

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

APRIL 29, 2008

**UNDER
GRADUATE
RESEARCH
SYMPOSIUM**



WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to the inaugural University of Illinois Undergraduate Research Symposium. Nearly 40 percent of our undergraduate students participate in research or creative activities outside the classroom during their studies. Students report that these experiences profoundly enrich their education, allowing them to deepen knowledge within a field of study and sharpen skills in areas such as critical thinking and writing. Students also tell us that planning and conducting research, scholarship, and creative work beyond the classroom allows them to work closely with faculty leaders, and strengthens their sense of self-confidence in their potential for success in graduate studies. Over the next five years, we aim to involve greater numbers of undergraduates in research and creative endeavors under the leadership of faculty mentors. As an institution where research, innovation, and creative activities flourish, we strive to make involvement in such activities a hallmark of the Illinois undergraduate experience.

This symposium creates an opportunity to showcase our finest undergraduate research and creative efforts, and highlights the impressive achievements of our highly capable student population. I extend my sincere appreciation to the students participating in this inaugural symposium and to the faculty mentors who served as guides in carrying out the work that we celebrate today. Special thanks to members of the ad hoc committee that planned this event, especially Professor Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, who chaired the committee. Your vision and energy made this new event possible. I look forward to this symposium and to the many to follow in the years ahead.

Linda Katehi
Provost

KEYNOTE

“BUILDING LIFE-LONG MENTORSHIP THROUGH UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPATION”

Professor Dorothy Espelage, Department of Educational Psychology, with Jillian Havard and Sarah Mebane



Dorothy L. Espelage, Ph.D., is a Professor of Child Development and Associate Chair in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She was recently named University Scholar and has fellow status in Division 17 (Counseling Psychology) of the American Psychological Association. She earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Indiana University in 1997. She has conducted research on bullying for the last 15 years. As a result, she presents regularly at national conferences and is author on over 70 professional publications. She is co-editor of a published book entitled *Bullying in American Schools: A Social-Ecological Perspective on Prevention and Intervention* published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. She is on the editorial board for *Journal of Counseling and Development*, *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, *Journal of Educational Psychology*, and *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*. She has presented hundreds of workshops and in-service training seminars for teachers, administrators, counselors, and social workers across the U.S. Her research focuses on translating empirical findings into prevention and intervention programming. Dr. Espelage has appeared on many television news and talk shows, including *The Today Show*, *CBS Evening News*, and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and CNN, and has been quoted in the national print press, including *TIME*, *USA Today*, and *People* magazine.

Jillian Havard graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a B.S. in Psychology and an Ed.M. in Higher Education Administration. She has served as an academic advisor for undergraduate students at both the University of Illinois at Chicago and DePaul University. She also has experience as a college preparation advisor for high school students. Prior to entering into the education field, she worked in the social services arena as a caseworker and mental health professional. Her skills include using developmental advising to assist students with goal setting, academic planning and navigating the path toward success.

Sarah Mebane is an advanced doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She also attended Illinois for her undergraduate education, and began working with Dr. Espelage in 2000. She was awarded the Illinois Distinguished Fellowship for graduate school, has co-authored two book chapters and has presented her research at numerous national conferences. In July, she begins a prestigious predoctoral internship at the University of Maryland.

EVENT OVERVIEW

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2008

ILLINI UNION

9-9:45am **Opening Keynote Speaker**
(Illini Union 314 A/B)
Dorothy Espelage, Professor, Department
of Educational Psychology

Student Speakers

10am-12pm **Morning Poster Session**
(Illini Union Pine Lounge)
Student Presentations (Illini
Union 314 A/B, 210)
see participants on following pages

12-1pm **History Showcase** (Illini Union 210)

1-3pm **Performances** (Courtyard Café)
Afternoon Poster Session
(Illini Union Pine Lounge)
Student Presentations (Illini
Union 314 A/B, 210)
see participants on following pages

3-3:30pm **Closing Remarks** (Illini
Union Pine Lounge)
Linda Katehi, Provost and Vice
Chancellor for Academic Affairs

DETAILED SCHEDULE

PRESENTATIONS

SESSION A (ILLINI UNION ROOM 314 A/B)

10-10:15am **Collective Decision-making in
Nest Relocation in Argentine
Ants and Odorous House Ants**
Daniel Scholes, Sr., Integrative Biology, LAS

10:15-10:30am **Creation and Tomographic
Reconstruction of Pseudoradial
Polarization States**
Trent Graham, Jr., Physics, LAS

10:30-10:45am **Risk and Resiliency Factors Influencing
Latino Adolescent Functioning: Insights
from Patent
and Youth Focus Groups**
Bernice Fuentes, Sr., Psychology, LAS
Fadya Manasa, Sr., Psychology, LAS
Krystina Briones, Fr., Psychology, LAS
Brenda Rodrigues, Fr., English, LAS

10:45-11am **Maximizing the Potential of
the Virtual Water Trade**
Kimberly Parker, Fr., Earth Systems,
Environment and Society, LAS

11-11:15am **The Role of Coilin on Intranuclear
Trafficking on snRNPs to Cajal Bodies**
Caesar Arturo, Jr., Molecular and
Cellular Biology, LAS

11:15-11:30am **Environmental Effects on Pig
Growth and Development**
Tara Baxter, Jr., Animal Science, ACES

11:30-11:45am **The Spurlock Museum
Ancient Seal Project**
Joshua Nelson, Jr., Mathematics, LAS
Rebecca Bott, Sr., History, LAS
Kevin Gartski, Sr., Anthropology and History, LAS
Matt Tedeschi, Sr., Religious Studies, LAS

11:45-12pm **Undergraduate Research in
the Writers Workshop**
Yolanda Green, Soph., English, LAS
Aneesha Bahl, Soph., Division of General Studies
Sarah Brook, Sr., Psychology, LAS
Ed Hahn, Sr., English, LAS

SESSION B (ILLINI UNION ROOM 210)

10-10:15am **Building Green: Spatial Distribution
of LEED-Certified Buildings**
Alex Beata, Soph., Geography, LAS

10:15-10:30am **Change and Continuity in 20th
Century Papua New Guinea Art**
Rebecca Chan, Jr. Anthropology, LAS
Alexa Wirth, Jr. Anthropology, LAS

10:30-10:45am **Diversity Reconsidered: Focusing on
the Needs of the "Invisible Minority"**
Patrick Hale, Sr., Sociology and Gender
and Women's Studies, LAS

10:45-11am	From Chicana to Chica: The Cultural Politics of Sexuality, Home and Women's Solidarity in Works by Sandra Cisneros and Alisa Caldes-Rodriguez Sonia Rodriguez, Jr., English, LAS
11-11:15am	Leisure and Arthritis among Older Adults Dina Izenstark, 1st year Masters, Recreation, Sport and Tourism, AHS
11:15-11:30am	La Liaison: Generalizations of Anglophone Learners of French Meryl Delshire Garrison, Sr., French Studies, LAS
11:30-11:45am	Media Production in a Digital Age Derek Klein, Sr., Media Studies, COM Marc Morin Jr., Sr. General Engineering, ENG
11:45-12pm	Homonormativities' Stake in State Projects of Legibility Bess Van Asselt, Sr., Gender and Women Studies, LAS

HISTORY SHOWCASE (ILLINI UNION ROOM 210)

12-1pm	Post-Soviet Russian Diplomacy in the First Bosnian war of 1992-1995 Alexandra Katzman, Sr., History, LAS
	"To Spille My Housbands Blood": Social Order and Gender Relations in Early Modern England-From the Courtroom to the Kitchen Megan MacDonald-McGinnis, Sr., History, LAS
	Examining Genetics, Scientific Racism and Human Subjects via the Epidemiology of Hepatitis B Jennifer Rush, Sr., History, LAS
	Bricks, Blockades, and Brutality: Race, Class, and Labor During the 1905 Teamsters Strike of Chicago Matthew Filter, Sr., History, LAS

SESSION C (ILLINI UNION ROOM 314 A/B)

1-1:15pm	Predicting the Ductility of Transition Metal B2 Alloys Using Mesoscale Dislocation Theory and First-Principles Calculations Ruoshi Sun, Sr., Materials Science and Engineering, ENG
1:15-1:30pm	Automatic Acquisition of Pragmatic Knowledge Using Similes Nigel Ray, Jr., Computer Science, ENG
1:30-1:45pm	Illini Cycler: A Polymerase Chain Reaction Kimberly Heinecke, Soph., Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG Shotaro Yatsu, Soph., Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG Brad Stoll, Sr., Technical Systems Management, ENG Mark Hull, Soph., Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG
1:45-2pm	Black Start Service Marketability Tsong-Yu Chan, Jr., Electrical Engineering, ENG

2-2:15pm	Debris Characterization and Mitigation from an Extreme Ultraviolet Light-producing Z-pinch Bob Lofgren, Sr., Nuclear, Plasma, Radiological Engineering
2:15-2:30pm	Assessment of Peer-Led Team Learning in an Engineering Course for Freshmen Brett Robbins, Sr., Electrical Engineering, ENG
2:30-2:45pm	Visualization of the Crack Damage in Self-Healing Composites Rajaprakash Ramachandramoorthy, Jr., Aerospace Engineering, ENG
2:45-3pm	Action Research Seminar: The East St. Louis Project Johanna Contreras, Jr., Recreation, Sport and Tourism, AHS Ashley Hooks, Sr., Urban and Regional Planning, FAA Dee Kaiser, Jr., Recreation, Sport and Tourism, AHS Joseph Altshuler, Jr. Architecture, FAA Mari Gordon, Jr., Geology and Environmental Studies, LAS Jessica Howe, Sr., Aerospace Engineering, ENG Wendy Kniepp, Jr., Business

SESSION D (ILLINI UNION ROOM 210)

1-1:15pm	Never Stop Exploring—Urbana-Champaign Natalya Namts, Sr., Advertising, COMM
1:15-1:30pm	Disability + Relevant Design Stephen Diebold, Soph., Industrial Design, FAA Teddy Lu, Soph., Industrial Design, FAA Erica Roberts, Soph., Industrial Design, FAA Mayela Mujica, Soph., Industrial Design, FAA
1:30-1:45pm	Ethnicity and Medicine: Barriers to Healthcare in Guatemala Anita Chary, Sr., Anthropology and Chemistry, LAS Sarah Messmer, Sr., Engineering Physics, LAS Flora Chacon, Sr., Spanish, LAS
1:45-2pm	Factors Affecting the Quality of Life of Latino Residents of Urban Immigrant Gateways Juan Carlos Acevedo, Sr., Management Information Systems, Recreation, Sport and Tourism, AHS
2-2:15pm	Illini Sports: Explore More Lindsey Carstens, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS Molly Prendergast, Jr., Kinesiology, AHS Adam Latarski, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS Colin Quinn, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
2:15-2:30pm	From Literacy Tests to Felony Disenfranchisement: A Historical Analysis of Black Male Voting Alana Mbanza, Sr., Psychology, LAS
2:30-2:45pm	Characteristics of Clients Using a Low Income Health Center Dhara Patel, Jr., Community Health, AHS Bhanupriya Sirandas, Jr., Community Health, AHS Jennifer Byelick, Jr., Community Health, AHS

2:45-3pm
Success of Undergraduates with Illinois Business Consulting
Stephanie Jones, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS
Trent Folkens, Sr., Marketing, BUS
Daniel Wenhold, Jr., Finance, BUS
Zach Bielasco, Sr., Accounting, BUS

PERFORMANCES

ILLINI UNION COURTYARD CAFÉ

1-1:20pm
Harp Performance
Keturah Bixby, Sr. Harp Performance
Major, School of Music, FAA

1:30-2:05pm
Inner Voices Social Theatre
Aisha Boyd, Sr., Speech Communication, LAS
Brittany Baker, Sr., Political Science, LAS
Taylor Moore, Fr., Jazz Studies, FAA

2:15-2:35pm
Selections by Marvels and Jolivet
Jamie Murphy, Jr., Instrumental Performance, FAA
Jennifer Garrett, Piano Performance,
Graduate School of Music, FAA

2:40-3pm
A Night in Spain: My Journey into Spanish Song
Sara Lloyd, Soph., Vocal Performance, FAA

POSTERS

MORNING SESSION (PINE LOUNGE) 10am-12pm

1. The Individual Tax Evader: Toward a Psychological Profile
Jenna Meints, Sr., Accountancy, BUS

2. Design of an Amperometric Biosensor
Ridhima Handa, Jr., Actuarial Science, LAS

3. Neuroeconomics and Risk
Laura Zahn, Jr., Actuarial Science, LAS

4. A Break in the Chain: A Look at Communication between Resident Advisors the Resident Life Employees above Them
Rachael Levine, Sr., Anthropology, LAS

5. Functional Analysis of a Lactobacillus gasseri PTS Transporter
Julia Willett, Jr., Biochemistry LAS and Human Nutrition ACES

6. Edyrolhc Lylla – ChBE 431
Stephanie Jones, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS
Julia Gregg, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS
Anu Biswas, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

7. Temperature-Independent Lead Sensing Based on a Fluorescent DNAzyme
Jenny Wu, Soph., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

8. Effects of Showerhead Design on Plasma Flow in an Oxygen Plasma Reactor
Brandon Reizman, Jr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

9. Kinetic Study of Temperature Programmed Desorption (TPD) of Oxygen from TiO₂
Xiaoyu Chen, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

10. Antimicrobial Silver Nanoparticles HS-Lab
Matt Ragusa, Sr., Chemistry, LAS

11. Sonic Spray Ionization
Josh Lasinski, Sr., Chemistry, LAS

12. Stabilizing Discrete Folded States of RNA Macromolecules Using DNA Constraints
JP Gerdt, Sr., Specialized Chemistry, LAS

13. Working in Dining Services: Just a Paycheck
Sha'Donna Woods, Sr., English, LAS

14. The Sonju Lake Intrusion: Formation and Analysis of a Layered Basalt Body and Overlying Granite
Kayla Ireland, Jr., Geology, LAS

15. Coupling into Single Photon Detectors
Darcy Barron, Sr., Engineering Physics, ENG

16. Laboratory Simulations of the Mount St. Helen's Lateral Blast
John Kolinski, Sr., Math and Engineering Mechanics, LAS, ENG

17. Antibiotic Resistant Gene Impact on Microbial Communities in Agricultural Soils and Ground Water
Shazan Ahmed, Jr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

18. The Impact of Medical Ethics Course on the Students' Perceptions of the Important Health Care Issues
Maulik Sheth, Sr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

19. Expression of the Anti-apoptotic Peptide Trefoil Factor 3 Distinguishes SW480 Colonic Adenocarcinoma Cells and the Isogenic SW620 Cell Line, Established from a Lymph Node Metastasis of the Primary Tumor
Grace Maloney, Jr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

20. Mental Health Needs and Perspectives of Foster Children of Methamphetamine Abusers
Kimberly Brown-Riley, Sr., Psychology, LAS

21. The Effects of Newcastle Virus Vaccine on Formation of Stones in the Reproductive Tract of Roosters
Joseph Esch, Sr., Animal Science, ACES

22. Building Bridges through an Action Research Approach: Program Description and Evaluation
Roselia Banuelos, Jr., Psychology, LAS

23. Genome Size in Miscanthus
Joseph Crawford, Sr., Crop Science, ACES

24. Expectations, Needs and Segmentation of Drinkable Yogurt Consumers
Joseph Kreger, Sr., Food Science and Human Nutrition, ACES

25. Maternal Diet Programs Muscle GLUT4 Expression in Rat Offspring
Michelle Unander, Jr., Food Science and Human Nutrition, ACES

26. Reconstituting Bioactive Cellulose and Corn Zein Films from Ionic Liquids

Daria Zelasko, Jr., Bioengineering, ENG

27. Potential Applications of Choline Chloride-Urea Mixtures in Biosensing

Wiktor Stopka, Jr., Bioengineering, ENG
Angela Hsieh, Jr., Bioengineering, ENG

28. Computing Application Performance Enhancement through the Use of Hardware Accelerators

Yohannes Kifle, So, Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG

29. Typing from the Top of Your Head

Serena Liou, Jr., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG
Mukta Vaidya, Sr., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG
Cyrus Oman, Sr., Computer Science, ENG

30. Design of an Amperometric Biosensor

Tala Haddad, Sr., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG

31. Fluorescence Imaging of Self-Healing Composites

Eleanor Good, So., Engineering Mechanics, ENG

32. Mesh Generation for Modeling of Heterogeneous Microstructures

Brendan O'Rourke, Sr., Engineering Physics, ENG

33. Assessment of Fracture Properties of Heterogeneous Adhesives using Multiscale Cohesive Analysis

Anthony Lovero, Sr., General Engineering, ENG

34. Robust Encapsulation using Microfluidics

Alissa Cote, So., Materials Science and Engineering, ENG

35. Self-Healing of Intra-Composite Interfaces

Brett Beierman, Sr., Materials Science and Engineering, ENG

36. Nanoparticle Removal from Lithographic Masks by Plasma Assisted Cleaning by Electrostatics

Colin Das, Jr., Aerospace Engineering, ENG

37. Helping Hands

Kerra DiVincenzo, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
Josh Ellis, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
Erin Frommeyer, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
Natasha Ratajczak, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
Dan Stebel, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS
Jacquelyn Sweedroe, Sr., Kinesiology, AHS

AFTERNOON SESSION (PINE LOUNGE) 1-3pm

1. Predator-Prey Models and their Applications to Finance and Economics

Paul Pelock, Sr., Actuarial Science, LAS

2. Power Laws and the Structure of the Insurance Market

Cristie Labus, Sr., Actuarial Science, LAS

3. Systems Biology: Metabolic Reconstruction and Analysis to Enhance Butanol Production

Azeem Zafar, Jr., Biochemistry, LAS

4. Parameter Optimization for Interface-Based Defect Engineering

Katherine Thurman, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

5. Structure-Function Relationship of 2'-oxoalkylresorcylic acid Synthase

Anuradha Biswas, Sr., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

6. The Copper Binding Properties of Nitrous Oxide Reductase

Shirley Tan, Soph., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, LAS

7. Expression and Purification of a Thermophilic Protein for Studying Macromolecular Crowding

Tripta Mishra, Soph., Specialized Chemistry, LAS

8. NMR Studies of the cAMP-regulated Phosphoprotein Endosulfine-alpha

Daniel Ladorr, Sr., Chemistry, LAS

9. Exploring the Diversity of Microgastrine Parasitoid Wasps (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) from the Area de Conservación Guanacaste, Costa Rica

Stephanie Laurusonis, Sr., Integrative Biology, LAS

10. High Protein Diet Impacts Fecal Microbial Populations in Growing Kittens

Beth Dalsing, Jr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

11. Initial Response to a Psychostimulant Drug as a Predictor of Impulsivity

Randi Burns, Sr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

12. Impaired Glucocorticoid Negative Feedback in Fragile X Syndrome

Staci Vanderjack, Sr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

13. Social Consequences of Youth Depression

Lilyana Ortega, Sr., Psychology, LAS

14. Emotions and Psychological Needs

Steffen Eric Olsen, Sr., Psychology, LAS

15. Microbial Ecology of the Chattooga River: Anthropogenic Impacts and Implications for Human Health

Zachary Bayne, Sr., Speech Communication, LAS

16. Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers: Turning Curiosity into Scientific Inquiry

Angela Kent, Professor, Department of NRES, Faculty Mentor

17. Characterization of Endophytic Nitrogen-fixing Bacteria in Biofuel Crops

Neil Gottel, Jr., Integrative Biology, LAS

18. Efficacy of Glycerol as a Replacement for Lactose in Calf Milk Replacer

Rebecca Ebert, Jr., Animal Science, ACES

19. Effects of Spaying on Food Intake, Weight Gain, Activity, and Body Composition in Cats Fed a High- Versus Moderate-Protein Diet

Stacey Sutter, Sr., Animal Science, ACES

20. The Presence and Quality of Children's Friendships: Associations with Later Behavioral Development

Nicole Lasky, Sr., Human Development and Family Studies, ACES

21. The Effect of Simulated Gastrointestinal Digestion on Proteins and Bioactive Peptides from Soybean Genotypes

Pauline Le, Sr., Food Science and Human Nutrition, ACES

22. Moderation of Flood and Wind Damages to Residential Structures: A Hypothetical Analysis of Technical, Siting, Programming, and Design Recommendations

Jose Marques, Sr., Architecture, FAA

23. Anthropometric Human Hand Models for Tracking

Catherine Wah, Sr., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG

24. Separation and Purification of Nanoprobes using Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

Margie Mathewson, Jr., Bioengineering, ENG

25. Fabricating Gold Nanoparticle Constructs Using Microfluidic Channels

Megan Koop, Jr., Engineering Mechanics, ENG

26. Mechanical Testing and Characterization of Mechanically Activated Color-Changing Polymers

Jillian Franke, Jr., Materials Science and Engineering, ENG

27. Comparison of Coherent Backscatter and Airglow Images from Equatorial Plasma Depletions

Shawn Adderly, Soph., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG

28. Cardiac Perfusion Imaging: An Investigation of a Model-Based Approach

Elaine Wah, Sr., Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENG

29. Vector Paint

Brett Jones, Sr., Computer Science, ENG

30. Neuroanatomical Specificity of Conditioned Responses to Cocaine versus Food in Mice

Zach Johnson, Jr., Integrative Biology and Neuroscience, LAS

31. Shoulder Pain in Wheelchair Athletes: The Role of Gender

Jacob Segil, Sr., Mechanical Engineering, ENG

32. Measuring Ion Energy Distributions from an Electron Cyclotron Resonance Source

Frederick Manley, Sr., Nuclear Engineering, ENG

33. Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureau: Media and the Law

Tacarra Moore, Sr., Community Health, AHS

34. GirlPOWERED Research Study

Rachel Hernandez, Sr., Recreation, Sport and Tourism, AHS

35. International Reporting, "Destination: China"

Liz Reising, Jr., Journalism, COM

36. News-Gazette Reporting Partnership

Troy Murray, Sr., Journalism, COM

37. Changes in Hypothalamic alpha-MSH in Rats Fed a High Whole Milk Protein Diet

Kristy Heppner, Sr., Animal Science, ACES

38. Characterizing the Antimicrobial Activity of Water-Soluble Seed Exudates

Peter Conlin, Jr., Molecular and Cellular Biology, LAS

39. An Innovative System for Bioremediation of Agricultural Chemicals for Environmental Sustainability

Curt Zurliene, Jr., Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG

Elizabeth Brooks, Jr., Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG

Dan Koch, Grad (MS), Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG

Stephen Anderson, Grad (MS), Agricultural and Biological Engineering, ENG





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