychological and sociological aspects of rave culture and the implications for modern youth.

Lance Park

Mt. San Antonio College
Mentor: Carolyn Kuykendall

Stanley Kubrick: A Most Interesting Man

An examination of how Kubrick, through the medium of film, demands that the audience focus on social issues.

Matthew Griffin

MiraCosta College
Mentor: Thao Ha

A Heideggerian Reading of Cormac
McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*

An analysis of *Blood Meridian* informed by scholarly work applying Heidegger's philosophy to Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*.

Room 207

Karina Hernandez
Gabriel Rubio

Cypress College
Mentor: Fernando Garcia

Obesity: The Modern Plague

An examination of the socioeconomic factors that advance the epidemic of obesity in the United States.

Amarjit Bath

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Jennifer Saito

The Donut's Revenge

An investigation into the cognitive illusions that led to the popularity of the Atkins Diet in spite of scientific evidence questioning its effectiveness.

Daniel McKay

Grossmont College
Mentor: Teresa Jacob

New Evidence in Bipolar Pathology

A presentation of research showing that brain injury may lead to bipolar affective disorder.

Room 208

Rebecca Allard

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Diana Scott

The Savage Self

Appropriation of the “Primitive” in Paul Gauguin

An exploration of the idea of “primitivism” in Western Art and Gauguin’s use of tribal elements in both his art and his identity as an artist.

Thatcher Combs

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Ardel Thomas

What Defines Beauty?

An exploration, through a self-curated museum exhibit, of the definition of beauty in our society and the marginalization of the LGBT community.

Paul King

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Matthew Kennedy

Suspension of Belief

A presentation of flesh hook suspension in two cultures, one ancient and one modern, yielding similar psychological and sociological benefits.

Room 210

William Figueroa

Skyline College
Mentor: Shari Bookstaff

Brain Rehabilitation Using Wii Fit

An exploration into the use of the Nintendo Wii Fit game system to stimulate new neuronal pathways - a tool for the rehabilitation of brain injured individuals.

Gio Diokno
Ralph Ednalino
Dana Hoang

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Jennifer Saito

Brain Augmentation

How Much Would You Pay for an Extra 20 IQ Points?

An examination of the marketing claims of *Brain Age* and other video games promoted as tools to improve cognitive ability.

Allen Schnibben

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Jennifer Saito

Cells Phones and Radiation

Scientific Evidence?

An examination of the relationship between health and cell phone usage and the human cognitive tendency to see causal patterns.

Room 229

Brittney Vevaina

MiraCosta College
Mentor: Tony Burman

The Exploitation of Self-Stereotyping

An analysis of how cultural identity can be manipulated for the purpose of advancing in society.

Branduin Stroud

City College of San Francisco
Mentor: Matthew Kennedy

Defining America

The Dilemma of Heritage and History Education

A presentation on the role of schools in teaching national identity, heritage and language education to reflect the full scope of American citizenry.

Jennifer Halliday

Glendale Community College
Mentor: Dana Marterella

Abolish Legal Marriage

An argument for the abolishment of legally recognized marriage in order to advance social, political and economic egalitarianism.

Room 230

Noel Hardesty-DeMenge

Mentor: Cindy Moss
Skyline College

Don't bE-WASTeFul: E-CYCLE!

An examination of the disastrous effects of e-waste and solutions for reducing or eliminating it entirely.

Karina Gonzalez de Graaf

Cañada College
Mentor: Paul Roscelli

The Green Market

Why Capitalists Run Away

An analysis into the market for renewable energies using a social savings methodology and the identification of obstacles that prevent its growth.

Rebecca Wilkinson

Modesto Junior College
Mentor: Eva Mo

Paper, Plastic or Reusable

A presentation about the marketing of recycled and managed resource products.

Room 313

Jenifer Carter

American River College
Mentor: Katherine Rodgers

The Ocean and the Wave

Reconciling Samurai Codes of Honor With Buddhist Philosophy

An exploration, using Japanese Noh theatre, of the complex relationship that existed between warrior code and religion in medieval Japan.

Liberty McDonald

MiraCosta College
Mentor: Christopher Sleeper

The Menace of Free Trade in 19th Century China

An investigation into the Opium Wars in China that provides a warning about the dangers of rampant globalization and free trade.

Ladan Zolfaghari

Irvine Valley College
Mentor: Traci Fabimi

China and the United States

Why Are These Two Different Political Systems Both Dominant Economic Powers?

An examination of the factors influencing economic growth in these two world powers.



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Session III Presentations

1:30-2:30 p.m.

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Room 128

Kiah Breslin-Kessler
Amy Ackerman
Joel Yap
Sam Zuo

Footbill College
Mentor: Eta Lin

Mozart or Metallica

The Effects of Music Genre on Memory

An investigation into the effects of different types of music on cognitive abilities.

Alan N. Webster

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Lianna Padilla-Wilson

The Devil's Music

The Worldwide Influence of the Delta Blues

A demonstration of how the Delta Blues, derived from resistance to oppression and racial constraints, transcended racial boundaries to influence popular music.

Room 130

Jenifer Carter

American River College
Mentor: Katherine Rodgers

How Power and Sex Shape History's Greatest Tragic Love Story

An analysis of how different stagings of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* reflect gender and power dynamics and the resulting differences in interpretation.

Steven Hansen

Skyline College
Mentor: Kathleen Feinblum

Batman and his Ties to Higher Literature

An examination of how literary conventions convey themes and ideas in the graphic novel medium.

Liz Tolleson

Los Medanos College
Mentor: Don Kaijper

Wonder Women

From Civil War Spies to Comic Book Heroines

A presentation of an original comic book depicting the story of two women spies who can be viewed as early feminist icons.

Room 207

Debora van Eckhardt

Los Medanos College

Mentor: Liana Padilla-Wilson

Learning Disabilities

Clueless Individuals or Clueless Diagnosis

An analysis of failures in diagnosing learning disabilities and their implications for treatment.

Erick Sanzon

Citrus College

Mentor: Kenneth Guttman

Depression Among Athletes

An examination of the lack of recognition of depression in the athletic community and its resulting under-treatment.

Matt Jarvis

Footbill College

Mentor: Simon Pennington

Fear and Pity: American Combat Veterans

An argument for labeling American combat veterans as a “minority population” in order create opportunities for additional benefits.

Room 208

Jennifer Akers

Cañada College

Mentor: Denise Erickson

Love and Sex in Modigliani and Picasso's Portraits of Women

A comparison of two powerhouses of the modern art world and how their personal relationships with women directly influenced their art.

Laura Del Ross

College of the Redwoods

Mentor: David Holper

The Unimaginable Life

An interpretation of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *The Yellow Wallpaper* using stages in Joseph Campbell's *The Hero's Journey* to demonstrate the capacity for human change.

Daniela Dean

MiraCosta College

Mentor: Gabriela Muller

However Daring, However Violent Futurism and Speed

An analysis of Italian Futurism and its elimination of time and space inspired by Bergson's philosophy of intuition and duration.

Room 210

Che Shul

Los Medanos College

Mentor: Liana Padilla-Wilson

Civilization Denied

The Deconstruction of the Indigenous Mexican

A presentation about the loss of indigenous identity and culture resulting in a continued lack of empowerment for Mexicans.

Marissa Hicks

Skyline College

Mentor: Jeff Diamond

Gender Jihad

The Muslim Women's Rights Movement

An examination of the growing movement for gender equality in the Middle East and whether women's rights can be compatible with Islam.

Cristina Bauss

College of the Redwoods

Mentor: Ryan Emenaker

Sex For Jesus and "The New Republican Woman"

An exploration of the contradictory images and rhetoric presented to voters by female Republican and Democratic political candidates in terms of sexual attractiveness, sexual freedom and sexual expression.

Room 229

Gus Alcaraz

Chaffey College

Mentor: Michael Wilson

The Dissolution of the Social Contract

A discussion of the cost to society when there is an emphasis on the individual at the expense of the community as a whole, with a focus on education, social responsibility and social etiquette.

Daniel Hardin

Foothill College

Mentor: Scott Lankford

Playing Hardball

Prosecuting HMO Directors For Felonies in Criminal Court

An argument for holding HMO directors accountable for denial of coverage to patients.

Zachary Dion

MiraCosta College

Mentor: Christopher Sleeper

The Impact of the Military-Industrial Complex on the American People

An analysis of the economic profitability of the military industry and America's dependence on it.

Room 230

Michelle Mocarski

Saddleback College

Mentor: Collette Chattopadhyay

Alannah Rosenberg

Medina Azahara

City, Palace and Gardens as a Display of Power

An exploration of the architectural design and landscape of an ancient city palace built to evoke images of paradise.

Elizabeth Sanford

Los Angeles City College

Mentor: Wendel Eckford

The Quiet Riot

19th Century West African Resistance in Congo Square

A presentation of the rituals of Congo Square in New Orleans - acts of resistance in an era when surrender and alienation were violently enforced.

Catherine Hatas

Footbill College

Mentor: Konnilyn Feig

Sweden in World War II

How it Paid to Play Neutral

An investigation of the ways Sweden compromised its official neutrality during World War II and how it profited from these actions.

Room 313

Tristan Sheldon

Cañada College

Mentor: Jessica Einhorn

Taming The Rivers

An examination of how the use of water influenced the development of governments in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Ryan Billings

Karina Hernandez

Cypress College

Mentor: Kathryn Sonne

California Fresh Water

A discussion of fresh water issues and policies, including sources, current and projected demand, and possible solutions to meet future needs.

Alan Valencia

Sacramento City College

Mentor: Forrest Newman

The Revolution of Light

An investigation into how the discoveries of the properties of light revolutionized our understanding of the universe.



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