

CAPSTONE FESTIVAL



In the early days of Mary Baldwin Seminary, a Capstone Festival of sorts existed.

“All final examinations were held in public and members of the board of trustees and the townspeople attended to view students parse sentences, do intricate math problems, and recite soliloquies,” writes Professor Emerita of History Patricia H. Menk in her book *To Live in Time; The Sesquicentennial History of Mary Baldwin College 1842–1992*.

By the late 1800s, the practice of public recitations had disappeared. In 2006, Mary Baldwin College inaugurated a new Capstone Festival.

At each year’s festival, a select group of students, nominated by faculty, present their senior, honors, and special projects to the MBC community and the general public. The high quality and breadth of research, scholarship, and creative activities on display is a testament to the legacy of those earlier years and a celebration of our future.

The festival is sponsored by the Advisory Board of Visitors, the Office of Sponsored Programs and Undergraduate Research, and the Committee on Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity.

FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS

BRITTANIE DANIELA BAUGHMAN-ROVIRA

Project and Academic Advisor: Claire Kent
Type of Project: Senior Project
Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: An Analysis of Microsoft

Abstract: Brittanie's analysis focuses on Microsoft's sustainability initiatives and practices in international markets within the context of its historical performance and enormous strength in the industry. A look at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats Microsoft faces completes the project.

Biography: Brittanie Baughman-Rovira grew up in New Orleans and is majoring in business administration. She is interested in sustainability and intends on attending graduate school following graduation.

LUCY ANN BILLITER

Project and Academic Advisor: John L. Kibler, III

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Poster

Title: Factors in Decision Making

Abstract: This study examines factors in decision making. Under differing experimental conditions, participants in two groups completed a survey pertaining to decision making. Data from these surveys were analyzed using a *t*-test. A significant difference between the two groups is hypothesized, and results so far are inconclusive.

Biography: Lucy Ann Billiter is a senior majoring in psychology, with an emphasis in mental health work, and minoring in business administration. Born in Massachusetts, Lucy grew up in Maryland and will return to Towson University in the fall to begin work on her MA in clinical psychology.

ALICIA BORTONE

Project Advisor: Claire Kent

Academic Advisor: Janet Ewing

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: Olay

Abstract: Alicia's project provides an in-depth analysis of the Olay Company, including its finances, marketing, management, social responsibility, environmental responsibility, and information regarding the industry in which it competes. A SWOT analysis to identify the company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and recommendations for the company completes the study.

Biography: Alicia Bortone is a marketing communication major with minors in leadership and sociology. Her hometown is Waldorf, Maryland. Alicia served as an Honor Council representative (2007-08); a Relay for Life participant (2006-2009); co-chair for the Physical Plant (2007-2009); and Vice President of the Student Government Association and President of the Senate (2008-2009). She is currently employed in the Student Life Office under the supervision of Lisa Wells.

ELIZABETH DATTILIO

Project and Academic Advisor: Alice Araujo

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: "I'm So Sorry:" A Thematic Analysis of Bereavement Support Communication

Abstract: Elizabeth's study examines the ways in which people comfort or provide social support to bereaved individuals. Much of the literature currently published in this area focuses only on bereaved individuals and their experiences with loss, comforting messages, and coping strategies. In order to gain insight regarding the comforter's perspective, Elizabeth conducted a thematic analysis of several in-depth interviews and a focus group. She examined participants' actual experiences with comforting acts toward the bereaved in an attempt to provide a deeper understanding of social support techniques and tendencies in the area of bereavement and grief.

Biography: Elizabeth Dattilio is a communication major from Staunton, Virginia, with a double minor in studio art and marketing communication. She has been accepted to Virginia Commonwealth University's graduate school. She will be attending in the fall to begin her master's in social work with the goal to become a licensed clinical social worker. Elizabeth's study is dedicated to her father, Michael Dattilio, who passed away in May, 2008.

AUBREY ANGELIQUE DE CHEUBELL

Project Advisor: Nancy Ross

Academic Advisor: Paul Ryan

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Visual or Audio-Visual Creation

Title: Crafting Content

Abstract: Aubrey's works record her desire to understand contemporary craft theory. Through her project, she crafted two distinct series as responses to formal criticism, each representing unique perspectives on the role of ceramics within contemporary art. The series falls ambiguously between classification as art or craft. Through a careful manipulation of form and function, Aubrey's work challenges viewers to consider at what point objects transition from craft items to art objects.

Project Advisor: Marlena Hobson

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: Abstract Expressionist Ceramics: A Catalyst for a New Dialog within Ceramic Art

Abstract: Ceramics has developed rapidly over the past hundred years. Beginning with traditional folk pottery at the turn of the century and arriving at conceptual installation works as early as the 1970s, ceramics shifted radically from craft-based items to fine art objects. This senior thesis identifies the significance of Abstract Expressionist ceramics as a pivotal moment within the development of twentieth-century ceramic art. The works represented within this

movement demonstrate a shift in the understanding and creation of ceramics by distancing form from function, invariably establishing a new conceptual dialog within ceramic art.

Biography: Aubrey Angelique de Cheubell is an art history and studio art (ceramics) major from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She is also a proud member of Mary Baldwin's student government, serving as a representative on the Judicial Board from 2007 to 2009 in addition to taking an active role in Student Senate. Aubrey plans to develop her passion for art at the graduate level, pursuing a master of fine arts degree in ceramics, with the ultimate goal of opening her own ceramic studio and gallery.

LAURA ASHLEY DEAN

Project Advisor: Daniel Métraux

Academic Advisor: Gordon Bowen

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: North African Immigration and its Political and Social Effects on France

Abstract: The independence of Algeria and a wide-spread famine in North Africa in the 1960s caused an influx of immigration into France from North Africa in general and Algeria in particular. In recent years, the bifurcation of the North African Muslim minority and the French majority and the shortcomings of French assimilation techniques have become apparent. Levels of urban violence are dramatically rising, public education is in decline in terms of both learning and safety, reliance on social welfare is at an all-time high, and the government is doing little to address the issues out of fear of upsetting the Muslim immigrant population. This paper discusses the issues France is currently facing and gives ideas for possible ways of defusing a dangerous situation.

Biography: Laura Dean is a double major in political science and international relations with minors in leadership and Asian studies. During her four years in the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership, she obtained the rank of captain, commanded a platoon, and oversaw the Class System as Class Congress Chair. Laura grew up in a small town outside of Charlotte, North Carolina called Mint Hill. After graduation she intends to return to the Charlotte area and attend law school at the Charlotte School of Law (Go Legal Beagles!).

ELIZABETH GIFFORD

Project Advisor: Paul Deeble

Academic Advisor: Lundy Pentz

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Poster

Title: Stabilization of Lipase in Chitosan

Abstract: Lipase, an enzyme that breaks down fats in the body, is heat-sensitive and loses activity over sixty-five degrees Celsius. This project explores the possibility of stabilizing a lipase in the polymer chitosan, which is derived from the shells of crustaceans. The success of this project holds implications for industry, where many enzymes are beneficial to processes that must be performed in high-heat environments.



Biography: Elizabeth Gifford is a biology major with a minor in political science. She was raised in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan (near Detroit). Her family recently moved to St. Louis, where she has one adorable black cat. Next year, she plans to move to Atlanta to attend Georgia State University, where she hopes to receive her PhD in cellular and molecular biology.

LINDSEY GWALTNEY

Project and Academic Advisor: Paul Ryan

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Visual or Audio-Visual Creation

Title: Eggshells

Abstract: Lindsey's paintings explore the complex nature of social interaction and the fragile and often hesitant nature of relationships. This fragility is represented in the delicate, meticulous application of thin washes of oil paint. This series takes ordinary, forgettable photographs and transforms them into relatively large oil paintings with distinctive moods, emotions, and depth. The mood is subdued — cautious with occasional moments of confidence.

Biography: Lindsey Gwaltney is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She is a studio art major with emphases in painting and drawing in addition to a minor in political science. After graduation she plans to attend Louisiana State University to study interior design and continue creating art.



Jillian Hartley,
co-recipient of
Top Honors in the
Poster Category,
Capstone 2008
*("Peace in Their Time:
The Peace Pledge Union
and British Pacifism in
World War II")*



PHOTO BY WOODS PIERCE

SKYE E. HARTMAN

Project Advisors: Kenneth Keller and Mary Hill Cole

Academic Advisor: Mary Hill Cole

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Poster

Title: HA-NEH-ALENJI: CLA-GI-AIH NE-AHS-JAH GLOE-IH AH-JAH GAH NA-HASH-CHID AH-JAH TSE-GAH YEH-HES TSAH BE GLOE-IH BE-LA-SANA AH-LOSZ
(Communication: Power behind War)

Abstract: In discussions of the Pacific front during the Second World War, the pivotal role of the Navajo code talkers is often forgotten. While the defeat of the Japanese relied on good battle plans, skilled commanders, and dedicated soldiers, it was the Navajos' code that allowed operations to flow smoothly and quickly, allowing all the other parts of the machine to work effortlessly together. The code talkers stormed ashore in every Marine assault throughout the entire Pacific War from 1942-1945. With the use of their native tongue, the code talkers created a weapon that was impenetrable to Japanese expertise, leading to the ultimate defeat of Japanese forces in World War II.

Biography: Skye Hartman's hometown is Lynchburg, Virginia, and she is double majoring in physics and history with a minor in leadership. Skye is a cadet in the Virginia's Women Institute for Leadership, where she serves as the current Band Commander for the MBC/VWIL band.

DEIDRE A. HINER

Project and Academic Advisor: Jim R. Sconyers, Jr.

Type of Project: Senior Project and Honors Thesis

Presentation Category: Visual or Audio-Visual Creation

Title: Voices of Small Town Business: Portraits of Monterey, Virginia

Abstract: Deidre's Capstone presentation is the result of her senior project in studio art and her interdisciplinary honors thesis. Using oral history techniques and photography, Deidre produced a book and supporting materials that celebrate and preserve the history of four businesses in Monterey, Virginia. Her project includes fifteen interviews from business owners, workers, and customers. Each interview was voice recorded and transcribed. Selected voice recordings accompany a fifteen-minute video of Monterey. The book includes about 44 photos of the interviewees and the general Monterey area. Deidre's multi-media approach allows transitions in the businesses and community to be seen as well as heard.

Biography: Deidre A. Hiner is a studio art major with a double emphasis in graphic design and photography and a double minor in English and marketing communication. She is from Monterey, Virginia, and has been inducted into the honor societies of Alpha Lambda Delta, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Sigma Tau Delta. She is a recipient of the Eric Matthew Brown Award for Graphic Design and the Ulysse Deportes Award for Outstanding Achievement in Studio Art. Before attending graduate school, Deidre plans to pursue a job to expand her portfolio.

SAMANTHA HUDSON

Project Advisors: Kenneth Keller and Mary Hill Cole

Academic Advisor: Mary Hill Cole

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: The Gullah: A People's Resistance to Cultural Domination

Abstract: Samantha's thesis focuses on factors, including a serendipitous combination of geography, climate, and the possession of the sickle-cell trait, that allowed the Gullah community of the Sea Islands off the coast of South Carolina to resist cultural conquest by the European-dominated American society. Samantha used newspaper articles, journals, editorials, photographs, advertisements, and interviews to prove that the Gullah people resisted the oppressive aspects of the dominant society, creating a flourishing community with many of their African traditions intact, which is still apparent today.

Biography: Samantha Hudson is a history major from Savannah, Georgia, and a member of Phi Alpha Theta. She will be attending the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in the fall to pursue her master's of science in historic preservation.

CATHERINE KAMMER

Project Advisors: Kenneth Keller, Mary Hill Cole, Carey Usher

Academic Advisor: Mary Hill Cole

Type of Project: Senior Project and Honors Thesis

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: Words for Weapons: The Success of the Nineteenth Century Non-Violent Irish Independence Movement

Abstract: Catherine's Capstone presentation is based on her senior thesis in history and her interdisciplinary honors thesis. Her research examines the nineteenth-century Irish

Independence movement led by Daniel O'Connell, focusing on the unique way in which O'Connell and his followers obtained Catholic Emancipation and their efforts to repeal the Act of Union in the same way. This movement was different from other movements in Ireland because it focused on using non-violent, diplomatic means in achieving its goals. She uses a variety of sources ranging from speeches and letters of the time to essays of modern-day historians.

Biography: Catherine Kammer was born and raised in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She has loved history all her life and came to Mary Baldwin College to pursue a major in history with a minor in secondary education. After graduation, she plans to return home to pursue a career as a social studies teacher and to attend graduate school to obtain her master's in education. She would like to thank her family for all their love and support.

DENISE KINSINGER

Project Advisor: Terry Southerington

Academic Advisor: Katherine Turner

Type of Project: Special Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: Creating Opportunities for Civic Engagement in a Global Context by Reading Chaucer Aloud

Abstract: As the 2008-09 Margaret Kable Russell Scholar, Denise taught a week-long workshop on Chaucer at three local high schools. She and her students interactively explored why reading Chaucer aloud creates excellent opportunities for civic engagement in a global context.

Biography: Denise Kinsinger hails from Stuarts Draft, Virginia, and is an English major with minors in creative writing and theatre. She will be pursuing an MA in medieval and Renaissance literary studies this fall at Durham University in Durham, England, and looks forward to eventually holding a PhD in English.

BROOKE ASHLEY LOHR

Project Advisors: Steven Mosher and Peter Cruise

Academic Advisor: Steven Mosher

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: Restless Leg Syndrome: The Direct-to-Consumer Advertising of Mirapex and its Effects on the Prevalence of the Condition

Abstract: Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS) has presented itself in the media as a life-altering chronic neurological condition that is classified by a sense of urgency to move one's legs, along with tingling and crawling sensations. In 2006, the pharmaceutical company Boehringer-Ingelheim began advertising prescription drug Mirapex to the American public for the treatment of RLS. The purpose of this report is to examine the direct-to-consumer advertising of Mirapex and look for possible associations between this practice and the prevalence of RLS. Ultimately, Brooke seeks to outline a course of action to curb the negative effects of direct-to-consumer advertising within the healthcare system

Biography: Brooke Lohr is a health care administration major from Harrisonburg, Virginia, who transferred to Mary Baldwin in 2007. Since coming to Mary Baldwin, Brooke has been on the Honors List and a recipient of the Virginia



Health Services Scholarship. Upon graduating, she plans to move to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to pursue a career in the field of health care quality and patient safety.

PAMELA MENDOZA

Project and Academic Advisor: Daniel Métraux

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: When Did South Korea Get This Cool?: Korean Pop Culture's Influence on Japanese Opinions of Korea

Abstract: The Korean pop culture wave in Japan brought on changes in Japanese opinions of Korea. Korean popular culture, in the form of music, television, and movies, works as a medium for cultural understanding between Japan and Korea. The pop culture image of Korean artists provides cultural insight into Korean values, customs, and beliefs that the Japanese never saw during colonial occupation (1910-1945). Korean television shows now fascinate Japanese people, creating an environment for cultural acceptance. Singers like BoA and actors like Bae Yong-jun moved into Japanese media while maintaining a strong Korean image, further helping the cultural boom. Zainichi (Koreans living in Japan) also feel the benefits of the Korean wave. Having suffered horrible discrimination during World War II, current support from friends and colleagues due to the wave is invaluable. In this fashion, the Japanese have come to re-evaluate prior misconceptions of the Korean people, and it is this re-evaluation that can be the basis for improved relations between Japan and Korea.



Mallory Showalter, Top Honors in the Delivered Papers Category, Capstone 2008 (*"Lobbying in State Politics: A Case Study of the GARDASIL Vaccine"*)



PHOTO BY WOODS PIERCE

Biography: Pamela Mendoza is an Asian studies major from Chesterfield, Virginia. Having spent time at Doshisha Women's College, she plans to move to Japan and work as an English teacher after graduation. She would later like to attend graduate school abroad in business administration or music. Her goal is to work as a business representative in the music business.

MARY ELIZABETH SCHWAB

Project Advisor: Daniel Métraux
Academic Advisor: Gordon Bowen
Type of Project: Senior Project
Presentation Category: Poster
Title: Skepticism within the European Union about Monetary and Foreign Policies
Abstract: Is the European Union a better political system for Europe? Europeans have displayed skepticism about the fairly new centralized political system provided by the European Union. Mary Elizabeth's project identifies arguments that reinforce European skepticism about the EU's effects on monetary policies, foreign policies, and national sovereignty.

Biography: Mary Elizabeth Schwab was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. Her major is political science with an emphasis in international relations. Looking toward the future, Mary Elizabeth hopes to obtain a job in international trade or law, working with European Union bureaucrats and U. S. diplomats. The support from her family is the foundation and drive for her to excel in life and become someone who positively impacts the people around her.

CHELSEA E. SMITH

Project Advisor: Daniel Métraux
Academic Advisor: Gordon Bowen
Type of Project: Senior Project
Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support
Title: A Time for Change: The Transformational Roles of Modern U.S. Foreign Assistance and the Challenges Faced in Reform

Abstract: The United States' foreign aid infrastructure has shown signs of a becoming a weakened and weathered system, no longer contributing the most productive, responsible, and cost-effective remedies into our neighboring regions. The haphazard organization of overlapping aid bureaucracies stratifies resources that could be used much more efficiently if united within one cabinet department. Chelsea's project uses two case studies, AFRICOM and Sudan's cash crops, to analyze current weaknesses and propose that the main objectives of the humanitarian infrastructure — to better political, economical, and social conditions — can again be obtained with reform of the system. Overall, the audience will gain a greater understanding of how a weak aid infrastructure can affect the overall effectiveness of the United States to responsibly implement programs that ultimately represent influence and power over underdeveloped countries.

Biography: Chelsea Smith is a political science major from Tampa, Florida. Since giving to private aid organizations will continue to grow as public resources become increasingly strained, Chelsea hopes to one day develop her own humanitarian aid foundation. Her foundation would practice social responsibility by teaching the impoverished methods to enter or create viable markets rather than simply sustaining the individuals with rationed aid. She is a great fan of the work Greg Carr has done to develop tourism markets in an area of Mozambique that previously had no access to such markets because of a tragic civil war.

CASBY STAINBACK

Project Advisors: Laura van Assendelft and Carey Usher
Academic Advisor: Carey Usher
Type of Project: Senior Project
Presentation Category: Delivered Paper
Title: A Political Perspective on Hunting with Hounds in Virginia
Abstract: This case study of the Virginia policy on hunting with hounds has a significance that is applicable beyond the state of Virginia alone. The study shows the tension between state and local powers. The study of local control of hunting policy in Virginia shows the trend toward administrative decentralization in America. In a modernized society that is moving toward globalization, administrative decentralization is becoming more and more important. The study of this policy illustrates that importance.

Biography: Casby Stainback is a sociology and political science double major with a religion minor. She is a Global Honors Scholar and served as the 2008-2009 Student Government Association President. She is originally from Mechanicsville, Virginia, and plans to attend Regent University School of Law in the fall.

ROBYN STEGMAN

Project Advisor: Daniel Métraux

Academic Advisor: Gordon Bowen

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: For the Dalai Lama's Consideration: Civic Engagement and the Tibetan Peace Movement

Abstract: Many revolutions begin with the people at ground level working as individuals or through civic organizations. However, the Dalai Lama's "middle way approach" relies on diplomacy and international support and is centered on government leaders agreeing with other government leaders. The protests and other movements in defiance of this path usually rely on the power of the people. They are led by citizens and rely on public support. In short, the protests in conflict with the "middle way approach" are bottom-up power while the Tibetan Government in Exile approach remains a top-down style of diplomacy.

Biography: Robyn Stegman is originally from Lansing, Michigan. She is an international relations major with a peace-keeping and conflict resolution minor. She is the founding president of the Mary Baldwin Global Initiative, which empowers students to take action by providing them with resources to build campus initiatives.

CYTHA D. STOTTLEMYER

Project and Academic Advisor: Laura van Assendelft

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: Making News and History: Race, Gender, and the Media in the 2008 Presidential Primary

Abstract: As the 2008 Presidential race unfolded, the candidacies of Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama provided an unprecedented opportunity for a woman or African-American to win a major party's nomination for President. The media's coverage of the candidates, specifically examining coverage for the presence of racial or gender bias, is the focus of this case study. Cytha conducted a content analysis of articles published in *The Washington Post* during the week before and after the Iowa and Potomac primaries. Results indicate the presence of a subtle gender bias that affected the style of coverage given to Clinton during the primaries and also contributed to the agenda-setting function the media serves.

Biography: Cytha Stottlemeyer is a political science major from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. She has worked as assistant to and co-authored her first published paper with Dr. Laura van Assendelft. Cytha was accepted to Teach for America last November and will be teaching high school math in the Mississippi Delta beginning in the fall of 2009.

MCKENZIE TAYLOR

Project and Academic Advisor: Paul Ryan

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Visual or Audio-Visual Creation

Title: *Cocoa and Daisy Go to the Fair*, a Children's Book Written and Drawn by McKenzie Taylor

Abstract: Art and animals are McKenzie's life's passions. She has combined her two loves in a children's book that she



draw and wrote, entitled *Cocoa and Daisy go to the Fair*. McKenzie has loved the Virginia State Fair and has attended it ever since she was a small child, so it was the perfect setting for her first book. *Cocoa* is based on her dog and *Daisy* is based on her sister's dog. The materials she uses are Prismacolor colored pencils.

Biography: McKenzie Taylor is a studio art major with a double emphasis in drawing and painting. Her hometown is Charlottesville, Virginia, and her future plans are to write and illustrate children's books. McKenzie's involvement in art and reading was supported by her parents from a very early age.

ABIGAIL HALEY TURNER

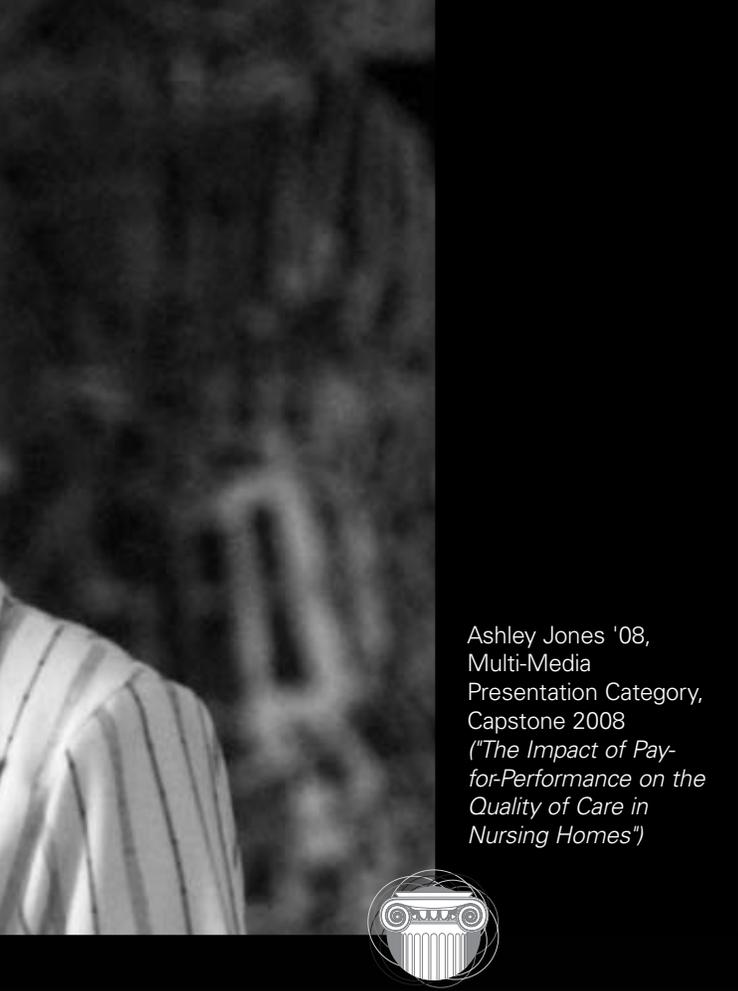
Project and Academic Advisor: Karl Zachary

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Poster

Title: A Spectroscopic Study of Cucurbit[7]uril Host-Guest Recognition Properties

Abstract: Cucurbit[7]uril, the third largest of a family of glycoluril-based heterocyclic macromolecules, has important applications in sensors, nanotechnology, and specialized drug delivery due to its excellent recognition capabilities. In order to fully exploit this capability, it is necessary to understand the structural and electronic features that promote good binding with cucurbituril. This work examines the effect of structural variations in bipyridine derivatives on the equilibrium constant K , determined using UV-Visible spectrophotometry. Differences in K values for cucurbit[7]uril host-guest complexation with Methyl Viologen, 2,2'-Bipyridine, 4,4'-Bipyridine, and 1,1'-Bis(2,4'-Dinitrophenyl)-4,4'-bipyridinium illustrate the importance of charge distribution, ion-dipole, dipole-dipole, and hydrophobic interactions



Ashley Jones '08,
Multi-Media
Presentation Category,
Capstone 2008
*("The Impact of Pay-
for-Performance on the
Quality of Care in
Nursing Homes")*

PHOTO BY WOODS PIERCE

in driving host-guest complexation with cucurbit[7]uril.

Biography: Abigail Turner is a chemistry major with a minor in French. Her hometown is Scottsville, Virginia. In the fall, she will be entering a PhD program in analytical chemistry either at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, or the University of Pittsburgh.

HANNAH VARGASON

Project Advisor: Carrie Douglass

Academic Advisor: Amy McCormick Diduch

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: An Unlikely Exurb: The Meaning of Changing Preferences in the Housing Market in Frederick County, Virginia

Abstract: In this paper, Hannah examines the cultural implications surrounding homes constructed during the housing boom of 1997-2007 in Frederick County, Virginia. She shows that during that time there was an increase in demand for square footage, total acreage, bedrooms, bathrooms, and living areas. This change reflects alterations in local concepts of "appropriate" housing for the middle class, as well as strong valuation of independence.

Project Advisor: Judy Klein

Academic Advisor: Amy McCormick Diduch

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Presentation with Multi-Media Support

Title: Helping People Help Themselves: Policy Options that Promote a Higher Personal Saving Rate

Abstract: In 2007, the personal saving rate in the United States was negative for the first time since the Great Depression, and research shows that individu-

als are not saving enough to make large purchases — such as homes — or for retirement. To prevent a significant portion of the population from experiencing a dramatic decrease in well-being in the foreseeable future, novel and viable policies based on behavioral economic theory, such as the Save More Tomorrow (SMT) Plan, must be adopted as default policies in the corporate arena.

Biography: Hannah Vargason is a senior Bailey Honors Scholar double majoring in anthropology and economics. Though originally from Antietam, Maryland, she plans to continue her education in Virginia at the College of William and Mary and obtain a master's in public policy. Her interests include environmental issues and sustainable practices.

ALANNA WARNICK

Project and Academic Advisor: Andreas Anastasiou

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Poster

Title: Effects of Horses on Self-Esteem and Locus of Control

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects that regular interactions with horses can have on people. Research suggests that interactions with horses can be therapeutic. Participants consisted of a control group of non-riders from Mary Baldwin College and a group of riders from nearby venues, including a group of students on the equestrian team at Bridgewater College. Self-esteem and locus of control scores for riders and non-riders were correlated. The self-esteem measure was a modified version of the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, and the locus of control measure used the Generalized Expectancies for Internal Versus External Control of Reinforcement scale designed by J.B. Rotter. Preliminary results show that differences in support of the experimental group were not significant.

Biography: Alanna Warnick is a psychology major from Afton, Virginia. Her future remains, as of yet, uncertain, though graduate school is a likely destination. She hopes to use her Mary Baldwin education as the foundation to a career which will support and bring positive change within society.

SARAH C. WISECUP

Project Advisor: Daniel Stuhlsatz and Carey Usher

Academic Advisor: Daniel Stuhlsatz

Type of Project: Senior Project

Presentation Category: Delivered Paper

Title: Women at War

Abstract: The aim of this research was to determine whether there is a relation between a woman's service length in the military and her pursuit of women's integration into combat operations as framed by the liberal feminist movement. In order to conduct this study, a survey was created and distributed to contracted female cadets from VMI and VWIL as well as female officers from the Naval War College. The responses to the survey were analyzed for correlation that would support the hypothesis.

Biography: Sarah Wisecup was born in France and speaks French fluently. She has lived in three different countries and moved ten times within the U.S., attending three different high schools. Sarah will graduate with a sociology major and a minor in leadership. Upon graduation, Sarah will follow in her father's military footsteps, commissioning as an Army Second Lieutenant in the Military Police.



Participants in the 2008 Capstone Festival.



PHOTO BY WOODS PIERCE

Congratulations to all students participating in the 2009 CAPSTONE FESTIVAL

Nomination to the Capstone Festival is in itself a high honor. To recognize extraordinary achievement, top honors will also be given in each presentation category (delivered papers; presentations with multi-media support; posters; and visual/audio-visual creations). Panels of three judges will evaluate the creativity, challenge, and execution of the projects as well as the ability of the presenters to communicate the content and significance of their work to a general audience. Top honors awards are accompanied by a cash prize of \$150.

MAY TERM ABROAD CAPSTONE NOMINEES

The following students were nominated for the Capstone Festival but are unable to participate because they are on study abroad programs during May Term. We include their information here in recognition of their achievement and commitment to international awareness.

DEVON NICOLE BURKE

Project and Academic Advisor: Daniel Métraux

Type of Project: Honors Thesis

Title: Between Love and Marriage: Personal Choice and Romantic Love Within the Marriage Systems of India and Japan

Abstract: Throughout the world, the union of marriage occurs under varying and diverse circumstances, from the autonomy-based systems of the West to the arranged marriage systems that prevail in many other locales. However, with the pervasiveness of western culture worldwide, a shift is occurring in parts of the non-Western developed and developing world. This trend can be observed in the changing marriage systems of Japan and India, along with the integration of romantic love as a widespread ideology within those societies.

Biography: Devon Burke is an Asian studies major from Dover, New Hampshire. After graduation, she hopes to find a job teaching English in Japan and plans to attend graduate school after her travels abroad.

YURIE GUNJI

Project Advisor and Academic Advisor: Judy Klein

Type of Project: Senior Project

Title: From the Test Tube to the Grave: Should the Japanese Government Cover IVF Treatment as a Way to Address Its Aging Society?

Abstract: This project discusses the problem of an aging society and lower fertility rates in Japan. Using economic models, Yurie analyzes whether subsidizing in vitro fertilization treatment would be beneficial in addressing the aging of Japanese society. She also discusses other ideas to address the problem, such as encouraging immigration.

Biography: Yurie Gunji was born in 1986 and is from Tochigi, Japan. She started her MBC life in 2005 and graduated in January 2009 with a double major in economics and women's studies. Yurie returned to Japan and began her job as a medical representative in April 2009.

ALLISON WALKER MOYER

Project Advisor: John L. Kibler, III

Academic Advisor: Andreas Anastasiou

Type of Project: Senior Project

Title: The Relationship between Religiosity and Morality

Abstract: Philosophical arguments have advocated that religion is necessary in society because it leads to more moral behavior on the part of its adherents. Little research has been conducted, however, to examine possible relationships between religiosity and moral behavior. The purpose of this study was to determine if there is a relationship between a person's level of religiosity and their level of moral behavior. To test this hypothesis, sixty-two college students completed two questionnaires, one measuring religiosity and the other measuring a person's moral behavior.

Although there may be other mitigating factors, the results indicate that there is not a statistically significant relationship between religiosity and morality.

Biography: Allison Moyer is a psychology major from Calvert County, Maryland. MBC has been a wonderful experience for her, and she plans to go on to medical school.

CYNTHIA JEANNETTE RODRIGUEZ

Project and Academic Advisor: Laura van Assendelft

Type of Project: Senior Project

Title: Presidential Authority and the Characterization of Detainees at Guantanamo as Enemy Combatants

Abstract: Cynthia's project focuses on how the Department of Defense characterizes detainees at Guantanamo Bay as enemy combatants. Recently, the Supreme Court ruled in *Boumediene v. Bush, 2008*, that enemy combatants have the right to be heard in U.S. court systems. Some believe that this decision has taken away the President's authority in times of war by setting limits on how detainees will be characterized and whether they are viewed as lawful or unlawful combatants in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and international law.

Biography: Cynthia Rodriguez is a political science major from Milpitas, California, with a double minor in leadership studies and philosophy. She is an AFROTC-contracted cadet in the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership. Cynthia will be commissioning in May as a Second Lieutenant and will serve as a Logistics and Readiness Officer. She will be stationed at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina.

STERLING SHELLEY

Project Advisors: Kenneth Keller and Mary Hill Cole

Academic Advisor: Mary Hill Cole

Type of Project: Senior Project

Title: Conquests for Equality: the Fight for Female Suffrage

Abstract: *Conquests for Equality* is a formal research paper that seeks to prove that the Women's Social and Political Union used militant methods to demand the vote for women in Great Britain because they viewed the women's movement in terms of war and conquest. Through the interpretation of autobiographies, photographs, letters, diaries, newspaper articles, and other primary sources, Sterling uncovers the motives behind the group's aggressive actions. Their fight for the vote led to the enfranchisement of women in Great Britain, influenced the suffrage movement in the United States, and left a lasting impression on the worldview of women.

Biography: Sterling Shelley is a history major and education minor from Daytona Beach, Florida. She is a Global Honors Scholar who will be graduating with distinction in May 2009. After graduation, she plans to attend law school at George Mason and pursue a career in international business.