

# 22nd Annual University of Northern Iowa

The logo for the CSBS Student Research Conference is centered on a yellow rectangular background. The letters 'CSBS' are rendered in a large, bold, purple serif font with a white outline. Below this, the words 'Student Research Conference' are written in a smaller, purple serif font, also with a white outline, arranged in two lines.

CSBS  
Student Research  
Conference

25<sup>th</sup> April, 2015

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Sabin and Seerley Halls  
University of Northern Iowa  
Cedar Falls, Iowa

NOTES:

# NOTES:

## Welcome and Acknowledgments

Welcome to the 22nd Annual College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Student Research Conference! Every year, the conference provides undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to exchange ideas, present research, and learn more about the developments in the social sciences. We are very proud to host faculty and students from colleges and universities across the Midwest; and to attract talented researchers from several different areas of study.

We hope that you are able to attend our keynote address, given by Dr. Cameron Weaver, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. A panel of UNI psychology students will describe their internships and how they helped them to (a) apply their psychological knowledge to the workplace, (b) apply their real-world experiences to the classroom, (c) explore career paths that they might want to pursue, and (d) get a job and/or admission to grad school. We also are excited to offer students and faculty the chance to interact with Dr. Weaver over coffee. We hope that the conference provides a platform for learning more about research and the social sciences, showcasing creative and scholarly research, and encourages students to participate in future conferences.

First, we would like to thank you for attending the conference. Secondly, we would also like to thank the student presenters and their faculty advisors for exhibiting their work. Finally, we would like to convey our sincere gratitude to our sponsors, moderators, and volunteers.

To learn more about the conference, visit the website:  
[www.uni.edu/csbs-conference](http://www.uni.edu/csbs-conference)

Enjoy the conference!!

### **The Conference Committee**

Dilbur D. Arsiwalla, Psychology (co-chair)  
 Kristin Mack, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology (co-chair)  
 Fernando Calderon, History  
 William Henninger, School of Applied Human Sciences  
 Cindy Juby, Social Work  
 Andrey Petrov, Geography  
 Anne Woodrick, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology  
 Taifa Yu, Political Science  
 Stephanie Strong, Conference Coordinator (student)

## **Sponsors**

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 Department of Psychology  
 Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology  
 Department of Geography  
 Department of Political Science  
 School of Applied Human Sciences  
 Department of Social Work  
 Department of History  
 Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG)  
 Pepsi Grant Fund  
 Psychology Club

## About the Keynote Speaker



Dr. Cameron Weaver is an assistant professor of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. His research interests focus on identifying risks and associated protective factors for alcohol use and related problems as well as brief motivational interventions.

# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## Registration and Breakfast

*8am-8:30am*

Sabin Hall Lobby

## Poster Setup

*8am-8:30am*

Seerley Hall, Great Reading Room

## Poster Session I

*8:30am-9:45am*

Seerley Hall, Great Reading Room

## Keynote Speaker

*10am-11:30am*

Sabin Hall, Room 2

## Lunch

*11:30am-12:00pm*

Sabin Hall Lobby

## Poster Session II

*12pm-1:15pm*

Seerley Hall, Great Reading Room

## Oral Presentations

*1:30pm-2:30pm*

Sabin Hall, Rooms 23 and 25

## Student Panel: What can an internship do for you? Moderated by: Dr. Carolyn Hildebrandt

*1:30pm-2:30pm*

Sabin Hall, Room 15

## Coffee time with the Keynote Speaker

*2:30pm-3:00pm*

Sabin Hall Lobby

# POSTER SESSION I

Great Reading Room, Seerley Hall

8:30-9:45 am

**1. Title:** Juror Misperceptions of Eyewitness Evidence: Impact on Expert Testimony and Credibility

**Authors:** Tiffany M. Anderson & Kim MacLin

**Faculty Adviser:** Kim MacLin

In instances where jurors don't know or are not expected to understand a particular area of evidence, experts are brought in to explain and clarify the science so that the jurors may be better able to evaluate the information. However, understanding precisely what jurors believe about eyewitness factors is key. We provided mock jurors with a trial summary that employed eyewitness testimony and then provided jurors with an expert whose testimony was either standard or specifically addressed common misperceptions surrounding memory evidence. Results are discussed in terms of credibility of the expert and perceived usefulness of the testimony. Unfortunately, the criminal justice system generally assumes that jurors have a base knowledge and understanding of the issues surrounding memory evidence. In those situations, experts may not be allowed to testify. It is necessary to identify the most efficient ways for experts to testify in order to appropriately sensitize jurors to eyewitness memory issues and to inspire future use of experts within the courtroom.

**2. Title:** Gender Differences in Helping and Receiving Help across the United States and India

**Authors:** Salomi Aladia & Helen C. Harton

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen C. Harton

In short-term encounters with strangers, North American men tend to help more than women, and women to receive more help than men (Eagly & Crowley, 1986). With friends, however, American women may be more likely to offer help (Belansky & Boggiano, 1994). There is little research on how gender and relationship affect helping in nonwestern cultures. Indians regard a failure to help in various situations morally, whereas Americans tend to regard helping as a matter of personal choice (Miller & Luthar, 1989), which may suggest differences in who and when they would help. In this study, 172 U.S. and 140 Indian college students completed measures of personality and indicated how likely it was that a person in each of eight scenarios would help someone else. Scenarios varied by gender of the potential helper, gender of the helpee, and relationship of the two persons (stranger vs. friend). Across both cultures, participants were less likely to expect the actor to help the male stranger. In the United States, helping

expectations for men and women were fairly similar, but in India, men were seen as more likely to help than women in all situations except with the male stranger.

**3. Title:** Liberals' and Conservatives' Perceptions of Warmth-Competence and Threat for Immigrant Groups

**Authors:** Kristin A. Broussard, Helen C. Harton, Asha Ganesan, & Alexia Farrell

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen Harton

The stereotype-content model of prejudice posits that outgroups are perceived in terms of warmth and competence (Cuddy, Fiske, & Glick, 2008). The integrated model of racism (Dovidio & Gaertner, 1998) suggests that liberals tend to overcompensate for their prejudicial attitudes by favoring outgroups, whereas conservatives tend to justify their prejudicial attitudes. We hypothesized that liberals and conservatives would perceive outgroups differently in terms of warmth-competence. 87 white students rated how characteristic 26 traits were of Arab, Chinese, and Mexican immigrants, Bosnian refugees, and African Americans. Liberals rated Arab ( $t(53) = 2.09, p = .04, CI(.95)[.01527, .71763]$ ) and Mexican immigrants ( $t(63) = 2.47, p = .02, CI(.95)[.07287, .68989]$ ) as warmer than did conservatives, but conservatives rated Bosnian refugees ( $t(63) = -2.02, p = .05, CI(.95)[- .65387, -.00341]$ ) and Mexican immigrants ( $t(63) = -2.425, p = .02, CI(.95)[- .72841, -.07029]$ ) higher on competence than did liberals. All five target groups were rated as more warm than competent by all participants. Chinese immigrants were rated least competent and African Americans were rated least warm by all participants. Consistent with the integrated model of prejudice, liberals rated target racial groups as warmer, indicating explicitly positive feelings toward those groups, but also as less competent, which may suggest more implicit prejudice toward those groups.

**4. Title:** Iowa Media Literacy Program - Educating Children about Advertisements

**Author:** Manuela E. Faulhaber, Mitchell Hoyer, Christopher Miller, Colton Brouwer, Justin Paulsen, Jorge A. Blanco, & Douglas Gentile

**Faculty Adviser:** Douglas Gentile

In the 21st century media surrounds daily life. Advertisements have been designed to have substantial influence over the lives of their unsuspecting viewers. Critically analyzing media is not a skill commonly taught in schools despite its potential benefits. The Iowa Media Literacy program (IMLP) was designed to educate children on how to analyze and interpret media. The IMLP's main purpose is to increase children's awareness of advertisements' power to subconsciously influence them on a daily basis. The IMLP blends in-class presentations and activities, to promote active learning and involvement. The pilot program involved over 1300 children, fifth through eighth graders, across four school districts in Iowa. The program includes pre- and post-intervention surveys, asking students about their suspicion, knowledge, and attitudes towards advertisements. The purpose of this study is to measure the effectiveness of the IMLP by analyzing pre-

and post-intervention differences in the student's suspicion, knowledge, and attitudes towards media and advertisement. Furthermore, we will analyze possible differences in the "third-person effect" pre- and post-intervention. We found that the IMLP was effective in its design. Suspicion of advertisements increased, knowledge of advertisement goals increased, attitudes towards advertisements became more critical, and third-person effects decreased between pre- and post-intervention surveys.

**5. Title:** Sex Differences in Salivary DHEA, Cortisol, and Testosterone

**Author:** Brooke D. Hollenberg & Olivia A. Rigdon

**Faculty Adviser:** Catherine Desoto

Sex Differences in Salivary DHEA, Cortisol and Testosterone The current study looked at sex differences in the hormone Dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) in relation to circulating cortisol and testosterone levels by measuring these hormones via three salivary immunoassays taken while participants completed an online questionnaire. Out of 183 participants, 125 were female and 58 were male. Results indicate that for males there is a significant correlation between DHEA and cortisol ( $r = .56$ ), as well as DHEA and testosterone ( $r = .56$ ). For females there were no significant correlations found between DHEA, cortisol, and testosterone. Connections to previous literature are explored.

**6. Title:** Attitudes and Knowledge Concerning Concussions and Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy

**Authors:** Kathryn O. Ira, Kristy E. Eichenberger, & Jamiee R. Ohm

**Faculty Adviser:** Carolyn Hildebrandt

Concussion and traumatic brain injury awareness has grown exponentially over the last few years through the testimonies of professional athletes, medical professionals, and researchers. The purpose of this study was to determine whose explanations, professional athletes' or medical professionals', have a greater impact on college students' knowledge and attitudes concerning concussions and chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE). First, we gave a pre-test to measure students' knowledge and attitudes about concussions and CTE. Students were then randomly assigned to two groups. Group 1 watched a video of professional athletes describing their personal experience of concussions and providing information about CTE. Group 2 watched a video of medical professionals discussing concussions and CTE. Lastly, both groups completed a post-test parallel to the pre-test. We hypothesized that the personal testimonies of professional athletes would have a greater impact on attitudes about the seriousness of concussions and CTE; the medical professionals' testimonies would have a greater impact on knowledge. The goal of the research was to increase participants' knowledge and influence attitudes about the dangers of concussions and CTE. Ultimately, we hope awareness will continue to grow.

**7. Title:** Understanding Mental Health Stigma: Effects of Race and Criminal Activity

**Author:** Matthew J. Kessler, Larissa C. Hall, Victoria E. Linnerson, Zheng Li, & Helen C. Harton

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen C. Harton

People with mental health issues often avoid treatment due to stigma associated with mental illness (Rusch, Angermeyer, & Corrigan, 2004). One common stereotype is that people with mental illnesses are violent and more likely to commit serious crimes (Fazel, Lichtenstein, Grann, Goodwin, & Langstrom 2010). Our research question was whether the opposite stereotype holds too—are those who commit violent crimes assumed to be mentally ill? 215 college students and 228 mTurkers read a “news article” describing a murder of a female college student. The articles manipulated the ethnicity of the suspect (name, stated ethnicity, and hometown) and method of death (gun vs. hand strangulation). Participants then rated how likely it was that the suspect was guilty and mentally ill and what a suggested sentence should be. Participants perceived shooters as more likely to be mentally ill and deserving of a lighter sentence than stranglers. White perpetrators were rated as more likely to be mentally ill than those of other races. Liberals agreed more than conservatives that if the perpetrator were mentally ill, he should receive a lighter sentence. People do seem to assume that at least some types of people who commit violent crimes are also mentally ill.

**8. Title:** Effects of Key Words on Reading Comprehension

**Author:** Jaime K. Lansing

**Faculty Adviser:** Jack Yates

This experiment explored the process students go through when reading a new, unknown word. Additionally, this study assessed whether or not unknown words had an effect on students’ overall reading comprehension. In this experiment, 25 students from the University of Northern Iowa read two short stories while Tobii Studio software and the T60 eye tracking system recorded their eye movements. One passage contained a story with nonsense words and the other contained all familiar words. The eye tracking software recorded the amount of time participants spent reading the nonsense words initially and when the words were repeated throughout the reading passage. It also recorded the time it took participants to complete a post-reading quiz. The brief quiz was used to assess whether or not the presence of nonsense words affected the participants’ comprehension and recall of the stories they read. The data for this study is currently being analyzed, but it is hypothesized that students would spend more time reading the nonsense words than familiar words and would not be able to correctly recall all of the nonsense words. Results are expected to be completed by the time of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Student Research Conference.

**9. Title:** The Integrated Model of Racism and Guilt Judgments of Suspects with Different Ethnicities

**Author:** Victoria Linnerson, Larissa Hall, Zheng Li, Matthew Kessler, & Helen C. Harton

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen C. Harton

The integrated model of racism (Dovidio & Gaertner, 1998) suggests that liberals tend to demonstrate aversive racism, whereas conservatives tend to demonstrate modern-symbolic racism. The majority of this research has examined reactions toward Black men. The current study expands upon this model by testing implicit prejudice toward people of other ethnicities. One hundred and eighty-six college students and 164 mTurkers read one of eight fictitious news articles. In each, a woman was either shot or strangled by a man, and that man fled the city in which the crime was committed. The names of the man, woman and the city in which they lived were changed in each article to suggest that they were of Black, White, Arab, or Chinese descent. Participants indicated how guilty they thought the man in the article was likely to be and how much prison time he should receive. White suspects were rated as less guilty than those of other races, and participants indicated that the White suspect deserved less prison time. Further, conservatives rated the suspect as more guilty than liberals when the man strangled the woman. These results show some support for the integrated model of racism (Dovidio & Gaertner, 1998).

**10. Title:** ADHD-Related Impairment in College Students

**Author:** Rachel E. Meisinger, Micah Webb, Gina M. Sacchetti, & Elizabeth K. Lefler

**Faculty Adviser:** Elizabeth K. Lefler

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is the most commonly diagnosed behavioral disorder of childhood, and for most individuals these symptoms and associated impairment persist into adolescence and adulthood. Research suggests that young adults with ADHD face additional challenges during the transition to college compared to their non-ADHD peers, including a greater risk for experiencing psychological distress, more difficulty with peer relationships, lower grades, and higher rates of dropout (Weyandt & DuPaul, 2013). The purpose of the current study is to better understand ADHD-related impairment in college students and to explore the impact of self-handicapping and stigma. Participant recruitment was completed in two phases. Participants in the first phase (n=36) all had a documented diagnosis of ADHD, and participants in the second phase (n=40) did not. Participants completed self-rating forms related to ADHD symptoms, functional impairment, self-handicapping, and either internalized stigma or outward ADHD stigma. Several t-tests were conducted to compare impairment across groups. As expected, impairment in all domains was significantly greater for individuals with ADHD. Individuals with ADHD also reported engaging in more self-handicapping behaviors. This may represent an

important area that can be specifically targeted in interventions for college students with ADHD.

**11. Title:** The Relationship between Religiosity and Substance Use Stigmatization: The Mediating Role of Contact and Familiarity

**Authors:** Dacia K. Oberhelman & Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

**Faculty Adviser:** Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

For those who are subject to stigmatization, stigma is a very powerful thing that affects every aspect of their life (Feldman & Crandall, 2007). Less research has explored stigma towards substance users, particularly towards marijuana users. Marijuana is one of the most commonly used illegal substances. With substance users being one of the most common targets for stigmatization, it will be important for public policy to assess the factors that affect this stigma (Palamar, Kiang & Halkitis, 2012). Prior research has revealed that the level of religiosity predicts their stigmatization (Shen, Haggard, Strassburger, & Rowatt, 2013). In the current study, we examined factors that predict the stigmatization of marijuana users among 272 undergraduate students from a public Midwestern University using online surveys. Individuals who were more religious were more likely to demonstrate greater stigma towards marijuana users (i.e., have greater social distance, greater perceived danger, and higher negative affect). However, we found that the level of contact and familiarity mediated the relationship between religiosity and stigma. Specifically, individuals who were more religious tended to have less contact and familiarity, which in turn predicted greater stigma. The findings have implications for interventions that seeks to reduce stigmatization towards substance users.

**12. Title:** Political Orientation and Prejudice Toward Arab and Muslim Men

**Authors:** Michael A. Pohle, Timothy R. Ledbetter, Brock C. Rozich, & Salomi B. Aladia

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen C. Harton

According to Dovidio and Gaertner's (1998) integrated model of racism, political conservatives are more likely to show modern racism, whereas political liberals are more likely to show aversive racism. In this study, we examined prejudice towards Arab and Muslim men. 207 college students and 140 MTurk participants read one of four "news stories" describing a minor crime in which the perpetrator was either a White Christian, White Muslim, Arab Christian, or Arab Muslim man. Participants then rated levels of guilt, attributional factors, and severity of punishment, as well as political orientation. For the SONA participants, there were no significant interactions between political orientation and race or religion on levels of guilt or severity of punishment. However, compared to liberals and moderates, conservatives viewed the White targets' actions as more due to personal factors than the Arab targets'. For the mTurk participants, regardless of political orientation, the Christian targets were perceived as guiltier than the Muslim

targets. Compared to liberals and conservatives, moderates were more punitive toward the Arab targets. Compared to moderates and conservatives, liberals were more punitive toward the White targets.

**13. Title:** Gender Differences in Pay Negotiations During a One-Year Performance Review

**Author:** Marissa A. Quint

**Faculty Adviser:** Michael Gasser

The authors examined the differences and similarities between male and female wage negotiation patterns. Two different mock performance reviews were given to the college-aged participants. One interview featured an older female employer while the other included an older male employer. Employer gender and the gender of the participants will be examined in a 2x2 factorial design. Variables investigated include comfort with negotiation and the amount of raise sought in negotiations. Implications of these findings for more equitable hiring practices will be discussed.

**14. Title:** Watch Your Nutrition: The Freshman 15 is Not the Only Concern

**Author:** Olivia A. Rigdon & Brook D. Hollenberg

**Faculty Adviser:** Catherine DeSoto

A study was done at a Midwest university to assess nutrient deficiencies in college students. Participants filled out the NIH Diet History Questionnaire II and their responses were used to assess deficiencies in their diet, specifically vitamin C, protein, zinc, and magnesium. The sample included 183 participants, of which 125 were females and 58 were males. Results show that some significant deficiencies may be present in the diet of typical college students. For protein, women, more so than men, were deficient. For magnesium, a majority of females and about a third of males had a deficit. Potential implications will be discussed.

**15. Title:** Eric Garner, Michael Brown, and police attitudes: Relationship to political orientation and media usage

**Authors:** Manuel Salinas, Tamara S. James, Kaimi H. Mattila, & Helen C. Harton

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen Harton

The recent events of the Michael Brown and Eric Garner cases have sparked much controversy across the United States concerning issues regarding police brutality and discrimination. Nationwide, the rate at which Black people are killed by law enforcement is 3 times higher than that of White people (Wihbey, 2015). Media coverage can have a strong influence on its viewers regardless of the accuracy of what is being reported. In this study, we examined college students' attitudes about the police and these cases and compared that to demographic variables and their use of media. Approximately 100 college students from the University of Northern Iowa will complete a survey assessing their views about police officers,

the Michael Brown case, and the Eric Garner case, media usage, perceptions of racism, and demographic variables such as political orientation. We expect that views of police officers more generally will be related to attitudes about the Eric Garner and Michael Brown cases, that participants who are more conservative will be more likely to support the decisions not to indict the officers, and that those who know and have heard more about the cases will have more extreme opinions.

**16. Title:** Gender and Driving Behavior: A Meta-Analysis

**Authors:** Justin P. Simmons, Cody Schulte, & Sunde Nesbit

**Faculty Adviser:** Sunde Nesbit

This study aims to further examine the relationship between gender and driver behavior. It is well supported that males exhibit more aggressive behaviors than females in general (Hennessy & Wiesenthal, 2001). There is a fair amount of research looking at driver aggression and gender, but the previous conclusions reached are far from conclusive. Deffenbacher and colleagues (e.g., Deffenbacher, 2008) have found small but significant relations between gender and aggressive driving, other researchers (e.g., Wickens, Mann, Stoduto, Butter, Alomiteanu, & Smart, 2012) have not replicated this finding. A meta-analysis is being conducted to evaluate whether there are systematic gender differences in aggressive driving behavior. Data collection is ongoing at this point, such that trained coders are currently evaluating published articles to determine whether they fit the explicit criteria for inclusion in this project. Data presented will be in terms of preliminary findings. It is hypothesized that the final results of the meta-analysis will reveal a small effect size for the influence of gender on driving aggressive behavior. This study is also expected to reveal gender differences in how driver aggression is expressed.

**17. Title:** Gender Differences in Pay Negotiations for College Professors

**Authors:** Justin P. Simmons, Rebecca Winberg, & Michael Gasser

**Faculty Adviser:** Michael Gasser

Gender differences in pay earned for the same work has been a highly publicized issue as of late. Females, on average, earn much less than males do even when they are working in the same industry and the same job. One possible explanation for the gender pay differences is that women often avoid salary negotiations. Much of the gender pay differences can be attributed to initial salary, which is often attained through various negotiation tactics. Previous research suggests that females are significantly less likely to engage in salary negotiations after they accept a job. Males also report higher expected initial salaries and higher likelihood to initiate negotiation when it is not explicitly mentioned. The current research aims to tease apart the reasoning for the gender differences. The current study used a survey to examine the pay negotiation habits of professors at the University of Northern Iowa. Data collection is ongoing, but we expect that males are more likely to negotiate, individuals who negotiated initial salaries will have

higher current salaries, and both genders will report being more comfortable negotiating terms in same-gender dyads.

**18. Title:** Privilege/Life Skills

**Author:** Nina Singh

**Faculty Adviser:** Kimberly MacLin

Privilege is a controversial and touchy subject in society. Often times, those with privilege unconsciously and involuntarily benefit from their racial background, gender, or economic standing. In other cases, those with privilege hold themselves as neutral, baseline, or the norm, not recognizing the benefits their privilege affords them. The current study aimed to evaluate how one's privilege-status might impact the ability and access to resources necessary to attain various life skills and how few life skills might leave to stereotypes of criminality. We found that those with higher levels of privilege also have the most life skills, and were perceived as low in criminality. Those with lower levels of privilege had fewer life skills, and were perceived as higher in criminality.

**19. Title:** Trait driving anger and history of aggressive driving: The moderating role of social dominance orientation

**Authors:** Stephanie J. Strong & Tina Langmaid

**Faculty Adviser:** Sunde Nesbit

Social Dominance theory has proposed that society establishes a set of ideologies to minimize group conflict. These ideologies, however, tend to promote inequality (Pratto et al., 1994). Social dominance orientation (SDO; Pratto et al., 1994) reflects attitudes toward a person's in-group and out-group. Those that are high in SDO believe that their in-group should be dominant toward other out-group members. Previous unpublished research suggests that attitudes toward social dominance predict reported aggressive driving behaviors; in addition, it is suggested that the mechanism driving this relationship is trait driving anger (which are significantly associated with both SDO and aggressive driving scores). For the current study, approximately 75 participants will be surveyed through Amazon Mechanical TURK. Each participant will complete a variety of measures, including the Driving Anger Scale (Deffenbacher et al., 1994), a driving survey that measures past history of aggressive driving behavior (adapted from Deffenbacher et al., 2000), and a measure of social dominance orientation (Pratto et al., 1994). We hypothesize social dominance will moderate the relationship between trait driving anger and history of aggressive driving behavior, such that the relationship between anger and aggressive behavior will strengthen with higher levels of social dominance. Data collection is currently underway.

**20. Title:** Information Used When Considering Attending UNI: Differences Between Prospective Students and Their Parents

**Author:** Micah K. Webb

**Faculty Adviser:** Michael Gasser

For many college-bound students, choosing the best school is often a family decision. While there are many aspects that are taken into consideration when deciding which college is the best option for the student, some seem to be weighted more than others. The current study compared which factors were influential regarding a decision to attend UNI between potential students and their accompanying guests. Specifically, 41 potential incoming freshmen, 1 potential transfer student, 15 potential family members of a student, and five "other" participants filled out a survey ranking items in order of importance for what was influential in their (child's) decision to attend UNI. Potential incoming freshmen viewed the availability of financial aid as most influential regarding the decision to attend the university. In contrast, family members of potential incoming freshmen viewed having information about available majors at UNI as most influential. Additional factors were also explored.

## POSTER SESSION II

Great Reading Room, Seerley Hall  
12:00-1:15 PM

**1. Title:** Effects of self-confabulated misinformation on eyewitness memory

**Authors:** Taylor R. Baumgartner, Hannah C. Strandberg, & Andrea N. Eslick

**Faculty Adviser:** Andrea Eslick

Eyewitness testimony relies upon accurate retrieval of an event. However, exposure to misleading post-event information may be integrated into later memory, compromising memory accuracy (Loftus, 1975). Recalling immediately following events may increase the likelihood of incorporating misleading information into memory (e.g., Wilford, Chan, & Tuhn, 2013). The current study evaluated whether an initial free recall test increased susceptibility to later forced confabulation. All participants witnessed a video of a crime after which half of the participants recalled the event, while the other half wrote about an unrelated topic. Participants then answered cued recall questions about the event; some questions pertained to information in the event (and were answerable) and some pertained to details that were not included in the event (and were thus unanswerable). Half of the participants were forced to answer all questions, while the other half were allowed to say "don't know." Finally, free recall memory for the initial event was tested. Results suggest that forcing participants to answer questions had no effect on final memory, but only when they had initially recalled the event. When participants had not initially recalled the event, forcing participants to answer questions increased later memory, as compared to when they voluntarily answered.

**2. Title:** Pain or Gain? A Spatial Analysis of Rural and Urban Energy Expenditures

**Author:** Ashley M. Beaird

**Faculty Adviser:** Lazarus Adua

Inequality has been core to sociology since the discipline's founding. While sociology is not bereft of space-oriented research, most of the current research focuses on differential access to social and health services. Consistent with calls to consider space in inequality research, this study examines the energy-related pain (or gain) of residing in rural America. Preliminary analyses of the Residential Energy Consumption Survey suggest rural households experience less energy consumption-related pain than those of urban spatial scales.

**3. Title:** The Effects of Divorce on Lifestyle and Personal Relationships

**Author:** Seth A. Behrends

**Faculty Adviser:** Marybeth Stalp

This study examines the sociological question of whether an individual's lifestyle and personal relationships are affected by parental divorce, and if so, in what ways. Prior studies conducted have found mixed results answering these research questions, indicating further research may need to be done to increase understanding. Fifteen individuals were interviewed in this study, eight being from divorced households and seven being from intact households. Results were compared between the two groups, and areas of interest included academic achievement, parental involvement, romantic relationships, parent-child relationships, and views on marriage and divorce. A variety of responses from participants were recorded, showing a diverse group of impacts placed on children experiencing parental divorce compared to individuals from intact families.

**4. Title:** Right Wing Authoritarianism and Prejudices Influence on Driving Behaviors

**Author:** Melanie Boysen & Jacey Gudenkauf

**Faculty Adviser:** Sunde Nesbit

When anger experience and authoritarian attitudes interact, prejudices become more apparent towards varying status levels of those around you (Kossowska, Bukowski, & Van Hiel, 2008). Different stimuli can trigger those reactions while driving (Blankenship & Nesbit, 2013). Territorial theory claims that the level of anger while driving is manipulated by territory markers, such as bumper stickers. The amount of anger depends on one's perceived worth of the bumper sticker or the message being advertised (Szlemko, Benfield, Bell, Deffenbacher, & Troup, 2008). We hypothesize that those with greater levels of authoritarianism will report more polarized ratings of liked and disliked bumper stickers compared to those with lower levels of authoritarianism. Approximately 75 participants will be surveyed through Amazon Mechanical TURK. Each participant will complete a variety of self-report measures including a measure of right-wing authoritarianism (Rattazzie, Bobbio, & Canova, 2007). Participants will also be asked to identify preferred and disliked bumper stickers, and rate them on various emotional experiences (adapted from Diener, Smith, & Fujita, 1995). Data collection is currently ongoing. Implications of this study indicate drivers may become aware of their attitudes/prejudices and the influence on driving behaviors.

**5. Title:** Factors Related to Low Birth Weight in Teenage Mothers

**Authors:** Kristin A. Broussard, Ki Hyung Park, & Erin Heiden

**Faculty Adviser:** Ki Hyung Park

National data indicates that 8.0% of all infants are born with weigh below 2,500 grams. Teenage mothers are at an increased risk of delivering LBW or preterm infants (Chen et al., 2007). LBW is linked to higher mortality rates (Mathews & MacDorman, 2013), greater health care needs (Kowlessar, Jiang, & Steiner, 2013), and higher rates of chronic conditions (Boulet & Schieve, 2011). We analyzed factors related to LBW incorporating the individual (e.g., smoking, drinking,

maternal age) and environmental level factors (e.g., lead poisoning, sexually transmitted diseases, crime data) using county birth certificates data for teenage mothers from 2007 to 2013 ( $n = 966$ ,  $M_{age} = 18.1$ ), analyzed in a multilevel model based on Census Block Group (CBG) areas. The effect of the environment was not significant in the overall model. In the final model, the odds of having a LBW infant were significantly higher for teenage mothers who received fewer months of prenatal care;  $2.26 [CI(.95)1.32, 3.86]$ , indicating teens with less prenatal care were 126% more likely to have a LBW infant. No other individual or environmental factors were significant in the overall model. County level intervention to reduce the LBW should focus on access to prenatal care for pregnant teens.

**6. Title:** Gender Differences in Pay Negotiations During the Initial Offer of Hire

**Authors:** Nathan Davis & Michael Gasser

**Faculty Adviser:** Michael Gasser

Multiple studies on workplace beliefs and behaviors have found differences in wage expectations across genders. An essential component of wage expectations is pay negotiation. In our research, we studied the difference in negotiation between genders when first given a starting salary. The findings have concluded that there are gender differences in pay negotiation. The findings also show that the gender of the interviewer has differing effects between genders. Our study broadens the current research on pay negotiations and raises interesting questions for further studies—particularly the influence of interviewers on prospective employees. Gender differences in pay negotiation should continue to be examined across academic and applied domains so that experts can develop solutions to this discrepancy.

**7. Title:** Associations between romantic relationship attachment and sleep patterns: The moderating role of alcohol

**Authors:** Kellsey R. Forest, Peng Zhang, & Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

**Faculty Adviser:** Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

Associations between sleep patterns and relationship factors like attachment have not been widely explored among adults (Verdecias et al., 2009; Carmichael & Reis, 2005). The purpose of this study was to identify whether secure and insecure patterns of romantic relationship attachment were associated with sleep patterns. Furthermore, a secondary purpose of the study was to explore the moderating role of alcohol consumption in the attachment - sleep quality link. We examined 153 undergraduate students from the University of Northern Iowa. Self-report measures were used to assess key study measures. Preliminary analyses indicated that secure attachment was associated with better sleep quality (i.e., low rates of insomnia, sleepiness, and sleep-wake problems), and insecure attachment was associated with poor sleep quality. Alcohol consumption per week, per month, as well as binge drinking were associated with poor sleep quality. There was support

for the moderating role of alcohol in the insecure attachment (anxiety and avoidance) to daytime sleepiness link. Future research on sleep patterns among college students should emphasize alcohol consumption as it relates to specific types of sleep disorders.

**8. Title:** Priming State Instability: A Pilot Study

**Authors:** Larissa Hall & Nicholas Schwab

**Faculty Adviser:** Nicholas Schwab

Research suggests that increased social, political, and ecological threats result in a stronger adherence to strict norms and less tolerance of deviation in order to better coordinate social behavior under such threats (Gelfand et al., 2011). The current study focuses on reduced political control and its affects on the adherence to social norms. In a pilot study, participants recruited through Amazon's Mechanical Turk read one of two fabricated news articles and graphs: one set describing the United States as corrupt and the other set describing the United States as relatively free of corruption. Corruption was used because it is likely that awareness of corruption would induce a sense of state instability, or a political threat. Participants then answered questions regarding their beliefs about corruption in the United States. It is expected that those who read the article and see the graph depicting the United States as corrupt will indicate that the United States is more corrupt, while those who view the article and graph depicting the United States as uncorrupt will see the United States as uncorrupt. The results of this pilot study will be used to validate the primes as a measure of perception of corruption. If the primes are successful, they will be used as part of a larger study to test political threats and how these threats affect adherence to social norms.

**9. Title:** Bedroom Video Games and Social Functioning in College

**Authors:** Stacie L. Johnson & Shinichi Kogi

**Faculty Adviser:** Douglas Gentile

Video games are a common form of entertainment, and are becoming more so. Half a billion people play video games at least an hour a day, and the average American young adult, by the time s/he turns 21, has spent as many hours gaming as s/he spent in every middle and high school class (McGonigal, 2010). With video games becoming such a pervasive part of life, it is important to consider their possible ramifications on behavior. The purpose of this study is to investigate whether the presence of bedroom video games in high school and in college predicts certain aspects of social functioning in college. Over 530 students from a large Midwestern University participated in the study. The participants filled out three sets of surveys including the "Favorite Media Scale" and the "Social Interaction Survey." We will use regression based analysis to examine the relationship between the presence of bedroom video games in high school and in college, prosocial behavior, physical aggression, and relational aggression.

**10. Title:** Variations in using motion and form information in biological motion perception across tasks and facing

**Authors:** Matthew J. Kessler, Larissa C. Hall, Victoria E. Linnerson, Zheng Li, & Helen C. Harton

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen C. Harton

People with mental health issues often avoid treatment due to stigma associated with mental illness (Rusch, Angermeyer, & Corrigan, 2004). One common stereotype is that people with mental illnesses are violent and more likely to commit serious crimes (Fazel, Lichtenstein, Grann, Goodwin, & Langstrom 2010). Our research question was whether the opposite stereotype holds too—are those who commit violent crimes assumed to be mentally ill? 215 college students and 228 mTurkers read a “news article” describing a murder of a female college student. The articles manipulated the ethnicity of the suspect (name, stated ethnicity, and hometown) and method of death (gun vs. hand strangulation). Participants then rated how likely it was that the suspect was guilty and mentally ill and what a suggested sentence should be. Participants perceived shooters as more likely to be mentally ill and deserving of a lighter sentence than stranglers. White perpetrators were rated as more likely to be mentally ill than those of other races. Liberals agreed more than conservatives that if the perpetrator were mentally ill, he should receive a lighter sentence. People do seem to assume that at least some types of people who commit violent crimes are also mentally ill.

**11. Title:** Disney Movie Consumption and Unrealistic Romantic Expectations

**Authors:** Taylor Koch, Olivia N. Berch, & Allison Bowers

**Faculty Adviser:** Douglas Gentile

Many current college students were born in the 1990’s, a major gateway decade for the rising of media consumption. This led to a concern on the effects of media influence on a child’s understanding of relationship building. It is a common belief that Disney movies produce negative and unrealistic expectations of romantic relationships due to the overly stereotyped main characters. Many studies have been conducted to investigate the influence of movies on romantic expectations but few have looked exclusively at Disney. A study investigating the effects of Disney movies and romantic expectations was conducted to delve further into this topic and to create a deeper understanding of the underlying effects. The study was sent out to 233 college students between 18 and 27 years of age via an online survey. They were asked about their Disney viewing habits and personal beliefs regarding entering and maintaining romantic relationships. The purpose of the study was to draw conclusions between the potential influence of Disney movies and romantic expectations. The study found no significant results to show that viewing Disney movies produced negative or unrealistic expectations on romantic relationships, suggesting that the level of influence is overestimated by society.

**12. Title:** Resilience and Stereotype Threat: An Examination of Math Performance and Self-Efficacy in Men and Women

**Authors:** Victoria Linnerson & Kim MacLin

**Faculty Adviser:** Kim MacLin

The under-representation of women in STEM fields is a serious problem, but one possible explanation is the concept of stereotype threat. Stereotype threat results in one's belief of confirming a negative stereotype about one's group and impacts cognitive performance. Exposure to stereotypes about women not performing as well in math and science as men can result in under performance of women in these tasks. This current study examines stereotype threat on math performance in relation to gender, resiliency, gender-based rejection sensitivity, and self-efficacy. It is hypothesized highly resilient women will have better scores than those who are not as resilient. In addition, it is predicted resilient women will have similar scores as the women who are not primed with gender. Participants will be placed in one of two groups; one group will mark their gender before taking the test, the control group will not. Participants will be presented with 10 moderately difficult math questions and then be measured on resilience, gender-based rejection sensitivity, and self-efficacy. Results are expected to show a connection between better test scores under stereotype threat with resilient women. Future research should examine additional factors in connection with stereotypes and resilience for women in STEM fields.

**13. Title:** Border Crossings of the Heart - Navigating the Transition from Minority to Majority Cultures: A Pilot Study of Young Hearing Adults of Deaf Parents and Young Heterosexual Adults of Gay/Lesbian Parents

**Author:** Melissa E. Mormann

**Faculty Adviser:** Steven J. Onken

"Emerging Adulthood," a distinct period of identity exploration, may be more challenging and stressful for adults who are hearing and raised by Deaf parents or are heterosexual and raised by Lesbian or Gay (L&G) parents. This research explores the crossing of this uncharted border area from minority culture towards an expected assimilation into a majority culture, specifically: Does the concept of emerging adulthood reflect the realities and experiences of adults 18-25 years old? How does being raised by Deaf parents within the Deaf culture when the young adult is hearing impact emerging adulthood development? How does being raised by L&G parents within the L&G culture when the young adult is heterosexual impact emerging adulthood development? Where might the experiences of these two groups intersect, such as possible challenges, stresses and struggles? Is there identity development drift, a lack of sense of fit or belonging in either minority or majority culture or community? What opportunities does this border area provide, that is, what are the helpful strategies and coping mechanisms being developed and used in this crossing? What supports - informational, emotional and instrumental - may be useful for a healthy crossing for these young adults?

**14. Title:** Risk Factors of Sleep Quantity and Quality

**Author:** Dacia K. Oberhelman, Maureen Nolan, & Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

**Faculty Adviser:** Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

Prior research on sleep has revealed that 70 million Americans have some pattern of sleep disorders (CDC, 2013). There are many factors such as stress and negative cognitions that affect one's ability to sleep. In the current study, we examined the role of emotion regulatory and health factors that would disrupt sleep patterns. Participants included 176 undergraduate students at a Midwestern University. The survey inquired about emotion regulatory factors (negative affect, suppression, and hostile attribution bias), overall health conditions (mental health and total health conditions), and the effect of these on sleep (sleep time, sleep quality, sleepiness, sleep-wake problems, and insomnia). Females were more likely to sleep for fewer hours and report poorer quality of sleep (insomnia and daytime sleepiness). Students with higher levels of negative emotions reported disrupted sleep (insomnia and daytime sleepiness), and fewer hours of sleep. Those with mental health conditions had disrupted sleep quantity and quality. Those who reported a higher number of physical health conditions were more likely to experience insomnia. Finally, individuals who reported a hostile attribution bias had greater sleep wake problems. The findings have implications for sleep disorder intervention programs that emphasize better emotion regulatory strategies and promote physical and mental health.

**15. Title:** Applying a biopsychosocial perspective to address hand washing behaviors among young learners in Limpopo, South Africa

**Author:** Kara Poppe, Nicola Bulled, Geoffrey Winegar, Londolani Sitsula, & Khuliso Ramarsitsi

**Faculty Adviser:** Alex Oberle

Despite its perceived simplicity, the promotion of hand washing for disease prevention remains a challenge particularly in resource-limited settings. We report on a quasi-experimental study to measure the independent effect of contextual (resource modifications) and individual-level (education) factors on hand washing behaviors of learners attending two primary schools in Limpopo, South Africa. Resource modifications were made at School A and included improvements in hygiene and sanitation facilities that increased access to soap and water. Subsequently, education programs, developed in collaboration with local educators and focused on hand washing for disease prevention, were delivered at both schools. Observations included total counts of hand washing and hand washing paired with toilet facility use. At School A, significant increases in hand washing occurred following resource modifications (total counts: T0=359, T1=712;  $t=3.61$ ,  $p=0.018$ ). Additional increases in total hand washing behaviors occurred following education (T2=1095,  $t=3.88$ ;  $p=0.015$ ). In contrast, at School B, with education alone smaller increases in total hand washing were observed (T0=249; T1=324;  $t=2.08$ ,  $p=0.065$ ). Resource improvements are necessary in order to promote

disease prevention behaviors such as hand washing. However, education aids to both promote and sustain these behaviors at the individual level. Results confirm that coordinated interventions that address health promoting behaviors at multiple levels are likely to achieve more substantial change.

**16. Title:** Race, Threat, and Criminality: Implications for Decision to Shoot

**Authors:** James Roethler, Olivia Thompson, & Kim MacLin

**Faculty Adviser:** Kim MacLin

Recent shootings involving police officers and unarmed Black men, have sharpened focus on how racial biases impact decisions to shoot. One source of this bias is criminality, the extent to which someone's appearance makes others believe s/he is a criminal. High and low criminality Black and White male targets were evaluated in neutral, negative and positive circumstances. Participants made trait ratings as well as employment and compensation decisions. Results are discussed in terms of sources of bias that may underlie decisions to shoot.

**17. Title:** The Effect of Inversion on Biological Motion Perception Tasks

**Authors:** Jessica Sherbring, Matthew Kessler, & Stephanie Kibby

**Faculty Adviser:** Eric Hiris

Previous studies have shown that inverting a stimulus makes it more difficult to make judgments about that stimulus. For example, when a video of a person walking is inverted, it is much difficult to correctly identify the person's sex. We sought to determine whether this inversion effect applies across different tasks. We displayed points of light representing a person walking and asked participants to judge whether the person was male or female, happy or sad, calm or nervous, or heavy or light. In an initial experiment we determined how much different tasks relied on motion and form information. Results showed that judging sex and weight relied on form more than judgments of emotion. In a second experiment, we determined how much inversion affected performance in each task. Early results from this experiment suggest that judgments about the actor's sex is affected more by inversion than other judgments. These results support and extend recent findings that inversion is particularly disruptive to being able to perceive whether the stimulus represents a male or a female.

**18. Title:** The Impact of Map Quality and Expert Testimony on Juror Decisions

**Authors:** Justin P. Simmons, Valerie Ross, Kim MacLin, & Otto MacLin

**Faculty Adviser:** Otto MacLin

An eyewitness to a crime is sometimes asked to create a cognitive map of the crime scene in terms of placement of buildings, people, and other objects (e.g., exits). Because of the influence these maps may have on juror decision making and the lack of research on this type of evidence, the current study further examines the relationship between eyewitness credibility and sketch maps.

Participants in Study 1 were asked to view a video of a simulated burglary after which they received one of four possible instructions. Results indicated that instructions impacted the quality of the map, but that map quality itself was not related to identification accuracy of the eyewitness. Study 2 explored the role of expert testimony on map quality and its effect on mock jurors' ratings of eyewitness credibility. In conditions with high quality maps, the eyewitness was found more credible and there were more guilty verdicts. Frequency of guilty verdicts also increased in expert-present conditions. Throughout all expert testimony conditions (present and absent), the quality of map was highly influential in both verdict choice and perceived credibility of the eyewitness testimony.

**19. Title:** Substance use stigma of marijuana users: Does contact with marijuana users predict stigma?

**Authors:** Stephanie J. Strong, Mindy N. Guajardo, & Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

**Faculty Adviser:** Dilbur D. Arsiwalla

Stigma affects all aspects of life for those who are subject to stigmatization through social rejection, interpersonal disruption, and broken identity. As contact with stigmatized group's increases, this leads to less stigmatization. One of the most commonly used illegal substances is marijuana. The current study examined the association between the level of familiarity and contact with marijuana users and stigmatized views, as well as the moderating role of gender and race/ethnicity in this association. Furthermore, the study examined whether differences exist for individuals who are similar to the substance user based on ethnicity, gender, and/or socioeconomic status. A sample of 286 undergraduate students from a Midwestern University reported on their level of contact and familiarity with marijuana users, as well as their preferred social distance, perceived dangerousness, and negative emotions toward marijuana users. Findings indicate a strong negative association between the latent indicators of level of familiarity and contact with the level of stigma, even when controlling for income, ethnicity, and gender. Moderation analyses indicate higher overall preferred social distance for females and whites when familiarity and contact are low. Additionally, analyses indicate higher overall perceived dangerousness for females and whites when contact is low. When contact is high, whites have lower perceived dangerousness. Similar results were found for the medium and low income vignettes. Findings have implications for interventions that seek to target anti-stigma attitudes and perceptions.

**20. Title:** Right Wing Authoritarianism and Aggressive Driving

**Authors:** Emily Wetherell & Miranda Grisson

**Faculty Adviser:** Sunde Nesbit

Previous research that has been conducted using the Right Wing Authoritarianism Scale shows that people who score higher on this scale exhibit a higher degree of

aggression toward out-groups. In addition to this, people who exhibit more Authoritarianism are also more likely to express hostility and aggression when aroused (Whitley 1999). This study seeks to further explore authoritarianism and how it is correlated to driving aggression. It is hypothesized that participants that have higher scores on the Right Wing Authoritarianism Scale will also have higher scores on driving aggression due to being aroused in a provoking driving situation. Approximately 75 participants will be surveyed through Amazon Mechanical TURK. Each participant will complete a variety of measures, including the State Anger Scale (Nesbit, Blankenship & Murray, 2011), the Driving Anger Scale (Deffenbacher, Oetting, & Lynch, 1994), a driving survey (adapted from Deffenbacher, Huff, Lynch, Oetting, & Salvatore, 2000), the Trait Anger Scale (Spielberger, 1999), a measure of social dominance orientation (Pratto, Sidanius, Stallworth, & Malle, 1994), a measure of right-wing authoritarianism (Rattazie, Bobbio, & Canova, 2007), and the Dula Dangerous Driving Index (Dula & Ballard, 2003). Data collection is on going at this time; however we expect to find that higher scores of authoritarianism will predict more driving anger, greater likelihood of aggressive behavior and/or negative driving outcomes (tickets, accidents) in the past.

**21. Title:** Gender Differences in Parental Attitudes Towards Traumatic Brain Injuries in Youth Athletes

**Authors:** Kaisee Wiesmueller & Brock Rozich

**Faculty Adviser:** Carolyn Hildebrandt

Traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) have recently become an important topic in today's media. These injuries affect many of our athletes, including those at the youth level. Our research focuses on parental attitudes towards the risks and severity of concussions in youth sports. This research leads us to three hypotheses. In the first hypothesis we predict that concussions will be viewed as more serious and require more preventative behavior when an athlete is female than when an athlete is male. The second hypothesis leads us to predict that parents will treat younger children's injuries more seriously than older children's injuries. The last hypothesis predicts that concussions will be treated less seriously than injuries sustained on other parts of the body. It is important to look at the current knowledge, awareness, and attitudes towards traumatic brain injuries in youth athletes to better inform the public on how to prevent, recognize, and treat them.

# ORAL PRESENTATIONS

## Session 1: 1:30-2:30 PM

Sabin Hall, Room 25

Moderator: Anne Woodrick, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology

**1. Title:** Feeling a Part of the Community: The Socio-Cultural Adaptation Experiences of Saudi Students

**Author:** Kellie C. Petersen

**Faculty Adviser:** Xavier Escandell

This study provides insight into the complexities associated with the enrollment of international students at colleges and universities in the United States within the present social and political climate. It utilizes interviews with international students from Saudi Arabia at a public university in the Midwest. The demographics of the university are skewed toward white students, providing a fruitful backdrop to discuss the socio-cultural adaptation of study participants. It explores institutional aspects of the university, but focuses mostly on the interactions Saudi students have with community members. These include everyday interactions as well as whether Saudi students have acquaintances, friends, etc. who are not from Saudi Arabia. Overall, Saudi students express general satisfaction with their experiences, but encounter difficulties related to an international study experience in general, such as separation from family and friends and adjusting to a different country, as well as an international study experience at the university in this study and in the surrounding town. These stem from the lack of diversity, and manifest specifically in a lack of knowledge about Islam and Saudi Arabia and experience with people from Saudi Arabia among host nationals that contributes to stereotyping, racialization, dominance of the majority culture, and prejudice.

**2. Title:** Internal Political Efficacy, Gender and Vote Choice

**Author:** Rachel M. Gregory

**Faculty Adviser:** Chris Larimer

As of 2014, the United States ranks eightieth in the world for the number of women in Congress (IPU 2014). As a leader in the democratic world, the United States falls behind in promoting women into positions of power. This research attempts to examine this gap from the position of voter selection using an experimental design with eighty-eight university students in which each subject takes part in a hypothetical election. This study connects previous research on gender and vote choice with internal political efficacy by including stereotype formation. Individuals attribute personal deficits and strengths to their gender

group, forming stereotypes about their gender (Oswald and Lindstedt 2006). Therefore, it is hypothesized that women with low internal political efficacy will attribute their lack of confidence to their gender and prefer a male candidate. Along with internal political efficacy and gender, political ideology and opponent gender serve as independent variables. The dependent variable is vote choice. The results of a logit model and chi-square models do not show a significant relationship between any of the independent variables and vote choice, except for political ideology. The results for political ideology are mixed and serve as a point for future research.

**3. Title:** Exploring the Role of Elderly Adults' Internet Usage in Urban China

**Author:** Wang Xia

**Faculty Adviser:** Ga-Young Choi

This study attempts to explore if obstacles and advantages of elderly internet usage models from developed countries could be replicated in the existing Chinese urban elderly care systems. In the past 30 years, China's elderly population has increased rapidly. The traditional pattern of elderly care is encountering a severe challenge linked to current 4-2-1 family structure (four grandparents, two parents, and one child) (Zhang, Gu, & Luo, 2014), due to rapid urbanization, and diminishing government assistance. The topic of elderly care in the changing socioeconomic context of China is a neglected subject. In this paper perspectives and needs of elderly are clarified by analyzing existing urban elderly care models in China. The paper points out that internet usage satisfies social network and health information needs of elderly adults who are relatively healthy, both mentally and physically. The data suggests a combination of family-based support, a community-based support, and an elderly health insurance by the Chinese government significantly impact development of wellbeing policies of elderly in China.

**4. Title:** Painted in Blood. Exploring the landscape and the Romanticism of combat during the American Civil War

**Author:** Alexander Parker Newkirk

**Faculty Adviser:** Brian Roberts

A look at Landscape, and the Romanticism of battle, during the American Civil War This paper aimed to delve into the thoughts of soldiers fighting in the Civil War on the nature of battle. Diaries and memoirs reveal the universal accounts of hardships, terror, and death. Yet amidst the bloodshed there was an appreciation of the "landscape" that the men fought in. This landscape served as an ascetic for glory, and a certain level of romantic air to survive the intense carnage of combat. The landscape became a spiritual context in which to fight, in which men enmeshed their fears, hope, and exultations during battle. My paper explores this relationship men had with their environment, and how in turn it began a strange pseudo conservation effort to maintain these battlefields, as to not lose the

memory that they ingrained on the men who fought in them. I sought to explore this spiritual relationship beyond the physical nature previously and avidly studied by historians when researching the environment and the Civil War.

# ORAL PRESENTATIONS

## Session 2: 1:30-2:30 PM

Sabin Hall, Room 23

Moderator: Dr. Cindy Juby, Social Work

**1. Title:** Perspective-taking as a Moderator of the Relationship between Social Rejection and Altruism

**Author:** Zheng Li

**Faculty Adviser:** Helen Harton

Ninety five students from the University of Groningen were randomly assigned to a condition in a 3 (essay conditions: social rejection, social acceptance, and misfortune control) X 2 (perspective-taking: high versus low) factorial design online study. Participants wrote an essay about an experience of a) being rejected; b) being accepted; or c) misfortune, and then indicated their willingness to help under four scenarios (helping in general, helping a rejected and stigmatized person, helping someone who can be seen as a potential acquaintance, and helping with the risk of negative evaluation) after reading (or not) perspective taking instructions. Results Across the four scenarios, participants in the rejection condition who read perspective-taking instructions showed a higher willingness to help than those in the rejection condition who did not read these instructions. There was not a consistent difference between perspective-taking conditions for those who wrote social acceptance or negative mood essays. Overall, perspective-takers were more willing to help on two of the four scenarios. The effects were not caused by differences in mood or rejection sensitivity.

**2. Title:** Identification of Sluggish Cognitive Tempo Symptoms in Children

**Author:** Rachel E. Meisinger, Micah Webb, Gina M. Sacchetti, Elizabeth K. Lefler

**Faculty Adviser:** Elizabeth K. Lefler

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is the most commonly diagnosed behavioral disorder of childhood, and for most individuals these symptoms and associated impairment persist into adolescence and adulthood. Research suggests that young adults with ADHD face additional challenges during the transition to college compared to their non-ADHD peers, including a greater risk for experiencing psychological distress, more difficulty with peer relationships, lower grades, and higher rates of dropout (Weyandt & DuPaul, 2013). The purpose of the current study is to better understand ADHD-related impairment in college students and to explore the impact of self-handicapping and stigma. Participant recruitment was completed in two phases. Participants in the first phase (n=36) all

had a documented diagnosis of ADHD, and participants in the second phase (n=40) did not. Participants completed self-rating forms related to ADHD symptoms, functional impairment, self-handicapping, and either internalized stigma or outward ADHD stigma. Several t-tests were conducted to compare impairment across groups. As expected, impairment in all domains was significantly greater for individuals with ADHD. Individuals with ADHD also reported engaging in more self-handicapping behaviors. This may represent an important area that can be specifically targeted in interventions for college students with ADHD.

**3. Title:** Cyber Bullying: The Influence of Victimization on Future Perpetration

**Author:** Kelly E. Pulatie

**Faculty Adviser:** Cindy Juby

Cyber bullying is a complex topic that has a variety of components. This literature review attempts to look into a few of these key issues. Cyber bullying perpetrators often have indicators in their past or present life that can influence the likelihood of them becoming cyber bullies such as past victimization, lack of social skills and lack of empathy. Cyber bullying has such an effect on its victims in part due to the anonymity of the internet, the inability of the victim to fully escape the attacks, and inability to constantly monitor activities in the same manner traditional bullying situations are monitored. These factors play into the damaging effect the cyber bullying has on its victims through increased rates of depression, self-harm, and suicidal tendencies. By acknowledging the influence of cyber bullying, the focus can then shift to what can be done to lessen the amount of cyber bullying acts in the future. While there is no easy answer as to what needs to be done, by looking at current laws, prevention and intervention methods being used worldwide, it is possible to see what is helping and how society can move to a future free of cyber bullying attacks.

# PANEL DISCUSSIONS

## 1:30-2:30 PM

### **What Can an Internship Do for You?**

Moderator: Dr. Carolyn Hildebrandt  
Department of Psychology  
Sabin Hall, Room 15

A panel of UNI psychology students will describe their internships and how they helped them to (a) apply their psychological knowledge to the workplace, (b) apply their real-world experiences to the classroom, (c) explore career paths that they might want to pursue, and (d) get a job and/or admission to grad school.

**Nathan Davis:** UNI Eye Tracker Lab

**Kristy Eichenberger:** Friends of the Family

**Shelby Huster:** Peet Junior High School

**Cody Schulte:** Pathways Behavioral Services

**Nina Singh:** Black Hawk Country Court House

**Melanie Steele:** Exceptional Persons, Incorporated

# COFFEE WITH DR. WEAVER

## 2:30-3:00 PM

Please join us for an informal discussion with our Invited Speaker, Dr. Cameron Weaver.

Sabin Hall Lobby