Graduate Recognition

- Distinguished Graduate Student Awards and Hamand Society Scholars
- Williams Travel Grant Winners
- Research/Creative Activity Grant Winners
- Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholar
- Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholar
- Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholar
- Annie Weller Graduate Scholar
- King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Awards
- Award of Excellence- College of Arts and Humanities
- Award of Excellence- College of Business and Applied Sciences
- Award of Excellence- College of Education and Professional Studies
- Award of Excellence- College of Sciences
- Distinguished Research Creative/Activity Award Winner
- Thesis Awards
- Award of Excellence- College of Arts and Humanities
- Award of Excellence- College of Business and Applied Sciences
- Award of Excellence- College of Education and Professional Studies
- Award of Excellence- College of Sciences
- Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award Winner and MAGS Thesis Nomination
- Graduate School Leadership Award
- Graduate School Award of Excellence
- Graduate Faculty Recognition
  - Rodney S. Ranes Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Award

Graduate Scholarship

- Thesis Awards
  - Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award and MAGS Nomination
  - Award of Excellence- College of Arts and Humanities
  - Award of Excellence- College of Business and Applied Sciences
  - Award of Excellence- College of Education and Professional Studies
  - Award of Excellence- College of Sciences
- King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Awards
  - Distinguished Research Creative/Activity Award
  - Award of Excellence- College of Arts and Humanities
  - Award of Excellence- College of Business and Applied Sciences
  - Award of Excellence- College of Education and Professional Studies
  - Award of Excellence- College of Sciences
- Research/Creative Activity Grants
- Williams Travel Grants
- Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholarship
- Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholarship
- Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholarship
- Annie Weller Graduate Scholarship
- Hamand Society Scholars

The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Advisory Council publish the Graduate Scholar annually to recognize and honor those who have achieved excellence in graduate study at Eastern Illinois University.
Awards Ceremony | April 11, 2013
Introductions and Opening Remarks
Mr. Alex Dresen, President of the Graduate Student Advisory Council
Dr. William L. Perry, President | Dr. Blair M. Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Susan Voskuil, Graduate Student Dean | Dr. Robert M. Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School

Distinguished Graduate Student Awards

College of Arts and Humanities
Announced by Dean Bonnie Irwin

Nick Gundy- Art
   Presented by Mr. Chris Kahler

Jessica McDonald- Communication Studies
   Presented by Dr. Matthew Gill

Hannah Green- English
   Presented by Dr. Ruth Hoberman

Benjamin Ill- History
   Presented by Dr. Charles Foy

Anna Mullen- Historical Administration
   Presented by Dr. Nora Pat Small

Lindsey Alexander- Music
   Presented by Dr. Marilyn Coles

College of Business and Applied Sciences
Announced by Dean Mahyar Izadi

Matthew Merkle- Business Administration (On-Campus)
   Presented by Dr. Melody Wollan

Kevin Miller- Business Administration (Off-Campus)
   Presented by Dr. Melody Wollan

Meghan Leineweber- Dietetics
   Presented by Dr. Karla Kennedy-Hagan

Felicia Magee- Family & Consumer Sciences
   Presented by Dr. Lisa Moyer

Jacob Ozier- Gerontology
   Presented by Dr. Jacquelyn Frank

Patrick Lyons- Sustainable Energy
   Presented by Dr. Isaac Slaven

Wei Wang- Technology (On-Campus)
   Presented by Dr. Jerry Cloward

Lori Sprague- Technology (Off-Campus)
   Presented by Dr. Diana Wyatt

College of Education and Professional Studies
Announced by Dean Diane Jackman

Merry Lucas- College Student Affairs
   Presented by Dr. Dianne Timm

Callie Fields- Clinical Counseling
   Presented by Dr. Heidi Larson

Sharon Kim- School Counseling
   Presented by Dr. Heidi Larson

Matthew Maddox- Educational Leadership (Master’s)
   Presented by Dr. Nick Osborne

Jeremie Smith- Educational Leadership (Specialist’s)
   Presented by Dr. Nick Osborne

Brianne Miller- Elementary Education
   Presented by Dr. Linda Reven

Abigail Moulton- Kinesiology and Sports Studies
   Presented by Dr. Stacey Ruholl

Patricia King- Master Teacher
   Presented by Dr. Stephen Lucas

Kayla Napue- Special Education
   Presented by Dr. Kathlene Shank

College of Sciences
Announced by Dean Harold Ornes

Cassi Moody- Biological Sciences
   Presented by Dr. Robert Colombo

Kelly Harmon- Chemistry
   Presented by Dr. Svetlana Mitrovski

Daniel Stabin- Clinical Psychology
   Presented by Dr. Wesley Allan

Megan Callahan- Communication Disorders & Sciences
   Presented by Dr. Rebecca Throneburg

Kate Sroka- Economics
   Presented by Dr. Linda Ghent

Sanjiv Vajjala- Geographic Information Sciences
   Presented by Drs. Karen Gaines and Michael Cornebise

Jacklyn Buhrmann- Mathematics
   Presented by Dr. Charles Delman

Brenda Darling- Math Education
   Presented by Dr. Peter Wiles

Alyssa Walser- Natural Sciences
   Presented by Dr. Andrew Methven

Michael Neureiter- Political Science
   Presented by Dr. Andrew McNitt

Hannah Mason- School Psychology
   Presented by Dr. Assege HaileMariam
Williams Travel Grants

Williams Travel Grants are awarded in the fall and spring, this year more students than ever before applied and received support for presenting their research at conferences all over the country. Due to a high numbers of recipients, students will be announced by their college and program affiliation. Details of their outstanding research are listed in subsequent pages of this program.

Announcing the College of Sciences- Dr. Charles Delman, Chair, Travel Grants Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Mathematics
Biological Sciences- Jennifer Alberts, Yudong Qu, Dilini Samarajeewa, Meagan Thomas, Amanda Wildenberg
Chemistry- Morgan Roberts, Luxshani Thangarajah
Communications Disorders & Sciences- Megan Gingerich
Economics- Jordan Calderone, Alex Gosser, Kate Sroka
Political Science- Christophe Amegan, Nicholas Anson, Sandra Braschi, Rachel Dicke, Ellen Eckert, Nonso Alo Ejikeme, Michael Neureiter

Announcing the College of Education and Professional Studies- Dr. Clinton Warren, Member, Council on Graduate Studies;
Graduate Coordinator, Kinesiology and Sports Studies
Counseling- Shauna Bell, Maria Byndom, Katherine Duitsman, Kaitlin Kaste, Katie Laws, Amber Niebrugge, Amy Strakbein, Alyssa Zukowski
College Student Affairs- Sara Boro, Andrea Grant, Kortney Jones, Merry Lucas

Announcing the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences- Dr. Jacquelyn Frank, Member, Council on Graduate Studies;
Graduate Coordinator, Gerontology
Business Administration- Kaylee Hackney
Dietetics- Brittany Cole, Meghan Leineweber
Family and Consumer Sciences- Laura Lucas, Helen Marcotte
Gerontology- Sheila Greuel, Rachael Hawn
Technology- Muhammad Rizwan, Wei Wang

Announcing the College of Arts and Humanities- Dr. Newton Key, Member, Council on Graduate Studies
Communication Studies- Jonathan Mattson, Jessica McDonald, Andrew McLaughlin, Lisa Schleef
English- Stephanie Guyer, Aaron White, Emily Whitmore
History- Nathan Allison, Benjamin Ill, Ljiljana Milojevic, Philip Mohr, Patrick Vonesh

Research/Creative Activity Grants

Research/Creative Activity Grants are awarded in the fall and spring, this year more students than ever before applied and received support for conducting research in partnership with external agencies and institutions. Due to a high numbers of recipients, students will be announced by their program and college affiliation. Details of their outstanding research are listed in subsequent pages of this program.
Announced by Dr. Lisa Moyer, Chair, Research Grants Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Family and Consumer Sciences

College of Business and Applied Sciences-

Dietetics- *Meghan Leineweber*

Family and Consumer Sciences- *Penny Arthur, Josh Fourman, Laura Lucas*

Gerontology- *Sheila Greuel, Whitney Paul, Narissa Ramirez*

Announced by Dr. Rick Roberts, Chair, Counseling and Student Development

College of Education and Professional Studies-

Counseling- *Daniel Applegate, Andrew Bunyard, Kaitlin Kaste, Sharon Kim, Daniel Osterloo, Sarah Puchalski, Alyssa Swan, Jill Adriane Tschantz, Rob McKinney, Luz Lomeli, Brittany Trimble*

Announced by Dr. Mike Cornebise, Chair, Geology/Geography

College of Sciences-

Biological Sciences- *Jennifer Alberts, Michael Blackowicz, Ryan Hastings, Eric Hendricks, Sarah Huck, Corissa Lennon, Vaskar Nepal, David Ollesch, Manisha Pant, Sharon Rayford, Dilini Samarajeewa, Meagan Thomas, Amanda Wildenberg*

Chemistry- *Morgan Roberts*

Communication Disorders & Sciences- *Brooke Capp, Jill Vogt*

**Graduate Scholarships**

Announced by Dr. Linda Reven, Chair, Scholarship Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Elementary Education

Presented by Dr. Rendong Bai, Member, Council on Graduate Studies

2013 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar, *Nana Quaicoe*, Economics

2013 Betty Wright Downing Scholar, *Alyssa Swan*, Clinical Counseling

Presented by Peter Wiles, Graduate Coordinator, Mathematics Education

2013 Mary Bear McClay Scholar, *Stephany Slutzky*, Mathematics Education

Presented by Barbara Lawrence, Graduate Coordinator, Chemistry; Chair, Annie Weller Scholarship Committee

2013 Annie Weller Scholar, *Alyssa Walser*, Natural Sciences

**King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Award Winners**

Announced by Dr. Jeff Laursen, Chair, King-Mertz Awards Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Biological Sciences

Presented by Dr. Marilyn Coles, Member, King-Mertz Awards Committee, Graduate Coordinator, Music

Award of Excellence for the College of Arts and Humanities

*Heather Wohlman*, English Faculty Mentor, Dr. Angela Vietto

Award of Excellence for the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences

*Kaylee Hackney*, Business Administration Faculty Mentor, Dr. David Boggs

Award of Excellence for the College of Education and Professional Studies

*Daniel Applegate, Sharon Kim, Daniel Osterloo*, Counseling Faculty Mentor, Dr. Heidi Larson

Award of Excellence for the College of Sciences

*Chris Metz*, Mathematics Education Faculty Mentor, Dr. Peter Wiles

Distinguished Research/Creative Activity Award

*Chad E. Mathis*, Music Faculty Mentor, Mr. Paul Johnston
Thesis Award Winners
Announced by Dr. Nora Pat Small, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies; Graduate Coordinator, Historical Administration
Presented by Dr. Wesley Allan, Vice Chair, Council on Graduate Studies; Graduate Coordinator, Clinical Psychology

**Award of Excellence for the College of Arts and Humanities**

*Jason Miller*, History  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Mark Voss-Hubbard

**Award of Excellence for the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences**

*Theresa Lindsay*, Family and Consumer Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lisa Moyer

**Award of Excellence for the College of Education and Professional Studies**

*Zachary Pope*, Kinesiology and Sports Studies  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeffrey Willardson

**Award of Excellence for the College of Sciences**

*Allen Creamean*, Clinical Psychology  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ronan Bernas

**Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award and Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Nomination**

*John M. Anderson*, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Michael Menze

2013 Rodney S. Ranes Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Award
Announced by Mr. Bill Elliott, Assistant Dean for Graduate and International Admissions; Adviser, Graduate Student Advisory Council
Presented by Mr. Alex Dresen, President, Graduate Student Advisory Council; Graduate Candidate in College Student Affairs

*Dr. Newton Key*, Professor of History

Graduate School Award of Excellence
Announced by Ms. Lori Henderson, Director for Integrative Graduate Studies Institute, Graduate School
Presented by Ms. Kortney Jones, Vice President, Black Graduate Student Association; Graduate Candidate in College Student Affairs

*Ryan Gibson, Webmaster and Director of Web and Mobile Applications*  
*Jay Grabiec, Online Specialist*  
*Dr. John Henderson, Assistant Vice President, Center for Academic Technology Support*  
For leadership and commitment to updating and improving the quality of web pages that support graduate study.

Graduate School Leadership Award
Announced by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean, Graduate School
Presented by Ms. Kortney Jones, Vice President, Black Graduate Student Association; Graduate Candidate in College Student Affairs

*Dr. Gail Richard, Chair, Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences*  
*Dr. Rebecca Throneburg, Graduate Coordinator, Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences*  
For developing an on-line summer cohort program

*Dr. Joy Russell, Chair, Department of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education*  
*Dr. Linda Reven, Graduate Coordinator, Elementary Education*  
For developing a graduate certificate in reading and earning recognition for graduate assessment achievements.
Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award & Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Nomination

John M. Anderson, Master of Science in Biological Sciences
Michael Menze, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Desiccation Tolerance in Insect Cells

Our society is in need of cost effective cell-preservation methods to facilitate advances in fields which utilize recombinant gene expression (e.g. to produce therapeutics such as insulin) and engineer tissues and organs in vitro. Current methods of cell preservation require freezing at ultra-low temperatures (-135°C), and toxic compounds such as dimethyl sulfoxide. We explored alternative preservation methods using ‘lessons learned from nature’ to stabilize cells in the dry state at room temperature. Several organisms in nature can tolerate severe water loss including larva of the chironomid Polypedilum vanderplanki and embryos of the brine shrimp Artemia franciscana. These animals accumulate both LEA proteins and the sugar trehalose to maintain viability upon rehydration. LEA proteins are intrinsically disordered in solution, but increase in ordered secondary structure as water is removed and stabilize macromolecules during water-limited states. Trehalose is a glass-forming sugar that can stabilize proteins and membranes through reduced molecular mobility in the glassy state. Trehalose must be present on both sides of the cell membrane to confer protection, but cell membranes are impermeable to trehalose in the absence of a specific transporter. To increase membrane permeability, we transgenically over-expressed trehalose transporters in the cell membrane of insect cells. Cells loaded with trehalose and slowly dried maintain little viability when rehydrated, but ultra-fast dried cells employing a spin-drying apparatus, which quickly removes liquid water in a matter of seconds, maintained viability after water removal and rehydration. This thesis investigated the question whether the overexpression of a trehalose transporter localized in the cytoplasmic membrane of insect cells will facilitate intracellular loading of trehalose and demonstrates increase viability after fast drying of trehalose loaded cells. Furthermore, cellular tolerance to osmotic stress was increased by LEA proteins. These novel findings may help to engineer desiccation tolerant cells and tissues in the future.

Master’s Thesis Award of Excellence in the College of Arts and Humanities

Jason Miller, Master of Arts in History
Mark Voss-Hubbard, Ph.D., Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

A Neighbors’ War: Provost Marshals, Desertion, the Draft, and Political Violence on the Central Illinois Home Front, 1861-1865

Violence associated with the American Civil War’s Copperhead movement sprung mainly from local rather than national tensions. Investigating political violence within the divisive political region of central Illinois, this thesis utilizes a comprehensive reading of the region’s provost marshal reports as its window into community life in post-Enrollment Act central Illinois. From this newfound perspective, this thesis creates a framework to reinterpret speculation amongst sources such as newspapers and government officials’ correspondence. It finds the upsurge of violence in central Illinois following the Enrollment Act owed more to the political climate of the region and local political suspicions held by its inhabitants than the national political disagreements long-argued to be the impetus behind this violence. Copperheads feared the new federal authority invested in their pro-war neighbors to arrest deserters and enforce the draft would be utilized to persecute them for partisan gain. The provost marshals did little to alleviate these political suspicions during the initial enrollments. With no political alternative to resist their neighbors, Copperheads armed and drilled themselves to prepare to defend their endangered civil and political rights. Many committed acts of resistance which led many pro-war men to fear the worst and arm politically motivated militias of their own. The resulting tensions boiled over into bloodshed throughout the summer of 1863, only cooling once the draft was cancelled that September. By the time the provost marshals enrolled their communities again the following spring, they had ameliorated their suspicious neighbors’ fears of an inequitable draft. Provost marshals now actively solicited Democratic participation in establishing the draft’s fairness and equitability. This transparency alleviated Copperhead fears and obviated their preparations for community-based, militarized resistance. The most violent period in the state’s wartime history was over seven months before the most divisive and, arguably, the most important presidential election in American history.
The purpose of this study was to compare the muscular strength and hypertrophic response following a four week training intervention involving resistance exercise utilizing only eccentric muscle contractions with, or without blood flow restriction (BFR), as well as a control group maintaining their current training regimen. Sixteen young male volunteers were recruited to participate in this study. Prior to the training intervention, subjects attended three sessions in order to obtain demographic information (age, height, body mass) and familiarize each of the participants with the testing and training equipment. After the familiarization session, muscular strength was assessed via elbow flexion one repetition maximum (1-RM), defined as maximal weight successfully lifted throughout concentric range of motion (ROM), and by grip strength dynamometer. Additionally, upper-arm muscle CSA (cross-sectional area) was assessed using an estimation equation derived from the circumference and skinfolds. Subjects were then randomized into three training conditions, eccentric resistance training only (ECC), eccentric resistance training with BFR (OCC), and a control training group (CON). Following training, results indicated a significant increase in both right and left grip strength, but not elbow flexion strength for the group as a whole. However, there was no significant difference between groups for any of the strength variables. Muscle CSA increased significantly following training for the group as a whole, but no significant difference was found between groups. The findings of the current study indicate that the addition of BFR to eccentric resistance exercise does not provide superior muscle strength nor size adaptations compared to eccentric resistance training without BFR, or regular resistance training.

The purpose of this study was to determine the level of support felt by Eastern Illinois University’s non-traditional student population and to assess what campus resources and services they need. An online survey was developed by the researcher and administered to 285 non-traditional college students enrolled at EIU at the time the data was collected. The findings indicated that overall, non-traditional students at EIU felt supported by the university and their instructors. However the participants also reported that they were not using all of the services and resources the university offered. In addition, several respondents noted that there were some services that are not currently offered at EIU that they felt were necessary for non-traditional students. The findings from this research will help university administrators customize services, programs, and other resources for the non-traditional student population, which can increase retention and graduation rates over time for non-traditional students.
Predicting Rumination from the Five Facets of Mindfulness

Mindfulness is defined as a process of paying attention to the moment-by-moment experiencing of one’s thoughts and feelings. It is a non-elaborative, non-judgmental, present-centered awareness in which each thought, feeling or sensation that arises in the attentional field is acknowledged and accepted (Kabat-Zinn, 1998). Since its introduction into Western psychology, mindfulness-based treatments have evolved and have aimed at reducing multiple forms of psychological and physical morbidity (Bishop et al., 2004). Much of the literature have provided empirical support for the effectiveness of these treatments but have not explored the specific roles that the five facets of mindfulness play in predicting or reducing symptoms that characterize and exacerbate mental illness. The current study replicated past study results supporting the effectiveness of mindfulness in reducing rumination, a common cognitive coping style often found in depression and anger, while further exploring which of the specific facets of mindfulness facilitate this change. In addition, the study examined if rumination acted as a mediator in the inverse relationships that mindfulness had with the states of depression and anger. Two distinct forms of rumination were examined: depressive and anger rumination. One hundred thirty-two participants indicated their levels of mindfulness, depressive/anger rumination, and depressive/anger states on self-report instruments. As predicted, mindfulness exhibited inverse relationships with both depressive and anger rumination. The mindfulness facet of ‘non-judgment’ primarily accounted for the lower levels of depressive and anger rumination. In addition, the facets of ‘non-reactivity’ and ‘observation’ were associated with anger rumination (though ‘observation’ was unexpectedly positively correlated with anger rumination). Subsequent analyses exploring the relationship between mindfulness and depressive/anger emotional states found depressive rumination to be a partial mediator of the relationship of mindfulness with depression, while anger rumination fully mediated the relationship with anger. The theoretical contribution and psychotherapeutic implications of these results were discussed in the thesis.

King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Awards

Nancie King Mertz, ‘79 graduate alumna from the program in Art, established the King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Awards in 2010 to recognition the highest achievement in graduate research based on non-thesis graduate research/creative activity projects. A 2009 recipient of an Outstanding Graduate Alumni award, Nancie has been actively involved in the visual arts as both a creative artist and a small business owner. She and her husband Ron own and operate ArtDe Triumph & Artful Framer Studios in Chicago’s Lincoln Park.

One project is selected to represent the best non-thesis project from all graduate programs and a top project from each academic college is also selected.
Jazz musicians have a rich tradition of reinterpreting music. Popular songs from the Great American Songbook make up a large part of the standard jazz repertoire. These songs, known by jazz musicians the world over, were largely written in the first half of the twentieth century. This music provided listeners of that period with a contemporary connection to the jazz musicians that transformed these songs into new creations. New generations of jazz musicians continue to redefine what it means to explore popular music in a jazz context. Artists such as Brad Mehldau, Chris Potter, Soulive, and The Bad Plus create original interpretations of modern popular music from artists such as The Beatles, Nirvana, and Radiohead. These musicians provided me with the inspiration to investigate and participate in this tradition. Specifically, I chose eight songs spanning from the early 1960s into the twenty-first century. I chose these songs based on their individual merits concerning their melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic material. I then created original arrangements of seven of these, borrowing the eighth from the jazz piano trio The Bad Plus. In addition, I wrote an analysis paper in which I explored each song individually, explaining the important elements that piqued my interest in each of them. In order of performance, the songs I chose were “Telstar,” by The Tornados; “Every Breath You Take,” by The Police; “Missing the War,” by Ben Fold Five; “Mr. Blue Sky,” by Electric Light Orchestra; “Don’t Talk (Put Your Head on My Shoulder)” and “I Just Wasn’t Made for These Times,” by The Beach Boys; “Pyramid Song,” by Radiohead; and “Floaty,” by Foo Fighters. This project culminated on April 14, 2012, in a recital, in which I performed these songs with a jazz combo. It is my hope that my audience felt a connection to this familiar music, even though it was presented in an original way.

In this paper, I argue that William Godwin’s novel, *Caleb Williams*, straddles a shift in the perception of the Amazonian qualities of a woman from being viewed as a compliment, to an insult. I look at literature and entertainment of the late 1700s, including Shield and MacNally’s play *Robin Hood; or, Sherwood Forest: A Comic Opera* and Radcliffe and Polwhele’s *The Unsex’d Females: a Poem*, along with literary articles on Godwin and amazons, in consideration with the themes in *Caleb Williams* to back up my argument. Godwin himself seems to straddle this line of Amazon as compliment versus insult as he writes with this new perception in mind yet has a marriage to Mary Wollstonecraft, a premiere writer for the feminist movement. These contradictions in perception of the female warrior get highlighted through the use of the characters Emily Melville and the “Beldam” of the Amazonian qualities in his novel. Godwin uses the old Amazonian woman as the perfect villain mainly because of her Amazonian temperament and demeanor, while Emily Melville embodies the new female heroine, demure and obedient. The only issue with Godwin’s examples is his infusion of legends and myths that celebrate the huntress and female warrior. Due to this confusion and the novel’s inception so close to the turning in perception, I argue in this paper that the transition in the way Amazonian characteristics were viewed played a major role in creating the contradictions that surround the Amazonian villain within William Godwin’s *Caleb Williams*. 
Research has shown that OCBs are essential to an organization’s success. Managers must first understand what motivates employees to engage in OCBs so that they can increase their employees’ engagement in these cooperative behaviors. Three motives for OCBs (Organizational Concern, Pro-Social Values, and Impression Management) have been identified (Rioux & Penner, 2001). By focusing on the targeted beneficiary of OCBs, we suggest that a fourth motive, competition, exists. In this paper, we examine the relationship between five facets of competition and OCBs targeted at the individual (OCB-I) and OCBs targeted at the organization (OCB-O), in addition to examining the original three motives of OCB. Hypotheses are tested utilizing regression analysis with a sample of 403 respondents.

The purpose of the proposed creative activity was to alleviate the negative effects of test-anxiety on high school students preparing for the ACT by instructing them to utilize relaxation techniques. The study examined correlations between variables including socioeconomic status, class rank, GPA, and importance of going to college. Participants included 107 Midwest high school juniors preparing for the ACT. The Westside Test Anxiety Scale (WTAS), deep breathing, and progressive muscle relaxation were utilized to manage levels of anxiety. The experimental and control groups were matched based on the variables mentioned above. Both groups were given the pre/post measures. Only the experimental group received treatment. The study tested three hypotheses: 1) the pre-/post-test differences for the experimental group will show a significant decrease in anxiety level; 2) the pre-and post-test differences for the control group will show no significant decrease in anxiety levels; and 3) there will be a significant post-test difference in anxiety levels between the experimental and control groups. The researchers analyzed the students’ ACT scores in relation to perceived anxiety, intrinsic motivation, class rank, household composition, and other environmental factors. The researchers also analyzed how test-anxiety, environmental factors, and intrinsic motivation impacted ACT scores. The goal of this study was to promote awareness and address anxiety in high school students in working with teachers and principals to implement relaxation interventions. The data indicated that the treatment decreased perceived test-anxiety among the experimental group as indicated by the WTAS. The control group’s WTAS scores did not reveal any notable change in perceived test-anxiety, thus the researchers recorded a significant difference between the experimental and control group’s post-test scores. Based off the results, it is recommended that administrators and teachers utilize deep breathing and progressive muscle relaxation in order to maximize student achievement by decreasing perceived levels of test-anxiety.
King-Mertz Research/Creative Activity Award of Excellence in the College of Sciences

Chris Metz, Master of Arts in Mathematics, Option in Mathematics Education
Peter Wiles, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics, Faculty Mentor

Math Literacy: A Look at Discourse in Mathematics

In this study, an emphasis will be placed on having mathematical discussions and verbalizing connections between concepts instead of a procedure-based approach to learning Pre-Calculus. Five times throughout the course students were asked to work on an open-ended activity and were given a writing prompt following the activity. From student responses, I uncovered extent that students came to a deeper understanding of mathematics when the emphasis in the classroom was centered on mathematical discourse. In particular, I discovered that students could be placed into four broad categories based on their disposition to group discussion and problem solving. This provided great insight into how the students interacted with each other. Moreover, I was able to identify patterns in the students’ growth over time through these categories. Based on the results of this research, I provide suggestions for how to organize the learning environment to better accommodate the dispositions to discourse that I identified.

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grants

Jennifer Alberts, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Mammal Responses in Giant Miscanthus in Agricultural Landscapes
Jill Deppe, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Green Flame Energy, Research Partner

Daniel Applegate, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Penny Arthur, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
Factors that Support Individuals with Mental Disabilities in Employment
Lisa Moyer, Associate Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Moultrie County Counseling Center, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Michael Blackowicz**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Effects of Soil Amended Bio-Ash on Soil Macroinvertebrates*
Karen Gaines, Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

**Andrew Bunyard**, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling
*Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training*
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

**Brooke Capp**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
*The Long-Term Effects of an AAC Communication Partner Training*
Trina Becker, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Disorders and Sciences, and Beth Bergstrom, Instructor of Communication Disorders and Sciences, Faculty Mentors
Effingham Early Learning Center, Research Partner

**Josh Fourman**, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
*College Students and Non-Profit Agency Perceptions of Same-Sex Partner Abuse*
Lisa Moyer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Coalition for Community Services, Research Partner

**Sheila Greuel**, Masters Candidate in Gerontology
*Immersion in Long Term Care: An Integrative Learning Experience*
Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Faculty Mentor
Sullivan Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Research Partner

**Ryan Hastings**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Effects of Dams on Fish and Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in the Vermillion River Basin*
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, and Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentors
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

**Eric Hendricks**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Estrogen Therapy to Prevent and Cure Stroke*
Michael Menze, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, and Britto Nathan, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentors
Florida Atlantic University, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Sarah Huck, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Seasonal and Diurnal Movement of Flathead Catfish in the Wabash River
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Kaitlin Kaste, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Sharon Kim, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training and Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Megan Leineweber, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
School Pantry and Meals (SPAM) Program
Melanie Burns, Ph.D., Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Eastern Illinois Foodbank, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Corissa Lennon, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Dietary Niche Breadth in an Actively-Foraging Snake
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Energy Biosciences Institute, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Luz Lomeli, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
Identity Theft Among College Students
Axton Betz, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Consumer Education, Faculty Mentor
Maryland Crime Victims’ Resource Center, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Sarah Huck, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Seasonal and Diurnal Movement of Flathead Catfish in the Wabash River
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Kaitlin Kaste, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Sharon Kim, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training and Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Megan Leineweber, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
School Pantry and Meals (SPAM) Program
Melanie Burns, Ph.D., Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Eastern Illinois Foodbank, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Corissa Lennon, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Dietary Niche Breadth in an Actively-Foraging Snake
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Energy Biosciences Institute, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Luz Lomeli, Masters Candidate in Family and Consumer Sciences
Identity Theft Among College Students
Axton Betz, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Consumer Education, Faculty Mentor
Maryland Crime Victims’ Resource Center, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Rob McKinney, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling
Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Vaskar Nepal, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Optimal Harvest of Shovelnose Sturgeon in Lower Wabash River, IL
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Daniel Osterloo, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling
Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Manisha Pant, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Impact of Restoration on Fishes, Macroinvertebrates, and Habitat Quality in Kickapoo Creek near Charleston, IL
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Whitney Paul, Masters Candidate in Gerontology
The Virtual Dementia Tour Research Study
Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Eastern Community College Nursing Program, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

Sarah Puchalski, Masters Candidate in Counseling
Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

David Ollesch, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Impact of Diet on Growth, Condition, and Mortality in Saugeyes
Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Narissa Ramirez**, Masters Candidate in Gerontology

*The Importance of Telling Your Story: Awareness of Meaning in Life Through Guided Autobiography*

Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Faculty Mentor

BMA Management, Ltd., Research Partner

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Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Sharon Rayford**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Juvenile Sport Fish Assemblages on the Wabash River*

Robert Colombo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentors

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

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Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Morgan Roberts**, Masters Candidate in Chemistry

*The Purification and Characterization of MitoNEET: A Novel Diabetes Drug Target*

Mary Konkle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor

Indiana University School of Medicine, Research Partner

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Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Dilini Samarajeewa**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Role of Late Embryogenesis Abundant Protein in Stabilization of Mitochondrial Membranes during Desiccation*

Michael Menze, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

University of Michigan at Dearborn, Research Partner

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Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Alyssa Swan**, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling

*Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies*

Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

Mattoon High School, Research Partner

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Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Meagan Thomas**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Quantifying Niche Breadth in Leaf-Litter Snakes Using Stable Isotopes*

Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Brittany Trimble**, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
*Clinical Skills Education, Peer Supervision, and Role Dynamics: A Pilot Study of Counselor Training*
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Jill Adriane Tschantz**, Masters Candidate in School Counseling
*Test Anxiety Interventions for Adolescents Preparing for the ACT: Gum Chewing and Relaxation Strategies*
Heidi Larson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Mattoon High School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Jill Vogt**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
*Sensorimotor Factors Influencing /r/ Production Skills in Children*
Beth Bergstrom, Instructor of Communication Disorders and Sciences and
Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders and Sciences, Faculty Mentors
Carl Sandburg Elementary School, Research Partner

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant

**Amanda Wildenberg**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Invertebrate Community Response to Sanitary Effluent and Impoundments*
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Sanitary District of Decatur, Research Partner

Williams Travel Grants

Named for **Larry Williams**, Ph.D., dean of the Graduate School from 1976 to 1999, the Travel Grants provide support for students to present their research at regional, state, national or international conferences. These awards have been supporting graduate student travel since Dean Williams’s retirement in 1999. The grants are awarded in the fall and the spring, and the number of graduate students applying and receiving assistance continues to grow.

Williams Travel Grant

**Jennifer Alberts**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Small Mammal Responses to Giant Miscanthus, a Dedicated Bioenergy Crop, In Agricultural Landscapes in East Central Illinois*
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference | Wichita, Kansas
Jill Deppe, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
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<th>Graduate Scholar</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Faculty Mentor</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nathan Allison</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in Political Science</td>
<td><em>Understanding French Military Interventions in Libya and Cote D'Ivoire</em></td>
<td>Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sandra Braschi</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in Political Science</td>
<td><em>U.S. Public Opinion and the Use of Military Force: Intervention in the Libya Revolution 2011</em></td>
<td>Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sara Boro</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in College Student Affairs</td>
<td><em>Blogging: Creating Opportunities for Outreach</em></td>
<td>Dianne Timm, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nicholas Anson</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in Political Science</td>
<td><em>Effects of International Organizations on State Behavior</em></td>
<td>Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Shauna Bell</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in School Counseling</td>
<td><em>Canine-Assisted Play Therapy: Utilizing Canines to Help Facilitate Social and Emotional Growth within Children</em></td>
<td>Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Christophe Amegan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Maria Byndom</strong></td>
<td>Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling</td>
<td><em>Counseling the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: The Need for Clinical Specialization</em></td>
<td>Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Williams Travel Grant

**Jordan Calderone**, Masters Candidate in Economics  
*The Effects of Family Structure During Adolescents on Educational Attainment*  
Missouri Valley Economics Association | Memphis, Tennessee  
Ali Moshtagh, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Brittany Cole**, Masters Candidate in Dietetics  
*Acceptability and Preference of Oral Nutritional Supplements by Older Adults*  
AAFCS 104th Annual Conference and Expo | Houston, Texas  
Melanie Burns, Ph.D., Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Rachel Dicke**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*NATO Burden Sharing in Libya: Understanding the Contributions of Norway, Spain, and Poland to the War Effort*  
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference | Chicago, Illinois  
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Katherine Duitsman**, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling  
*Canine-Assisted Play Therapy: Utilizing Canines to Help Facilitate Social and Emotional Growth within Children*  
Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Ellen Eckert**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*The Mayor and His “Followers”: Is Twitter an Effective Means for Demonstrating Strong Local Leadership?*  
Midwest Political Science Conference | Chicago, Illinois  
Richard Wandling, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Nonso Alo Eijkeme**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*Is Nigeria’s Conflict Ethnic or Religious? Resolving the Escalating Conflict in Nigeria--A Leadership-Oriented Solution*  
Illinois Political Science Association Conference | Chicago, Illinois  
David Carwell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Megan Gingerich**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences  
*The Use of Shared Storybook Reading Versus Video Modeling for Teaching Basic Concepts to Preschoolers*  
Illinois Speech Hearing Association | Rosemont, Illinois  
Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders & Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Alex Gosser, Masters Candidate in Economics
*Inertia Theory of Poverty*
Missouri Valley Economics Association | Memphis, Tennessee
Mukti Upadhyay, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, Faculty Mentor

Andrea Grant, Masters Candidate in College Student Affairs
*Exploring Campus Racial Dynamics Through African American Students’ Perceptions of Diversity, Inclusion, and Speech Codes*
2012 Diversity Research Symposium | Terre Haute, Indiana
Dianne Timm, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

Sheila Greuel, Masters Candidate in Gerontology
*A Day in the Life: Immersive Learning as Professional Development for Gerontology Graduate Students*
American Society on Aging | Chicago, Illinois
Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Faculty Mentor

Stephanie Guyer, Masters Candidate in English
*Butler and Russ: Challenging Heteronormative Gender Roles in Science Fiction*
Pop Culture Association / American Culture Association National Conference | Washington, D.C.
Robin Murray, Ph.D., Professor of English, Faculty Mentor

Kaylee Hackney, Masters Candidate in Business Administration
*Employee Motives Behind Organizational Citizenship Behavior: Is Competition Among Them?*
IBAM Conference 2012 | Nashville, Tennessee
Melody Wollan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Business, Faculty Mentor

Rachael Hawn, Masters Candidate in Gerontology
*Eating, Exercise, and Education: Phase I of a Statewide Study of Supportive Living Settings*
Illinois Governor’s Conference on Aging | Chicago, Illinois
Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Faculty Mentor

Benjamin III, Masters Candidate in History
*Fighting for Legitimacy: The People’s Response to British Impressment and the Breakdown of Anglo-American Relations, 1810-1812*
Windy City Graduate Student History Conference | Chicago, Illinois
Ed Wehrle, Ph.D., Professor of History, Faculty Mentor


**Williams Travel Grant**

**Kortney Jones**, Masters Candidate in College Student Affairs  
*The Influential Factors that Impact Black Students’ College Access*  
National Association for Multicultural Education | Kansas City, Missouri  
Catherine Polydore, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

**Kaitlin Kaste**, Masters Candidate in School Counseling  
*Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy: Utilizing Horses in the Therapeutic Process with Children and Adolescents*  
Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

**Kortney Jones**, Masters Candidate in College Student Affairs  
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*Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy: Utilizing Horses in the Therapeutic Process with Children and Adolescents*  
Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Grant

**Jonathan Mattson**, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies

*The New Pirate TV: Examining the Online Narrowcasting 2.0 of Justin.tv in the New Media Environment*

Central States Communication Association Conference (CSCA) | Kansas City, Missouri

Scott Walus, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Jessica McDonald**, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies

*GIFT - Great Ideas for Teaching: Tracing Media Ownership and Synergy*

Central States Communication Association Conference (CSCA) | Kansas City, Missouri

Scott Walus, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Andrew McLaughlin**, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies

*A Soldier’s Home: A Representation*

Pop Culture Association/ American Culture Association National Conference | Washington, D.C.

David Gracon, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Ljiljana Milojevic**, Masters Candidate in History

*U.S. - Yugoslav Relations: Cold War Beginnings*

Windy City Graduate Student History Conference | Chicago, Illinois

Ed Wehrle, Ph.D., Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Philip Mohr**, Masters Candidate in History

*EIU Campus Housing Challenges After World War II*

Conference on Illinois History | Springfield, Illinois

Nora Pat Small, Ph.D., Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Michael Neureiter**, Masters Candidate in Political Science

*Sources of Media Bias in Coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: The 2010 Gaza Flotilla Raid in German, British, and U.S. Newspapers*

International Studies Association Midwest Conference | Saint Louis, Missouri

Andrew McNitt, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Grant

**Amber Niebrugge**, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling

*Canine-Assisted Play Therapy: Utilizing Canines to Help Facilitate Social and Emotional Growth within Children*


Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Yudong Qu, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Formulating a Defined Growth Medium for the Acidophilic Archaeon “Ferroplasma acidarmanus”*
Illinois State Academy of Science | Jacksonville, Illinois
Kai F. Hung, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Muhammad Rizwan, Masters Candidate in Technology
ATMAE 2012 Conference | Nashville, Tennessee
Peter Ping Liu, Ph.D., Professor of Technology, Faculty Mentor

Morgan Roberts, Masters Candidate in Chemistry
*The Purification and Characterization of MitoNEET: A Novel Diabetes Drug Target*
The 26th Symposium of the Protein Society | San Diego, California
Mary Konkle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor

Dilini Samarajeewa, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Ice Nucleation Protein Reduces Cryogenic Injury in Eukaryotic Cells*
Society of Integrative and Comparable Biology | San Francisco, California
Michael Menze, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Lisa Schleef, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
*Showing Them Yankees How the South Gets Down: The Commodification of Redneck Culture in CMT’s My Big Redneck Vacation*
Central States Communication Association Conference (CSCA) | Kansas City, Missouri
Samantha Szczur, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Kate Sroka, Masters Candidate in Economics
*The Effects of Additional Funding on Educational Attainment: Evidence from the South Carolina Education Lottery*
Missouri Valley Economics Association | Memphis, Tennessee
Linda Ghent, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, Faculty Mentor

Amy Strakbein, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling
*Theraplay: Treatment Approach for Children in Foster Care*
Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Grant

**Luxshani Thangarajah**, Masters Candidate in Chemistry

*Separation-Less Electrochemical Detection of Forensically Interesting Species: Tryptamine and Barbituric Acid in a Single Shot*

244th ACS National Meeting | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Svetlana Mitrovski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Meagan Thomas**, Masters Candidate in Biological Science

*Measuring Niche Overlap in a Community of Invertebrate-Eating Snakes*

Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology | Albuquerque, New Mexico

Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Patrick Vonesh**, Masters Candidate in History

*Passive Resistance: Intrapolitics in Caribbean Slave Society*

Windy City Graduate Student History Conference | Chicago, Illinois

Charles Foy, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Wei Wang**, Masters Candidate in Technology

*A Study of Laboratory Scale Biomass Gasification for Renewable Energy*

ATMAE 2012 Conference | Nashville, Tennessee

Peter Ping Liu, Ph.D., Professor of Technology, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Aaron White**, Masters Candidate in English

*And By the Grace of God, We’ll Travel West*

Craft Critique Culture Conference | Iowa City, Iowa

Lania Knight, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of English, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Emily Whitmore**, Masters Candidate in English

*Gender Waltz: Orlando and the Peculiar Formation of a Third Gender*

UGA EGO Graduate Student Conference | Athens, Georgia

Ruth Hoberman, Ph.D., Professor of English, Faculty Mentor

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Williams Travel Grant

**Amanda Wildenberg**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Community Response to Wastewater Effluent in a Midwestern River*

Society for Freshwater Science 2013 Meeting | Jacksonville, Florida

Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Grant

**Alyssa Zukowski**, Masters Candidate in Counseling  
*Theraplay: Treatment Approach for Children in Foster Care*  
Illinois Counseling Association 2012 Conference | Springfield, IL  
Angela Yoder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling and Student Development, Faculty Mentor

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2013 Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholar  
Established by Mr. and Mrs. Harry T. Wright in memory of Betty Wright Downing.  

**Alyssa Swan**, Masters Candidate in Clinical Counseling

---

2013 Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholar  
Established by Mrs. Frances Meyer Hampton in her estate, this award is presented annually to a full-time student in a master’s degree program.  

**Nana Quaicoe**, Masters Candidate in Economics

---

2013 Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholar  
Established in 2004 by siblings Wilfred (Bill) McClay and Susan Foote, in memory of their mother, Mary Bear McClay.  

**Stephany Slutzky**, Masters Candidate in Mathematics Education

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2013 Annie Weller Graduate Scholar  
Established by the family of Annie L. Weller to provide financial support for a full-time undergraduate or graduate student majoring in the social sciences, history, or physical sciences.  

**Alyssa Walser**, Masters Candidate in Natural Sciences

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2013 Rodney S. Ranes Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Award  
Established by Rodney S. Ranes, former director of graduate admissions, this award is selected by the Council on Graduate Studies Ranes Board to honor outstanding graduate mentoring.  

**Newton Key Ph.D.**, Professor of History
Hamand Society of Graduate Scholars

Named in honor of the first dean of The Graduate School, Dr. Lavern Hamand, the Hamand Society recognizes degree-seeking graduate candidates nominated from among the class of Distinguished Graduate Students whose achievements in both scholarship and service have had a documented impact on the discipline and the community. The quality and impact of the scholarship and service achievements of Hamand Society Scholars reflect the highest ideals of the engaged graduate student.

Dean Hamand was a professor of history and served as dean from 1967 to 1974. Before her passing in 2011, his widow Martha provided support for the Society, which was created in 2010. Their children, Carol Stephens, Wendy Venet, and Jeff Hamand continue their parent’s legacy in supporting graduate education at EIU.

2013 Hamand Scholar

Sharon Kim, Masters Candidate in School Counseling

2013 Hamand Scholar

Jessica McDonald, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies

2013 Hamand Scholar

Cassi Moody, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Class of 2013 Distinguished Graduate Students

Lindsey Alexander  
Music

Jacklyn Buhrmann  
Mathematics

Megan Callahan  
Communication Disorders and Sciences

Brenda Darling  
Mathematics Education

Callie Fields  
Clinical Counseling

Hannah Green  
English

Nick Gunty  
Art

Kelly Harmon  
Chemistry

Benjamin Ill  
History

Sharon Kim  
School Counseling
Class of 2013 Distinguished Graduate Students

Patricia King
Master Teacher

Meghan Leineweber
Dietetics

Merry Lucas
College Student Affairs

Patrick Lyons
Sustainable Energy

Matthew Maddox
Educational Leadership (Master’s)

Felicia Magee
Family and Consumer Sciences

Hannah Mason
School Psychology

Jessica McDonald
Communication Studies

Matthew Merkle
Business Administration (on-campus)

Brianne Miller
Elementary Education

Kevin Miller
Business Administration (off-campus)

Cassi Moody
Biological Sciences
Class of 2013 Distinguished Graduate Students

Abigail Moulton
Kinesiology and Sports Studies

Anna Mullen
Historical Administration

Kayla Napue
Special Education

Michael Neureiter
Political Science

Jacob Ozier
Gerontology

Jeremie Smith
Educational Leadership
(Specialist’s)

Lori Sprague
Technology
(off-campus)

Katie Sroka
Economics

Daniel Stabin
Clinical Psychology

Sanjiv Vajjala
Geographic Information Sciences

Alyssa Walser
Natural Sciences

Wei Wang
Technology
(on-campus)
Graduate programs achieving the distinction of "First Choice" have applied and been subjected to rigorous review from EIU’s Council on Graduate Studies, with oversight from the Graduate School, to ensure they meet the highest standards of scholarly excellence as evidenced through sustained achievement of criteria developed and adopted by the Council in 2006.

Programs achieving First Choice designation 2009-2013:
- History and Historical Administration
- English
- Communication Disorders and Sciences
- College Student Affairs
- School Psychology

Programs achieving First Choice designation 2010-2014:
- Gerontology
- Political Science

Programs achieving First Choice designation 2011-2015:
- Biological Sciences

Programs achieving First Choice designation 2012-2014:
- Counseling

Programs achieving First Choice designation 2012-2016:
- Clinical Psychology

College of Arts and Humanities Graduate Programs
- Christopher Kahler, M.F.A. - Art, Coordinator
- Ruth Hoberman, Ph.D. - English, Coordinator
- Edmund Wehrle, Ph.D. - History, Coordinator
- Nora Pat Small, Ph.D. - Historical Administration, Coordinator
- Marilyn Coles, Ph.D. - Music, Coordinator
- Matthew Gill, Ph.D. - Communication Studies, Coordinator

College of Education and Professional Studies Graduate Programs
- Clinton Warren, Ph.D. - Kinesiology and Sports Studies, Coordinator
- Marleis Trover, Ed.D. - Educational Leadership, Master’s & Specialist’s Programs, Chair and Coordinator
- Richard Roberts, Ph.D. - College Student Affairs & Counseling Programs, Chair and Coordinator
- Linda Reven, Ph.D. - Elementary Education, Coordinator
- Stephen Lucas, Ph.D. - Master Teacher, Coordinator
- Kathlene Shank, Ph.D. - Special Education, Chair and Coordinator

Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences Graduate Programs
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- Lisa Moyer, Ph.D. - Family and Consumer Sciences, Coordinator
- Karla Kennedy-Hagan, Ph.D. - Dietetics, Coordinator
- Jacquelyn Frank, Ph.D. - Gerontology, Coordinator
- Peter Ping Liu, Ph.D. - Technology and Certificate Programs, Sustainable Energy, Coordinator

College of Sciences Graduate Programs
- Andrew Methven, Ph.D. - Natural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Coordinator
- Jeff Laursen, Ph.D. - Biological Sciences, Coordinator
- Brenda Lawrence, Ph.D. - Chemistry, Coordinator
- Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D. - Communication Disorders and Sciences, Coordinator
- Mukti Upadhyay, Ph.D. - Economics, Coordinator
- Michael Cornish, Ph.D. - Geographic Information Sciences, Chair and Coordinator
- Karen Gaines, Ph.D. - Geographic Information Sciences, Chair and Coordinator
- Charles Delman, Ph.D. - Mathematics and Computer Science, Coordinator
- Peter Wiles, Ph.D. - Mathematics Education Option, Coordinator
- Steven Daniels, Ph.D. - Natural Sciences, Physics, Chair and Coordinator
- Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D. - Political Science, Coordinator
- Wesley Allan, Ph.D. - Clinical Psychology, Coordinator
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