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CASCon 2019

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Program and Schedule

2:00-2:55pm (Room 1): BIOSPHERE I

Jo-Marie Kasinak (Biology) – “Project Limulus: connecting horseshoe crabs and citizen scientists for over 20 years”

Since 1998 Project Limulus has educated volunteers of all ages to gather data on horseshoe crab population dynamics in Long Island Sound (LIS). Horseshoe crabs are important both economically and ecologically but their population has been in decline for decades. Project Limulus has helped promote conservation of horseshoe crabs and their importance to the LIS ecosystem and to general human health. Every year hundreds of citizen scientists, through Project Limulus, tag and report re-sightings of horseshoe crabs on both sides of LIS. This data helps map the movement patterns of the crabs within LIS, and recently this data has been used to generate an app to visualize the movement of ~14,000 crabs. We have found that the use of a flagship species, even one that is not a charismatic megafauna, has lasting conservation value for participants. Participation in Project Limulus has resulted in local conservation efforts of estuaries and active restoration of coastal habitats around LIS.

LaTina Steele (Biology) – “Aliens among us: biological invasions in aquatic and marine ecosystems”

Invasive species are one of the most costly threats to ecosystems across the globe. The United States spends an estimated \$120 billion dollars each year to remove invasive species and repair the damage they cause. Although the detrimental effects of some invaders are well documented, the effects of other non-native species may be neutral or even beneficial. My research aims to better understand the circumstances under which aquatic plant invasions may not require human intervention, as well as methods to

mitigate established invasions in coastal environments. My undergraduate research assistants and I have been exploring the role of chemical defenses, competitive interactions, and herbivory in determining the invasion success of Eurasian watermilfoil. We are now expanding that work to examine the prevalence of other invasive aquatic plants in local ponds. As part of a larger restoration project in collaboration with colleagues in the Biology Department, I have also begun to consider how a living shoreline approach to erosion control may affect an established population of invasive Asian shore crabs. My students and I have conducted predation experiments to compare invasive crab survival in restored and natural salt marshes. We are also monitoring the Asian shore crab population at our restoration site at Stratford Point to determine if the living shoreline can reduce the number of Asian shore crabs at the site.

Thomas Terleph (Biology) – “Male contributions to white-handed gibbons’ song duets”

The white-handed gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) is an Asian ape that produces elaborate songs, often in the well-coordinated duets of mated pairs. I will describe the primary male contribution to duets, known as the coda. This song component is produced during the vocal turn-taking part of duets with a mate. The coda differs between individuals and increases in complexity within song bouts, as two male-specific phrases are added. The phrases differ from all others of the species and from vocalizations typical of the larger, nonhuman great apes, in that they contain rapid within-phrase modulation. Modulation rates are similar to those of lip-smacking in other nonhuman primates and speech in humans and, like human speech, are produced exclusively during exhalation. One phrase type contains multiple notes per exhalation, another characteristic of speech but not most primate vocalizations. Results suggest that coda phrases arose from sexual selection pressures, and similarities to speech may shed light on how human speech arose from earlier vocal behaviors.

Deirdre Yeater (Psychology) – “What Do We Know About the Behavior of Belugas from Studies in Managed Care?”

A number of similarities in the behavior of diverse populations of belugas (*Delphinapterus leucas*) under human care have been documented, many of which have been validated by research on wild belugas. Data collected across multiple facilities corroborates the same-sex affiliations, as seen in wild group compositions, especially confirming the strong propensity for male-male social interactions. Socio-sexual behaviors appear to be an important part of the behavioral repertoire that emerges innately but requires practice. Research on behavioral milestones in calves is consistent with the literature from wild populations, such as; swim positions with mother, separations/reunions with mother, general social interactions, and play. Characteristics of beluga maternal care including nursing behaviors and individual differences in

maternal style have been reported from both captive and wild settings. In addition to behavior, studies in managed care have provided information on beluga calf vocal development and individual calls. In conclusion, research on belugas in managed care is informative to researchers studying wild populations and may have possible conservation implications due to the universal nature of these observations.

2:00-2:55pm (Room 2): BRAINS, BONES, & BEER

Geffrey Stopper (Biology) – “Beer, Bread, and Wine: The evolutionary genetic history of divergence among domesticated and wild strains of the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”

Strains of the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* are used for the production of bread, beer, and wine. The strains used in these industries appear to be quite variable even within each industry, with many strains showing distinct heritable phenotypes. Variable traits include the profile of metabolic byproducts produced during fermentation, among other variable characteristics. The process of domestication of yeast was probably inadvertently well under way thousands of years ago, but the pattern and timing of the domestication of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is poorly understood. For example, it is unknown if strains have historically been frequently passed between these industries, and it is unknown whether there have been multiple individual domestication events from wild ancestors within these industries. Here we seek to identify genetic variation among many strains from these industries through PCR and sequencing of several genes. This identified variation will be used to understand the evolutionary relationships of these strains, and therefore historical patterns of divergence in their use within and among the three industries. We intend to extend this study through whole genome sequencing, and hope to use the variation to also make steps toward developing molecular assays for rapid strain purity screening in the brewing industry.

Kristen R. R. Savell (Biology) – “Human Evolution: The Shin Bone’s Connected to the Arm Bone?”

Human postcranial morphology varies with climate and geography, a pattern that has long been associated with thermoregulatory adaptation. The thermoregulatory model of human evolution suggests that groups living in colder climates have evolved stouter bodies to reduce their surface area/volume ratio, while the opposite is true for groups in the tropics. I use quantitative genetic methods to elucidate the role of trait covariation in the evolution of the human body, as well as explore the variables that drive directional selection. Using a large, globally-dispersed sample of human skeletal material, in addition to genetic and temperature data, I estimate the selection gradients driving among-group differentiation, compare indices of evolvability across regions, and examine the environmental variables influencing postcranial evolution. My findings have

implications for our understanding of modern human variation, suggesting that population-specific trait covariance prevents evolutionary interpretations founded on modern humans to be meaningfully translated to ancient hominin lineages.

Moving forward, I plan to initiate several projects involving student participation. First, my research raises questions about limb evolution and development across species, my lab will explore by measuring and analyzing patterns of trait covariance in skeletal samples of humans, primates, and marsupials. Secondly, my lab will further pursue the relationship between limb function and evolution, particularly in marsupials, who have specific needs for limb function very early in life. In addition, I will set up a human biomechanics laboratory with several student researchers, in which thermoregulatory explanations of human morphological variation can be tested on real people. Together, these projects will allow my lab to shed light on the developmental, functional, and thermoregulatory factors underpinning limb evolution in humans and closely related species.

Rachel E. Bowman (Psychology & Neuroscience) – “Using the hippocampus for a neurobiological model of ... almost everything!”

Spatial memory is a specific component of the memory system that is responsible for spatial orientation and navigation, the ability to recognize objects and their location relative to both allo- and ego-centric space, etc. Spatial memory, observed in a wide variety of species from invertebrates to humans, allows an animal to return to locations of shelter, family, and food sources. The hippocampus brain structure is responsible for integrating visual-spatial cues, landmarks, distances, and directions to form a cognitive map of one's environment. This hippocampus is rich in a variety of hormonal receptors, and thus, spatial memory performance can be used to examine for alterations following a range of experiences (e.g., stress, environmental toxin exposure, enrichment, aging). This talk provides a quick look of the ongoing work in my lab examining cognitive function, including spatial memory, in rats as well as highlight some current collaborations and future directions of my research.

Mark Jareb (Biology & Neuroscience) – “Protein Targeting & Synaptic Development in Cultured Neurons”

The development of distinct axons and dendrites of neurons and the correct protein targeting to these regions is essential for the proper development and connectivity of the nervous system. The development of individual neurons depends on the interplay of inherent genetic mechanisms with local environmental conditions. One area of recent work in the lab focuses on identifying axonally targeted proteins to investigate the mechanisms of targeting proteins specifically to the axon versus the cell body and dendrites of cultured neurons and the role this plays in the formation and maintenance of the neuron's axon. Another line of research focuses on the effects of environmental

toxins such as bis-phenol A (BPA) on the development of dendritic arborization and synapse formation.

2:00-2:55pm (Room 3): SISTERS, SAMURAI, SHOWS, AND SECULARIZATION: INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATIONS IN CATHOLIC STUDIES

Daniel Rober (Catholic Studies); Brent Little (Catholic Studies); Jillian Plummer (Catholic Studies); Charles Gillespie (Catholic Studies); Michelle Loris (Catholic Studies; Languages & Literatures)

This panel will showcase the interdisciplinary variety of Catholic Studies as a field and of the SHU department in particular. All four papers focus on an aspect of how Catholicism and culture intersect. Brent Little will begin the panel by discussing the novel, *The Samurai*, by the Japanese Catholic novelist Shusaku Endo, and its portrayal of the tension that arises when Christianity spreads to a new culture through colonialism. Charles Gillespie's paper will explore how theatre can help us make sense about why we care so much about our favorite things and the ethics of storytelling because drama relates to credibility. Jillian Plummer will focus on Sister Rose Dalle Tezze, R.S.M., a missionary to Chimbote, Peru, during the 1960s, her encounter with liberation theology, and her reinterpretation of that praxis in the United States in the 1970s and 1980s. Rose's story shows how women participated in the movement as it unfolded on the ground in Peru, and how women religious used this theology to reimagine social change in the United States. Daniel Rober will conclude the panel by analyzing how secularization forces us to rethink Christianity's relationships to forms and concepts that go back to the 2nd century in order to face the challenges necessary to be vital into the 22nd century.

2:00-2:55PM (ROOM 4): THE POLITICAL WORLD

Bill Yousman (School of Communication, Media and the Arts) – “Fake News or Hilarious Comedy? Television News Satire in the Age of Trump”

When Jon Stewart took over *The Daily Show* in 1999 he transformed the program into a full-blown parody of broadcast journalism, opening his first episode with “news” about the Clinton impeachment proceedings. Stewart quickly brought television news satire to the fore as a popular and influential subgenre of television comedy. Networks frequently try to duplicate successful formulas and numerous news satire programs would soon emerge, including several featuring former *Daily Show* “correspondents” like Stephen Colbert, Samantha Bee, Larry Wilmore, and John Oliver. Trevor Noah, Jordan Klepper, Robin Thede, W. Kamau Bell, Michelle Wolf, and many other political comedians, as well as popular programs like *Real Time with Bill Maher* and *Saturday*

Night Live all carry on a long tradition of satire that takes on political issues while mocking media coverage of politics.

Some scholars celebrate the democratic potential of television news satire (Day, 2011; Jones, 2010; Warner, 2007). Tryon (2016) for example, argues: “[F]ake news shows have played a vital role in equipping audiences to engage with the news in a more critical fashion” (p. 17). Yet, in an era when the President treats rallies as stand-up comedy while dismissing critical coverage with the label “fake news,” we should ask whether explicitly comedic fake news has encouraged a cynical perspective by framing everything as a joke and suggesting that no source can be trusted.

This presentation will examine the role of television news satire in the Trump era, asking whether satiric news contributes more to a vibrantly democratic public sphere or to an increasingly cynical, nihilistic media environment.

Isil Akbulut Gok (Government) – “Female Peacekeepers and Peacebuilding”

Notwithstanding the growing consensus on benefits associated with the recruitment of women in peace operations, the academic research has thus far neglected the pressing question of how female peacekeepers might account for peacebuilding success. This study provides the first broad empirical examination of women peacekeepers’ effectiveness in peacebuilding. I analyze how the number of female peacekeepers deployed conditions the peacebuilding success in Africa. Considering that peace operations are often criticized for ineffectiveness, this analysis has important policy implications. It shows that if appropriately composed, peace operations can provide sustainable peace.

Jason Ostrander (Social Work) and Suzanne Marmo (Social Work) – “Social Workers, political participation and how do they vote?”

When comparing social work to other professions, previous research has shown that social workers, as a group, are more politically active than the general population. This commitment to political action is reflected in the profession’s Code of Ethics and social work is often viewed as an inherently political profession due to its commitment to social justice and attention to underrepresented populations. The profession of social work is often thought of as being as diverse as the populations we serve and different specializations in social work may attract social workers who are more or less politically active than others. However, little research has attempted to examine differences in the political participation and voting behaviors of different specializations in social work. This presentation will discuss findings of a cross sectional web-based survey of over 2,300 licensed social workers selected by random sample. Differences in political participation of diverse social workers who work in different specializations, such as

palliative care, criminal justice, homelessness, substance abuse and school social work will be presented. Professors Jason Ostrander and Suzanne Marmo will present on how this study has facilitated collaboration between two social work researchers with diverse interests and the way this has informed both research agendas.

2:00-2:55pm (Room 5): TALES FROM THE CLASSROOM

Sandra Young (Languages & Literatures) – “Happy Together: Academic Writing Rules and Creative Writing Practices”

Often students begin college composition, academic writing, first year seminar, or college writing courses thinking it's like high school writing re-treaded, but still tedious. Their heads are drilled with rules and drained of creativity. These courses may be called something else, but they're all about the same. That's a problem.

One solution: instructors should integrate creative writing practices into composition pedagogy. Instruction that encourages students when, where, what, and how to break and bend writing rules, and blend and borrow creative writing practices will help dispel students' ideas that writing is rule-bound and demonstrate that writing can be clear, concise, and clever.

A key goal of writing professors is teaching writing skill that can transfer to other disciplines. When students learn to rebel against writing rules and become allies to creative writing practices, they may view writing as compelling, challenging, and vital in college and their careers. Students may also re-evaluate their attitudes about writing and be free to re-discover ways to stimulate their developing voices and styles.

This essay speaks to students: it provides techniques, strategies, and exercises; divulges secrets, provides examples, and offers practical advice. Its goal: improved student writing.

David Shaenfield (Psychology) – “Critical Thinking Abilities of Incoming First-year Students”

I will present the analysis of a sample of first-year Sacred Heart University students' performance on the Critical Thinking Assessment test. I will also demonstrate how the analysis informs the development of the critical thinking curriculum.

Lisa Smith (Psychology) – “Impact of a Stress Management Course on College Freshman”

During the First Year Seminar: Stress Management course, students are taught a variety of coping skills. The purpose of this study is to examine whether students are utilizing these strategies outside of the classroom. This study will also assist this researcher to determine whether these coping strategies impact these students' stress levels during their subsequent years at Sacred Heart University. Students will be asked

to complete a Stress Management Survey within the first month of the course, during the last week of the semester, six months later and one year later.

2:00-2:55pm (Room 6): PEOPLE & PLACES

David Luesink (History) – “Medicine, Health and the Body in China”

This presentation is based on my published research about how a revolution in knowledge about the body occurred in China after a 1913 law was passed allowing dissection, and how this transformed politics as well as medicine both for good and for ill.

Bronwyn Cross-Denny (Social Work); Christina Gunther (Health Science and Global Health); Molly Higbie (Health Science and Global Health) – “Rural Village Assessment of Senior Citizens' Social and Healthcare Needs in Maharashtra India”

The Global Health and Social Work Immersion Program in India provides a project learning type experience that allows students to solve real world problems. Students develop a project while learning about the Jamkhed model of comprehensive integrated healthcare. The aim of the project is to understand social and health care needs of the elderly population in rural Maharashtra, India in order to develop specific resources for them through programs at the Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP) that also meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. A survey and focus group questions were developed in collaboration with CRHP and data was initially collected in one village. Ongoing data collection continues with CRHP staff in all villages serviced by organization. Preliminary findings of this study will be discussed, including the implementation of participatory rural appraisal for developing interventions to meet the needs of the elderly in this rural area.

3:00-3:55pm (Room 1): INNER AND OUTER SPACE

Marlina Slamet (Chemistry & Physics) – “Triplet State of a Quantum Dot in a Magnetic Field: A 'Quantal-Newtonian' First Law Study”

We used the exact wave function solution of the corresponding Schrödinger equation for the system, to show the structure of the quantal sources, the fields obtained from the sources, and the satisfaction of the 'Quantal Newtonian' first law.

Frank Robinson (Chemistry & Physics) - “Modeling the outer layers of rapidly rotating stars”

There are two ways to simulate stars on a computer:

- (i) locally: small boxes (with depths of a few 1000km) placed near the surface that have realistic physics (plasma) and are designed to examine small scale features such as solar granulation and overshoot;
- (ii) globally: huge shells that contain part or all of a stellar envelope, designed to mimic some large scale feature of a star such as differential rotation.

Because the "local boxes" are so small compared to the stellar radius, rotational effects are typically ignored. My current research is looking at the intermediate scales by running a selection of spherical and cartesian simulations that incorporate features of both types of models.

Todd J. Sullivan (Chemistry & Physics) - "Integrated screening for beta-lactamase inhibitors"

Currently in our research group, we are performing traditional medicinal chemistry techniques to discover compounds that are biologically active against different enzymes. We are studying an enzyme beta-lactamase that is involved in drug resistance. Penicillin like antibiotics constitute 60 % of worldwide antibiotic usage. Bacterial cells use beta lactamase to resist penicillin like antibiotics. Employing computer software programs we have generated a model to produce docking studies data using five different criteria evaluating the virtual compounds. Then using a pivot table from excel the duplicates of the virtual compounds with the binding criteria is revealed. Docking studies show how tight the virtual compounds are binding at the active site along with structural data we are searching for a pharmacological hit. We are also looking for biological clues to guide our studies of inhibition of this enzyme. For example we evaluate our theoretical model with the following criteria. How close the pose of the theoretical inhibitor fits the crystal structure inhibitor (lock and key view of enzymes), and the hydrogen bonding network between theoretical inhibitor and enzyme. Theoretical inhibitors that fulfill these criteria will be purchased and tested on the enzyme to evaluate biological activity. Recently we discovered a compound Ractopamine that shows micro molar activity in vitro. Currently we are employing Structure Activity Relationships (SAR) to enhance the activity on our target. Eventually after optimizing our pharmaceutical hit with different virtual compounds we will use synthetic organic chemistry, molecular modeling, and structure activity relationships to advance the projects into lead and drug space with acceptable pharmacokinetic properties.

Jason Moliterno (Mathematics) – "Using Counting Methods on Johnson Graphs to Produce the Group Inverse"

A graph is a set of points, called vertices, along with a set of lines, called edges, joining pairs of vertices. A graph on n vertices can be represented as an $n \times n$ Laplacian

matrix. The i -th diagonal entry of the Laplacian matrix is the number of edges incident with vertex i . The entry in the i -th row and j -th column of the Laplacian matrix is -1 if there is an edge joining vertices i and j , and 0 otherwise. In this talk, we consider the construction of the group inverse of such matrices for Johnson graphs. Because of the symmetric pattern of Johnson graphs, the group inverse can be computed using traditional counting methods.

3:00-3:55pm (Room 2): LISTEN . . . AND I'LL TELL YOU A STORY

Jason Ostrander (Social Work); Elizabeth Allen (Social Work); Kate Kelly (Social Work)

This cross-curricular and interdisciplinary project combines community-driven PAR with PhotoVoice to understand the experiences and perspectives of youth whose family members are or have been incarcerated.

3:00-3:55pm (Room 3): DREAMING IS FREE

Charlotte M Gradie (History) – “The Inevitable Bartolome de las Casas”

Bartolomé de las Casas was a 16th century Spanish encomendero turned Dominican friar who is known for his writings on Spanish America. Widely translated and read during his time, his book, *A Brief Relation on the Destruction of the Indies*, presented the American natives as “noble savages” with Christian virtues, as opposed to the view that they were simple savages and natural slaves. He was successful in persuading the Spanish monarch to rethink Spain’s laws on the treatment of the Indians.

In his time, others saw las Casas as an idealist and a militant, but not always an honest one. Later writers accused him of being the source of the “Black Legend” that Spain’s rivals and 19th century historians used to vilify the Spanish. A third view of las Casas is as fighter for social justice. This paper will consider recent interpretations of las Casas to consider his legacy today.

June-Ann T. Greeley (Theology & Religious Studies) - “Still Dreaming a Future?: Feminist Spaces of Post-Colonial Identity in the Works of Women Writers of the Middle East and North Africa”

The difficult legacy of colonialism, post-colonialism and neo-colonialism in the Middle East and North African (hereafter, MENA) has been amply documented by male writers, scholars and public intellectuals in recent years, yet not all people experienced colonialism and then post-colonialism in the same way, especially women who were generally encumbered by two kinds of coercive influences. On one hand, during the colonial eras, the women accepted social expectations to assist the men who led efforts for political freedom and sustenance of nationhood, even if such assistance meant a

diminishment of their own freedoms and rights. At the same time, however, the women were often living in circumstances that were similar to a native colonization of their lives by the men they strove to support. The women experienced both public and private coercion that censored personal realities, denied individual integrity and self-worth, and obstructed certain liberties, even after the colonial powers had departed from the region. This essay will reflect on the voices of MENA women as they negotiate(d) their worlds in post-colonial societies in the Middle East and North Africa. As has been suggested, for many MENA women, the post-colonial status of their nations did not immediately translate into an unfettering of their own personal circumstances and, in fact, often meant that they had to withstand a continuation of a kind of colonized living—now, more locally patriarchal—that they question and deconstruct in their artistic endeavors

3:00-3:55pm (Room 4): WHAT DOES A PHILOSOPHER DO?

Gordon Purves (Philosophy); Christine Susienka (Philosophy); Anna Vaughn (Philosophy)

The aim of this panel is to explore the breadth of contemporary philosophical inquiry by showcasing projects that utilize diverse methods to tackle disparate topics, but which nonetheless are still unquestionably philosophical in nature. This will include topics which take a more historical focus, as well as those that engage nearly exclusively with contemporary problems and figures; projects that focus on the human condition both individually and socially, as well as those that are focused on more abstract questions of metaphysics, logic, or knowledge; investigations whose aim is to interpret, and those whose aim is to discover or create; questions that are squarely within the bounds of philosophy and those that engage with the work of scientists, social scientists, and historians. In addition to presenting this scholarship, we will also discuss our various conceptions of what it means for something to be philosophical, and what we take it to mean to do philosophy.

3:00-3:55pm (Room 5): PSYCHING YOU OUT!

Dawn Melzer (Psychology) & Deirdre Yeater (Psychology) – “Comparative Psychology: Present and Future Studies”

Comparative Psychology provides a foundation for performing cross-species comparisons (human and animal), where we can assess the consistency of various cognitive abilities and potentially unravel the influence of environmental pressures on cognitive abilities. Current research projects focus on marine mammal, canine and human children’s cognitive development. Our presentation will give a brief overview of our collaborative projects on human and animal creativity, executive function/delayed

gratification, animal assisted therapy and the creation of the new Comparative Psychology laboratory focusing on canine cognition.

Maureen Conard (Psychology) – “Can We Do Two Things At Once?”

The answer is – sometimes! It depends on what those two things are, and we differ on how well we can do those two things. Come find out what the research says about multitasking 😊

Stephen Briner (Psychology) – “What Do We Learn From Fiction?”

Every day, most people consume a considerable amount of fiction. And many of these fictional works revolve around some form of social conflict. Does the kind of fiction we read influence how we see people in the everyday world? And why do some stories seem to resonate with some individuals more than others? In the Language & Literacy Lab, we are investigating those questions using laboratory experiments, analysis of existing data through the open-science framework, and analyzing the content of the stories themselves.

We recently conducted a meta-analysis on studies from other laboratories, taking advantage of the power of “big data.” Using data from 3 separate studies, we investigated the impact of fiction on Theory of Mind (ToM, one's understanding of the thoughts & feelings of others). Participants read one of three “literary” or one of three “pop fiction” stories, then completed a ToM task. Results indicated different patterns of ToM activation for the individual stories, highlighting the need to study these stories further. So far, our results have indicated that some stories do indeed seem to be better at helping us recognize how real people think and feel. And more importantly, we have found an interaction between stories and reader characteristics. Some stories, like Alice Mattison's “The Vandercook” have a greater impact on social learning when the reader is young, rather than old. And we have found evidence that some stories are more beneficial for social learning depending on the reader's gender.

The next step in our research is to understand the physiological and neurological phenomenon associated with reading fiction. We are particularly interested in seeing if we can use these phenomena to predict whether a story will have an impact on a reader's social reasoning.

4:00-4:55pm (Room 1): AT EASE!

Victoria Osborne (Social Work); Sylvie Rosenbloom (Nursing); Pat Carl-Stannard (Social Work); Constance Glenn (Nursing) – “At EASE: training FNP and MSW students to discuss sensitive patient topics through an Interprofessional Experiential Application for Sensitive Encounters (EASE)”

Nurses and social workers encounter a variety of mental health challenges in their clinical settings, including substance misuse, interpersonal violence, elder abuse, and sexual assault. Although they learn some screening and intervention skills in the classroom, they don't receive much hands-on practice. While classroom learning, including role play with classmates, can help them learn basic skills, the situation is different when students are faced with actual patients unknown to them. Additionally, in healthcare, social workers and nurses work side by side along with a team of other clinicians to discuss cases and plan treatment.

This study had 87 students from two disciplines learn together in teams. Students performed patient engagement and assessment utilizing case studies with “real” standardized patients (actors). Faculty, standardized patients, and students participated in meaningful debriefing. The SPICE-R (Fike, Zorek et al., 2013) was given before and after the exercise, to assess attitudes toward interprofessional healthcare teams and the team approach to patient care. The goal of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of an interprofessional team approach to patient encounters. Paired t-test results showed significant differences for all students regardless of discipline, from pretest to posttest, for three questions: “My role within an interprofessional healthcare team is clearly defined” ($t=2.868$, $p<0.05$); “participating in educational experiences with students from another health profession enhances my future ability to work on an interprofessional team ($t=2.273$, $p<0.05$)”, and “I understand the roles of other health professionals within an interprofessional team ($t=2.212$, $p<0.05$).”

Integrated experiential learning (pairing students from different disciplines together in a simulated healthcare setting) improves students' understanding of their and others' role on the team, and improves attitudes towards working together.

4:00-4:55pm (Room 2): MEDIA CAN AFFECT YOUR HEALTH? The positive, negative, and complicated impact of media messages on health

Lori Bindig Yousman (SCMA) - "Usually people just accept media and don't talk about it": Utilizing Critical Media Literacy in Eating Disorder Treatment

Debbie Danowski (SCMA) - "Bet You Can't Eat Just One: Binge Eating Disorder Promotion in American Food Advertising"

Candace Parrish (SCMA)- "Exploration of Infographics as Visual Cervical Cancer Prevention Communication for African American Women"

This panel explores how media messages impact physical and mental health. Using a media and health literacy approach, the panelists examine advertisements, infographics, and popular TV programs to understand their impact on individuals and society.

4:00-4:55pm (Room 3): THE GLORIA NAYLOR PROJECT

June-Ann Greeley (Theology and Religious Studies) - "The Poet's Soul-Trouble: Echoes of Dante in Gloria Naylor's <Linden Hills>

Michelle Loris (Languages & Literatures) - "Romantic Love, Race and Gender: The Dangerous Undertow in Gloria Naylor's <Women of Brewster Place>:"

Cara Kilgallen (Languages & Literatures) - "Matters of Gender in Richard Wright and Gloria Naylor"

Clare Callahan (Languages & Literatures) - "The Silence of the Archives"

Four faculty members will present individual papers on the writings of Gloria Naylor, an American novelist who was known for her nuanced studies of race and gender in contemporary America. The panel papers include: Michelle Loris: "Romantic Love, Race and Gender: The Dangerous Undertow in Gloria Naylor's <Women of Brewster Place>:" June-Ann Greeley, "The Poet's Soul-Trouble: Echoes of Dante in Gloria Naylor's <Linden Hills>:" Clare Callahan, "The Silence of the Archives", and Cara Kilgallen, Matters of Gender in Richard Wright and Gloria Naylor. The panel will also present a summary of The Gloria Naylor Project, a collaboration with Seton Hall University in the documentation, archiving and editing the complete works of Gloria Naylor who donated all her papers to Sacred Heart University.

4:00-4:55pm (Room 4): NORTHERN IRELAND: A HISTORICAL, POLITICAL, AND LITERARY EXAMINATION OF PAST AND PRESENT CONFLICTS AND COMPLEXITIES

Marie Hulme (Languages & Literatures) - "Seamus Heaney and the Northern Irish Poets of 'The Troubles': Reconciling Poetic and Political."

John Roney (History) - "The Complex Historical Development of Northern Ireland and 'The Troubles'."

Kate O'Gara (Government) - "From Compromise to Chaos: The Range of Political Options Facing Citizens of Northern Ireland Today."

In this panel discussion, Professor Marie Hulme, Department of Languages and Literatures, will examine the complex issue of identity politics in the creative work of the Northern Irish poets who came to be known as "The Troubles Poets." The presentation will focus primarily on the work of the most notable among them, Nobel-Prize winning poet Seamus Heaney, and will explore the nature of artistic responsibility in the face of complex social and political issues, as well as cultural and religious traditions stretching back centuries and across borders.

Next, Dr. John Roney, Department of History, will examine the complex historical development of Northern Ireland and 'The Troubles.' While the modern bloody conflict can be dated from the late 1960s until the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, diverse social groups have a long history of cultural, political, economic and religious differences. In the 19th century struggle for Irish nationalism more manifest religious divisions developed in Ireland by the 1880s, and the push for Home Rule exposed a rift between parts of Ulster and the 26 counties to the south. The current debate is about the role of religion in the conflict, and whether it is merely an ethnic marker or by contrast, religion provides some substantive content to processes of categorization and social comparison in Northern Ireland.

Finally, Professor Kathleen O'Gara, Department of Government, will examine the ever-present spectrum of political options in Northern Ireland. The scope of options of organized political behavior to affect change has ranged from nonviolent, peaceful resistance to the hardening of uncompromising political stances to violence. As Brexit looms without an agreement on whether or not there will be a hard border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, these tensions are exacerbated and citizens

find themselves again having to choose between a multitude of alternatives in terms of affecting political change.

4:00-4:55pm (Room 5): NEW WORK IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Pamela Buck (Languages & Literatures)- “Women in the World: A Digital Recovery Project”

Marie Hulme (Languages & Literatures)- “A Digital Repository of Ekphrastic Poetry: Responding to World War II Photography”

Emily Bryan (Languages & Literatures)- “The Pulter Project: Digital Humanities Creates a New Canon”

This panel will present three new digital humanities projects from the Department of Languages and Literatures that are transforming the way we teach and understand literary tradition and history. Discussing her pedagogical use of a digital project created at Northwestern University on the seventeenth-century British poet Hester Pulter, Emily Bryan shows how scholarship driven by digital editions can expand students’ knowledge of voices previously unrepresented in the early modern literary canon. Studying Pulter’s work introduces students to new ideas about faith and science that allow them to recontextualize canonical writers like John Milton, Margaret Cavendish, and George Herbert. Pamela Buck will present *Women in the World*, a student-created digital project that seeks to recover the work of British women travel writers of the nineteenth century. The project shows how women used the popular genre of the travel narrative to address important issues of the time, such as colonialism, slavery, and women’s rights, and how their work significantly shaped Britain’s views of the world. Inspired by the collection of World War II photographs scheduled to be on display at Sacred Heart University in the fall of 2019, Marie Hulme’s literature students created a website to house a series of ekphrastic poems written in response to the photographs. The site includes annotations of the student poems as well as reflections about what each poet was attempting to express in their response to the photograph.

Closing Reception (Martire Forum): 5:00-6:0pm

Please join us to continue the conversation with food and drinks.