

# Student Research Day

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

*Gordon Science Center*

## Schedule of Events

Welcoming remarks – Dr. Judith Kirkpatrick, Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Utica College -  
*Donahue Auditorium (Gordon 167)*

- 2:30 - 2:50            Opening Speaker: Dr. Thomas Crist, Professor of Physical Therapy
- 2:50 - 3:00            Presentation set-up
- 3:00 - 4:45            Concurrent Oral Presentations, Sessions A, B, C, D, and E
- 5:00 - 5:30            Poster Presentations – Gordon 271

## SESSION A: Donahue Auditorium (Gordon 167)

Moderator: Dr. Lawrence Aaronson, Professor of Biology

3:00 - 3:15: Sequence-Specific DNA Binding of Small Peptides

- Amanda Marsh and Caitlyn Moccaldi

3:15 - 3:30: Sequence Specific Protein-DNA Interactions and Novel Peptidomimetic Drug Design

- Michael Convertino and Jade Bonsel

3:30 - 3:45: Casein Induced Changes in Surface Tension Modifies the Mode of Surface Translocation in  
*Bacillus cereus*

- Kate E. Zeigler, Amanda Ferguson, and Meghan Morreale

3:45 - 4:00: *Pseudomonas* Quinolone Signal Induces Pyoverdinin Production in a Novel *Pseudomonas*  
Species

- Kristina Shikula

4:00 - 4:15: Gene Expression Patterns in *Candida albicans* as a Result of Sphingosine Induced Hyphal  
Inhibition

- Amela Jasarevic

4:15 - 4:30: Isolation and Molecular Analysis of Enzymes D-Alanine Racemase and D-Alanine in  
Sphingosine-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

- Nives Vujanic and Yulia Vabishchevich

## **SESSION B: Gordon 261**

**Moderator: Dr. Luke Perry, Associate Professor of Government and Politics**

**3:00 - 3:15: The Electoral College and American Democracy**

- **Stacey Davis**

**3:15 - 3:30: How the Role of 'Commander and Chief' Expanded Presidential Power**

- **Alex Hobaica**

**3:30 - 3:45: Discrimination and Oppression in American Society**

- **Kishon Grant**

**3:45 - 4:00: Measuring Political Risk in Turkey**

- **Krysta West**

**4:00 - 4:15: The Political Risk of Haiti: A good or bad investment?**

- **Samuel Getman**

**4:15 - 4:30: Pakistan and Political Risk Variables**

- **Brandon O'Connor**

**4:30 - 4:45: Political Risk Panel Discussion**

## **SESSION C: Gordon 262**

**Moderator: Dr. Sara Scanga, Assistant Professor of Biology**

**3:00 - 3:15: Effects of 17- $\beta$  Estradiol on the Growth of *Lemna minor*, a Common Aquatic Plant**

- **Yulia Vabishchevich**

**3:15 - 3:30: The Effects of Silver Nanoparticles on Tobacco Growth**

- **Radhika Thakkar**

**3:30 - 3:45: Reproductive Success in Hermaphroditic Snails *Helisoma trivolvis* Exposed to Methanol**

- **Stephanie Calenzo**

**3:45 - 4:00: The Effects of Vibratory Stimuli During Seed Germination on the Growth of *Raphanus sativus***

- **Farah Hamati**

**4:00 - 4:15: The Effects of Environmentally Relevant Concentrations of the Herbicide Atrazine on the Growth of Duckweed (*Lemna minor*)**

- **Andrea Blowers**

**4:15 - 4:30: The Effect of Artificial Night Lighting (Light Pollution) on Levels of the Thyroid Hormone, Thyroxine, in Developing Tadpoles of *Xenopus laevis***

- **Praise Njoku Austin**

**4:30 - 4:45: The Effect of Light Pollution on Nocturnal Activity in Developing *Xenopus laevis* Larvae**

- **Joshua Visalli**

## **SESSION D: Gordon 271**

**Moderator: Dr. Joseph Ribaldo, Assistant Professor of Physics**

**3:00 - 3:15: Hide and Seek: Archaeology of Play and Imagination at a Hypothetical Playground in Central New York**

- **ANT 267 – Brian Twomey, Joshua Farro, Marrika Flowers-Dorsey, Wilbert Fernandez-Gonzalez, Maybeline Klepadlo, Allison Kollar, and Paul Ukena**

**3:15 - 3:30: Temperature Dependence of the Coefficient of Static Friction**

- **William Darman and Armin Rosic**

**3:30 - 3:45: An Application of the Behavior Conditioning Model to the Case Study of a Residential Facility for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities**

- **Maria DeStefano**

**3:45 - 4:00: Consumer Perceptions of Health Based on Packaging**

- **Vasiliki K. Feggulis and Alexis March**

**4:00 - 4:15: Is the Salary Cap an Effective Promoter of Competitiveness in the NBA?**

- **Richard Paulsen**

**4:15 - 4:30: De Novo Drug Design Disrupting Domain Closure Present During the Auto-Activation of ERK**

- **Romy Bhagat**

## **SESSION E: Gordon 272**

**Moderator: Dr. Juan Thomas, Associate Professor of Spanish**

**3:00 - 3:15: Family, Society and Catholicism in Mary Doyle Curran's *The Parish and the Hill*, William Kennedy's *Ironweed*, and Frank McCourt's *Angela's Ashes***

- **Snezana Djuric**

**3:15 - 3:30: Bullfighting in Spain Today**

- **Shauna Dieffenbach**

**3:30 - 3:45: El Camino de Santiago: Representación literaria y cinematográfica (The Road of St. James: Literary and Cinematographic Representation)**

- **Alexandra Almanzar**

**3:45 - 4:00: Teaching Vocabulary in the Second Language Classroom**

- **Shaylynn Dewey**

**4:00 - 4:15: Risk Management in Mexican Agriculture**

- **Joseph Buschor**

**4:15 - 4:30: A Psychoanalytic Study of *Hamlet***

- **Brandy Miller**

## **POSTERS: Gordon 271**

### **Synthesis and Characterization of alpha-Helical Mimetics for Protein Binding Studies**

- Shaquille Barnes

### **Design and Synthesis of Bioxazoline N-Heterocyclic Carbene Palladium/Nickel catalysts and their Application in Sonogashira Cross Coupling Polymerization Reaction**

- Andrew C. Dziekan, Daniel R. Wolfanger, and Robert Heath

### **Design, Synthesis, Characterization and Photophysical Studies of Molybdenum-Riboflavin RF-Mo Complex**

- Nicole C. Johnson

### **Isolation and Analysis of Mutants of a Novel *Pseudomonas* Species that are Defective in Production of Antifungal Compounds**

- Christopher Kibanda

### **Sequence-Specific DNA-Binding Behavior of GCN4**

- Danielle McHarris

### **Fieldwork Experience and Physical Therapy: Assessment and Treatment at a Senior Center**

- Madalana Pegues

### **Petrography, Field Relations and Geochemical Analysis of Ordovician Metamorphosed Mafic Igneous Rocks of the Caucomgomoc Lake Inlier, Northern Maine**

- Daniel Plows

### **Characterization of Noble Metal Nanoparticles: Study of pH Effects**

- Sai Han Myo Tun

### **The Impact of Agriculture Industries in the Caribbean**

- Christopher Urena