



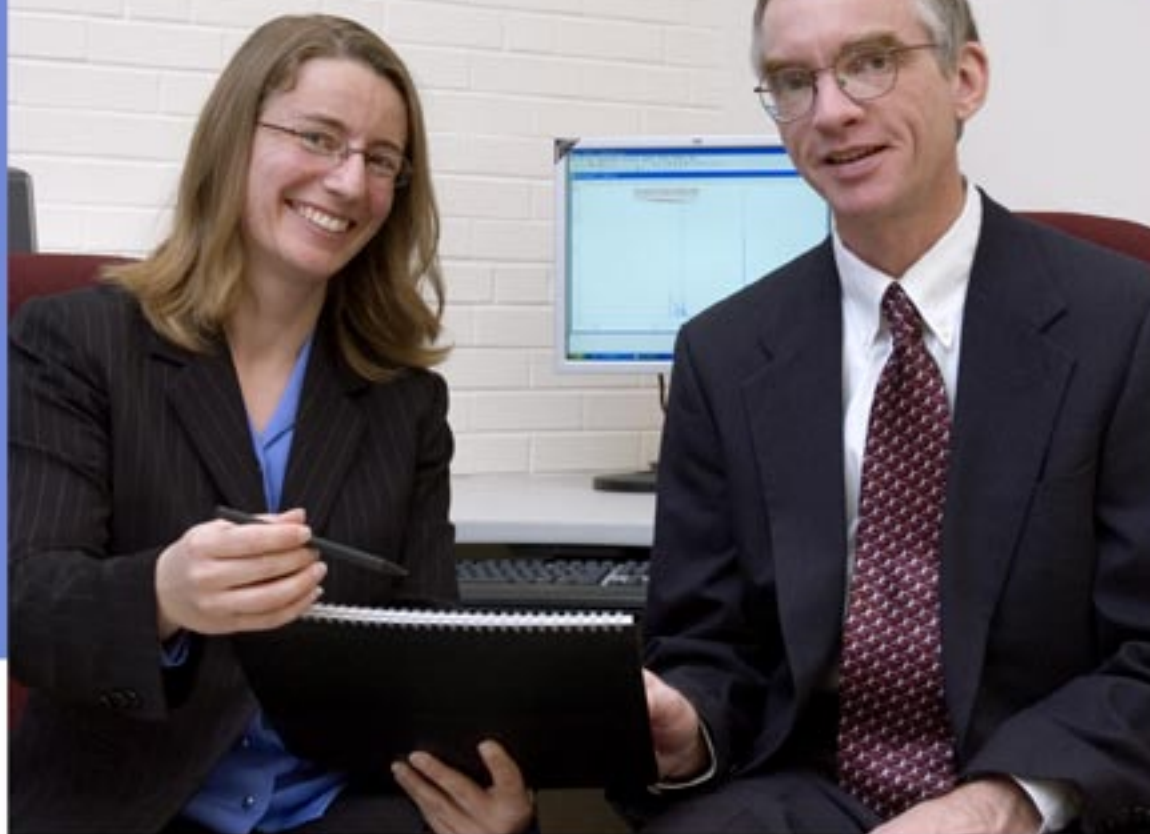
April 13, 2006

# Eastern Illinois University Graduate Scholar

*Journal of Scholarship and Recognition*

*Sarah Mazzella*

*2006 Distinguished Master's Thesis  
Award Winner with Dr. Bob Chesnut,  
Associate Professor of  
Chemistry*



## Graduate Recognition

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Distinguished Graduate Student Awards

Williams Travel Award Winners

Research/Creative Activity Award Winners

Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholar

Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholar

Thesis Awards

Master's Thesis Award Honorable Mention

Master's Thesis Award of Excellence Winner

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Winner and MAGS Thesis Nomination

Graduate Program Recognition

Graduate Leadership Award

Recognition of Unique Contributions to Graduate Education

Award of Excellence

Graduate Faculty Recognition

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award Nominees

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

## Graduate Scholarship

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Thesis Awards

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and MAGS Nomination

Master's Thesis Award of Excellence

Master's Thesis Award Honorable Mention

Research/Creative Activity Awards

Williams Travel Awards

Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholarship

Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholarship

First Recipient of Frances Meyer Hampton Scholarship

Eastern Illinois University

Graduate Scholar

2005-2006 Academic Year

Editor: Lori Henderson

Photographer: Beverly Cruse

*The Graduate School publishes the Graduate Scholar annually to recognize and honor those who have achieved excellence in graduate education at Eastern Illinois University.*

Awards Ceremony | April 13, 2006  
Introductions and Opening Remarks

Ms. Katie Griffis,

President of the Graduate Student Advisory Council and Mistress of Ceremonies

Mr. Louis V. Hencken, President

Dr. Blair M. Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Robert M. Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School

*Distinguished Graduate Student Awards*

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*Announced by Lenee Moseley, Student Dean, The Graduate School and  
Dr. Melanie Burns, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies*

**Marybeth Brey**- Biological Sciences

Presented by Dr. Chuck Costa

**Brandyn Traum**- Business Administration (On-Campus) Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll

**Richard Bough**- Business Administration (Off-Campus) Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll

**Wen Zhang**- Chemistry

Presented by Dr. Richard Keiter

**Tara Riddle**- Clinical Psychology

Presented by Dr. Anu Sharma

**Kevin Vicker**- College Student Affairs

Presented by Dr. Charles Eberly

**Jennifer Hornston**- Communication Disorders & Sciences Presented by Dr. Brenda Wilson

**Jessica Nodulman**- Communication Studies

Presented by Dr. Shane Miller

**Quinette Tukes**- Counseling

Presented by Dr. Gloria Leitschuh

**Christopher Cole**- Economics

Presented by Dr. Alan Grant

**Steven Rich**- Educational Administration (Masters)

Presented by Dr. Nick Osborne

**Jeffery Patchett**- Educational Administration (Specialist) Presented by Dr. Nick Osborne

**Lori Davis**- Elementary Education

Presented by Dr. Nick Osborne

**Shannon Littleton**- English

Presented by Dr. Chris Hanlon

**Beth Sanner**- Family & Consumer Sciences

Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy

**Kacie Taylor**- Family & Consumer Sciences (Dietetics Option) Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy

**Melissa Long**- Gerontology

Presented by Dr. Jeanne Snyder

**Ryan Ervin**- History

Presented by Dr. Mark Voss-Hubbard

**Christine Saniat**- History (Historical Administration Option) Presented by Dr. Nora Pat Small

**Amy Hansen**- Mathematics

Presented by Dr. Patrick Coulton

**Emily Patrick**- Mathematics (Math Education Option)

Presented by Dr. Peter Andrews

**Brian Yakey**- Music

Presented by Dr. Peter Hesterman

**John Winebright**- Natural Sciences

Presented by Dr. Jim McGaughey

**Dana Jergens**- Physical Education

Presented by Dr. Scott Crawford

**Erika Cornelius**- Political Science

Presented by Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

**Monica Fischer**- School Psychology

Presented by Dr. Mike Havey

**Lisa DiNaso**- Special Education

Presented by Dr. Kathlene Shank

**Joseph Garling**- Technology (On-Campus)

Presented by Dr. Deborah Woodley

**Cynthia Guthrie**- Technology (Off-Campus)

Presented by Dr. Tom Waskom

*Williams Travel Awards*

*Announced by Dr. Peter Loewen, Member, Council on Graduate Studies, Chair, Awards Committee  
Presented by Dr. Melanie Burns, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies and  
Dr. Eric Hake, Vice Chair, Council on Graduate Studies*

**Fall 2005 Recipients**

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**Mary Barford**, History  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lynne Curry

**Marybeth Brey**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

**Lindsay Roberts Eck**, School Psychology  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Christine McCormick

**Kevin Farrell**, School Psychology  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Assege Haile Mariam

**Elizabeth Fincel**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Marina Marjanovic

**Mark Fincel**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

**Bethany Harrington**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

**Aaron Keathley**, Political Science  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeffrey Ashley

**Robyn Bethany Paige**, College Student Affairs  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Eberly

**Aimee Wheat**, Communication Disorders and Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Brenda Wilson

**Brent Yergensen**, Communication Studies  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

**Spring 2006 Recipients**

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**Natalie Arp**, Communication Disorders and Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Brenda Wilson

**Melissa Brown**, School Psychology  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Daneen Deptula

**Amy Charlton**, School Psychology  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Daneen Deptula

**Joanne Crawford**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

**John Dowd**, Communication Studies  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

**Tiffany Gibson**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeff Laursen

**Randall Havens**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

**Jeremy Klass**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

**Emin Nabiyev**, Political Science  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

**Emily Ramage**, English  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Chris Hanlon

**Jessica Rasmussen**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson

**Timothy Rye**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

**Adam Travis Smith**, Counseling  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Eberly

**William Stewart**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

**Elise Tulloss**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

**Brent Yergensen**, Communication Studies  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

*Research/Creative Activity Awards*

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*Announced by Dr. Sace Elder, Member, Council on Graduate Studies, Chair, Awards Committee  
Presented by Dr. Melanie Burns, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies and Dr. Eric Hake,  
Vice Chair, Council on Graduate Studies*

**Fall 2005 Recipients**

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**Catherine Ciak**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer  
**Bethany Harrington**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer  
**Jeremy Klass**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

**Spring 2006 Recipients**

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**Joanne Crawford**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson  
**Elizabeth Finsel**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Marina Marjanovic  
**Jay Gerber**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson  
**Jessica Rasmussen**, Biological Sciences  
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson

*Graduate Scholarships*

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*Announced by Dr. Linda Morford, Member, Council on Graduate Studies,  
Chair, Awards Committee*

**2006 Betty Wright Downing Scholar**

**Brittney Yakey**, Communication Disorders and Sciences  
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Wilson

**2006 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar**

**Amy Miller**, School Psychology  
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. J. Michael Havey

*Thesis Award Winners*

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*Announced by Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, Member, Council on Graduate Studies,  
Chair, Awards Committee*

**Honorable Mention**

**Christopher Weedman**, English Faculty Mentor, Dr. Parley Ann Boswell

**Award of Excellence**

**Roberta Newbury**, Biological Sciences Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

**Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and Midwest Association of Graduate School Thesis Nomination**

**Sarah Mazzella**, Chemistry Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Chesnut

*Graduate Leadership Award and Award of Excellence*

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*Presented by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School*

**2006 Leadership Award**      Program      Graduate Coordinator      Department Chair

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**2006 Award of Excellence**      Department      Director

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*Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Nominees and 2006 Graduate Faculty Award  
Announced by Ms. Lenee Moseley, Student Dean, The Graduate School*

**2006 Graduate Faculty Nominees**

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- Dr. Dagni Bredeesen**, English  
Student Nominators, Amanda Bright, Lisa Chamberlin,  
Carissa Hayden, Barry Hudek, Sue Krukenberg, Brigid O'Malley, Greg Olson,  
Kathleen Rodems, Lavada Simpson, Joe Webb
- Dr. Melanie Burns**, Family and Consumer Sciences  
Student Nominator, Aaron Grobengeiser
- Dr. Ann Coddington-Rast**, Art  
Student Nominator, Trisha Eardley
- Dr. Steven Conn**, Counseling and Student Development  
Student Nominator, Mandy Pope
- Dr. Lynne Curry**, History  
Student Nominator, Mary Barford
- Dr. Nancy Farber**, Counseling and Student Development  
Student Nominator, Nikki Wynn
- Dr. Robert "Bud" Fischer**, Biological Sciences  
Student Nominator, Bethany Harrington
- Dr. Sherry Holladay**, Communication Studies  
Student Nominator, Jessica Nodulman
- Dr. Richard Keiter**, Chemistry  
Student Nominator, Wen Zhang
- Dr. Heidi Larson**, Counseling and Student Development  
Student Nominator, Amy Marcoot
- Dr. Scott Meiners**, Biological Sciences  
Student Nominators, William Stewart, Elise Tulloss
- Dr. Shane Miller**, Communication Studies  
Student Nominators, John Dowd, Brent Yergensen
- Dr. Melanie Mills**, Communication Studies  
Student Nominator, Lauren Kluge
- Dr. Thomas Nelson**, Biological Sciences  
Student Nominator, Joanne Crawford
- Dr. Jeanne Snyder**, Gerontology  
Student Nominator, Melissa Long
- Dr. Mukti Udadyay**, Economics  
Student Nominators, Bibhu Aryal, Kyle Baumgartner, Stephanie Southerland,  
Tammy Velkova, Mitch Wilkens

**2006 Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor**

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- Dr. Shane Miller**, Communication Studies  
Student Nominators, John Dowd, Brent Yergensen



Distinguished Master's Thesis Award &  
Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Nomination

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**Sarah Mazzella**, Master of Science in Chemistry  
Robert Chesnut, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor

***Nonaqueous Platination for Synthesis of Platinated 7 $\alpha$ -Substituted Estradiol***

Cisplatin, carboplatin, and oxaliplatin are used clinically for treating some cancers, but they are not the preferred treatment for breast cancer. The usefulness of these platinum-containing drugs is limited by poor concentration of the active platinum moiety within the tumor before dose-limiting side effects are reached. One way to selectively concentrate a platinum antitumor compound in breast cancer cells is to conjugate the platinum moiety via a malonate linkage to an estrogen which selectively binds to the estrogen receptor (ER) protein. The major obstacle to linking a lipophilic estrogen to a diamino-platinum compound is the lack of solubility of estrogens in water, the typical solvent for malonate platination reactions.

The development of a nonaqueous platination method was explored with two simple malonic acid derivatives that served as models of an estrogen. The model compounds were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR, mass spectrometry, and elemental analysis. In DMF solution, the models were successfully coordinated to either a diaminoplatinum(II) and trans-1,2-diaminocyclohexaneplatinum(II) species. Each model complex was characterized by at least three of the following techniques: <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>195</sup>Pt NMR, mass spectrometry, and elemental analysis.

The developed nonaqueous platination method was applied to synthesis of a platinated estrogen. The DACH platinated estrogen was characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>195</sup>Pt NMR, mass spectrometry, and elemental analysis. The cis-diaminoplatinated estrogen was characterized by mass spectrometry.

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Master's Thesis Award of Excellence

**Roberta Newbury**, Master of Science in Biological Sciences  
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

***Seasonal Movements and Habitat Selection by Raccoons in an Agricultural Landscape***

Raccoon populations are currently high due to low fur prices, elimination of predators, habitat fragmentation, and Illinois' extensive cropfields. Raccoons prey on songbird nests, so high raccoon densities result in landscapes that are hostile to many nesting birds. Given their importance as nest predators, a better understanding of raccoon ecology and foraging behavior could aid in the development of strategies for conserving grassland birds.

I conducted a 2-year study to investigate raccoon movements and habitat use in a preserve managed primarily for imperiled grassland birds. My objectives were to: (1) describe seasonal home ranges and foraging paths of raccoons, (2) investigate patterns of seasonal habitat use, and (3) prescribe management strategies for reducing raccoon predation on grassland birds.

I radio-collared and intensively tracked 34 raccoons during January 2004-April 2005, resulting in 1,020 radio-locations and 44 foraging paths. Males had significantly larger home ranges than females only during winter when breeding males search for mates. Both sexes showed pronounced seasonal habitat shifts, using wetland habitats in the spring and summer, shifting to cropfields in the fall, and barns in the winter. I found no evidence that raccoons shift their foraging into grassland nesting habitat in the spring. Instead, raccoons prey on nests that they encounter by chance when moving between wetlands and their forest dens.

Since foraging paths tend to follow habitat edges (forest-grassland and forest-wetland borders), birds nesting near edges are more vulnerable to raccoon predation. My hypothesis that foraging paths would be more convoluted in the spring when raccoons searched for nests was not supported. Paths tended to be straighter in the spring and more convoluted in the winter when raccoons searched for sparse food resources. Reducing habitat edges and linear landscape features and separating these from prime nesting habitat should reduce nest predation by raccoons.





Master's Thesis Honorable Mention

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**Christopher Weedman**, Master of Arts in English  
Parley Ann Boswell, Ph.D., Professor of English, Faculty Mentor

***The Tunnel at the End of the Light: Victimization in the Films of Roman Polanski***

Polish-expatriate film director Roman Polanski's career has been largely overshadowed by the bizarre and tragic events of his personal life. After a horrific childhood that saw him watch helplessly as his Jewish parents were taken away by the Nazis to the concentration camps, Polanski again experienced familial tragedy when his eight-month pregnant wife Sharon Tate and four houseguests were brutally murdered in 1969 by members of the Charles Manson cult. In the aftermath of the Manson murders, the director was further victimized by the American popular press, which, according to biographer Barbara Leaming, unfairly suggested that he unwittingly "brought the tragedy upon himself" by continually producing macabre films like *Repulsion* (1965) and *Rosemary's Baby* (1968) (109). Subsequently, Polanski's dual identity as a victim/victimizer was permanently etched in the American consciousness after his statutory rape of thirteen-year-old Samantha Gailey, which resulted in his fleeing the United States to France in 1978 to escape sentencing.

Polanski's notorious reputation coupled with his macabre storytelling kept his films from receiving the serious critical attention they deserved. Unlike fellow suspense filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock, who saw his status elevated from craftsman to auteur in the late 1960s, Polanski has never reached the same level of stature in the film community. By recognizing that Polanski's dark cinematic vision is the semi-autobiographical work of an auteur director, film scholars are forced to come to terms with the thin line separating the roles of victim and victimizer in his life and his films. Just as the director's public identity shifted from victim to victimizer, Polanski's film protagonists typically make the same unsettling transition.

This thesis will explore how Polanski can be evaluated as an auteur director, whose personal and professional world is a never-ending circle of victimization. Polanski is a victim turned victimizer, who finds himself attacked by the critics for challenging his audience to question and evaluate the dual nature of victim/victimizer in both his life and his films. This circle of victimization is most clearly evident in the films *Cul-de-Sac* (1966), *Chinatown* (1974), *Bitter Moon* (1992), and *The Pianist* (2002). These films are the director's cathartic means of coming to terms with his personal tragedies: his unhappy first marriage to Barbara Kwiatkowska; the murder of his second wife Tate; his statutory rape of Gailey; and his separation from his family during the Holocaust, respectively. While the preceding three films paint a masochistic worldview where evil triumphs and the human spirit is always obliterated, *The Pianist* offers the first glimmer of hope in Polanski's remarkable oeuvre that emotional survival is possible.

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***Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award***

**Catherine Ciak**, Master of Science Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*The Effect of Extreme Hydrologic Events on Macroinvertebrate Community Structure*  
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Illinois Natural History Survey, Research Partner

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***Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award***

**Joanne Crawford**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Genetic Relationship of Beaver Within and Among Colonies in the Embarras River Watershed of Central Illinois*  
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner



***Graduate School Research /Creative Activity Award***

**Elizabeth Fincel**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Urea: a Natural Cryoprotectant in the Freeze-tolerant Wood Frog (*Rana sylvatica*)*  
Marina Marjanovic, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Miami University, Research Partner





***Graduate School Research /Creative Activity Award***

**Jay Gerber**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*The Effects of Sanitation District Discharges on Stream Benthic Algae Assemblages*  
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

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***Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award***

**Bethany Harrington**, Master of Science of Biological Sciences  
*The Artificial Riffles as a Remediation Technique in Three Illinois Streams*  
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner



***Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award***

**Jeremy Klass**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Soil Feedback as a Mechanism of Plant Community Response to Invasion*  
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Research Partner

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***Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award***

**Jessica Rasmussen**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Classification of Illinois Lakes and Reservoirs and Potential use of Phytoplankton as Biocriteria*  
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Research Partner



***Williams Travel Award***

**Natalie Arp**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences  
*Effects of Risk on Non-Word Repetition of First Graders*  
American and Illinois Speech and Hearing Association Conventions,  
San Diego, California and Rosemont, Illinois  
Brenda Wilson, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders & Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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***Williams Travel Award***

**Mary Barford**, Masters Candidate in History  
*Rural Radicals: Illinois Coal Miners and the Farmer-Labor Party*  
Illinois History Conference, Springfield, Illinois  
Lynne Curry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

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***Williams Travel Award***

**Marybeth Brey**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Evaluation of the Distribution of Lake Trout in the Water Column*  
135th Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, Anchorage, Alaska  
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
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**Williams Travel Award**

**Melissa Brown**, Specialist Candidate in School Psychology  
*Adolescent Physical and Learning Disabilities: Implications for Adjustment*  
Conference on Human Development, Louisville, Kentucky  
Daneen Deptula, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Amy Charlton**, Specialist Candidate in School Psychology  
*Discrepancies in Adolescent and Parent Report of Risky Behavior: Predictors and Implications*  
Conference on Human Development, Louisville, Kentucky  
Daneen Deptula, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**Erika Cornelius**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*Haiti: A Case Study of War Powers in the Bush Administration*  
Milwaukee Graduate Student Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Joanne Crawford**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*A Comparison of Two Molecular Markers for Gender  
Determination in Beaver (*Castor canadensis*)*  
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, St. Louis, Missouri  
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**John Dowd**, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies  
*Authenticity and Communication: Transformations of the Self in the Digital Age*  
*The Balancing Act: Addressing Analog/Digital Relation States within Balance Theory*  
University of Utah: Humanities Graduate Conference / Central States Association  
Salt Lake City, Utah / Indianapolis, Indiana  
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Lindsay Roberts Eck**, Specialist Candidate in School Psychology  
*The Relationship of DIBELS Oral Reading Fluency to Reading  
Comprehension in Sixth Graders*  
National Association of School Psychologists, Anaheim, California  
Christine McCormick, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**Kevin Farrell**, Specialist Candidate in School Psychology  
*Comparing Two Phonological Awareness Interventions Among Head Start Children*  
National Association of School Psychologists, Anaheim, California  
Assege HaileMariam, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor

*Williams Travel Award*

**Elizabeth Fincel**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Urea: a Natural Cryoprotectant in the Freeze-tolerant Wood Frog (*Rana sylvatica*)*  
Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida  
Marina Marjanovic, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Mark Fincel**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*A Six-year Study on the Effects of a Municipal Waste Water Treatment Plant on Downstream Fish Communities*  
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Tiffany Gibson**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Parasite Seasonality of Illinois House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*)*  
Illinois State Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Illinois  
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Bethany Harrington**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Effectiveness of Artificial Riffles*  
Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference, Burlington, Vermont  
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Randall Havens**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Beaver Movements in East-Central Illinois: Wakes Across a Watershed*  
Illinois State Academy of Sciences 98th Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois  
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Aaron Keathley**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*In Search of a Comprehensive Forest Management Policy*  
Western Social Science Association, Phoenix, Arizona  
Jeff Ashley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor



*Williams Travel Award*

**Jeremy Klass**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Soil Feedback as a Mechanism of Plant Community Response to Invasion*  
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, St. Louis, Missouri  
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOLAR

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**Williams Travel Award**

**Emin Nabiyeu**, Masters Candidate in Political Science  
*NATO Expansion and Azerbaijan: Evaluating the Potential of the Caucasus State*  
Illinois State Conference for Students of Political Science, Normal, Illinois  
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Robyn Bethany Paige**, Masters Candidate in College Student Affairs  
*Culture and Ethnicity in Hazing Prevention Programs*  
National Summit on Black Greek-letter Organizations, Little Rock, Arkansas  
Charles Eberly, Ph.D., Professor of Counseling & Student Development, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**Emily Ramage**, Masters Candidate in English  
*"Master" Dimmesdale and the Ambiguous Politics of Slavery in the Scarlet Letter*  
Nineteenth Century Literature and the Cultural Movement, Columbia, South Carolina  
Christopher Hanlon, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of English, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Jessica Rasmussen**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Classification of Illinois Lakes and Reservoirs and Evaluation of the Potential Use of Phytoplankton as Biocriteria*  
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Gatlinburg, Tennessee  
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**Timothy Rye**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Functional Dynamics of Plant Communities from a Long-Term Study*  
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, St. Louis, Missouri  
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**



**Adam Travis Smith**, Masters Candidate in Counseling  
*Crafting a Great Graduate Experience*  
Association of Fraternity Advisors, Atlanta, Georgia  
Charles Eberly, Ph.D., Professor of Counseling & Student Development, Faculty Mentor

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**Williams Travel Award**

**William Stewart**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*The Effects of Source Population Size on Plant Performance in a Prairie Restoration*  
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, St. Louis, Missouri  
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

***Williams Travel Award***

**Elise Tulloss**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences  
*Defining Edge Gradients using Plant Species Composition in  
Oak-Hickory Forest Patches*  
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, St. Louis, Missouri  
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor



***Williams Travel Award***

**Aimee Wheat**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders & Sciences  
*Comparing Discourse According to Elicitation Procedure*  
Illinois Speech Language Hearing Association, Rosemont, Illinois  
Brenda Wilson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of  
Communication Disorders & Sciences, Faculty Mentor

***Williams Travel Award***

**Brent Yergensen**, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies  
*The Gospel According to Popular Film/  
The Holistic Hero: The Rhetoric of Heroism in Spider-Man 2*  
Illinois Speech and Theatre Assoc./Central States Communication Assoc.,  
Bloomington, Illinois/Indianapolis, Indiana  
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor



***2006 Betty Wright Downing Scholar***

**Brittney Yakey**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright established this scholarship in memory of Harry's sister, Betty Wright Downing. The scholar must be a full-time graduate student enrolled in a master's degree program related to a pre-medical or health focused discipline.

***2006 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar***

**Amy Miller**, Specialist Candidate in School Psychology

Frances Meyer Hampton attended the normal school at Eastern from the first grade through high school. She continued at Eastern as a college student and graduated in 1941 with a bachelor's degree in home economics. Frances taught school in a small town for 21 years until hearing loss forced her to retire to her birthplace, a family farm near Charleston. Forging a close friendship with her remaining family in Charleston, Wayne and Linda Hampton, Frances willed her estate to them with the instructions to establish a scholarship that would provide financial support to a graduate student attending Eastern. The Hamptons fulfilled Frances's request, and since 2001 the scholarship has provided significant financial support to a graduate student who exemplifies scholarly excellence.



## *Graduate Alumni*

## *2001 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar*

**Sarah Weaver Grob**, First Recipient of the Frances Meyer Hampton Scholarship

*Sarah graduated with her master's degree in Communication Disorders and Sciences in 2003. We caught up with Sarah and asked her to update us on the events in her life since graduating from EIU and what it meant to her to be the first Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar. She tells us in her words below.*

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“Wow, what is that? Where did you get that?” Those are the words heard quite frequently as new students enter my room at school. Children see the diplomas, plaques, and medals of my undergraduate and graduate careers at EIU and become mesmerized by their presence. While many people may think they are on my wall for sake of conversation, the real premise behind their existence is to remind me of my EIU experiences with friends and faculty and to remind me of my professional goals and endeavors yet to come.

At the time of receiving the Frances Meyer Hampton Scholarship, I would have to say I felt honored and thankful. The day I heard the news remains vividly clear in my mind. It was a three-way tie between my parents, Dr. Richard, and myself as to who was happiest. Being the first recipient of such an award was indeed a prestigious accomplishment to add to the Livingston C. Lord Scholar award and others. The financial stability it offered for my graduate career allowed me to embark on a journey that did not require countless hours of working to make ends meet while striving to achieve the high demands of my CDS graduate curriculum and internships. Simply stated, the honor bestowed opportunities to pursue as much knowledge and expertise as possible from my graduate program.

There have been many life changes since my days at EIU. I married my husband, Chad, the summer after completing graduate school. Within two weeks of that event, I started my first job as a speech-language pathologist working for a special education cooperative and school district. I worked with early childhood, severe-profound, hearing-impaired, and regular education students while traveling from school to school. We purchased our first home during the spring of that school year, and the following year I obtained a different job with the district that welcomed me as a student teacher. It has been almost two full years at Limestone Grade School, and I enjoy working with the students and faculty. My time has also been spent working weekends and vacations at a local hospital in the speech therapy department because I have the desire to remain “fresh” in both school and medical settings. I can truly say, “I love my profession.” It has opened many doors in such a small time frame. I plan to continue my current position to gain some experience for what lies ahead in the future. And finally, one more piece of news: Chad and I are expecting our first addition to the family in July.

Since I have entered the speech-language pathology profession, I look back at my graduate experience and realize that the Frances Meyer Hampton Scholarship is more than an award or honor. It is motivation. Motivation that I can achieve future dreams as a young professional whether it be in making clinical decisions or perhaps authoring an innovative therapy material. It is also responsibility. I continue striving towards upholding the high standards and achievements professionally just as I did academically. The honor is one of which I will cherish always.



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The Graduate School  
600 Lincoln Avenue  
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217.581.2220  
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