



**Center for Interdisciplinary Writing and Research
Virtual Undergraduate Research Conference 2024
#CIWRVURC2024**

Connecting Minds, Igniting Ideas:



Creating Paths to Student Research Excellence

Opening Address

14:00-14:15 UTC/9:00-9:15 EST

Michael Mallott, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Writing and Research

This brief opening address will highlight the day's events to energize attendees about the conference. We will discuss the goals of the Virtual Undergraduate Research Conference and the work that the Center for Interdisciplinary Writing and Research does. Students, faculty, and the community are all welcome as we kickstart another exciting and informative conference.

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Session 1-Poster

14:30-14:55 UTC/9:30-9:55 EST

Presentation 1 Author(s): Trisha Pitchala, Student, University of South Florida; Claire Flaherty, Student, University of South Florida; Hamraz Abdeho, Student, University of South Florida; Roy Chen, Student, University of South Florida; Ivianeth Borges-Rosado, Student, University of South Florida; Sameera Beharry, Student, University of South Florida; Mahak Punjabi, Student, University of South Florida; Rushikumar Patel, Student, University of South Florida; Rhiannon Gartner, Student, University of South Florida; Olukemi Akintewe, Professor, University of South Florida

Presentation 1 Title: The TAU Protein as a Biomarker in Neurodegenerative Diseases: A Systematic Review

Presentation 1 Abstract: TAU protein stabilizes brain's microtubule structures, yet its abnormal state degrades neurons. This systematic review examines 43 relevant articles out of 320 to assess TAU protein's efficacy as a diagnostic biomarker for six neurodegenerative diseases: Huntington's Disease,

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's Disease, Frontotemporal Dementia, Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, and Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. Although total and phosphorylated TAU's protein levels help diagnose and predict disease progression, future research will maximize TAU protein's diagnostic potential.

Presentation 2 McKenna Perito, Student, University of South Carolina - Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Does social media use contribute to eating disorder symptoms? A
Title: meta-analysis

Presentation 2 Does social media usage contribute to the development of eating
Abstract: disorders? Three studies from PSYCInfo and Google Scholar have measured the relationship between time spent browsing social media platforms and symptoms of eating disorders in users. With a total sample size of $N = 417$, these effect sizes were used to compute the weighted average effect size of the three studies, which was Cohen's $d = 0.73$. Based on this finding, we conclude that social media use moderately contributes to eating disorder symptoms, perhaps through the pathway of social comparison.

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Session 2-Paper

14:30-14:50 UTC/9:30-9:50 EST

Presentation 1 Alexandros Kafkas, Economics Student, Deree - The American College
Author(s): of Greece

Presentation 1 Anthropomorphizing Artificial Intelligence
Title:

Presentation 1 This study deployed an Ultimatum Game to study how humans interact
Abstract: with virtual agents of varying levels of strategic behavior. 18 participants participated in an economic experiment where they played 52 rounds each against virtual and human agents. The aim was

to investigate whether the perceived intelligence of computers can influence human social responses and if such responses can be characterized as anthropomorphic.

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Session 3-Paper-Poster

15:00-15:25 UTC/10:00-10:25 EST

Presentation 1 Isabella Serra, Student, University of Central Florida

Author(s):

Presentation 1 The Effectiveness of Chaga Mushroom Extract to Reduce Oxidative

Title: Stress in *C. elegans*.

Presentation 1 Abstract: Oxidative stress affects humans globally and is caused by free radicals that come from air/industrial pollution and chemicals and have been found to have a role in the development of diseases over the past two decades. Oxidative stress can lead to a wide range of chronic illnesses including diabetes, neurodegenerative diseases, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases which according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention causes the deaths of 659,000 people in the United States every year. The reduction of oxidative stress can be achieved through the replacement of antioxidative mechanisms and chaga mushrooms have been found to have a high antioxidative content and potential for reducing oxidative stress. The experiment consisted of culturing the nematode *C. elegans* and inducing oxidative stress into them through a heat treatment. Prior to the heat treatment, the experimental groups received chaga mushroom extract. Trial one resulted in no survival among all four plates of *C. elegans* following the heat treatment. Trial two showed results of survival among all plates of *C. elegans*. Trial three showed results of decreased motility, paralysis,

and death of the *C. elegans* on the H₂O control plate and normal/fast motility of the *C. elegans* on the chaga extract experimental plates. The results of the third trial do align with previous research but further studies should be done involving cells and even humans to solidify these conclusions.

Presentation 2 Ken Phong Dao (Student/Presenter)¹, Qianxing Mo(Professor)², Eric Author(s): Padron(Professor)², Paulo Rodriguez(Professor)², Timothy Shaw(Professor)² ¹University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, ²Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL

Presentation 2 Identifying Hallmark Cellular Stress Pathways in TET2 Mutated Patients Title: using BEAT AML data

Presentation 2 BACKGROUND: TET2 loss of function mutation has been associated with Abstract: the upregulation of inflammatory mediators such as IL6 and is a primary biomarker for chronic myelomonocytic leukemia development (CMML). CMML can transform into acute myeloid leukemia (AML), affecting roughly 30% of all CMML patients. The unfolded protein response is critical in regulating normal hematopoiesis and cellular expansion. Given the active proliferative nature of AML blast, ER stress plays a cytoprotective role during proliferation.

RESEARCH QUESTION: We hypothesize that dysregulation of the ER stress response or an unresolved protein stress will cross-talk with inflammation in AML.

METHODS: The BEAT AML database was used. The median gene expression of EIF2AK3 was identified. Patients with TET2 mutation were identified and dichotomized into a high or low EIF2AK3 gene expression group based on whether expression fell above or below the median. Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) was performed on the two groups.

RESULTS: We performed a GSEA and found that hallmark inflammatory response was downregulated in patients with low PERK (EIF2AK3) expression and TET2 mutation (NES = -2.09, p = 1.41e-08). Conversely, hallmark inflammatory response was upregulated in patients with high PERK (EIF2AK3) expression and absent TET2 mutation (NES = 2.24, p = 1e-10), suggesting a context-dependent effect of TET2 mutation on regulating the cross-talk between inflammation and PERK expression.

CONCLUSION: Our preliminary highlights the heterogeneity of the AML cells and the importance of their mutation status in regulating their cellular state. A more thorough analysis is ongoing, which will be presented at the conference.

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Session 4-Poster

15:00-15:25 UTC/10:00-10:25 EST

Presentation 1 Joe Nava, Student, University of South Carolina Beaufort

Author(s):

Presentation 1 How strongly related is problematic internet use with agreeableness?

Title:

Presentation 1 Abstract: As internet use became ubiquitous in our society, there may be some people in your life personally affected by addiction to the internet and that may affect their personality. One way to gauge this is to see how strongly related problematic internet use is with agreeableness. Using Google scholar, I found four empirical studies that measured both problematic internet use and the big five personality traits, with a total sample size of $N = 8,927$. I harvested the correlations from the studies and computed the weighted average correlation. Agreeableness is moderately correlated with problematic internet use ($r = 0.26$).

Presentation 2 Jeffrey "Zach" Helms, Student, Florida State University; Colleen

Author(s): Gruzewski, Student, Florida State University; Dr. Chris Patrick, Professor, Florida State University

Presentation 2 A Comparison of Measures in the Analysis of Psychopathy in CEOs

Title:

Presentation 2 Abstract: While research on psychopathy has long focused on criminal offenders, a gap exists involving psychopathy in those with workforce-related success. This study focuses on psychopathic characteristics of CEOs

through the Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (LSRP) and Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM) in "thin slice" observation. This study's goal is to look at rater reliability, relationships between rating scales, and clustered CEO data for statistical significance.

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Session 5-Poster

15:30-15:50 UTC/10:30-10:50 EST

Presentation 1 Berk Balkir, Undergraduate Researcher, Cornell University

Author(s):

Presentation 1 Feline Disease Genetic Investigation

Title:

Presentation 1 Feline Chronic Gingivostomatitis (FCGS) is an immune-mediated, oral
Abstract: mucosal inflammatory disease of cats with a prevalence range of 0.7%-12%. In this project, FCGS was investigated by examining structural variants in whole genome sequence data from 13 affected cats. Specifically, I used Integrative Genomics Viewer, a tool for visualization of genomic data, to manually inspect genomes of affected cats.

Presentation 2 Jasmin Pruthi, Student, University of South Florida

Author(s):

Presentation 2 The Depiction of ALS in "The Theory of Everything"

Title:

Presentation 2 "The Theory of Everything" is a 2014 biographical drama film directed by James Marsh. The portrayal of the disability, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), its accuracy within the film, and its influence on scientist Stephen Hawking's life is examined. The research delves into the difficulties created by Hawking's motor neuron illness (ALS) and his perseverance in pursuing significant scientific discoveries. The plot of the film also questions social notions of disability by demonstrating the power of intelligence above physical limits. While the film does not depict every aspect of Hawking's life, it does demonstrate the various challenges those diagnosed with ALS may face. Moreover, the portrayal of ALS is generally accurate, depicting the gradual loss of motor control and the transformative role of assistive technology. Overall, the film gives a comprehensive analysis of the various elements of living with a severe physical impairment, focusing on the complexity and strengths that emerge in the face of hardship. The poster concludes by prompting the idea of how Stephen Hawking's life has influenced our understanding of disability, perseverance, and the human spirit.

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Session 6-Poster

15:30-15:50 UTC/10:30-10:50 EST

Presentation 1 Alexandria Miller, student, University of South Carolina in Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 1 12 Step Programs and Long-Term Sobriety: A meta-analysis
Title:

Presentation 1 Alcohol is by far the most common drug of abuse in America, and alcohol abuse is most commonly treated with 12-step programs. How effective are 12-step programs at creating long-term sobriety? Using Google Scholar, I found five empirical studies that assessed effectiveness of 12-step programs with a total sample size N = 1,110. I

harvested data from these studies and computed the weighted average effect size Cohen's d. These programs are only moderately effective, Cohen's d =0.46, or said another way, people who participate in 12-step programs are 2.30 times more likely to stop drinking than people who do not.

Presentation 2 Julia Owens, Student, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Work Schedule and Quality of Life: A Meta-Analysis
Title:

Presentation 2 How does your work schedule affect your quality of life? I utilized three
Abstract: studies, found using Google Scholar, that measured quality of life in people working night shifts compared to daytime shifts. The total sample size of the three studies was N = 681. Using data harvested from these studies I computed the weighted average effect size and identified a moderate relationship between quality of life and work schedule. This may indicate a need for greater support and more resources being provided to employees based on their work schedule.

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Session 7-Poster

16:00-16:20 UTC/11:00-11:20 EST

Presentation 1 Olivia Joi Harless, (Student) and Dr. Amy Skinner, (Professor) Department
Author(s): of History, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Shelton State Community College; Coriel O. Cameron, Student, Department of Engineering, The University of Alabama

Presentation 1 Mental Health Implications from Burnout and Compassion Fatigue in
Title: Clergy: A Review of Literature

Presentation 1 This meta-analysis provides a brief overview of literature focusing on the
Abstract: mental health implications of burnout and compassion fatigue on clergy. Increasing knowledge about pastoral burnout and fatigue can

aid in development of clergy assistance programs aimed specifically at reducing stressors and boosting morale, thereby lowering symptoms of occupational burnout.

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Session 8-Poster/Paper

16:00-16:20 UTC/11:00-11:20 EST

Presentation 1 Tresharna Bitler-Gray, Student, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 1 The Contribution of Sexual Trauma to Mental Health Disorders
Title:

Presentation 1 Sexual trauma is a prevalent problem in our society with diverse effects on the mental health of victims. The purpose of this meta-analysis is to quantify the strength of those effects. I analyzed 5 published studies (N = 64,558) that reported the correlation between sexual trauma and mental health outcomes like depression, anxiety, and PTSD. The reported data was then converted to correlation coefficient. The resulting weighted average, $r = .15$, suggests that as trauma was more severe, mental health outcomes are worse, but this is only small effect size. Future research is encouraged to evaluate the effectivity of therapy for victims of sexual trauma and their coping habits.

Presentation 2 German Navarro, Student, Florida State University; Jeffrey "Zach" Helms, Student, Florida State University; Dorota Kossowska-Kuhn, Professor, Florida State University
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Correlating Depression, Anxiety, and Stress with Spatial Navigation Skills
Title:

Presentation 2 Existing literature suggests associations between diagnosed anxiety and depression and deficits in spatial navigation and orientation. The present study aims to investigate correlation between spatial
Abstract:

navigation skills and core symptoms related to Depression, Anxiety, and Stress through the DASS21. Spatial skills are assessed using the Spatial Orientation Test (SOT) and Directions & Orienting Assessment (DORA). We hypothesize individuals scoring higher on the DASS21 will perform less effectively on spatial navigation tests, irrespective of age and gender.

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Session 9-Paper/Poster

16:30-16:50 UTC/11:30-11:50 EST

Presentation 1 Maria Gonzalez, Student, University of Central Florida; Nelson Roque, Author(s): Ph.D., Assistant Professor, The Pennsylvania State University

Presentation 1 Beyond Words: Unveiling the Complexities of Bilingualism through Self- Title: Report

Presentation 1 This presentation unveils a comprehensive study on bilingualism, Abstract: engaging 177 participants nationwide via Prolific to utilize the Bilingual Language Profile. Our analysis delves into motivations and variables influencing language acquisition, evaluating self-perceptions of language dominance across history, usage, proficiency, and attitudes. We aim to illuminate the intricate dynamics of bilingualism and its impacts on individuals' lives and advocate for holistic methodologies that enhance language learning research.

Presentation 2 Elena Lamoru, Student, Florida State University & Monique Harris, MS,Ed, Author(s): Florida State University, Florida Center for Reading Research

Presentation 2 Achievement Gaps: Exploring Factors Shaping Black Adolescents' Title: Reading Comprehension

Presentation 2 Much inequality in educational achievement is disproportionately Abstract: found among racialized conditions. The aim of this study is to succinctly identify latent factors that contribute to these comprehensive disparities. We'll explore both developmental factors pertinent to Black

adolescents as well as school factors that may influence reading achievement with the hope of bridging that gap.

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Session 10-Poster

16:30-16:50 UTC/11:30-11:50 EST

Presentation 1 Kathlene Scalia, Student, University of South Carolina - Beaufort; Richard Author(s): Osbaldiston, Professor

Presentation 1 Exploring Anger's Impact on Life Satisfaction
Title:

Presentation 1 What relationship does relatively short-term emotional states have on Abstract: our overall long-term emotional states. For example, does the state of anger affect our overall satisfaction with life. A meta-analysis of 2854 participants revealed a moderate negative correlation ($r = -0.21$) between anger and life satisfaction. This moderate negative relationship suggests that higher levels of anger are associated with lower life satisfaction. Understanding this correlation sheds light on the intricate interplay between emotional states and overall well-being, emphasizing the importance of managing anger for a more fulfilling life

Presentation 2 Jalia Fields, student, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Does Pilates help reduce back pain?
Title:

Presentation 2 How strongly is doing Pilates related to reduced back pain? Using Abstract: credible sources, such as Google Scholar, I have found five studies written by researchers that did experiments to figure out if Pilates reduce back pain. The total sample size from the five studies is $N=284$. After harvesting correlations from the studies and computing the weighted average correlation, I found that doing Pilates strongly correlated with reduced back pain.

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Brown Bag Discussion

17:00-17:45 UTC/12:00-12:45 EST

Crowing about research accomplishments: How curious birds can be used as an example of creative solutions for obstacles to student research

Michael Mallott, Ph.D., Facilitator

Bring your lunch and sit and chat with students, faculty, and others interested in increasing student research activity. We'll be discussing outside-the-box ideas related to student research. The conversation will focus especially on exploring ways to overcome resource limitations, student apathy, and other obstacles that hinder student research.

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Session 11-Poster

18:00-18:20 UTC/13:00-13:20 EST

Presentation 1 Bethany Nieves, Student, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Anxiety contributing to low quality sleep: A meta-analysis
Title:

Presentation 1 With anxiety becoming one of the largest mental health needs of
Abstract: school-aged children, and the known undesirable consequences of lack of sleep, I was interested in knowing if there is a relationship between sleep quality and anxiety. To determine this, I located 4 studies in Google Scholar that provided data on this relationship (N = 5571). The weighted average effect size is $r = .05$, but the pattern in the data is less clear. The largest study showed a very weak relationship, one study showed a moderate positive relationship, and another study showed a strong negative relationship. The nature of the relationship between sleep and anxiety warrants more research.

Presentation 2 Kimyah Charles, student, Daytona State College and Dr. Michael
Author(s): Mallott, Professor, Daytona State College

Presentation 2 Anxiety and Political Attitudes: The Role of Race in Moderating the
Title: Relationship between Anxiety and Political Attitudes

Presentation 2 A limited amount of research has examined how anxiety may be
Abstract: related to political attitudes. In this study, students completed measure of clinical anxiety and political attitudes. We explored the relationship between these two variables and how this relationship was affected by race. We discuss the implications of these findings on our understanding of the formation of political attitudes.

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Session 12-Poster

18:00-18:20 UTC/13:00-13:20 EST

Presentation 1 Octavia Thomas, UCSB

Author(s):

Presentation 1 Happy Wife, Happy Life

Title:

Presentation 1 Abstract: There is a saying “Happy wife, happy Life.” But are married people actually happier than people who are not married? To answer this question, I located four studies with a total sample size $N = 2207$. For each study, I compute Cohen's d comparing people who are married to not married on their self-reported happiness. The weighted average Cohen's $d = 0.68$, which is considered a moderate-to-strong effect. In conclusion, people who are married report being happier than those who are not married.

Presentation 2 Katherine S. Froozan, Student, University of South Florida

Author(s):

Presentation 2 Evaluating Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Effectiveness on Adolescents with Depression and Anxiety

Presentation 2 Abstract: This study delves into the effectiveness of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for adolescents facing mental health challenges, specifically anxiety and depression. In an era marked by growing concerns over adolescents' mental health, understanding the impact of CBT on psychologically developing adolescents is essential. We aim to assess how well CBT works in reducing symptoms of depression and anxiety—the two prevalent mental disorders among teens. Our focus is on the long-lasting effects of CBT, aiming to provide valuable insights for clinicians, parents, and researchers on its benefits for sustained mental health in adolescents. Reviewing studies on 10-19-year-olds, we found that CBT's immediate benefits might not always be apparent. However, long-term follow-ups have shown a significant reduction in symptoms, pointing towards CBT's enduring positive impact. These outcomes highlight the need to explore why results vary over time. Understanding these differences can help refine CBT approaches, ensuring they are more effective. This research not only evaluates CBT's efficacy but also advocates for evidence-based approaches to adolescent mental health care, aiming to enhance treatment strategies.

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Session 13-Poster-Paper**18:30-18:50 UTC/13:30-13:50 EST**

Presentation 1 Riya Choksi, Student, University of South Florida, William Harrison,
Author(s): Student, University of South Florida

Presentation 1 Strokes of Serenity: Exploring the Therapeutic Impact of Art and
Title: Discourse on Anxiety in College Students

Presentation 1 As art discourse becomes prevalent, the inquiry-based teaching
Abstract: method of Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) is being increasingly used to
improve one's ability to describe, analyze, interpret, and use critical
thinking skills. To understand how VTS can be beneficial to college
students, researchers conducted surveys to art museum-attending
college students. College students experience high levels of stress and
anxiety, and this project aims to learn if art discourse can be used to
alleviate these negative emotions.

Presentation 2 William Robertson Glaser, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 War tech dynamics: Interviews with military personnel in the Ukraine-
Title: Russian conflict with historical comparisons .

Presentation 2 The goal of this project is to research the shifts in new military
Abstract: technological usage in the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine and how it
has shifted from prior Russian and western conflicts. This study is based
on semi-structured interviews with Ukrainian and American military
personnel to identify what they see as having changed in this conflict
from prior ones. This project will compare the patterns of their
responses, to identify the themes of perceived shifts that occurred.
Going forward, this research can hopefully build an understanding of
what technologies have helped.

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Session 14-Poster

18:30-18:50 UTC/13:30-13:50 EST

Presentation 1 Jenalyn Ormita, Psychology Honours Student, Mount Royal University
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Informed Consent in Online Settings: The Effects of Delivery Format and
Title: Form Length

Presentation 1 Prospective research participants often neglect consent forms,
Abstract: jeopardizing the ethical principle of informed consent. This problem is exacerbated in online settings and as consent forms become longer. Using a sample of undergraduate students, this study utilizes a 2 x 3 between-subjects experimental design to test two interventions for online consent forms. The results of this study serve to increase our knowledge of the informed consent process and the variables that help or hinder this process.

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Session 15-Poster

19:00-19:20 UTC/14:00-14:20 EST

Presentation 1 Kirsta Thomson, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Author(s):

Presentation 1 The Correlation of Technology and Mental Health
Title:

Presentation 1 The correlation between mental health and technology has not
Abstract: received as much attention in research as some believe it should have. In the current study, we examined this relationship to help understand the connection and speculate on how technology may contribute to mental health symptoms.

Presentation 2 Isabella Marcon, Student, University of Central Florida; Julie Hall,
Author(s): Graduate Mentor and Student, University of Central Florida; Steven Berman, Professor, University of Central Florida

Presentation 2 Exploring Coping Mechanisms, Adjustment, and Attachment in
Title: Resilience to Loss on Grief Experiences

Presentation 2 This literature review explores the interplay of loss, grief, coping
Abstract: mechanisms, and attachment dynamics, providing insights into factors promoting resilience. By emphasizing flexible adaptation and pragmatic coping, our review examines components fostering resilience amid loss. Drawing from attachment theory, we explore how early caregiving experiences shape individuals' coping abilities and recognize the enduring impact on emotional connections and relationships. This literature review aims to contribute to a nuanced understanding of navigating the challenges of grief.

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Session 16-Poster

19:00-19:20 UTC/14:00-14:20 EST

Presentation 1 Jhanavi Sabharwal, Student, University of South Florida; Valerie Vargas
Author(s): Ardila, Student, University of South Florida; Roy Chen, Student, University
of South Florida; Irene Hurst, Faculty Mentor, University of South Florida

Presentation 1 Strategies to Enhance the Affordability of Hospice and Palliative Care
Title: Services

Presentation 1 Healthcare affordability in the USA is crucial for vulnerable populations,
Abstract: especially for elderly people that need hospice and palliative care. This
study addresses these challenges by analyzing NIH data and
performing systematic review of research across three electronic
databases. Against key barriers of high costs, insufficient education,
and disparities in care, this study proposes bundled payments,
enhanced education, and periodic care evaluation. Enhancing
palliative and hospice care will significantly improve patients' and
families' well-being.

Presentation 2 Macie Ellis, Student, University of South Carolina Beaufort.
Author(s):

Presentation 2 A Correlational Study: Social Media & Self-Esteem
Title:

Presentation 2 There is a concern that social media use has a negative effect on self-
Abstract: esteem, but how strong is this relationship? Using Google Scholar, I
found five empirical studies that reported the relationship between
social media and self-esteem (total sample size $N = 36,277$). There is a
weak to moderate relationship between social media use and self-
esteem ($r = -0.17$), which indicates that as social media use increases,
self-esteem decreases. This research has important implications for
working with low self-esteem children.

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Session 17-Poster/Paper

19:30-19:50 UTC/14:30-14:50 EST

Presentation 1 Roy Chen, Student, University of South Florida; Gregory McCreery,
Author(s): Professor, University of South Florida

Presentation 1 The Morality of Human Euthanasia
Title:

Presentation 1 Human euthanasia, or the consensual ending of a patient's life to
Abstract: alleviate suffering, provokes moral controversies. While active
euthanasia achieves death through lethal methods, passive
euthanasia achieves death through withholding treatments. This study
explores how moral frameworks, including the Hippocratic Oath,
Kantian deontology, and Mill's utilitarianism, evaluate active and
passive euthanasia. The Hippocratic Oath guides physicians' actions.
Whereas Kantian deontology examines human euthanasia's rationality,
utilitarianism analyzes human euthanasia's consequences to determine
its morality.

Presentation 2 Katia Destine, Student, University of Central Florida
Author(s):

Presentation 2 How to Buy an Oscar: Hollywood's racialized currency, symbolic
Title: annihilation, and false meritocracy

Presentation 2 In 2015, Media strategist April Reign coined #Oscarsowwhite, sparking
Abstract: conversation over the Oscars' lack of diversity. For decades, the Oscars
has had a contentious relationship with Black performers, narratives,
and audiences. In this qualitative study, I argue that the Oscars are not
based on merit but are bought through Hollywood's racialized
currency, symbolic annihilation, and false meritocracy. The Oscar's
hegemonic practices create an ecosystem of exclusion and hostility,
making the industry inaccessible for underrepresented creatives.

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Session 18- Paper/Poster

20:00-20:20 UTC/15:00-15:20 EST

Presentation 1 Nathan Capp, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Amoeba awareness in Florida: unveiling the knowledge gaps and
Title: bringing awareness to amoeba and primary amebic
meningoencephalitis

Presentation 1 Naegleria fowleri, a deadly amoeba, causes Primary Amebic
Abstract: Meningoencephalitis (PAM). In warm regions like Florida, amoebas
thrive, leading to common infections. A Central Florida survey targeting
adults (18+) showed limited awareness of PAM. 75% mistook amoeba
for bacteria, and 78% feared swimming due to it. Post-education,
understanding improved, revealing significant gaps. This support
expanding educational initiatives statewide, aiming to increase
awareness and explore research avenues for amoeba-related
infections and treatments

Presentation 2 Aditya Dronadula Student Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 The Application of the Random Forest Model and Data Optimization to
Title: Predict the Spread of Future Contagious Diseases

Presentation 2 This research is on the use of the random forest machine learning model
Abstract: and data optimization to predict the spread of viruses. The study aims
to improve the accuracy of predicting infectious disease spread using
machine learning, specifically focusing on optimizing the Random
Forest model. Different data points will be used to help optimize the
model. The results show high accuracy in early prediction but low
accuracy later in the prediction time frame.

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Session 19- Poster

20:00-20:20 UTC/15:00-15:20 EST

Presentation 1 Nicole Allenick, Student, Dr.Neil Charness, Florida State University
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Spatial Navigation Skills in Alzheimer's Disease – A Meta-analysis.
Title:

Presentation 1 The objective is to evaluate the degree to which individuals with AD
Abstract: exhibit cognitive underperformance compared to cognitively healthy
older individuals in spatial navigation tasks. Hedge's g, a standardized
mean difference, serves as the measure of effect size in this assessment.
Notably, characteristics of articles such as title, year of publication,
country of study, and authors are considered along with demographic
variables (education, age, and gender), way of test administration
(real-world, virtual reality), AD criteria, and type of measure
(time/accuracy).

Presentation 2 William Swisher, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 From Soil to Scales: An Examination of Environmental Influences on
Title: Northern Curly-Tailed Lizard Behavior

Presentation 2 Understanding how invasive ectotherms behave based on
Abstract: temperature is something that needs to be understood because of the
increasing temperature of our planet. This project helps show the link
between the thermoregulatory behaviors of the invasive northern curly-
tailed lizard and the soil temperature of its environment. GIS was used
to show predictions of possible expansion of the species in Florida using
the gathered soil temperature data and referencing it with data from
NOAA.

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Session 20- Paper/Poster

20:30-20:50 UTC/15:30-15:50 EST

Presentation 1 Joshua Mueller, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Preserving Indigenous Languages on Reservations: Perspectives of the
Title: Florida Seminole & Miccosukee

Presentation 1 This project is to address the gap in literature for language preservation
Abstract: efforts of Tribes of Florida. Semi-structured interviews with Seminole and
Miccosukee citizens are being held to gain perspective with questions
based on common themes in language preservation literature. The
Tribes' cultures are tied to sovereignty for their history of evading military
removal efforts. Today, the Tribes own highly lucrative casinos. It is
expected these factors will affect the needs of the Tribes.

Presentation 2 Elise Elwell, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Effect of Bear Management Areas on Black Bear-Human Interactions in
Title: Seminole County

Presentation 2 Datasets from FWC were analyzed to find the number of calls from
Abstract: suburban residents reporting bears and the number of times the FWC
removed bears in Seminole and Volusia counties. Seminole had a trash
ordinance, and both used bear-resistant trashcans. F-tests comparing
the variability before and after 2015 revealed a significant difference in
the variability for both. Bear resistant trashcans may have significantly
increased the stability and predictability of bear-human conflicts in
both counties.

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Session 21- Paper/Poster

20:30-20:50 UTC/15:30-15:50 EST

Presentation 1 Nicholas Walsh, student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Application of a Thermoelectric Generator to Utilize Waste Heat from
Title: an Internal Combustion Engine Exhaust Pipe

Presentation 1 Internal combustion engines (ICEs) produce greenhouse gases with low
Abstract: efficiency due to waste heat. This research tested the production of energy by a thermoelectric generator (TEG) using this waste heat and a heat sink subjected to airflow. Various RPM levels were tested with constant airflow, the maximum output obtained was 2.06 volts at 3000 RPM. The usage of a TEG on ICEs is a simple way to increase efficient energy usage, converting to usable work.

Presentation 2 Ishani Chanda, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 Development of an Optical Wear Prototype Using LiDAR Technology
Title: Targeted as a Course-Specific Navigational Aid for the Visually Impaired

Presentation 2 The engineering goal of this project is to use LiDAR technology and
Abstract: apply it to optical wear as a means of enabling the visually impaired community to blend in and hopefully improve quality of life as it reduces physical dependence. Said device will provide a means to evaluate the efficiency of using an alternative source to detect objects rather than relying on a cane or a support animal which are both primarily restricted to ground-level detection. This is achieved essentially using a pair of goggles that is embedded with a LiDAR sensor in the bridge alongside a microprocessor, a 9V battery pack, and a mini speaker module in a compact compartment on the frames. As the prototype approaches an object, frequencies rise in pitch to alert the risk of collision. Similarly, the pitch lowers as the distance between the two increases.

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Session 22- Paper/Poster

21:00-21:20 UTC/16:00-16:20 EST

Presentation 1 Yosef Mohaisen, Student, Oviedo High School; William Furiosi, AP
Author(s): Research Teacher, Oviedo High School.

Presentation 1 Utilizing ARIMA Models Predictions of Flu Type A, B, And Covid-19
Title: Infections Within The U.S.

Presentation 1 This project aims to determine the efficacy of COVID-19 and Flu
Abstract: infection forecast via ARIMA. To determine the viability of ARIMA in viral
forecast, the model was compared to an LSTM model being fed the
same CDC and JHU datasets. The performances of both models
supported ARIMA's superiority and displayed the potential of ARIMA in
viral forecast as the ARIMA model had a higher accuracy of predicted
infections when compared to the given data set.

Presentation 2 Victoria Krupica, Student, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 2 From Canopies to Crypts: An Ecological Survey of the Little Big Econ
Title: State Forest

Presentation 2 This study is a comprehensive survey of the distribution and success of
Abstract: the Ophiocordyceps camponoti floridani in the Little Big Econ State
Forest. Population distribution and development of a fruiting body were
compared to ecological factors such as biting substrate or height off
the ground to determine if any correlations were present. It was found
that the fungus was found predominantly on Tillandsia bartramii. The
success of the fungus was found to correlate with height and substrate
type.

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Session 23- Paper/Poster

21:00-21:20 UTC/16:00-16:20 EST

Presentation 1 Delaney Egger, Oviedo High School
Author(s):

Presentation 1 Using Organic Alternatives to Fertilizer to Correct Potassium-Deficient
Title: Spodosol Soils

Presentation 1 Abstract: Chemical fertilizers are known to cause harmful effects to humans, such as cancer and other chronic diseases. Unfortunately, Florida soils are deficient in nutrients, such as potassium, so there is a need for fertilizers. Most research for organic alternatives is towards composting, however, composting has its flaws, such as storage concerns. This experiment aimed to find different organic alternatives, dried spinach and banana powders, to fertilizer to aid in plant growth.

Presentation 2 Author(s): Gargi Paranjape, Student, Oviedo High School

Presentation 2 Title: Coagulation and Flocculation Coupled with Ion Exchange as an Alternative to Biologically Active Filtration (BAF) and Ozone for Direct Potable Reuse: Year 2

Presentation 2 Abstract: Recent advances are investigating the use of ozone + biologically active filtration (BAF) for dissolved organic carbon removal for direct potable reuse (DPR). This study focuses on comparing coagulation + flocculation as a pretreatment to magnetic ion exchange (MIEX) to ozone + BAF. Jar testing experiments were conducted to generate the optimum doses – 5 ml/L for MIEX, and 150 mg/L of Al³⁺ for coagulation. Additional trials showed that coagulation and flocculation pretreatment showed promising results.

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