

# SENIOR PROJECT & YEAR OF HEALTH CELEBRATION

In keeping with Allegheny's commitment to provide students with a liberal arts education of high standards, the Senior Project is not a mere report or semester paper, but a significant piece of independent study, research or creative work conducted under the supervision of one or more faculty members. **The outcome of a Senior Project is more than a grade or a written document;** for the student it often results in a new way of looking at complex problems and inspires an appreciation for the power of ideas that might previously have seemed like abstract concepts in a textbook. Often it can be a pivotal moment when a student realizes his or her own abilities and potential.



ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

APRIL 24, 2009

# ORAL PRESENTATIONS

10:30 AM

**David Barlow**

**The Use of Modern Technology by Historical Institutions**

Major: History / Minor: Religious Studies

Senior Project Advisor: Paula Treckel

CC 301

**Becky Egg**

**Geometrical Structures Associated to a Finite Group**

Major: Mathematics / Minor: Spanish

Senior Project Advisor: Harald Ellers

CC 206

**Patrick Kahle**

**The Determinants of Mortgage Debt Growth**

Major: Managerial Economics / Minor: Mathematics

Senior Project Advisor: Stephen Casler

CC 303

**Timothy Wetsell**

**All the News Fit To Print on the Iraq War: A Study of the *New York Times*'s Coverage of the War in Iraq from September 12, 2001 to November 2, 2004**

Major: English / Minor: Political Science

Senior Project Advisors: Laura Quinn, Courtney Bailey

CC 302

10:50 AM

**Daniel Ferry**

**Dan's Chelsea Guitars: A Neighborhood Music Store for the Whole World**

Major: Communication Arts / Minor: Political Science

Senior Project Advisors: Michael Keeley, River Branch

CC 206

**Shannon Fetcko**

**Gauss's Formula for Date of Easter and Other Calendar Problems**

Major: Mathematics / Minors: Psychology, Economics

Senior Project Advisor: Anthony Lo Bello

CC 303

**Rachel Jurkowski**

**Kosovo's Preventable War: The Consequences of Milosevic's Exploitation of the Serbian National Identity, Myths, and Grievances**

Major: History / Minors: Political Science, Spanish

Senior Project Advisor: Kenneth Plnow

CC 301

**Doug Maloney**

**Cheating Justice: Albert Speer's Defense at Nuremberg and "Los Casi Olvidados: Francisco Boix y la Experiencia Español en el Holocausto"**

Majors: History, Spanish

Senior Project Advisors: Stephen Lyons, Teresa Herrera

CC 302

11:10 AM

**Sarah Davis**

**Employer Provided Health Insurance and Job Mobility: Job Lock**

Major: Managerial Economics / Minor: Mathematics

Senior Project Advisor: Stephanie Martin

CC 302

**Alexander W. Hays**

**Understanding the Marginalized: A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of the Economic Issues Facing Latinos in the 21st Century**

Majors: Economics, Spanish

Senior Project Advisors: Stephanie Martin, Wilfredo Hernández

CC 206

**Kathryn Heasley**

**The Evolution of the Hag: A Feminist Critical Analysis of Roald Dahl's Children's Literature**

Major: English / Minor: History

Senior Project Advisor: Jennifer Hellwarth

CC 303

**Kaitlin Walsh**

**Effect of Structured Nature of an Art Project on Mood, Engagement, and Enjoyment in Children**

Majors: Studio Art, Psychology

Senior Project Advisors: Sue Buck, Aimee Knupsky

CC 301

11:30 AM

**Sean P. Fitzgerald**

**Slab Window Formation and Subsequent Eocene Intrusions in the Matanuska Valley, Alaska**

Major: Geology / Minor: English

Senior Project Advisor: Ronald Cole

CC 302

**Annie T. Ginty**

**A Matter of Balance: Baseline and Recovery Pulse Is Lower for Those with a Balanced Outlook in Regard to Life Stressors**

Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology / Minor: English Literature

Senior Project Advisors: Sarah Conklin, Rodney Clark

CC 206

**Lindsay Romigh**

**The Fight for Bilingual Education in Ecuador: A Difficult Process Complicated by the Disagreements between the Government and the Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas del Ecuador**

Majors: International Studies, Spanish

Senior Project Advisors: Shannan Mattiace, Wilfredo Hernandez

CC 303

**Raymond Benjamin Sperry**

**Robert Nozick, Individual Rights, and the State**

Major: Political Science / Minor: Religious Studies

Senior Project Advisors: Bruce Smith, Robbert Seddig

CC 301

11:50 AM

**Andrew Mihalcin**

**How Do the Environmental Impacts of Home-brewed Beer Compare with Those of Anheuser-Busch's Budweiser?**

Major: Environmental Studies / Minor: Religious Studies

Senior Project Advisor: Eric Pallant

CC 303

**Amy Lynn Negley**

**The West Comes East: Buffalo Bill's Wild West and American National Identity**

Major: History / Minor: Mathematics

Senior Project Advisors: Ian Binnington, Paula Treckel

CC 302

## **Megan Petroccia**

### **The Effects of Context on Cross Language Interactions During Production**

Majors: Psychology, Neuroscience / Minor: Spanish

Senior Project Advisor: Aimee Knupsky

CC 301

## **Christopher Wahlmark**

### **The Music of Proteins: Unique Analysis of Class III Peroxidases**

Majors: Music, Biology

Senior Project Advisors: Ann Kleinschmidt, Jennifer Dearden

CC 206

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

ALL POSTER PRESENTATIONS ARE IN THE  
CAMPUS CENTER LOBBY EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

11:30 AM

## **Jessica Badach**

### **The Professional Writing Pyramid: A Study of Practical and Personal Choices**

Major: English-Technical/Professional Writing

Minor: VESA: Values, Ethics and Social Action

Senior Project Advisors: Susan Slote, Diana Brautigam

## **Jesse Beauchamp**

### **Lithofacies and Depositional Environment Analysis of a Road Cut Along US 22 Near Wintersville, Ohio**

Majors: Studio Art, Geology

Senior Project Advisors: Bob Schwartz, Todd Grote

## **Elizabeth Benvin**

### **Irreconcilable Differences? The Origins of Contention Between Tibet and China**

Major: International Studies / Minors: Spanish, Chinese

Senior Project Advisors: Sharon Wesoky, Rui Wu, Guo Wu

## **Arielle Conti**

### **Incorporation Green Materials Into Allegheny's New Admissions House**

Major: Environmental Science / Minor: Economics

Senior Project Advisors: Eric Pallant, Scott Wissinger

## **Kristin Devine**

### **The Politics of Writing in Iran**

Major: Political Science / Minor: English

Senior Project Advisor: Shannan Mattiace

## **Lucas Glover**

### **The Effects of Dorsal Hippocampal or CA3 Lesions on Spatial Reference and Working Memory in Two Spatial Tasks**

Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology

Senior Project Advisors: Jeffrey Cross, Amy Wiseman

## **Siera Goodnight**

### **Effects of Melatonin on Daytime Sleep Architecture in College Students**

Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology

Senior Project Advisors: Sarah Conklin, Jeffrey Cross

## **Melinda Haarmeyer**

### **Effects of Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Prednisone Hemisuccinate on Parathyroid Hormone and Bone Density**

Major: Biology / Minor: French

Senior Project Advisor: Charles Welsh

## **Molly Hanlon**

### **The Role of Auxin in the Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Symbiosis**

Major: Biochemistry / Minor: Writing

Senior Project Advisor: Catharina Coenen

## **Meg Hiestand**

### **Fronteras, Limbos y "Conga Lines": La Identidad Latina en el Cine Norteamericano Contemporaneo**

Major: Spanish / Minors: Economics, Latin American/Caribbean Studies

Senior Project Advisors: Barbara Riess, Wilfredo Hernandez

## **Carrie Miller**

### **A Matter of Life and Death: Six Characters in Search of an Author's Artistic Immortality**

Major: Theatre / Minor: History

Senior Project Advisor: Mark Cosdon

## **Zane Miller**

### **Grasping Photons (ART GALLERY)**

Major: Art & Technology / Minor: Biology

Senior Project Advisors: Amara Geffen, Darren Miller

## **Kara Ostrosky**

### **Kinetics of DNA Duplexing in Various Ionic Strengths Using Stopped-Flow Spectroscopy**

Major: Chemistry / Minor: Economics

Senior Project Advisor: Alice Deckert

## **Marina Rezk**

### **The Effect of Carbon Dioxide on the Ventilatory Responses of Control and Nicotine-Exposed Neonatal Mice: Implications for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome**

Major: Neuroscience / Minor: Political Science

Senior Project Advisors: E. Lee Coates, Jeffrey Cross

## **Heather Schubert**

### **Divina Sapienza and Divina Providenza, and Their Importance in a Baroque Art Theoretical Debate in the Academia di San Luca**

Major: Art History / Minors: Political Science, French

Senior Project Advisor: Richard Schindler

## **Adam J. Simbeck**

### **Introduction to Computational Electromagnetics: Manipulation of the MD-GRAPE Accelerator Board**

Major: Physics / Minor: Economics

Senior Project Advisors: Gary Bedrosian, Jamie Lombardi

## **Raymond Benjamin Sperry**

### **Robert Nozick, Individual Rights, and the State**

Major: Political Science / Minor: Religious Studies

Senior Project Advisors: Bruce Smith, Robbert Seddig

## **Christopher Case Whiting**

### **The Design and Construction of a Surface Plasmon Resonance Imaging Apparatus for the Study of Patched Hydrophobic Surfaces**

Major: Physics / Minor: Psychology

Senior Project Advisor: Adele Poynor

## **Jill Zuspan**

### **Oh My God Tattoos: An Investigation of the Relationship Between the Degree of Religious Imagery in a Tattoo and Its Overall Appeal and Acceptability**

Majors: Psychology, Religious Studies

Senior Project Advisors: Joshua Searle-White, Carl Olson

## HISTORY

Since the College's first commencement in 1821, Allegheny students have showcased their exceptional academic achievements through a senior capstone experience of one kind or another. At times it involved an oral defense, at others a written thesis. The notion of a written Senior Project coupled with a comprehensive oral examination first appeared in the 1942 College Catalogue. In the 1970s, oral examinations shifted from a general defense of disciplinary expertise to a more focused verbal presentation of the Senior Project findings.

## PREPARATION

The Senior Project provides students with an opportunity to integrate discipline-specific scholarship with the communication and research skills necessary for professionals in the 21st century. During their first year at Allegheny, students write, speak, and research frequently in their first-year seminars. By the sophomore year they are ready to undertake the complexities of writing and speaking in a specific discipline. They further hone these disciplinary communication skills in a junior seminar, the final preparatory phase for the Senior Project. By the senior year students are sufficiently prepared to undertake a scholarly endeavor approximating those experiences they will face as professionals in their field.

## REALIZATION

The culminating experiences of the Senior Project are as varied as the disciplines that produce them, from recitals, performances, and exhibits to written and oral presentations on laboratory research. Many illustrate unusual combinations of disciplines, interests and skills. The Senior Project Celebration offers an open forum for students to present their projects, allowing seniors to refine their skills in presenting to a broad audience and share ideas with other students and the campus community.

# ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

**A national liberal arts college where 2,100 students with unusual combinations of interests, skills and talents excel.**