Graduate Scholar
Journal of Scholarship and Recognition

April 19, 2007

Elizabeth Finkel
2007 Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award Winner

The Graduate School
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Graduate Recognition

Distinguished Graduate Student Awards
Williams Travel Award Winners
Research/Creative Activity Award Winners
Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholar
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

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
Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholarship
Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholarship
Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholarship

Eastern Illinois University
Graduate Scholar
2006-2007 Academic Year
Editor: Lori Henderson
Cover Photo: Michael Babcock
Interior Photos: 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.
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOLAR

Awards Ceremony | April 19, 2007
Introductions and Opening Remarks

Mr. Brian Clarke, President of the Graduate Student Advisory Council and Master 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College of Arts and Humanities</th>
<th>College of Education and Professional Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Announced by Dean James Johnson</td>
<td>Announced by Dean Diane Jackman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Dethmers- Art</td>
<td>Brian Clarke- College Student Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Mr. Chris Kahler</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Charles Eberly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Griffs- Communication Studies</td>
<td>Diane Pence- Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Shane Miller</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Heidi Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Rodems- English</td>
<td>Sara Steinman- Educational Administration (Master’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Chris Hanlon</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Linda Morford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Carwell- History</td>
<td>Eric Frankford- Educational Administration (Specialist’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Lynne Curry</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Linda Morford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Gillen- History (Historical Administration)</td>
<td>Jennifer Walker- Elementary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Nora Pat Small</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Gail Lockart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Cather- Music</td>
<td>Valerie Wente- Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Peter Hesterman</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Jill Owen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amy Jackson- Special Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Joy Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Announced by Dean Mary Anne Hanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joanne Crawford- Biological Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Chuck Costa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terry Lin- Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Sean Peebles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ateka Contractor- Clinical Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Anu Sharma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colleen Slattery- Communication Disorders &amp; Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Brenda Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Lesica- Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Eric Hake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Molly Finley- Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Keith Wolcott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teri Cutler- Mathematics (Math Education Option)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Marshall Lassak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shelley Roberts- Natural Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Jim McGaughey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel Bottomley- Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Lilian Barria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Martin- School Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Mike Havey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences
Announced by Dean Diane Hoadley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benjamin Tueck- Business Administration (On-Campus)</th>
<th>Benjamin Tueck- Business Administration (On-Campus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Schmid- Business Administration (Off-Campus)</td>
<td>Lauren Schmid- Business Administration (Off-Campus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Cheryl Noll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misty Baker- Family &amp; Consumer Sciences</td>
<td>Misty Baker- Family &amp; Consumer Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audra Cisna- Family &amp; Consumer Sciences (Dietetics)</td>
<td>Audra Cisna- Family &amp; Consumer Sciences (Dietetics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Frances Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana Stenger- Gerontology</td>
<td>Diana Stenger- Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Jeanne Snyder</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Jeanne Snyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Norman- Technology (On-Campus)</td>
<td>Joshua Norman- Technology (On-Campus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Phil Age</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Phil Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Harmon- Technology (Off-Campus)</td>
<td>Aaron Harmon- Technology (Off-Campus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented by Dr. Phil Age</td>
<td>Presented by Dr. Phil Age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Williams Travel Awards
Announced by Dr. Shane Miller, Member, Council on Graduate Studies, Chair, Awards Committee
Presented by Dr. Thomas Nelson, Member, Council on Graduate Studies and
Dr. Scott Crawford, Member, Awards Committee

Fall 2006 Recipients

Daniel Bottomley, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

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

Lee Gross, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Stephen Mullin

Brittany Hoerdeman, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Karen Swenson

Vincent Hustad, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew Methven

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

Christopher Lading, Communication Disorders & Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Rebecca Throneburg

Melanie Olds, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Stephen Mullin

Margaret Pedziwiatr, Communication Disorders & Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Gail Richard

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

Krishna I. Thomas, History
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Jin-hee Lee

Terri Thompson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Eric Bollinger

Oie-Liis Vahemma, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Samuel Vandegrift, Political Science
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew McNitt

Kimberly Vernier, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Andrew Methven

Brittney Yakey, Communication Disorders & Sciences
Faculty Mentor- Dr. Rebecca Throneburg

Spring 2007 Recipients

Kyle Baumgartner, Economics
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Hui Li

William Beatty, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Zhiwei Liu

Robyn Carswell, History
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lynne Curry

Catherine Ciak, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Andrew Claxton, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeff Laursen

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

Rachel Fisher, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller

Ryan Galloway, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

Jay Gerber, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Charles Pederson

Kristin Giglietti, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Jeff Laursen

Katie Griffith, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Melanie Mills

Corinna Hanson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Thomas Nelson

Garic Lawrence, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lilian Barria

Michelle Moreton, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Melanie Mills

Sherraun Mustafa, Counseling
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Anu Sharma

Emin Nabiye, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lilian Barria

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

Ben Riegle, Physical Education
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Brent Walker

Michal Serafin, Chemistry
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Sean Peebles

Terri Thompson, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Eric Bollinger

Martha Wilkinson, Communication Studies
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Shane Miller
Research/Creative Activity Awards
Announced by Dr. Sace Elder, Member, Council on Graduate Studies; Chair, Awards Committee
Presented by Dr. Steve Conn, Member, Council on Graduate Studies; Member, Awards Committee
and Dr. Scott Crawford, Member, Awards Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Physical Education

Fall 2006 Recipients

Alexandra Baluka, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Steven Daniel

Catherine Ciak, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Joanne Crawford, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentors, Dr. Zhiwei Liu and Dr. Thomas Nelson

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

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

Spring 2007 Recipients

William Beatty, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Zhiwei Liu

Jeff Fore, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Peter Frey, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Scott Meiners

Lee Gross, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Stephen Mullin

Brandon Jutras, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentors, Dr. Zhiwei Liu and Dr. Jeff Laursen

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

Kimberly Vernier, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Andrew Methven

Steve Warrner, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Robert Fischer

Graduate Scholarships
Announced by Dr. Cheryl Noll, Member, Scholarship Committee; Graduate Coordinator, Business Studies

2007 Mary Bear McClay Scholar

Teri Cutler, Mathematics Education
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Marshall Lassak

2007 Betty Wright Downing Scholar

Katie Herrmann, Communication Disorders and Sciences
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Wilson

2007 Frances Meyer Hampton Scholar

Brittany Barker, Communication Disorders and Sciences
Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Brenda Wilson

Thesis Award Winners
Announced by Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, Chair, Council on Graduate Studies
Honorable Mention

Ryan Ervin, History
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Lynne Curry

Award of Excellence

Erika Cornelius, Political Science
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

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

Elizabeth Fincel, Biological Sciences
Faculty Mentor, Dr. Marina Marjanovic
Graduate Leadership Award and Award of Excellence
Presented by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School

2007 Graduate School Leadership Award

**School Psychology**, Graduate Program
Dr. Mike Havey, Graduate Coordinator
Dr. William Addison, Department Chair

2007 Graduate School Award of Excellence

**Dr. Mary Herrington-Perry**, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

2007 Graduate Faculty Nominees

Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Nominees and 2007 Graduate Faculty Award
Announced by Ms. Christa Smith, Student Dean, The Graduate School

**Dr. Ronan Bernas**, School Psychology
Student Nominator: Michael Maier

**Dr. Joshua Birk**, History
Student Nominator: Patrick Harris

**Dr. Lynne Curry**, History
Student Nominator: Robyn Carswell

**Dr. Chris Hanlon**, English
Student Nominators: Lisa Chamberlin, Tasha Dunaway, Ashley Klinginsmith, Scott Lutz
Emily Ramage, Kathleen Rodems

**Dr. William Joyce**, Graduate Business Studies
Student Nominator: Ivana Milosevic

**Dr. Heidi Larson**, Counseling
Student Nominator: Amy Marcoot

**Dr. Jinhee Lee**, History
Student Nominator: Krishna I. Thomas

**Dr. Thomas McDonald**, Technology
Student Nominator: Chad Cross

2007 Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor

**Dr. Jinhee Lee**, History
Student Nominator: Krishna I. Thomas

Special Recognition
Presented by Dr. Robert Augustine, Dean of the Graduate School
The events of September 11th once again brought the unique power-sharing relationship between the executive and legislative branches into focus. The Framers of the U.S. Constitution designed the executive branch to have 11th, American citizens and Congress naturally rally-round the national leader, the president. In light of these recent events, this thesis examines the interaction between the Bush White House and 107th and 108th Congress, following the events of September 11th.

The central focus of this study is an exploration of the political interplay between Congress and the president in the area of foreign policy, with special emphasis given to war powers and military tribunals. Was the war powers interplay simply "business as usual," following the pattern of executive assertiveness and congressional acquiescence, or did the events of September 11th alter the balance of power? General findings suggest that President Bush's strong approval rating following the terrorist attack, combined with partisan politics and domestic political variables, created a tendency for congressional deference.
Master's Thesis Honorable Mention

Ryan Ervin, Master of Arts in History
Lynne Curry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

The Slave Trade, The Constitutional Convention, and the Compromises That Led to Union: A Reinterpretation

At the 1787 Philadelphia Convention, abolitionist and anti-slavery delegates were faced with a direct choice: they could either explicitly end the institution, or they could allow for it to continue. If they had decided to push for abolition, the confederation would almost certainly have dissolved onto two or three separate sovereign states, restraining the facilitator of slavery, the slave trade, and continue to endorse the institution's end, while also maintaining the Union. Because they did not abolish slavery outright, these abolitionist and anti-slavery delegates effectively brought the slave trade to the table, on their threats to back out of the convention and form their own confederacy. If this had occurred, abolitionists would therefore be criticizing a separate country, one that would be immune from any such attack. Anti-slavery efforts would have no effect, and slavery would flourish and grow in a separate sovereign southern union. Thus, by including slavery in the Constitution and internalizing the problem, southerners were forced to explain their rationale for continuing the trade and common citizens were for the first time directly participating in politics. Thus in the nationalistic context of Union, slavery could be debated and argued on the floor of Congress and throughout society. This was the only way the delegates could establish a firm union, while also creating the means for ending slavery in the future. The slavery provisions, while an unintended result of the Constitution, opened up slavery to debate.

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Alexandra Baluka, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Evaluation of the Oxalate-Consuming Activities of Probiotic Microorganisms
Steven Daniel, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Natural Food and Nutrition, Research Partner

William Beatty, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Population Genetics and Intraspecific Phylogeography of the Red Squirrel in Illinois
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Catherine Ciak, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Influence of Extreme Hydrologic Events on Benthic Macroinvertebrate Community Structure
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Natural History Survey, Research Partner

Joanne Crawford, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Genetic Relationship of Beaver Inhabiting the Embararas River Watershed in East-Central Illinois
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

Jeff Fore, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Geomorphology and its Influence on Stream Fish Community Structure in Illinois*
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Peter Frey, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Effects of Maple Sugar Expansion in Upland Oak Forests*
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Army Corp of Engineers - Lake Shelbyville, Illinois, Research Partner

Lee Gross, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*The Repatriation of the Tiger Salamander (Ambystoma tigrinum) at Warbler Woods Nature Preserve*
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

Jeremy Klass, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Soil Development Through Succession on Abandoned Agricultural Land*
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
University of California, Davis, Research Partner

Brandon Jutras, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Lone Star Tick (Borrelia lonestari) the Parasite and its Tick Host*
Jeffrey Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Public Health, Research Partner

Jessica Rasmussen, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*The Response of Phytoplankton Assemblages of Water Quality*
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Research Partner

Timothy Rye, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Functional Ecology of Plant Successional Dynamics*
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Institute of Ecosystems Studies, Research Partner
Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Award

**Kimberly Vernier**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Wood-decaying Macrofungi Associated with Tree Windfall in Old Growth Prairie Groves*
Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Natural History Survey, Research Partner

**Stephen Scott Warner**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Assessment of Stream Valley Segments as Determinants of Stream Habitat Quality*
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Research Partner

### Williams Travel Award

**Kyle Baumgartner**, Masters Candidate in Economics
*Investigating Biodiversity: An Economic Analysis of Global Endangered Species Loss*
Midwest Economics Association 71st Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Hui Li, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty Mentor

**William Beatty**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Population Genetics and Intraspecific Phyleogeography of the Red Squirrel in Illinois*
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Zhiwei Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

**Daniel Bottomley**, Masters Candidate in Political Science
*Indonesia and the 1999 East Timor Referendum and Aftermath, a Case of Democracy*
International Studies Association-Midwest, St. Louis, Missouri
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

**Robyn Carswell**, Masters Candidate in History
*Rethinking the Episode of Mr. Wells: A Study in the Socialism, Politics and Personalities of the Fabians and H.G. Wells*
Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Evansville, Indiana
Lynne Curry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

**Catherine Ciaik**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Effects of Extreme Hydrological Events on Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in the Sangamon River*
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Robert Fischer, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Andrew Claxton, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Bioindication of Mining Impact using Black Spot Intensity in the Saline River Basin
Annual Midwest Conference of Parasitologists, Winona, Minnesota
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Joanne Crawford, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Genetic Variation in the Beaver (Castor canadensis) and A Comparison of Two Molecular Moethos for Gender Identification in Beaver
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska
Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Rachel Fisher, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
To Talk or to Type? and Understanding Performance Reviews
Purdue University’s Graduate Research Conference, Hammond, Indiana
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Ryan Galloway, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Clash of Civilizations?
Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science, Normal, Illinois
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Jay Gerber, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Impact of Reservoir and Sanitary District Discharges on Stream Community Metabolism
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Charles Pederson Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Kristin Giglietti, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
Parasite Survey of Post-emergence Wood Frogs (Rana sylvatica)
Annual Midwest Conference of Parasitologists, Winona, Minnesota
Jeff Laursen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Katie Griffis, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
Dirty Work: The Social Constraint of Taint and Examining New Paradigms in Media Research
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Melanie Mills, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Award

**Lee Gross**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*The Repatriation of the Tiger Salamander (Ambystoma tigrinum) at Warbler Woods Nature Preserve*

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska

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

Williams Travel Award

**Corinna Hanson**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Red Squirrel Distribution and Habitat Use in Illinois*

Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting, Moline, Illinois

Thomas Nelson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

**Brittany Hoerdeman**, Masters Candidate in Political Science

*Explaining President Bush’s Choice of District Court Judges to Elevate to the U.S. Courts of Appeals*

Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Karen Swenson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

**Vincent Hustad**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Coprophilous Fungi of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*

Annual Meeting of the Mycological Society of America, Quebec City, Canada

Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

**Jeremy Klass**, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences

*Variation in Soil Biofeedbacks Associated with Microstegium vimineum*

North Central Weed Science Society Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

**Christopher Lading**, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders & Sciences

*Fluent and Nonfluent School-Age Children’s Performance on Challenging Phonological Tasks*

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida

Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Associate Professor of CDS, Faculty Mentor

Williams Travel Award

**Garic Lawrence**, Masters Candidate in Political Science

*The Impact of U.S. Foreign Aid on Political Rights and Civil Liberties in Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines*

Illinois Political Science Association, Elmhurst, Illinois

Lilian Barria, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor
Michelle Moreton, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
“They like me! They really like me!” Managing Identity through Academy Award Acceptance Speeches
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Melanie Mills, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Sherraun Mustafa, Masters Candidate in Counseling
Acculturation, Religiosity and Help-Seeking Attitudes of Muslim Women in the U.S.
Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois
Anu Sharma, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Faculty Mentor

Emin Nabiye, Masters Candidate in Political Science
Separatism in the Philippines: the Case of a Fragile Southeast Asian State
Marquette/UWM Graduate Student Conference, Milwaukee Wisconsin
Lilian Barria, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Melanie Olds, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
A Levee Runs Through It: Habitat use by Northern Watersnakes in an Aquatic Mosaic
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska
Stephen Mullin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Margaret Pedziwiatr, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
The Use of Social Stories to Modify Inappropriate Behavior for Individuals with Autism
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida
Gail Richard, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders and Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Jessica Rasmussen, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
A Lake and Reservoir Index of Biotic Integrity: Using Phytoplankton Assemblages for Bioassessment
Association of Southeastern Biologists, Columbia, South Carolina
Charles Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Ben Riegle, Masters Candidate in Physical Education
An Examination of Factors and Perceptions Related to Steroid Use in College Baseball Players
Association for Applied Sport Psychology, Louisville, Kentucky
Brent Walker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physical Education, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Award

Timothy Rye, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Functional Trait Ecology in a Successional System: A Comparison of Native and Exotic Species*
North Central Weed Science Society Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Scott Meiners, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Michal Serafin, Masters Candidate in Chemistry
*Characterization of Weakly Bound HCF3-OCS, H2CF2-OCS, H3CF-OCS and HCF-CO2 van der Waals Complexes by ab initio Calculations and Microwave Spectroscopy.*
International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy, Columbus, Ohio
Sean Peebles, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Faculty Mentor

Krishna I. Thomas, Masters Candidate in History
*MGA Lola NG Bayan: Grandmothers of the Country- The Lolas of the Filipino Comfort Women Movement*
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Madison, Wisconsin
Jin-hee Lee, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, Faculty Mentor

Terri Thompson, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Comparison of Avian Nest Success Among Linear Wooded Habitat and Avian Nest Success Among Hedgerow and Riparian Habitat*
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha Nebraska and Illinois Chapter Wildlife Society, Moline, Illinois
Eric Bollinger, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor

Oie-Lis Vahemaa, Masters Candidate in Political Science
*Problems with European Union Expansion: The Case of Estonia*
Midwest International Studies Association, St. Louis, Missouri
Ryan Hendrickson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Samuel Vandegrift, Masters Candidate in Political Science
*Examination of Feminism and Gender Gap: A Look at Presidential Elections 1976-1992*
Illinois Political Science Association, Elmhurst, Illinois
Andrew McNitt, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Faculty Mentor

Kimberly Vernier, Masters Candidate in Biological Sciences
*Macro fungi Associated with Tree Windfall in Old Growth Prairie Groves*
Annual Meeting of the Mycological Society of America, Quebec City, Canada
Andrew Methven, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Faculty Mentor
Williams Travel Award

Martha Wilkinson, Masters Candidate in Communication Studies
The Galileo Society: A Case Study in Office Politics
Central States Communication Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Shane Miller, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Mentor

Brittney Yakey, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences
Language-Based Spelling Instruction for Children who are Hard-of-Hearing
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Miami Beach, Florida
Rebecca Throneburg, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Disorders & Sciences, Faculty Mentor

2007 Mary Bear McClay Graduate Scholar

Established in 2004 by Wilfred (Bill) McClay, and his sister Susan Foote, in memory of their mother, Mary Bear McClay.

Teri Cutler, Masters Candidate in Mathematics Education

2007 Betty Wright Downing Graduate Scholar

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

Katie Herrmann, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences

2007 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.

Brittany Barker, Masters Candidate in Communication Disorders and Sciences

Announcing the...

Outstanding Graduate Alumni Fellowship

The Fellowship has been created from discussions among alumni and the Alumni Advisory Board, achievements of the first cent for fund the University’s growth. The award will provide a competitive stipend and tuition waiver to support full-time graduate study.
The mission of graduate education at Eastern Illinois University is to provide superior graduate degree, certificate, and post-baccalaureate options designed for career specialization and advancement, certification and credentialing, professional and leadership development, and preparation for advanced scholarship.