



2014 VCHC Spring Conference

Pay it Forward

April 4-5, 2014

Virginia State University

Petersburg, VA





TABLE OF CONTENTS

VCHC President's Letter	5
VCHC Officers	6
VCHC History	7
VCHC Constitution.....	9
VCHC Bylaws	12
2014 Conference Program Schedule	13
2014 Conference Guest Presenters	15
2014 Conference Presentations	18
Index of Presenters	47
Conference Notes	49
Acknowledgements	55

CONFERENCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Friday, April 4, 2014:

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Registration
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Opening Session
2:00 – 4:30 p.m.	Presentation Sessions
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Keynote Speaker & Dinner
8:30 – 10:00 p.m.	Evening Social

Saturday, April 5, 2014:

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Morning Social and Opening Session
9:00 – 11:30 p.m.	Presentation Sessions
11:30 – 12:30 p.m.	Professional Development Workshop
12:30 – 1:45 p.m.	Faculty and Student Meetings & Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Presentation Sessions
3:30 – 4:20 p.m.	Faculty Meeting & Student Forum
4:20 – 5:00 p.m.	Closing Session and Award Ceremony



Dear Honors Students, Faculty, and Administrators,

On behalf of the Virginias Collegiate Honors Council, I would like to welcome all of you to the 22nd annual VCHC Spring conference hosted by our friends and colleagues at Virginia State University. The theme for this year's conference is "Pay it Forward" and I fully expect that we will do so! Over the past year, we have lived on our campuses and in our classes, talked with our friends and our peers, and learned from our teachers and mentors. In doing so we have questioned established dogma and come to our own conclusions, we have weighed the evidence and performed our analyses, and now here we are again with the opportunity to bring that which we have learned to our colleagues at other institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia and West Virginia.

In addition to these academic exercises, we have also learned about how to lead. Of what use is a critical mind and analytical skill set if we keep it to ourselves? To lead is to see the world around us clearly, to identify the good that can be done in it, and to use what talents we have to affect change for the better. In keeping with our theme of "Pay it Forward," our service project this year is "Seeds of Change in Arkansas and Appalachia," an initiative which aims to bring increased agricultural independence to impoverished communities by providing local sources of sustainable food sources. We would ask you to use your skills, resources, and abilities as leaders at your colleges and on your campuses to undertake initiatives to collect funds to donate to this organization. Many of you already have, and there is no need for you to stop now! The VCHC will continue to accept donations for this cause throughout the remainder of the academic year.

Lastly, I would like to thank the people who contributed their time, their effort, and their kindness to make this conference a success. The faculty, staff, students, and community of Virginia State University graciously volunteered to host this meeting and provide us their beautiful campus. The officers and elected officials of the VCHC have worked tirelessly to organize this meeting. Most importantly, you, the students, have donated your time, your effort, your intelligence, and your courage to inspire us to continue on with this organization. In keeping with the theme of this meeting, let's accept all of these gifts and pay it forward to next year. We'll meet again soon for the 23rd annual meeting of the Virginias Collegiate Honors Council where, although the theme will be different, we will continue to pay it forward!

Sincerely,

Paul Fitzgerald
VCHC President

VCHC Executive Committee 2013-2014

President

Dr. Paul Fitzgerald
Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale
E-Mail: pfitzgerald@nvcc.edu

Faculty Vice President

Dr. Mary Ann Schmitt
Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas
E-Mail: mschmitt@nvcc.edu

Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Joyce B. Easter
Virginia Wesleyan College
E-Mail: jeaster@vwc.edu

Faculty, 4-yr. Private

Dr. Kate Gray
Lynchburg College
E-Mail: gray@lynchburg.edu

Faculty, 4-yr. Public

Dr. Kristin Samuelian
George Mason University
E-Mail: ksamueli@gmu.edu

Faculty, 2-yr

Dr. Shashuna Gray
Germanna Community College
E-Mail: sgray@germanna.edu

Immediate Past President

Dr. Jack Trammell
Randolph-Macon College
E-Mail: jtrammel@rmc.edu

Student Vice President, interim (11/2013–4/2014)

Ms. Jeanice Reed
Virginia Wesleyan College
E-Mail: jjreed@vwc.edu

Student Vice President (5/2013–10/2013)

Mr. Tyree Sloan
Norfolk State University
E-Mail: t.m.sloan@spartans.nsu.edu

Student, 4-yr. Private

Ms. Amelia Charles
Bluefield College
E-Mail: ancharles@bluefield.edu

Student, 4-yr. Public

Ms. NaShira Blackmon
Virginia State University
E-Mail: nbla8919@vsu.edu

Student, 2-yr.

Mr. Lyons Sanchezconcha
Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun
E-Mail: lfs2187@email.vccs.edu



VIRGINIAS COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL HISTORY

The Virginias Collegiate Honors Council (VCHC), now over twenty years old, joins Virginia universities, colleges, and community colleges throughout the commonwealth to support and enhance programs and activities to meet the needs of exceptionally talented and motivated students. Recently, schools from West Virginia have also been included.

VIRGINIAS COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL MISSION

The mission of VCHC is to:

- provide a forum for sharing information about honor programs,
- provide students with greater opportunities for intercollegiate honor programs activities,
- collaborate with regional and national organizations which have similar goals,
- encourage articulation between two-and four-year honor programs, and
- increase public and private awareness of and fiscal commitment to honor programs and projects.

VCHC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in VCHC is available to institutions or individuals upon payment of annual dues. Annual dues for institutions are \$ 35.00 per calendar year, due in January. Annual dues for individual members are \$ 10.00 per calendar year. Individual membership dues must be paid before the Spring Conference each year. Both institutional and individual membership dues must be paid in order to vote on the business of VCHC.



VCHC PAST PRESIDENTS

2012-2013	Dr. Jack Trammell, Randolph-Macon College
2011-2012	Mr. David Anderson, George Mason University
2010-2011	Ms. Isabel Killough, Norfolk State University
2009-2010	Ms. Liona T. Burnham, Northern Virginia Community College
2008-2009	Dr. Jarris L. Taylor, Hampton University
2007-2008	Ms. Stephanie G. Walker, Norfolk State University
2006-2007	Dr. Joyce Brotton, Northern Virginia Community College
2005-2006	Dr. Mary Louise Schultz, West Virginia University
2004-2005	Dr. Lisa Grimes, College of William and Mary
2003-2004	Dr. Lisa Grimes, College of William and Mary
2002-2003	Dr. Orion Rogers, Radford University
2001-2002	Mr. Robert Watson, Hampton University
2000-2001	Dr. Page Laws, Norfolk State University
1999-2000	Dr. John Lambeth, Washington and Lee University
1998-1999	Dr. Joyce Wszalek, James Madison University
1997-1998	Dr. Richard Wilan, Northern Virginia Community College
1996-1997	Dr. Freddy Davy, Hampton University
1995-1996	Dr. John Berglund, Virginia Commonwealth University
1994-1995	Dr. Louis Henry, Old Dominion University
1993-1994	Mr. Norman Caine, Southside Virginia Community College
1992-1993	Ms. Pegeen Albig
1991-1992	Ms. Pauline Donaldson

VCHC CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: <http://www.vchc.net/>

2012-2013 VCHC President: Dr. Paul Fitzgerald
Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale
8333 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, VA 22003
Office Phone: 703-323-2442
pfitzgerald@nvcc.edu

CONSTITUTION OF THE VIRGINIAS COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

(As amended March 17, 1990, March 30, 2002, and March 29, 2003)

Article I: This organization shall be known as the Virginias Collegiate Honors Council, afterwards referred to as VCHC.

Article II: Mission

The mission of VCHC shall be:

1. To provide a forum for sharing information about Honors programs;
2. To provide students with greater opportunities for intercollegiate Honors programs activities, including the opportunity for students to present their own research publicly in an academic setting;
3. To collaborate with regional and national organizations which have similar goals;
4. To encourage articulation between two- and four-year Honors programs;
5. To increase public and private awareness of and fiscal commitment to Honors programs and projects.
6. To work closely with SCHEV to encourage excellence in undergraduate education and to encourage the development of honors programs/colleges in all state institutions of higher learning;
7. To work closely with the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities to encourage excellence in undergraduate education.

Article III: Membership

Membership in VCHC shall consist of institutional and individual members who have paid dues.

Section 1: Institutional members: Any post-secondary institution with accreditation or recognized candidacy may hold membership and be eligible to send one voting representative to annual meetings. Foundations and state and federal agencies are eligible for institutional membership.

Institutional memberships from multi-campus institutions shall be assigned in a manner determined by each institution. If each campus has a separate Honors

Program, each program may pay dues and have an institutional representative. It will be the responsibility of the institution to certify to the VCHC secretary-treasurer if it desires to be treated as a multi-campus institution.

Section 2: Individual members: Faculty, students, administrators and other interested persons are eligible for membership.

Article IV: Voting

Each individual member and each voting representative of a member institution shall be entitled to one vote in all transactions of VCHC, but no individual shall have more than one vote.

Section 1: Only those institutions whose dues are paid before the annual meeting are entitled to a vote in the business of VCHC.

Section 2: Only those individual members whose dues are paid before the annual meeting are entitled to vote in the business of VCHC. Failure to pay dues on time does not restrict individuals from

participating in the other activities of the annual meeting.

Article V. Quorum

Twenty percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting announced 30 days in advance.

Article VI: Officers

The officers of VCHC shall be a President, a Faculty Vice-President, a Student Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and members at-large. At the first Executive Committee meeting after the election, officers will be informed of their duties.

Section 1: The President shall be elected at the annual meeting from all eligible faculty members. The term of office shall run from the conclusion of that annual meeting through the conclusion of the next annual meeting. The President shall call for and preside over the meetings of VCHC and the Executive Committee, shall appoint members to committees, and shall appoint the following individuals to serve as ex officio (non-voting) members of the VCHC Executive Committee: a liaison to NCHC, SRHC, and other honors organizations; and a webmaven. Other individuals will be appointed as deemed necessary.

Section 2: The Vice-Presidents shall be elected at the annual meeting. The term of office shall coincide with the term of the President. The Faculty Vice-President shall preside over VCHC in the absence of the President. The Faculty Vice-President shall co-chair the fall meeting of VCHC. The Student Vice-President shall co-chair the spring meeting of VCHC.

Section 3: The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting from all eligible faculty members. The term of office shall be three (3) years. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the minutes of the meeting of the VCHC, collect dues, maintain financial and membership records, and perform such other duties as may be incidental to the office.

Section 4: The Executive Committee members at-large shall be elected at the annual meeting. The term of office shall be as described in Article VII, Section 2.

Article VII: The Executive Committee

At the first Executive Committee meeting after the election, the Executive Committee members will be informed of their duties.

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of VCHC and six at-large members. There shall be one faculty member and one student from two-year colleges, four-year private institutions, and four-year public institutions. The past president shall be an ex-officio (voting) member of the Executive Committee for one year.

Section 2: Student members at large will serve one-year terms; faculty members at large will serve rotating two-year terms.

Section 3: No single institution shall hold more than one faculty and one student elected position on the Executive Committee.

Section 4: All persons on the Executive Committee must be individual

members of VCHC.

Section 5: The duties of the Executive Committee shall be:

1. to advise the President of VCHC;
2. to make policy decisions for VCHC except in those cases where that right has been given to the whole membership (constitution, by-laws, dues, and election);
3. to create and supervise the work of all other committees;
4. to conduct such business as is necessary between sessions of VCHC;
5. to conduct any other activities which facilitate the mission of VCHC;
6. to provide for a nominating process for election of officers;
7. to fill vacancies in office until the next annual meeting.

Article VIII: Meetings

Section 1: VCHC shall hold an annual conference in the spring at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee. Other meetings may be called by the President by majority agreement of the Executive Committee or if requested in writing by ten percent of the membership.

Section 2: There shall be a fall meeting at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee for faculty involved in Honors programs in Virginia.

Article IX: Amendments

Any amendment to the Constitution shall be presented in writing to the membership at the beginning of the annual meeting and shall be voted on at that meeting. Two-thirds of those present and voting must approve any amendment to the Constitution. An amendment shall be effective immediately upon enactment.

Article X: Ratification

Ratification of the Constitution shall be by simple majority of those present and voting at the first annual business meeting of VCHC.

Article XI: Bylaws

Section 1: Bylaws shall be established as necessary for the transaction of the business of VCHC.

Section 2: Changes in the bylaws shall be approved at the annual meeting of VCHC. A majority of those present and voting is necessary to adopt a change. A change shall be effective immediately upon enactment.

BYLAWS OF THE VIRGINIAS COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

(As changed March 17, 1990, March 30, 2002, and April 11, 2008)

- Article 1: The annual dues for the institutional members are \$35.00.
- Article 2: The annual dues for individual members are \$10.00.
- Article 3: All committees and elected officers shall represent to the greatest extent possible the diverse constituencies of VCHC, including students and faculty.
- Article 4: The standing committees of VCHC shall be (A) the Program Committee and (B) the Bylaws Committee. Other committees may be created by the Executive Committee.
- Article 5: Ad hoc committees may be created by the President. An ad hoc committee shall last twelve months from the date of its creation or until discharged from its duty by the President. The President will provide the appointed committee chair a specific charge for the committee.
- Article 6: The Program Committee shall work with the co-chairs to develop a series of activities for the meetings of VCHC that recognize the diverse nature and interests of its members.
- Article 7: The Bylaws Committee shall review the VCHC Constitution and Bylaws, and recommend changes to the Executive Committee for possible recommendation to the annual meeting.
- Article 8: The ad hoc Nominations Committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each office to be elected at the annual meeting. This committee shall be appointed annually by the President. The floor will be open for additional nominations.
- Article 9: The ad hoc Scholarship Committee shall be appointed annually by the President to judge the student presentations at the Spring Conference. The number, categories, and amounts of awards shall be determined by the Executive Committee upon recommendation from the Scholarship Committee.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY PRIOR TO CONFERENCE

Petersburg National Battlefield & Siege Museum

A short drive from the Virginia State University campus is the Petersburg National Battlefield (open daily 8:30 am to dusk / \$5 per car) and the City of Petersburg Siege Museum, 15 W. Bank Street (open 10 am to 5 pm), where visitors can learn more about the longest military event of the Civil War.

2014 CONFERENCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Friday, April 4

Gateway Dining & Events Center

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

REGISTRATION

Second Floor Lobby

Each registrant will receive their badge, conference materials, and gift.

Conference participants can dine for about \$6 at the cafeteria in the Gateway Dining and Events Center.

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

OPENING SESSION

Meeting Room A

The conference will open with a welcome from VCHC officers and Virginia State University President Keith T. Miller. The opening session will feature *Students as Agents of Change* presented by Virginia State University Professor Oliver W. Hill, Jr.

2:10 pm – 3:30 pm

PRESENTATION SESSION 1

Meeting Rooms A, B & Presidential

Individual presentations will be held in scheduled rooms.

3:40 pm – 4:20 pm

PRESENTATION SESSION 2

Meeting Room A

Artistic presentations.

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

KEYNOTE & DINNER

BLACK SWAN RESTAURANT

The keynote address *The Power of Dreams* will be presented by Daphne Maxwell Reid. Dinner is being catered at the Black Swan German Restaurant, 9 Old West Street, Petersburg.

The VSU Billy L. Taylor Jazz Ensemble

Under the leadership of Mr. James “Saxsmo” Gates, the VSU Dr. Billy Taylor Jazz Studies Program was launched in fall 2012. The ensemble and academic program have quickly become highly recognized and respected on campus and far beyond. Legendary jazz pianist Dr. Billy Taylor was a 1942 graduate of Virginia State College.

8:30 pm – 10:00 pm

EVENING ACTIVITY

OLD TOWNE PETERSBURG

Optional guided walking tours of Old Towne Petersburg, a charming area rich in history, culture and the arts and home to dozens of Civil War era buildings.

Saturday, April 5

Hunter-McDaniel Building

8:00 am – 8:30 am

MORNING SOCIAL

Drinks (coffee, tea, juice) and muffins will be available before our opening session. We encourage you to take advantage of the full breakfast that is offered at the hotel as well.

8:30 am – 8:50 am

OPENING SESSION

Room 150W

VCHC Honor Scholar of the Year award presentation and address.

9:00 am – 10:20 am

PRESENTATION SESSION 3

Room 151W, 153W, 154W, 155W, 156W

Individual presentations will be held in scheduled rooms.

10:30 am – 11:20 pm

PRESENTATION SESSION 4

Lobby

Poster presentations

11:30 am – 12:20 pm

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Room 150W

In the workshop *Professionalism: It Starts Now*, Jill Mitchell will share how paying attention to the little things will have a significant impact on the big things. Learn about how being professional as a student will translate into career success in any field.

12:30 pm – 1:50 pm

FACULTY MEETING & LUNCH

Room 151W

STUDENT MEETING & LUNCH

Room 150W

Business meeting and election preparation

Box Lunch

2:00 pm – 3:20 pm

PRESENTATION SESSION 5

Rooms 151W, 153W, 154W, 155W, 156W

Individual presentations will be held in scheduled rooms.

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm

FACULTY MEETING

Room 151W

STUDENT FORUM

Room 150W

Students will hold elections followed by an open forum to discuss issues of concern.

4:20 pm – 5:00 pm

CLOSING SESSION

Room 150W

During this time, announcements will be made, prizes will be awarded to top presenters in each presentation category, and new officers will be announced.

2014 VCHC CONFERENCE GUEST PRESENTERS

Dr. Keith T. Miller has more than twenty-five years of experience with public and private universities, as well as with a land-grant university. He is currently President of Virginia State University and is President Emeritus at Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania. Other senior level positions include Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh; Dean, Niagara University College of Business Administration; Associate Dean, Quinnipiac University School of Business Administration; MBA Program Director, and faculty member Fairleigh Dickenson University.



Dr. Miller is Vice Chairman of the Virginia Council of Presidents. He is a gubernatorial representative of the Virginia Higher Education Commission and Dr. Miller serves on the faculty of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities New Presidents Academy. He is also on a university Board of Trustees, as well as the NCAA Division II President's Council.

Known nationally for innovation in higher education, Dr. Miller has been a leader in developing public/private partnerships such as CCAM, the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing, and other research foundations. His university was among the first to require laptop computers in his state and implemented an international experience for all new faculty. He has championed a very large concurrent enrollment program and his universities have consistently been on the President's Higher Education Honor Roll for Service. Virginia State University was among the first to implement digital textbooks as innovation was integrated into the culture.

His team has received nine Emmys for a marketing campaign and implemented Local Open Online Courses (LOOCS). Under his purview, research has grown, professional development activity is a priority, and fundraising has done well. Additionally, academic relationships exist on almost every continent.

Under his leadership, his institutions have received the Governor's Award for Innovation, the Community Impact Award from the American Heart Association, the "All Steinway" school designation, and they are significant federal grant recipients. Finally, VSU received the Grand Award for Communications and Marketing, the highest award from CASE for its application of a crisis communication plan, handling the most emotional and complex crisis to affect the University in years.

Dr. Miller has worked in areas such as strategic plan execution, branding the institution, succession planning, town/gown challenges, government relations, enterprise resource planning (ERP), emergency response management, and leadership development.

He received his Ph.D., M.P.A. and B.S. degrees from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Oliver W. Hill, Jr. is Professor of Psychology at Virginia State University. Hill received his undergraduate training at Howard University in Washington, DC, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. During his tenure as department chair, the Psychology Department has developed and implemented a Ph.D. in Health Psychology, the first such Ph.D. program in Virginia. Dr. Hill is an experimental psychologist specializing in studying cognition, or how the



brain works. He has been awarded several grants by the National Institutes of Health, and is currently overseeing a project funded by the National Science Foundation studying the way cognitive training can enhance the learning of mathematics.

Dr. Hill has been instrumental in instituting a number of community development programs in Petersburg, VA, linking the expertise of the psychology department with the needs of the Petersburg community, particularly the local school district. He is particularly interested in fostering the concept of quality education as a civil right.

Daphne Maxwell Reid is best known as *Aunt Vivian* from the hit comedy, *"The Fresh Prince of BelAir"*. Her 35-year acting career is still vital with roles on many new television programs including as the new host of *"Virginia Currents"* on Richmond's WCVE (PBS) and the monthly magazine format show, *"VSU Today"*, for Virginia State University.

With her husband, actor/writer/producer Tim Reid, Daphne co-founded and is a principal partner in *New Millennium Studios*, the first full-service film studio in Virginia. Daphne serves the COO of the studio, and as a Producer on various projects. Presently serving on the following boards, her involvement in the community at large rounds out a full schedule: the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, Petersburg Library Foundation Board, the Richmond Forum Board, the VA Foundation for the Humanities, the Petersburg Area Art League Board, and the Citizens' Action Committee for the Governor's Mansion.



Mrs. Jill Mitchell is an Assistant Professor of Accounting at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) at Annandale. She has served as the Faculty Advisor for the NOVA Chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), which was the first and only community college chapter to earn the highest distinction of Platinum STAR. Currently, she is a member of the NSCS Community College Advisory Board. Also, she is a board member of the Accounting and Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA) – Washington, DC Chapter. At NOVA, she serves on several committees including the Budget Advisory Committee, Honors Committee, and the Achieving the Dream Committee. Students and alumni have nominated her for Faculty of the



Year. Prior to joining the faculty at NOVA, Mrs. Mitchell was a senior auditor with Ernst & Young's Business Risk Services practice in Miami, Florida. She is a Certified Internal Auditor and graduated from the Ernst & Young Your Master Plan program at the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia in 2003 with an M.S. in Accountancy. She is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business and Honors Program where she earned a B.B.A. in Management Information Systems. Mrs. Mitchell resides in Northern Virginia with her husband and son.

2014 VCHC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Presentation Session 1 - Individual

2:10 – 3:30 PM

Room A

2:10 PM

Rehabilitation and the Female Other: Women in CBS's Elementary

Amanda Bourne, Marymount University

When Season 1 of *Elementary* aired in 2012, movie critics and Sherlock scholars were shocked by Lucy Liu's female Watson. However, a female Watson is not the only radical approach taken in this series. This presentation examines the new roles women take in Robert Doherty's adaptation; because of the series' focus on Holmes as a drug addict, the relationships he has with the three major women - Joan Watson, Ms. Hudson and Irene Adler/Moriarty - are defined by the process of rehabilitation. Instead of using Conan Doyle's patriarchal lens to define the other, Doherty begins by alienating each woman through race, intelligence or sexuality. However, the conclusion is that Holmes and Watson's rehabilitative relationship creates the only true 'other' in the series, since Watson's race and Ms. Hudson's sexuality are resolved through their relationships with Holmes. Only Adler/Moriarty is estranged from this rehabilitative relationship because her devious brilliance leads her to try and usurp Watson's role in it.

2:30 PM

Intelligent Women in Victorian Literature

Marie Vernon, Averett University

The stereotypical heroines in Victorian novels were characterized by purity, delicacy, and beauty, in accordance with the widely accepted ideal of the "Angel in the House," which sought Victorian womanhood in the pure, selfless wife and mother existing largely to care for and support her family members. This type of female characterization features in the pure, delicate heroines created in novels by Victorian male writers such as William Makepeace Thackeray and Wilkie Collins, who tend to attach less importance to the intelligence of these heroines. To their intelligent female characters, on the other hand, they prefer to assign roles that are less prominent or less admirable. Victorian women novelists such as Charlotte Brontë and George Eliot, however, endeavoring to validate the worth of a femininity that did not consist solely in being angelic, excelled in shaping a new type of heroine that combined intelligence, morality, and strength.

2:50 PM

Villains Through the Ages

Helena Avedissian, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

The characterization of villains in movies and TV series has generally changed over time. From the beginning of cinematography as a form of entertainment, villains have been kept at a “literary distance,” meaning they are portrayed merely as evil antagonists with little to no redeeming human qualities. The “literary distance” makes it difficult for audiences to relate to them as they hardly evoke any empathy. In recent years, the gap between the audience and the villains is growing smaller as the “literary distance” is decreasing. More and more movies and TV shows are producing villains that are “fan favorites.” This presentation will describe techniques that are being used to make the villains more likable as well as the implications of these changes. Several films and series from different time periods will be used as examples to demonstrate the change in the characterization of villains through time.

3:10 PM

Is Mark Twain a Racist or Not? Interrogating Huckleberry Finn.

Delnecia James, Norfolk State University

African Americans have been damaged by racism, and so have their oppressors. The real problem occurs when the apparent oppressor may really be a friend. In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain is often viewed as a racist because of Huck and others’ frequent use of the ‘N-word’ and Jim’s overall depiction as a victim. But if *Huckleberry Finn* was written to both exemplify AND criticize American racism, how should we judge its author then? One must ask oneself what the true intention behind the literary piece is, and one must judge the author in the context of his time period. This paper considers both critics who attack Twain and critics who defend him, such as the Nobel Prize-winner Toni Morrison.

2:10 PM**Autism Spectrum Disorder as a Piece of the DSM: A Move Toward Dimensionality**

Nicole Daniell, George Mason University

With the recent release of the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5) of mental disorders, the psychiatric community is experiencing controversy over the manual with particular interest to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This essay seeks to analyze how the changes made to the diagnostic criteria for ASD shape the DSM and portray the controversies associated with the manual as a whole by examining the impact of the disputed medical model on DSM-5, looking into the field trials for the new, more specified ASD criteria, and drawing parallels between ASD and DSM alterations. Ultimately, ASD serves as a case study to exemplify how the influence of scientific research is inciting change within the DSM, forcing the psychiatric community to acknowledge a more dimensional approach to mental health.

2:30 PM**Sexomnia: a sleep disorder vs. convenient excuse?**

Olga Lorenz, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

Frenzy lifestyle, stress, and exhaustion result into various sleep disorders in people. Insomnia is no longer news in the 21st century world. Neither is sleepwalking, aggression, or memory lapses. But what if all this, combined with increased sexual activity, formed a completely different sleep disorder that is both bizarre and dangerous? Sexomnia, first mentioned in 2003 by Colin Shapiro, is becoming a subject of more and more research by both psychologists and medical doctors. But there is another question associated with sexomnia today - the legal consequences. In this talk we shall discuss what sexomnia is, its various implications and some challenges lawyers face related to it today.

2:50 PM**Language and Anorexia Nervosa: How Diagnostic Terms may Catalyze or Extend the Duration of Anorexia Nervosa in Adolescent Females**

Leslie Pyo, Virginia Commonwealth University

Anorexia nervosa (AN) has the highest rate of mortality among psychiatric disorders. It is categorized as an Axis I Clinical Disorder in the DSM-IV and a Mental/Behavioral Disorder in the ICD-10. No research, however, has been conducted on how linguistic categorization may psychologically and neurobiologically contribute to the etiology or duration of AN. Body image disturbance (BID), one of AN's four diagnostic criteria, is dynamic: individuals with AN cannot create a stable body image, which results in a self-image that fluctuates with external stimuli (i.e. the categorization applied to them). They demonstrate hypersensitivity to AN-related words, indicating an information processing bias that further increases susceptibility to fluctuating BID. Individuals with AN also demonstrate hyper reactive amygdala function. This area of the brain has been implicated in early language development and processing, a fact that further supports the proposed impact of diagnostic language on the trajectory of AN in an individual.

3:10 PM

Prenatal Designer Drug Use and Its Effect on Language Development

Zora McFarlane-Blake, Hampton University

This research looks into the current information that has been published and presented in regard to the Prenatal Exposure of Designer Drugs and its impact on the language development of exposed children. The use of Designer Drugs continues to grow and is now popular among millions of individuals in the United States. Unfortunately, this also means that they are being abused by many female users during their pregnancy which has led to research being conducted to determine the short term and long term effects of prenatal drug use. This research covers the overviews of prenatal care, Designer Drugs, the effect of using drugs during pregnancy; and then transitions to discuss the health conditions and development patterns of drug exposed children. Two published studies are then used to examine language development in drug exposed children and conclude with reasoning for needing more longitudinal studies on this specific group.

2:10 PM**Thomas Jefferson's Deceleration of Independence: Plagiarism or Reaffirmation of Truth?**

Lauren Reyna, Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas

On June 11, 1776, Thomas Jefferson was given the task of designing the original draft of the Deceleration of Independence with the intention of leading his country to freedom against the tyranny of Great Britain. In said document, Jefferson pushed unforgettable phrases and the convictions laying in the hearts of the American people in order to emphasize the importance of their justice, liberty, and self-reliance. Since the day that King George III signed the document into fruition, it has notably been one of the most influential documents in the history of the United States of America. Notably, the Deceleration of Independence did indeed break the ties for the American colonies to form its own democracy however, where did the content of this astounding document come from? It is clearly the design of Thomas Jefferson with input from other Founding Fathers however, was it purely his creation? Was Thomas Jefferson perhaps one of the most notable plagiarists of all time, taking his ideas from various philosophers and calling it his own works? Or is he merely summarizing what we have come to know as the “self-evident truths”? My intention is to analyze the controversial passages of the Deceleration of Independence and prove our Founding Father innocent against the modern crime of plagiarism.

2:30 PM**Law and Individual freedoms**

Albarou Sabi, Norfolk State University

Freedom is an imprescriptible human right. It is defined as the right to act, to speak, or to think as one wants without undue restraint. In order to achieve freedom, from a community or a country’s perspective, the right of an individual to act, speak, or think must not deprive another individual of the same right. That is when law comes into play to set the balance between individual freedoms and collective or public freedoms. Law is both the guarantor and the restrictor of individual freedom as it defines what one can do or not. Those functions of the law make it equivocal. Many questions arise like “how much freedom is at risk without law,” and “under which conditions does the law lose its role of ‘freedom guarantor’”? The paper addresses those questions by analyzing the concept of individual and public freedom and their interdependence.

2:50 PM

A Study on the Scope for and Against Affirmative Action in Higher Education, and Its Effects on African Americans

Deniqua Washington, Hampton University

This research paper studies the controversial subject of affirmative action. It primarily focuses on African Americans and how it affects them directly when being accepted into Ivy League universities. The literary analysis brings up the argument of how affirmative action may be considered reverse racism to some, and the court cases that displayed this. Secondary sources such as journal articles, books, and accredited websites were utilized in order to understand affirmative action further. Affirmative action is an ongoing issue as students feel as though they are being discriminated against (predominately White Americans). This paper focuses on whether or not affirmative action essentially is beneficial to African Americans. Through close attention to African Americans over an allotted amount of time their progression will be accounted for. With the tools of GPA, class rank, surveys (which will explain career and major choice), and interviews the influence of affirmative action will be tested.

3:10 PM

Motherhood—the Irony of a Patriarchal Idealization

Leora Lihach, Marymount University

My presentation will focus on how the conservative idealization of motherhood can ironically be the undoing of the traditional gender ideology it is grounded in. Through two trends in tumultuous transitions to democracy, this phenomenon occurs: the first trend involves women appealing to their motherhood roles to advance political demands and the second trend involves the development of leadership values that embrace “maternal leadership”. My research explores revolutionary movements in Latin America to illustrate the pattern of women politicizing motherhood to oppose authoritarian regimes, consequently challenging gender norms by advancing political demands. Chile’s period of democratization is highlighted as a case study, from the ardent movement against Pinochet’s dictatorship to the election of Michelle Bachelet, who embraced “maternal leadership”. My research pays it forward by revealing the impact that political activism and leadership can have on an entire demographic when demands for human rights and social justice are advanced.

3:40 PM**Give it back!**

Kayla Pinson, Virginia State University

As a student at a predominantly black institution and an African-American woman, I have directly witnessed the progress of African Americans. Through relevant and inspirational spoken word I seek to explore various ideas and give voice to those quieted by the society. My way of paying it forward is through spoken word. I will be performing a series of poems that not only outline the struggles faced by African Americans but highlight evidence of a promising prosperity. My subjects, however, are not limited to an African American audience. The poems also provide insight to the human experience and question the standards accepted by society. They challenge the generation to understand its beliefs. Hopefully, this will inspire conversation and the transmission of knowledge among listeners. It is my belief that when we understand ourselves better we are more apt to share our experiences and history with others. We pay it forward.

4:00 PM**Identified**

Barbara Montgomery, Northern Virginia Community College - Woodbridge

This is a combined spoken word/performing arts presentation grounded in content from Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*. The theme is that voice and presence are intrinsic qualities to all human beings. We have the responsibility both to live out this truth and to empower others to do the same. It is a gift to be able to comprehend and embrace one's immense value and unique identity. We must take that which we have been given—freedom, hope, inspiration—and pay it forward by sharing it with others.

9:00 AM**Biased Piety And Sensible Objectivity**

Jason Lee, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

I will be discussing the nature of religion, the existence of God, and how they are viewed from a logical standpoint to inform the audience of the negative influence of religion in critical thinking. Furthermore, I will analyze several prevailing characteristics of the human mind/nature and their relationship with religious thoughts to help the audience better understand how the biased mind misleads reason. I'd like to mention that the main point is not to impose Atheism on Theists, but to propose a rational approach to Theistic beliefs.

9:20 AM**The Harmonic Web of Morality**

Amelia Charles, Bluefield College

Discussion of how we can use creativity, wisdom, and love to create harmony within our existence. Let us learn together how to weave a beautiful tapestry of harmony.

9:40 AM**The Essence of Bigger Thomas: A Perspective on Existentialism in 20th Century Black America**

Kevin Baisden, Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria

My presentation will focus on existential philosophy and how it is integrated in Richard Wright's novel Native Son.

10:00 AM**Old Testament Law vs. New Testament Law: Is There Really a Difference?**

Courtney Williford, Norfolk State University

Divine law for Jews and Christians started with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden where they first sinned, leading to the first punishment from God. When thinking about the Old Testament, most individuals remember “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth” (Exodus 21:24) while the New Testament is remembered for “turn the other cheek” (Matthew 5:39, Luke 6:29). The Old Testament lays the foundation, and then the New Testament builds upon the foundation and adds more of God’s revelation. The laws of the Old Testament are more literal and the New Testament laws are more figural and allow for mercy. However, the laws of both testaments should be interpreted in a critical sense. The Old Testament foreshadows the New Testament and, in the same way, they both reflect each other. The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the challenging complexity of the laws in both the Old and New Testament.

9:00 AM**Dark Matter, Dark Energy, and Deep Space Exploration Technology**

Adele Platt, George Mason University

Dark matter and dark energy are 'dark' because they cannot be seen or detected via normal methods (probes, scanners, etc.); they are not visible because they do not reflect light at all. Besides the precious little information that has been gathered, dark matter and energy remain a mystery because the whole truth of their existence is clouded in the depth of space. Currently, there is less information about what dark matter and dark energy are than about what they are not. Through the course of my essay, I explore the uncertainty surrounding dark matter and dark energy and how they relate to deep space exploration technology, by investigating various texts and scientific articles written by astrophysicists, who draw conclusions based on numerous cosmological calculations and observations about certain key intergalactic events. I conclude with a hypothesis of my own, taking into consideration what is known versus what is theorized.

9:20 AM**Printing the Path to Progress**

Yash Shevde, Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun

3D Printing has become one of the most revolutionary domains of modern technology. For decades, Science Fiction could only dream about gadgets that could create something with the press of a few buttons. These dreams are now coming to realization, opening vast new vistas of possibilities and applications. This talk will provide a brief exposition of current research and developments in the field, and will analyze its implications on our future.

9:40 AM**High Altitude Physiology: An Everest Retrospective**

Mauna Sadeghi, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

At 29,029 ft., Mt. Everest is the highest mountain on Earth. High altitude athletes attempting various treks in the Himalayas train long, and hard for their expeditions. This is because the body behaves unpredictably, and drastically differently at high altitudes; a challenge these athletes have to be prepared for. This presentation will be examining the physiological effects, changes, and adaptations the human body endures at high altitudes, and the reasons for which they occur. Furthermore, the presentation will also be exploring the harsh reality of what happens when the human body does not adapt to high altitudes, such as the physiology of various altitude related illnesses, statistical factors impacting an individual's susceptibility to these illnesses, drawing from both scientific research, medical cases in Mt. Everest's history, and my personal time on the mountain.

10:00 AM

Mind, Body, Spirit: the Beneficial Practice of Yoga

Kendall Alexander, Hampton University

An overview of all the benefits the practice of yoga can have on the body. It is particularly important for young professionals to learn how to manage stress early on in order to combat triggers in the long term. Yoga can also help to alleviate pain in various areas of the body, as well as re-energize the mind, body and spirit altogether.

9:00 AM**New Concentration Camps on U.S. Soil?**

Brittney Parker, Norfolk State University

Imagine waking up every morning in a small room provided for you and your family, then making your way to a mess hall for breakfast. After breakfast you may be allowed some time to read a book, or possibly take your children to a nearby play area. Now imagine this happening in a government facility run by FEMA, in which you were forcibly placed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Although the scene described may seem overly dramatized and unfathomable, could this possibly happen on U.S. soil? My research concerns the possibility of these events occurring through the enactment of several proposed laws and bills that could possibly curtail our freedoms. I plan to investigate proposed conditions for martial law in the United States as envisioned in H.R. 1960 and H.R. 390. My focus will be the FEMA camps planned in the case of a national emergency.

9:20 AM**A Call to Jihad: the West's Misconceptions of Islam**

Ahmad Nazeri, Randolph-Macon College

After September 11, Islam and Muslims became the center of attention. With the attention, came the misconceptions of Islam; mostly due to the influence of the media. These misconceptions were the same ideas being taught by extremists whom they were reporting on. We will be covering three misconceptions of Islam: oppressing women, condemning violence, and performing Jihad. The audience will be asked to taken into consideration what they have learned and to make Jihad a daily part of their life.

9:40 AM**Sweden's Ban on Corporal Punishment: Cultural Foundations and Modern Opinions**

Barbara Brophy, George Mason University

This paper seeks to explain how culture has impacted Sweden's definition of child abuse and the promulgation of child protective laws through evaluation of both the historical backdrop and contemporary opinions. Experts question whether Sweden's low fatality rates are a product of the country's ban on corporal punishment or a result of the preceding socioeconomic climate. Sweden is a comparatively wealthy and progressive nation with a successful welfare system. Because abuse rates tend to increase under impoverished conditions, it becomes clear that Sweden's low abuse rates are due in part to its economic framework that allows for the widespread distribution of wealth. It is therefore concluded that Sweden's unique socioeconomic status, along with the country's longstanding emphasis on equality, which promotes the value of the individual, have had the greatest influence on the country's definition of child abuse and the resulting legislation.

10:00 AM

**Evaluating Criticisms of Forcible Humanitarian Intervention in the Case Study of
Genocide in Rwanda.**

Claire Nadolski, Lynchburg College

When confronted with one of the most terrible atrocities the world has seen, we often see differing reactions from the international community. Genocide has long been a difficult topic to grapple with due to its gruesome nature and its conflicts with sovereignty. Many nations believe to intervene would be to step on the national sovereignty of the country in question, while others believe that in ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948) we are obligated to intervene in the name of peacekeeping and preservation of life. What remains to be evaluated is the application of the debate for and against humanitarian intervention in such cases. Through research involving personal memoirs from key decision makers, historical accounts of the time, personal interviews, and national laws and treaties, the purpose of this research aims to discover whether the critics of such intervention bear true when responding to the brutality of genocide.

9:00 AM**Trans-Saharan Trade in West Africa: 1000-1500**

Juwariah Shareef, Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria

Trans-Saharan Trade in West Africa: 1000-1500 AD will explore, introduce and uncover the nature of the trading networks in West Africa between 1000-1500 AD. The Trans-Saharan trade also known as the Gold-Salt trade acted as a catalyst for Islam's spread, trade, the rise of West African empires and their successive declines. These trading networks helped transform West Africa and forever changed the face of Saharan Africa.

9:20 AM**Black Manager Advances in Media**

Kathryn Kenny, Hampton University

In recent years, black news managers have broken barriers, assuming positions that have only been previously occupied by whites. This presentation will explore the tremendous strides by African Americans in media as well as analyze the potential impact it will have on media in the future.

9:40 AM**An Analysis of the Effects of the Downturn of the U.S. Economy on the Equine Industry**

Deanna Beebe, Averett University

The equine industry has a significant impact on the U.S. economy with over 9 million horses and 4.6 million Americans involved in the industry. Because of its size, it is directly affected by the state of the U.S. economy. We know what this looks like for people- lost jobs and homes, suffering businesses, and government subsidy programs. But how does this situation affect the horses?

10:00 AM**Population Decline: The Actual First World Problem**

Malcolm Almontazar-Harris, Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun

This presentation will focus on countries with declining populations such as Japan and Italy. Population decline is a unique problem that affects the most advanced and modernized countries in the world. Countries plagued by this issue literally have more people dying than what possibly can be replaced and are currently facing the negative consequences of it. What aspects of these particular countries could be responsible for this unusual trend in population? Is it likely that this could spread to other countries? Or is it merely a coincidence? These questions will be fully explored in this oral presentation on the world's most uncommon problem.

9:00 AM**Treating the Children: Psychosocial Effects of HIV/AIDS on an African Child**

Aaron Deneau, Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas

The HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) pandemic in Africa are receiving attention globally through the media for the large amount of reported HIV/AIDS cases and the amount of devastation the infection causes in the typical home of an African family. Children of large families are being left in a volatile psychological and social state after parents are dying due to the physiological effect of HIV/AIDS. Through this analysis of the psychosocial effects of HIV/AIDS on a child in an African community, I hope to illuminate an important aspect of this pandemic that should be internationally recognized.

9:20 AM**Not Going Pro**

Kirkland Brown, Averett University

Student-athletes are faced with many obstacles in the classroom and field of competition. Most are involved in a particular sports for the greater part of their life, giving many hours to practices and games, sacrificing time that could be spent on other activities. The truth is that eventually an athlete will have to walk away from whatever sport they have been affiliated with for so long. The psychological effects of leaving the game an athlete has come to love can be very negative and harsh. This problem is often overlooked when thousands of athletes end their careers every year. With involvement in sport growing exponentially, this topic has become more popular in the recent years.

9:40 AM**The 21st Century Deficiency of Observation and its Impact on Global Inefficiency**

Marjan Ali, Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun

The deficiency of observation in this brisk, modern society has resulted in a neglect toward the manifestation of useful and effective thoughts. The increased surge in technological advancements and social media, have contributed to the promotion of self-absorption and interpersonal disconnect. With the promotion of a narcissistic atmosphere and an enabling of tools to carry out neglect, many people are less observant. Unfortunately, this makes them less available to contribute in a spiritual, mental, or physical way. With a detachment from compassion and an insufficient understanding of world affairs, citizens of the modern society are less knowledgeable of their surroundings and actions. This creates an impaired atmosphere of clouded judgment, and therefore a need for profitable observation to develop positive growth.

10:00 AM

Colorism: The Shackels Within.

Kayla Harris Fontaine, Virginia State University

Colorism in the African American community is a deeply rooted problem, stemming from the times of slavery. In my presentation I will cover the history of colorism in the African American community and its modern day effect on the self-esteem on African American women and girls. I will start by analyzing the Willie Lynch letter, what it says about skin color and its effect on the African American mentality. Then, I will look at modern day girls and how their skin color affects them using examples from the new show *Being Mary Jane* starting Gabriel Union, as well as personal experience. I hope to start a conversation to end this horrible epidemic amongst girls and show that no matter what color of your skin you may have that we are all beautiful.

The Fight Against Childhood Obesity

Ayan Ali, George Mason University

In attempts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic, the United States government has introduced a myriad of new programs and policies geared toward improving children's health. By examining which elements of the following policies have been effective and which ones have not, it will become clear whether or not the United States government has successfully combatted childhood obesity since 2008. Additionally, a series of new policies could even be created and implemented to more successfully fight this epidemic. Although the issue of obesity is relatively new, the successes and failures of current government programs prove that federal and state governments have not yet made a significant impact on reversing obesity in children. Determining the effective and ineffective components of current health policies provides an opportunity to reduce error on future programs, but it also has the potential to reverse childhood obesity on a grander scale.

Brains on the Run: The Brain's Role in a Marathoner's Performance

Alayna Bigalbal, George Mason University

Marathon runners often focus on physical fitness and endurance as they relate to performance but often neglect the brain's role. The purpose of this study is to determine the effect, if any, of the psychological and physical aspects of the brain in running a marathon. To do this, I researched past experiments and surveyed George Mason's long-distance runners. I found that mental practice and motivational pep-talks improve running performance the most, while mental fatigue, internal focus, and external focus impact each runner independently. Because each individual is different, it is important for runners to understand how the brain works and how it influences running performance so they can experiment with different mental training strategies and find one that works best for them.

Words CAN Hurt You: The Effects of Bullying on Psychological Adjustment

Justine Burke, George Mason University

The purpose of this research was to examine the psychological consequences of bully victimization in hopes of providing insight on how to approach bullying prevention and intervention in school settings. Bullying is a pervasive, though an often neglected social problem in US schools and around the world. Bully victimization is characterized by recurring exposure to violent and aggressive behaviors that are intended to cause harm. Research suggests that no matter the type of bullying that is used, the most common psychological consequence that has been associated with bullying is depression, and that any participation in bullying, whether as a victim or as the bully, increases the chances of someone developing early onset depression. Thus, bullying is a serious issue due to the potential detrimental consequences not only for the victim, which presents a potential threat to healthy child and youth development and appears to affect well-being and psychological adjustment.

Race, Coaching and Power in the National Football League

Tyler Fisher, George Mason University

In this paper I explore the underrepresentation of black coaches in the National Football League (NFL). I identify three main perspectives contributing to this underrepresentation, each of which I argue plays an important role. First, social structure and societal norms create underrepresentation. Second, the inertia theory, suggesting that racial diversification takes a long time, facilitates the underrepresentation. Third, the coaching pipeline, or the career path coaches must take to become head coaches, inhibits black coaches—who play non-central positions or have limited experience—from becoming head coaches. I then explain the significance of my research, applying my work to top-level management positions in the NFL and all across society, to explain the continued power struggle between strong white majorities and weak black minorities.

Mother-Child Relationships, Food Insecurity, and Child Obesity

Harper Lovegrove, George Mason University

Food insecurity – the inability to obtain a sufficient amount of food to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle – is a significant issue for 17.6 million Americans today. Concurrently, child obesity has taken over the nation – nearly one-third of all American adolescents are overweight or obese. The crossover of these two issues has been named the ‘hunger-obesity paradox’ because both hunger and obesity can occur within the same household and even the same person. Parents have a large impact on their child’s eating habits, especially the mother. For this research project, I looked at how child obesity is related to breastfeeding, parenting style, and access to food, and how those relationships are mediated by food insecurity.

Battle over Supremacy

Annaleigh Marshall, George Mason University

This research is about social group hierarchies, their formation, and the personality characteristics of the “leader,” or alpha. The focus of the research is a study of how alphas gain their social power and how other ingroup members interact with the alpha. The research is divided into three sections, with an overarching claim that argues as to why this research is accurate. The first section focuses on the personality traits of an alpha, the second focuses on the collective ingroup members’ relation with the alpha, and the third focuses on how a specific ingroup member can sabotage the alpha and cause the alpha to fall from their leadership position. The evidence provided is taken from multiple academic disciplines, including sociology, psychology, leadership studies, and biology.

Analysis of Humira, Electro-Acupuncture, and Pulsatile Dry Cupping on Reducing Joint Inflammation in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis

Natalie Noll, Virginia Commonwealth University

Humira, an anti-TNF drug aimed at decreasing inflammation in Rheumatoid Arthritis patients, can cause skin diseases from a rash to skin cancer. Humira works by blocking the chemical receptor RANKL, which therefore halts the production of osteoclasts, which attack and eat bone and cartilage, causing inflammation in arthritis patient's joints. By analyzing Humira's effect on the human body, it can be compared against other treatments such as electro-acupuncture and pulsatile dry cupping to see if these alternative treatments can decrease inflammation in Rheumatoid Arthritis patients through blocking RANKL, and if they are safer methods for carrying out this treatment. Under close examination of scientific journals written on studies where patients and animals were treated with Humira, acupuncture, and cupping for inflammation due to arthritis, the data collected suggests that Humira, electro-acupuncture, and pulsatile dry cupping all decrease inflammation in the joints of Rheumatoid Arthritis patients.

Successful Psychopathy: Does it Exist?

Hannah Rowlette, George Mason University

In this research I have examined the idea of successful psychopathy: namely, what a successful psychopath is, if such individuals exist, and where the split between successful and unsuccessful psychopaths is located. I present and debate several different definitions of a successful psychopath, and I consider possible benefits to what has traditionally been a debilitating condition. I assume that successful psychopaths exist based on the definition that a such an individual lies on a spectrum of success with the minimum threshold being non-institutionalization in a criminal or mental health setting. I then examine the location of the split between successful and unsuccessful psychochopathy as to whether it is neurobiological, personality based, or environmental in nature.

Irezumi and its People; the culture of tattooing in Japan

Hannah Warner, George Mason University

Irezumi, the Japanese style of full body tattoos, represents a significant facet of Japan's artistic legacy and is considered to be one of the most beautiful and sophisticated forms of tattooing that has ever existed. However, due to a complicated past and to modern day social values that condemn the practice, the art has been rejected by the mainstream population and is generally associated with the criminal element and lower classes. This stigma is damaging to both the art form and the individuals who choose to receive tattoos. Irezumi and its consumers have been repressed both legally and socially in Japan since the invention of the irezumi technique in the Edo period (1804-1868). Critically analyzing both the historical and contemporary place tattoos have had in Japanese society, can help us explore and understand the various perspectives on the underlying factors dictating social dynamics and class in Japan.

Homosexuality in Manga: Societal Implications and Representations

Amy Yi, George Mason University

In this research, I explore the characterization of gay characters in a specific manga genre called Boys Love, and the societal implications, if any, of these depictions in Japan from the 1970s to the present. I follow the work of numerous scholars in order to determine the characterization of homosexuals, the acceptance of gays versus lesbians, and the increasing female interest in BL. The results show that the homosexual characters are not intended to be a reliable representation of gay Japanese men. Instead, women use BL as a way to escape Japan's patriarchal society, and to project themselves into these fantasies. Fans of BL, also called Fujoshi, dedicate their time and effort into fan made products not only for their own pleasure, but also to publicize their creations. Heterosexual women's growing interest in male homosexuality and romance can be a focus of future sociological and psychological studies.

Investigating how deployable healthcare technology centers in rural India alleviate healthcare disparities in developing regions

Sameen Yusuf, George Mason University

Healthcare disparities exist everywhere, but particularly in rural areas of developing countries. In the past decade, the term "eHealth" has become increasingly apparent in both the medical and engineering fields, and is often perceived as the possible catalyst for a paradigm shift in healthcare. In this research study, I examined and evaluated three different eHealth models deployed into rural developing areas, particularly the eHealth Centers designed by Hewlett-Packard, from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives. Additionally, I examined reasons such as lack of standardization for assessing the impact of eHealth technologies, and made suggestions concerning how to increase the effect of eHealth technologies. Overall, I found that to truly evolve healthcare through eHealth, nongovernmental organizations and the Indian government must invest in programs that focus on utilizing healthcare technologies to educate the users and patients, collect data in the area, and provide basic medical care to the public.

2:00 PM**Dürer and Rabelais in the Protestant Reformation**

Rebecca Goforth, Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas

The Protestant Reformation was a time of change and expression, especially in art and literature, where religious expression and imagery were constantly questioned. The works of Albrecht Dürer and François Rabelais are prime examples of the issues presented during this time. Albrecht Dürer's Four Horsemen and Last Supper woodcuts, along with his St. Philip engraving and 1526 painting The Four Apostles, were all completed during different parts of his life, and it is clear that he struggled to reconcile the Catholicism of his youth with the ideas introduced by Martin Luther. François Rabelais disliked Luther and mocked him in Gargantua and Pantagruel, but in Book One, describing the Abbey of Thélème, the Reformation's influence is clear. In Book Four, a blatantly religious scene is presented: Pantagruel's battle with the Andouilles. As can be seen, the Protestant Reformation affected both men in different ways, whether they knew it or not.

2:20 PM**Dancing Bears and Good Omens: A Proposal to Reintroduce Early Modern Masques to Scholarship**

Paige Hammock, Lynchburg College

Masques, at one time highly popular among the elite in the Early Modern Period, have lost their luster over time and, in fact, have been left behind by scholars as well. While some residual criticism still exists of masques, much of it is highly outdated and shallow. Current scholarship on them are typically focused on the Masque of Blackness as well as a few other select masques, all of which focus on similar themes. I have selected one of Ben Jonson's masques as well simply because I needed some scholarship off of which I could work and bounce my own ideas. My ultimate question is to figure out why masques have died off in scholarship. What I intend to prove, then, is that masques can provide scholarly insight into the Early Modern Period, and that they should be unearthed and renewed for criticism to gain a new life.

2:40 PM

Recordings of the Invisible Man's Blues

Lauren Highsmith, Hampton University

This research project focuses on music in *Invisible Man*. In the Prologue, the invisible man says that he wishes that he could listen to five different recordings of Louis Armstrong's "What Did I Do to Be So Black and Blue" simultaneously in order to fill the acoustical deadness of his hole. He then proceeds to tell the story of what he did to become so blue. This literary analysis breaks down the invisible man's speeches and moments around the speeches as if they were improvisational solos in jazz and blues. The analysis is broken down into five sections to parallel the five different versions of the Louis Armstrong song that the invisible man would like to hear. In these separate sections of analysis, I will discuss the tone, imagery, audience, and literal to abstract meanings of the events as well as analyze the invisible man's development from solo to solo.

3:00 PM

The Influence of Girolamo Savonarola

Wren Snyder, Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas

This paper explores the life of Girolamo Savonarola and the influence of Savonarola on Renaissance Italy. From the number of his followers to the amount of writings by various contemporary scholars on his work, this paper aims to show a fully-fledged picture of what Savonarola meant to people of the time by studying two of the people affected by Savonarola's work: Sandro Botticelli and Niccolo Machiavelli. It studies how Botticelli fully accepted Savonarola's preaching and how these sermons affected his life and his work. It also explores how Machiavelli accepted some of Savonarola's ideas while rejecting others and what impact they had on Machiavelli's writings. Primary sources referenced include; Machiavelli's *The Prince* and *Discourses*, *Selected Writings of Girolamo Savonarola*, and Botticelli's works *Venus and Mars* and *Adoration of the Christ Child*. Secondary sources include *The Man of the Renaissance* by Ralph Roeder and *Fire in the City* by Lauro Martines.

2:00 PM**Commercial Dietary Regimen as an Alternative Treatment for Acne**

Maheen Khan, Virginia Commonwealth University

Current treatments for acne include topical retinoids, benzoyl peroxide, topical and systematic antibiotics, azelaic acid, and systematic isotretinoin. Isotretinoin (Accutane) is the most effective form of acne treatment, but also poses severe and dangerous side effects. Accutane's side effects include mental pressure, inflammatory bowel disease, depression, and, for pregnant women, fetal malformations. Just like any other organ of the body, the skin must be given a nutritious diet in order to stay healthy. Dermatologists are not required to take the patient's diet into consideration, which could be crucial in treatment of the patient's acne. Developing an alternative regimen based on a patient's diet can reduce the invasive risks that females face while taking Accutane. A commercially structured dietary regimen (such as one based on the "Weight Watchers" model), which target low intake of sugar and high intake of vitamin A, can be beneficial as opposed to a self-help method.

2:20 PM**Combatting HIV/AIDS with Condoms in Africa**

Jasmine Singletary, Northern Virginia Community College - Woodbridge Campus

Increased condom use has caused a shift in the death toll, becoming a significant factor in STD prevention around the world. For some countries in South Africa, however, some people are still stuck in the past. Instead of seeking for answers, some men chose to place their faith in the power of the virgin myth, resulting in an increase in STDs, rape, and death. Nevertheless, because of the efforts from scientists like those from Bill Gate's Condom Campaign and Dr. Sonnet Ehlers, a South African doctor, the death rate has dramatically decreased in Africa because of an increase in condom use. Their efforts have been effective so far; however, there are still many Africans who choose myth over science. Therefore, help bring South Africa into the future and "Pay it Forward" by increasing support for condoms usage which look to pave the way for a world without sexually transmitted diseases.

2:40 PM

The Civil and Human Rights of Those Living with HIV/AIDS: Policy vs. Practice

Tokia Wright, Norfolk State University

The HIV/AIDS community suffers severe discrimination that impacts their quality of life but policies such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 strive to protect these individuals from such discrimination. HIV-infected women, employees, and incarcerated individuals face a host of unique challenges. Women are refused gynecological and at higher risk for intimate partner violence. HIV positive employees are often fired from their jobs. The high rate of HIV-infected individuals in prisons pose a significant risk in HIV transmission among sexually active incarcerated persons, yet only 4% of facilities distribute condoms (Prisoners' Rights). Even though policies such as the Equal Protection Clause and HIPAA are in effect, prison staff risks prisoner confidentiality. Due to these injustices, this research will examine the policies that govern the civil and human rights of those living with HIV/AIDS with a focus on women, employees, and prisoners.

3:00 PM

Smoking on College Campus

Christine Oh, Northern Virginia Community College - Manassas

Overwhelming evidence suggests that smoking is harmful not only to people who smoke, but also to non-smokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke. On college campuses, this is extremely unfair for the students with no choice in the matter exposed to secondhand smoke, as "Secondhand exposure to tobacco smoke causes heart disease and lung cancer in nonsmoking adults...exacerbated asthma, respiratory symptoms, and decreased lung function in children". This is especially unfair for many students who are pursuing a higher education as research suggests a child's IQ points may lower because of secondhand smoke. There are many 'no smoking' signs around the Annandale campus of NOVA but many students ignore the signs. There should be higher enforcements to prevent students from smoking on campus grounds as this is an important issue that needs to be addressed and spreading awareness of the health issues of secondhand smoke should be a first priority.

2:00 PM**The American Prison System: A National Shame**

Natasha Mirza, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

The American Prison system is a broken program that relies on the ignorance and poverty of its victims. The United States has the largest number of incarcerated prisoners on the face of the planet. The justice system relies on stereotypes to justify the imprisonment of millions based on racist, sexist, and classist factors.

2:20 PM**The Effects of the Scottsboro Boys Trial on America**

Nyra Rodgers, Norfolk State University

The Scottsboro Boys trial, a rape case against nine falsely accused young black men in Alabama, sparked change in American culture and the American justice system. The trial prompted protest movements, songs, books, poetry, art, plays, and movies in the aftermath of the verdict. It was one of many cases that brought the tragic injustice and racial discrimination against African Americans in America, particularly the South, to the forefront for the world to see. News of the trial reached across the United States, and its outcome created a deeper racial divide. Even in Virginia the newspaper reports on the Scottsboro Boys case, from both Black and White journalists, stirred emotional responses from the locals. The trial's omission of African Americans from the jury led to a case before the U.S Supreme Court that helped create jury selection practices that are still upheld today.

2:40 PM**Soccer in America: A Collegiate Problem?**

Jordan Bresler, Averett University

Soccer is an extremely popular sport at the American youth level, and even into college. Despite the sheer number of Americans that play soccer and the resources at our disposal, our country is still far behind many of the other countries. Despite our numbers, the U.S. soccer might fails to translate to success at the college level and beyond. This presentation will be looking at the different reasons why, especially at the college level, the United States struggles to produce quality, world class players, and will be delving into whether or not the NCAA system is a major component of this problem.

3:00 PM

Vaction Trends of Generation Y

Henry Drakeford, Hampton University

I will present a presentation that examines the vacation trends for generation Y and the impact these trends have on their job responsibilities and work performance. Research suggests that generation Y is redefining the workplace and that vacation does not negatively affect generation Y's ability to perform job responsibilities. This research also suggests that vacation trends of generation Y play a key role in reducing burnout. This presentation would then be tailored to my audience, which will be other college students like myself. I intend to inform them on the tools needed to communicate this information properly to older generations such as Generation Y and the Baby Boomer generation so that they are not misunderstood in the workplace. As a graduating senior and college student, I believe that it is crucial for my peers to understand the importance of this information and how it can affect their careers post graduation.

2:00 PM**Battle Focused Learning: Higher Education's role in Streamlining Veteran's Assistance in the Post 9/11 GI Bill Era.**

Joseph Lim, Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria

Veteran students comprise one of the fastest growing segments of the student populations across university and college campuses throughout the United States. Returning veterans face a plethora of challenges reintegrating into society and within the education setting. Surprisingly a great majority of returning war veterans do not use their educational benefits. The most recent estimation is that 75% DO NOT. By creating/revamping campus programs that better assist veterans, will increase veteran enrollment and have the added benefit of assisting other non-traditional students.

2:20 PM**Science In The City**

Rah-Sha Al-Hassan, Hampton University

How can language effect students' comprehension and retention of scientific concepts? In order to effectively observe students, the students were divided into two test groups. One group was given a scientific video where the material was expressed in scientific language, and the second group was given the same content video but the material was in a dialogue more familiar to the students. Our group ran statistical tests and found that students who were given the material through familiar dialogue had a better comprehension of the scientific concepts. The data we gathered suggested that when students are taught classroom material through words and language they are accustomed to hearing, the information will be better retained.

2:40 PM**The Myth of Gender-Linked Ineptitude: Women Aren't Apt at Math and Science**

Samantha Didaleusky, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

My presentation will aim to address a myth too long prevalent within our society—the myth that women are inherently less capable of excelling math and the sciences because they are women. I will look at this issue within the context of sexism within modern science, as well as historically through the erasure of many remarkable female scientists. To close, I will offer a new idea in order to begin to move away from this idea and create a society that maximizes everyone's potential.

3:00 PM

From Selfish to Selfless

Jonathan Baker, Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun

I plan to speak on the impact that the staff, honors program, and honors club has had on me and how I have seen it grow during my time at NOVA. Through the actions of the staff donating their time and efforts to get students involved in helping others through the honors program and honors club, now a large group of us honors students and honors club members are actively seeking out how we can pay it forward to our community. What started out small, has evolved to bring a big impact on other people's lives; if we can start similar outreach programs throughout our communities we could really make a major impact on the lives of those in need and truly learn what it means to pay it forward.

2:00 PM**Bullying on the College Campus**

Janice Small, Averett University

It is a widely recognized stereotype that athletes, more specifically football players, are often initiators of the behaviors most would define as bullying. We see this in the numerous television shows that depict the “jock” as a bully. For this reason, one of the questions I sought to answer was “Do football players bully more than other students?” The other question that I wanted to answer was, “Do college freshman bully others more than upperclassmen do?” To answer these questions I created a questionnaire and gave it to a sample of 139 Averett University students. The results showed that neither of these hypotheses was true. I compared these finding to another questionnaire given to Averett University students that did not use the word “bullying” but instead used words like “harassing”. I then researched possible explanations for my findings, including various perceptions of bullying behaviors and different definitions for it.

2:20 PM**Heroism and Evil: A Discourse on the Human Condition**

Hasan Muzaffer, Bluefield College

What makes a person evil? What turns ordinary people, like you and me, into monsters? Were we born wicked, or is it the world we are born into? From small acts of evil like cyber bullying to full scale genocide, we will take a look at how a mind of an individual can be twisted to perform these terrible deeds. Exploring the research of social psychologists like Stanley Milgram and Philip Zimbardo, we will show the factors behind an individual’s transformation. We will also look at historical examples such as the Holocaust, as well as modern examples of evil to illustrate how wickedness can manifest. Methods to combat the hold of evil on our souls will also be disclosed, putting on emphasis on religious teachings on how to resist Lucifer’s whisperings. “We all have the potential to be the loftiest of heroes, and the most treacherous of villains.”

2:40 PM

The Value of Survival: An Analysis of Inmate Ethics in Holocaust Concentration Camps

Rebecca Brummett, Lynchburg College

This research explores the existence of moral life or lack thereof in Holocaust concentration camps. The research examines the oppositional answers of Lawrence Langer and Tzvetan Todorov to the question: Does the extremity of the circumstances of the concentration camps preclude an existence of morality? Langer coined the phrase “choiceless choices” to describe the decisions made by inmates of the concentration camps. Langer proclaims that morality was nonexistent within the unusual atmosphere exclusive to the concentration camps of the Third Reich. However Tzvetan Todorov, a philosopher whose emphasis is Nazi and Stalinist concentration camps, argues that moral judgments can be reached logically and cannot simply be reduced to the intensity of the individual’s situation. Through testimonies of camp survivors it is demonstrated that though the extremity of the circumstances made acts of morality a rarity it did not cause their extinction.

3:00 PM

Intimate Partner Violence on College Campuses: Legislating Morality in Interpersonal Relationships

Yasmeen Burnell, Norfolk State University

Though discussed more openly now than in the past, domestic violence remains a taboo topic, even on college campuses. Programs dealing with domestic violence have expanded in scope from addressing only married couples to including dating couples of various ages, but intimate partner violence continues to afflict society, particularly women. In 2012, Break the Cycle, a web-based youth program against violence, gave report cards to all fifty states, and Virginia received a failing grade in regards to its protection of younger victims. Most research on domestic violence concerns adult, out-of-school couples, while scholars seem to have paid less attention to their own student populations. This study will provide some insight as to the differing policies and procedures relating to intimate partner violence among young people.

PRESENTER INDEX

Presenter name	Institution	Session	Time	Room
Alexander, Kendall	Hampton University	3	10:00 AM	153W
Al-Hassan, Rah-Sha	Hampton University	5	2:20 PM	155W
Ali, Ayan	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Ali, Marjan	NOVA - Loudoun	3	9:40 AM	156W
Almuntazar-Harris, Malcolm	NOVA - Loudoun	3	10:00 AM	155W
Avedissian, Helena	NOVA - Annandale	1	2:50 PM	A
Baisden, Kevin	NOVA - Alexandria	3	9:40 AM	151W
Baker, Jonathan	NOVA - Loudoun	5	3:00 PM	155W
Beebe, Deanna	Averett University	3	9:40 AM	155W
Bigalbal, Alayna	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Bourne, Amanda	Marymount University	1	2:10 PM	A
Bresler, Jordan	Averett University	5	2:40 PM	154W
Brophy, Barbara	George Mason University	3	9:40 AM	154W
Brown, Kirkland	Averett University	3	9:20 AM	156W
Brummett, Rebecca	Lynchburg College	5	2:40 PM	156W
Burke, Justine	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Burnell, Yasmeen	Norfolk State University	5	3:00 PM	156W
Charles, Amelia	Bluefield College	3	9:20 AM	151W
Daniell, Nicole	George Mason University	1	2:10 PM	B
Deneau, Aaron	NOVA - Manassas	3	9:00 AM	156W
Didaleusky, Samantha	NOVA - Annandale	5	2:40 PM	155W
Drakeford, Henry	Hampton University	5	3:00 PM	154W
Fisher, Tyler	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Goforth, Rebecca	NOVA - Manassas	5	2:00 PM	151W
Hammock, Paige	Lynchburg College	5	2:20 PM	151W
Harris Fontaine, Kayla	Virginia State University	3	10:00 AM	156W
Highsmith, Lauren	Hampton University	5	2:40 PM	151W
James, Delnecia	Norfolk State University	1	3:10 PM	A
Kenny, Kathryn	Hampton University	3	9:20 AM	155W
Khan, Maheen	Virginia Commonwealth University	5	2:00 PM	153W
Lee, Jason	NOVA - Annandale	3	9:00 AM	151W
Lihach, Leora	Marymount University	1	3:10 PM	Presidential
Lim, Joseph	NOVA - Alexandria	5	2:00 PM	155W
Lorenz, Olga	NOVA - Annandale	1	2:30 PM	B
Lovegrove, Harper	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Marshall, Annaleigh	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
McFarlane-Blake, Zora	Hampton University	1	3:10 PM	B
Mirza, Natasha	NOVA - Annandale	5	2:00 PM	154W
Montgomery, Barbara	NOVA - Woodbridge	2	4:00 PM	A
Muzaffer, Hasan	Bluefield College	5	2:20 PM	156W

Presenter name	Institution	Session	Time	Room
Nadolski, Claire	Lynchburg College	3	10:00 AM	154W
Nazeri, Ahmad	Randolph-Macon College	3	9:20 AM	154W
Noll, Natalie	Virginia Commonwealth University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Oh, Christine	NOVA - Manassas	5	3:00 PM	153W
Parker, Brittney	Norfolk State University	3	9:00 AM	154W
Pinson, Kayla	Virginia State University	2	3:40 PM	A
Platt, Adele	George Mason University	3	9:00 AM	153W
Pyo, Leslie	Virginia Commonwealth University	1	2:50 PM	B
Reyna, Lauren	NOVA - Manassas	1	2:10 PM	Presidential
Rodgers, Nyra	Norfolk State University	5	2:20 PM	154W
Rowlette, Hannah	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Sabi, Albarou	Norfolk State University	1	2:30 PM	Presidential
Sadeghi, Mauna	NOVA - Annandale	3	9:40 AM	153W
Shareef, Juwariah	NOVA - Alexandria	3	9:00 AM	155W
Shevde, Yash	NOVA - Loudoun	3	9:20 AM	153W
Singletary, Jasmine	NOVA - Woodbridge Campus	5	2:20 PM	153W
Small, Janice	Averett University	5	2:00 PM	156W
Snyder, Wren	NOVA - Manassas	5	3:00 PM	151W
Vernon, Marie	Averett University	1	2:30 PM	A
Warner, Hannah	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Washington, Deniqua	Hampton University	1	2:50 PM	Presidential
Williford, Courtney	Norfolk State University	3	10:00 AM	151W
Wright, Tokia	Norfolk State University	5	2:40 PM	153W
Yi, Amy	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby
Yusuf, Sameen	George Mason University	4	10:30 AM	Lobby

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

[illegible]

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

[illegible]

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

[illegible]

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

[illegible]

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

[illegible]

VCHC CONFERENCE: NOTES

ROLL CALL

Averett College	Northern Virginia Community College – Annandale
Bluefield College	Northern Virginia Community College – Loudoun
George Mason University	Northern Virginia Community College – Manassas
Germanna Community College	Northern Virginia Community College – Woodbridge
Hampton University	Randolph-Macon College
James Madison University	State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
Lynchburg College	Sweet Briar College
Marymount University	University of Mary Washington
Norfolk State University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Northern Virginia Community College – Alexandria	Virginia State University
	Virginia Wesleyan College

2014 VCHC CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

George Mason University	Kristin Samuelian
Germanna Community College	Davyda Hammond, Shashuna Gray
James Madison University	Philip Frana
Longwood University	Ann Bradshaw, Kirsten Hark
Lynchburg College	Katherine Gray
Norfolk State University	Colita Fairfax
Northern Virginia Community College – Alexandria	Hlekiwe Mgombezulu
Northern Virginia Community College – Annandale	Alyssa Black, Paul Fitzgerald
Northern Virginia Community College – Loudoun	Lyons Sanchezconcha
Northern Virginia Community College – Manassas	Aaron Deneau, Lauren Reyna, Mary Ann Schmitt
Northern Virginia Community College – Woodbridge	Jasmine Singletary, LeeAnn Thomas
Randolph-Macon College	Jack Trammell
Southside Virginia Community College	Diane Nipper
Virginia State University	NaShira Blackmon, Daniel Roberts
Virginia Wesleyan College	Ali Ansari, Ember Jenison, Jeanice Reed, Joyce Easter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The conference planning committee thanks the following for the success of the 2014 Spring Conference:

Virginia State University
VSU Honors Student and Faculty Volunteers
VSU Campus Security
Student Moderators & Faculty Judges
Black Swan German Restaurant
Thompson Hospitality Catering
Hilton Garden Inn Southpark
Harbour Graphics, Cindy Lewis, Jay McCracken, and Mjylis Gibson
Virginia Wesleyan College Mail & Copy Center, Tia Caffee and Gina Fernandez
All Student Presenters and Participants