First-Year Research Conference

April 26, 2018 Program Guide

Location: UC Anchor Ballrooms (A, B, C, and D)
First-Year Research Conference

The First-Year Research Conference (FYRC) takes place at the end of each Spring semester and is an opportunity for first-year students to participate in a formal academic conference. The students presenting today, were required to submit proposal in mid-March that were evaluated by a panel of faculty judges.

The DUGS faculty and staff are here to help you in any way that we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Those of us on the FYRC Planning Committee look forward to hearing from during and after the conference. Please enjoy your time at the conference and help us to celebrate the research of our first-year students!

Reminders for Attendees & Presenters

• Please be polite, enter the room on time, and stay until all presenters have completed their presentations.

• Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices, and do not take calls or texts during the presentations.

• Evaluation sheets for student audience members are provided at the door.
  • Be sure to fill them out and turn them in to your seminar instructor. In most cases, you are expected to review one full session's worth of presentations.

• Try to engage the speakers with questions at the end of their presentations.

• All presenters should wear appropriate business or semi-formal attire and should practice their presentations to ensure a professional delivery.

First-Year Research Conference Committee

Prof. Sean Britt
Prof. Amy Carter - Marketing
Prof. Vanessa Crocker - Faculty Volunteers / Session Chairs
Prof. Peter Jurmu - Technical and Communications

Dr. Rachel Kirk
Dr. Brandi Kutil - Coordination and Scheduling
Prof. Jennifer L. Simpson - Web Assistance / Program Design

Session Formats

15-Minute Presentation

Presentations may be given individually or as groups and will inform an interdisciplinary audience. They may be given in the form of PowerPoint and/or spoken presentations with films or handouts
depending on the convention of the discipline and decisions of the speaker(s). Each presentation should last approximately 10 minutes.

45-Minute Panels
A panel, unlike a group presentation, has the entire 45 minutes session to themselves (usually make up of three 10-15 minute presentation).

Proposal Reviewers

The FYRC Committee thanks the following TAMU-CC faculty for serving as proposal reviewers.

Prof. Sean Britt  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Chimene Burnett  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Nesime Can  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Amy Carter  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Amanda Hartman  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Chelsie Hawkinson  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Kellie Jarvis  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Dr. Frances Johnson  
Department of English  

Prof. Rachel Johnson  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Amanda Marquez  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Dr. Melanie Mc Mahon  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Dr. Mark McNamara  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Andrea Montalvo  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Prof. Jennifer L. Simpson  
Department of Undergraduate Studies  

Session Chairs

The FYRC Committee thanks the following TAMU-CC faculty for serving as session chairs.

Crystal Ballard  
Mandalyn Gonzalez  
Alexandra Shaw  

Jenn Bray  
Chelsie Hawkinson  
Marilyn Spencer  

Sean Britt  
Ivy Howard  
Rita Sperry  

Chimene Burnett  
Kellie Jarvis  
David Smith  

Amy Carter  
Peter Jurmu  
Loren Watts  

Erin Cofer  
Amanda Marquez  
Anthony Zoccolillo  

Vanessa Crocker  
Melanie McMahon  

Johanna DuBose  
Mark McNamara  

Hector Galvan  
Leah Murray


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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Anchor Ballroom C</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am - 8:45am</td>
<td><strong>Susie King Taylor</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter: Claudia L. Hernandez</strong>&lt;br&gt;You may have heard of Clara Barton, Susan B. Anthony, or Elizabeth Cady Stanton. But you may have not heard of Susie King Taylor, come and visit us to find more about this important historical figure in the Civil War!</td>
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<td><strong>Impact of the Second Amendment</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter: Jared Garza</strong>&lt;br&gt;This presentation will discuss the history that influenced the Second Amendment in 18th century America, how the prevalence of guns has shaped the country's culture, and if the modern American society needs to be armed.</td>
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<td><strong>Guns DO Kill People</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter: Destiny Arias</strong>&lt;br&gt;My main focus is on gun control, reformation, and restricting gun laws that have been key factors to the number of mass shootings that have taken place in America. Throughout my research, I used materials such as the Mary and Jeff Bell Library databases online at Texas A&amp;M Corpus Christi, JSTOR, and mostly Google Scholar. Based on my research, I found extensive material on the purchasing of guns, how easily one can obtain artillery here in the United States, along with seeing the impact on other countries that have created restrictions on gun laws, along with making them stricter. As I did my research, I also came across context of other point of views that disagree with making gun laws stricter, or raising the restrictions on how one can purchase artillery; which helped me enforce my idea of why it would be best for the nation to make an improvement in our gun laws, and creating more restrictions, than what we already have. Overall, this research allowed me to truly inform myself, as an American citizen, and how we can speak up, and fight for reformation on the things we would want to see changed in our government.</td>
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Beach Pollution Impacting Our Wildlife & Community

**Presenters: Karina Garcia**

I will be focusing on trash pollution and how it affects the lives of people and animals in its surrounding environment. Each year, millions of plastic wastes enters our oceans and gets washed up on to our shores. While recent studies have concluded that there is about eight million metric tons of waste that make its way up to land each year, (Sebille, 2016). People are not taking the appropriate measures to help decrease that amount. Beach pollution should be more frequently discussed because not only is pollution fatal for the wildlife around, but it also has caused loss of revenue. Beaches are a big form of attraction, and if they are being polluted by trash everyday then nobody is going to want to come. Economists have estimated that a typical swimming day is worth approximately $35 for each beach visitor, (Hussein, 2014). Essentially what I found in my research was the causes and alternatives that can help decrease pollution year round. What I want is for the local communities to help stop littering on our beaches, and to become educated on how we can prevent pollution increase from taking place through more than just recycling.

How Hurricane Harvey Effected the Stray Animal Population in the Surrounding Areas

**Presenters: Victoria Conley, Chris Gracia, Alex Stubbs, Brittany Martinez**

The purpose of this presentation is to inform the audience about our research experiment investigating how Hurricane Harvey effected the stray animal population in four different coastal cities. Natural disasters are frequent and unavoidable, but the devastating impact they have on the stray animal population can be through planning ahead and veterinary/first responder assistance.

The Effect that Hurricane Harvey Had on Coquina Clams Located at Two Separate Beaches; Corpus Christi, TX and Port Aransas, TX

**Presenters: Bushra Shahnawaz, Erin Mueller, Rayghan Pimboeuf, Brooklynn Miles**

Hurricane Harvey has caused serious erosion along the coastline of Mustang Island. Our goal in this original research project was to determine post-Harvey damage to the natural habitats of Coquina Clams on Mustang Island. More specifically, we compared opposite ends of the island to observe how the Hurricane affected the clams in Port Aransas, versus closer to Corpus Christi.
Inside the Mind of the American Psycho: A Philosophical Approach

Presenters: Chad Keys, Sage Yeater, Sarah Rodriguez

Ed Gein is one of the most famous killers in American History. Using the Philosophical theories of the Mind Body problem we are going to comment on the innocence and moral responsibility of Gein and how that plays into the sentence he was given.

The Campus Killer

Presenters: Karin Trevino, Jovani Datis-Cordero

Are you a young, outgoing college woman? If so, you would be at the top of the list of the infamous serial killer, Ted Bundy. He was known for pretending to be injured and brutally murdering and mutilating their bodies. Here we will examine the mind of a murderer.

Philosophy of Mind of the Aaron Hernandez Murder

Presenters: Adam Stasko, Luke Koronich

We will be discussing the details about Aaron Hernandez and how his case can be related to dualistic views for the philosophy of mind. We will each discuss different dualistic views and how it relates to Hernandez's moral responsibility.

9:00am - 9:45am

Veterans

Presenters: Emma Hensel, Emily Urbish, Brooke Potts

Our goal for our project was to raise awareness of ongoing issues with Veteran Affairs organizations. We gathered research from news articles and the VA website itself. When done with our initial research we went to the local VA to ask questions about the organization and the programs they offer.
Increased Motivation Using Arts Integration

Presenter: Callie Crowder

This research looks at the works of, Claudia E. Cornett, Sylvia Pantaleo, and some other scholars that demonstrate how to utilize the arts in core academics to increase student motivation. Specifically, this presentation focuses on five strong approaches towards arts integration in the elementary school classroom. These approaches vary from connecting music with science TEKS to using images in stories to enhance critical thinking. These research findings may be beneficial to educators at all levels, attempting to increase student motivation.

Dorothea Dix: The Voice for the Voiceless

Presenter: Andre Gill

Public institutions, like schools and prisons face an increasing problem of not offering adequate mental health services due to lack of resources. Let's tackle this problem by using the Dorothea Dix model of social reform. Dix informed the American public of the mistreatment of the mentally ill in the 19th century, and called for reform and expansion of services.

9:30am - 10:15am

Anchor Ballroom D

Session Chair: Mandalyne Gonzalez

Save the Bees!

Presenter: Valerie Galicia

How can we as society contribute to reversing the disappearance of bees phenomenon called Colony Collapse Disorder? Beekeepers first noticed this unusual disappearance of bees in 2006. Although data from beekeepers for 2016/2017 has declined, colony loss is still a concern given that bees pollinate one third of food Americans eat.

Anthropogenic Impacts on Ocypode Quadrata at Bob Hall Pier

Presenters: Adrianna Garza, Alyssa Silva, Andrea Pedraza, Scotlon Johnson, Riley Meyer

Human Impacts on beaches can lead to detrimental effects on species and the environment. In this original research project Ocypode quadrata density was calculated per square meter of a set area on Padre Island before and after spring break. Using Ocypode quadrata as an indicator species exhibiting how healthy a beach is before and after a high influx of people come in.
The Effect of Human Activity on Spotted Ground Squirrel Population Density in the North Padre Island Area

Presenters: Ethan Brown, Michael Boswell, Matthew Harris, Travis Jordan

Spotted ground squirrels are a small burrowing mammal that can be found in the Padre Island area. The goal of our original research project was to determine whether or not human activity plays a role in the population density of spotted ground squirrels.

10:00am - 10:45am

Anchor Ballroom C

Session Chair: David Smith

Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Young Athletes

Presenters: Alyssa Ayarzagoitia, Talina Briceno, Yuvia Lopez

In this presentation, you will learn about the Heart Rescue Project, what sudden cardiac arrest is, how to prevent it, and how to be prepared. In conclusion, we would like to inform you about the effects of sudden cardiac arrest on young athletes and persuade you to get involved with the Heart Rescue Project by becoming a partner or joining the movement.

Crafting a Better Generation

Presenter: David Harmon

This research demonstrates that the developments in genetic exploration reveal paths to better the human race; however, the issues of physical performance, genetic diversity, and dehumanization limit the pursuit of this field. These dilemmas will shape humanity as a whole and show whether we wish to evolve of our own volition.

HPV

Presenters: Ashley Martinez, Victoria Monroy, Briana Mares, Halie Reese, Megan Pielago

Roughly 14 million people each year become newly infected due to Human Papillomavirus Infection, which can ultimately lead to death if you are not practicing safe sex and/or taking care of yourself. Our presentation will target young and older women, to persuade them in taking the following precautions for their benefit.
Building Our Confidence with Exercise

Presenters: Nataly Panca Rodriguez, Daisy Hinkle

In order to have a healthy mind we must have certain needs fulfilled. Abraham Maslow published the hierarchy of needs to improve human motivation. In this presentation we focused on the self-esteem stage in which we will discuss a research performed based off the effects of exercise on our confidence.

The Price Isn’t Always Right

Presenter: Wayne Hodge

Education has become invaluable in this day in age where college is almost a necessity to become successful in any chosen discipline. At the core of education nowadays is textbooks and access codes. Advocating for open access textbooks rather than expensive electronic textbooks can cut down debt at a commensurate rate according to a variety of sources.

Exploring the Philosophy of Mind

Presenters: Jake Carothers, Gabriela Sandoval, Allison Bannister

This presentation will revolve around the most contemporary views of philosophy in order to determine how they could be applied to the criminal court case of John Wayne Gacy. The theory we have chosen as most plausible, Interactive Substance Dualism, will be explored, and its objections shall be responded to.

10:30am - 11:15am

Ethical Issues In Nursing

Presenters: Shelley Tamez, James Walker, Luke Terrell, Clare Sustrick

The presentation is over ethics in nursing, which would be the right and wrong. There is so many issues into where this comes up and we state a few of those in our presentation. It also includes the power of attorney and when that comes into play. Then the last topic we touch on is end of life care and how it affects patient and family alike.
The Effect of Tamarix Ramosissima on Plant Diversity at Sunset Lake Park, Portland, Texas

Presenters: Sonica Onyewuenyi, Abbie Sullivan, Mary Cundiff, Zoe Sanchez

Tamarix ramosissima is an invasive species that lowers the water table and makes large deposits of salt in the soil which reduces plant diversity in their surrounding areas. Our goal is to research, observe, and compare the diversity of plants of Sunset Lake where the Salt Cedar inhabits and does not inhabit.

The Effects of Humans on Laughing Gull Numbers in Corpus Christi, Texas

Presenters: Inaki Sanz Gurruchaga, Elijah Duquette, Elizabeth Provance, Fionne Tran

Gull population have increased drastically during the past several decades. Our goal for this research project is to investigate whether or not humans have a benefiting effect on Laughing Gulls in Corpus Christi, Texas. Using the number of gulls located in an area as an indicator.

Anchor Ballroom B

Session Chair: Sean Britt

Is Cheating in Video Games Morally Ok?

Presenters: Alejandro Rodrigues, Jon-Patrick Heffley, Luis Lopez, Michael Sterns

Should cheating in video games be allowed? Are there specific limitations on what kind of cheating is ok, when video games today have expanding value and return fame, fortune, and favor. By viewing real cases of cheating in video games and its negative effects, we'll find an answer.

The Ethics of Facebook Pixel and Privacy in the Digital Age

Presenters: Sarina Garcia, Jayla Dejour, Jennifer Mondragon

Facebook Pixel is an algorithmic program designed and implemented Facebook to track and filter, often without consent, their users' “interests” in order to promote product advertisement specific to any given user. By applying three ethical theories, we were able to develop a successful and ethical solution to internet privacy as well as provide explanations that disprove the implementation of other ethical concepts.
11:00am - 11:45am

Cheating in Online Courses: An Ethical Dilemma

Presenters: Michael Ron Duenes, Nathan Le, Stephen Libby, Gregory Watts

We researched if online classes have a higher cheating rate than face-to-face classes, and which moral philosophy should be followed to curtail cheating. Using online resources, we found that the rate is equivalent for both. Next, we compared multiple philosophies and found that the most logical was Social Contract Theory.

Gender Stereotypes in Mulan

Presenter: Zoe Flippo

Our society has a set of ideas about gender roles in society and how we expect men and women to dress, behave, and present themselves. Does Disney accurately represent what society expects? The Disney movie Mulan attempts to portray a young girl going against these gender roles. Through close textual reading of scenes and song lyrics, I will argue that Mulan emphasizes gender roles even as it appears to encounter them.

13th Amendment v. Modern Prison System

Presenter: Jeremiah Baldwin

The United States is home to only 5% of the world's population but houses 25% of the world's prisoners. The high percentage of the United States' prison population is due to the exploitation of the 13th Amendment. Even though slavery was prohibited, the basic concept of slavery still persisted through the prison system.
Pathways of Child Development

Presenters: Chance Sessions, Emma Peacock, Brendon Kurio, Reid Rosendahl, Emily Smith, Laura Esparza, Reed Anderson, Noah Cantu, Regan Baltran, Cole Bennett, Mark Sison, Adam Vasquez, Trevor Gotcher, Byran Amaya, Seth Terrell, Pedro Ayala, Krista Fullerton

The purpose of this presentation is to share the value of Junior Achievement in the Coastal Bend. Several Economics LC teams will come together to share their findings about the neighborhood economics and environments and how this data impacts the different schools in our community and around the country.

11:30am - 12:15pm

Turbidity at Flight

Presenters: Julliene Nazareno, Tranyse Herron, Max Huang, Madison Longoria, Krista Colthurst

Can birds see their meal? Turbidity is the clarity of a liquid that is normally caused by suspended or dissolved particles. We questioned if the behavior and the presence of birds change during different levels of ocean turbidity. By calculating the amount of birds we see during different levels of turbidity, we were able to find our answer.

Red Tide in the Corpus Christi Area Bays

Presenters: Elena Hightower, Amber Holley, McKenzie Luker, Damaris Hernandez

Red Tide is a harmful algae bloom that can have devastating impacts on humans and marine life and there are certain conditions considered favorable such as high surface temperature, low salinity levels, and an abundance of nutrients. Our research project tests these conditions in three different Corpus Christi area bays.
The Failure of The War on Drugs

Presenter: Leah Aguilar

The following paper's objective is to answer questions pertaining to "The War on Drugs", the misconceptions of drug use, and integrating effective solutions to the drug epidemic used in other countries that would challenge the American people to agree on a bipartisan deal that would increase the standard of living.

A Questioning of Society and its Morals

Presenter: Samantha Silva

Nature v. Nurture: Are children's violent behaviors born or created? An insight into child murderer Mary Bell and her motives connected with modern day child violence through the examination of school shootings, all put together to determine how these behaviors are created and question whether its society's job to deal with them.

Morality of Vlad the Impaler

Presenters: Wyatt Stinebaugh, Zach Stinebaugh, JJ Kulez

Our presentation will address the theories of mind and body in relation to the crimes of history's most notorious Transylvanian king whose atrocities went on to inspire modern day Dracula. As well as the morality of his actions.
**12:00pm-12:45pm**

**Anchor Ballroom C**

*Session Chair: Vanessa Crocker*

**Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs**

*Presenters: Audrey Nieusma*

During this experiment we studied the category of Esteem (in Maslow's Hierarchy of needs) for one week. In order to do this, we changed our physical activity levels in varying amounts. Our results showed fluctuations in emotion and motivation.

**Micro-Plastics in Corpus Christi**

*Presenters: Kari Brokovich, Katie Lanoue, Paige Pfeifer, Cory Rancher, Darius Vigil*

Micro-plastic pollution causes drastic effects on the environment, but what is Corpus Christi’s contribution to the plastic problem? Our team of undergraduate research professionals wanted to know what types of plastic contributes the most to micro-plastic pollution, by considering the frequency of plastic litter on three beaches around Corpus Christi.

**The Breakdown and Effects of Tuberculosis**

*Presenters: Savannah Rozacky, Danielle Ramirez, Falyn Currie*

In this presentation, the objectives were to identify the common causes of different types of tuberculosis, examine this disease as a whole, and then discuss environmental factors that affect the disease in two regions. We examined three different types of tuberculosis, and discussed the effects and causes for each.

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**12:30pm - 1:15pm**

**Anchor Ballroom B**

*Session Chair: Jenn Bray and Amanda Marquez*

**Girls Just Want to Have (Fun)damental Rights!**

*Presenters: Gabriella Olvera, Gabriela Dominguez, Denise Torres, Irma Servellon*

The presentation describes the importance of birth control, freedom of choice, human rights for immigrant women, and wages for women. Activists during the progressive era fought for women’s
suffrage, equality, and a women’s right to her own body. These all connect to modern day issues, and relate to the lack of basic human rights.

Pregnancy and Poverty: The Evolutionary Development of Female Oppression

Presenters: Nathan Spencer, Holly Massey, Madeleine Fuller

Women’s oppression has shifted forms throughout our history, and with the evolution of society, oppression has directly evolved as well. We plan to expose the political, social, and economic shift of women's oppression, specifically the use of contraceptives instrumentally to control a women’s rights to her own body, throughout time.

Anchor Ballroom D

Session Chair: Alexandra Shaw

Ban the Bottle

Presenter: Gabriela Bidwell

We are killing the earth. You are killing the earth. Chances are good that you have killed one or more sea turtles. Every year we dump billions of plastic water bottles into the ocean and you are part of the problem. It’s time to change our ways and adapt. Are you ready to Ban the Bottle?

Battle of the Hampton Roads' Role in Changing Military & Civilian Technology

Presenters: Neal Martin

Naval warfare was revolutionized during the Civil War. While much of the emphasis of Civil War is on the army battles, the Battle of the Ironclads is equally significant. As a result of this battle, commercial travel, military presence on the high seas and the shipping industry were forever changed.
1:00pm-1:45pm

Anchor Ballroom C

Session Chair: Mark McNamara

Inside the Mind of Convicted Murderer Joseph Sledge

Presenters: Max Hickey, Laura Sanchez, Destanie Ontiveros

In this presentation we will look into the mind of Joseph Sledge, a man who served 39 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. We will apply the theories of the philosophy of the mind to show what happened to convict Sledge and then ultimately overturn his case.

Anti-Slavery America: The Beginning that Formed the End

Presenters: Eric Nava and Matthew Cassady

Anti-Slavery activists fight for the same cause in two different eras: Equiano wrote an autobiography of his own personal experiences going through the Middle Passage in the 18th century; and, Abraham Lincoln used his voice and words to bring down slavery during Civil War.

Anchor Ballroom A

Session Chair: Ivy Howard

The “Costs” of Underage Drinking

Presenter: Alex Olivo

That night out with your friends was a fun one, right? Did it have to do with you or your friends consuming a lot of alcohol? This presentation can help you learn about harmful consequences due to underage drinking, and allow you to play a Kahoot activity involving a prize.

Bedtime Benefits: Myth or Reality?

Presenter: Audrey Chevalier

Everyone needs sleep. Everyone needs to perform. Everyone remembers their mother enforcing bedtime, insisting sleep was important. Understanding the scientific results of sleep studies will help you make positive changes in your life. Your mom seemed to think sleep affected performance. Who knows? Maybe your mother was right.
The Impact of Hurricane Harvey on the Habitat of Birds

Presenters: Alexis Mallard, Brigette Ayers, Jasmine Caillier, Christina Gonzalez, Stephanie Gonzalez, Macey Rakowitz

The purpose of this study is to identify relationships between different category hurricanes to avian population and their environment. Upon examination of these events, it became clear that the city hit by the eye of the hurricane had significant impact to avian population rather than the city hit by category one hurricane.

1:30pm-2:15pm
Anchor Ballroom D

Session Chair: Kellie Jarvis

Behavioral Differences in Dolphins in Captivity versus the Wild

Presenters: Sheridan Torres, Taylor Howey, Darren Fillman, Justin Apostolo, Analicia Zapata

Marine mammals' behaviors have been observed in both the wild and in captivity. Corpus Christi being next to the gulf and home to the Texas State Aquarium makes it an ideal location for this type of research. We investigated if there was observable differences in dolphins in the captivity versus the wild.

Anas platyrhynchos Nature vs. Domesticated Behavior Experiment

Presenters: Michael Young, Eric Flores, Jaden Finch, Delfino Galvez

Mallards are one of the most abundant duck species in south Texas and all of North America. Our group investigated the effects that a domesticated environment has on the mallard duck population at Lake View park and shamrock cove in Corpus Christi. We will share our findings about the differences in behaviors in domesticated versus more wild natural environments.
2:00pm-2:45pm

Anchor Ballroom C

Session Chair: Johanna DuBose

Health Professional Shortage Campaign

Presenter: Chase Bruckner

Currently, Nueces County ranks 16th among the 254 counties in Texas with the largest shortage of healthcare professionals in relation to the population which dramatically hinders the quality and efficiency of healthcare (bhw.hrsa.gov). This issue can be relieved by targeting the high school and college aged students and encouraging them to pursue careers in the medical field and becoming involved in local hospital volunteer programs.

Cystic Fibrosis: An Ongoing Epidemic

Presenters: Anuja Dhakal, Gilbert D. Garza, Paola GarciaZuazua, and Miandria Davis

In our presentation we will be talking about cystic fibrosis but more importantly cystic fibrosis in children. We will be explaining what cystic fibrosis is, how it is acquired, the physical and mental effects it has on children as well as, the physical and mental treatments that are available. We hope that by talking about this topic and learn about how it affects children, we will encourage aspiring parents to get tested for cystic fibrosis as they begin to plan a family.

Eutrophication in Our Marine Habitat

Presenters: Victoria Tilson, Jordan Malone, Reesen Caster, Adelida Ochoa, Joseph Baralt

The purpose of our research proposal is to understand the extent of the eutrophic problem within our local water systems. The additional nutrients from freshwater or urban runoff are creating an oxygen-deprived environment that is harmful to marine organisms (Fouilland, E. et al., 2017). The managing of urban runoff is key to reducing the effects of eutrophication (Yang, X. et al 2008).
**Pathways of Child Development**

**Presenters:** Tatianna Headen, Ruben Reyna, Marcos Lopez, Ethan Kwan, Addison Urbanus, Mitchell Smith, Louis Carfello, Tyler James Hovey, Michael Meneghetti, Bobby Menchaca, Ethan Luke

There are many factors that contribute to the quality of education students receive in the public school system. During this presentation, several groups will share the public data and their personal findings collected from their neighborhood investigations whole teaching Junior Achievement at different Corpus Christi schools.

**2:30pm-3:15pm**

**Cell Phone Use While Driving: The Dangers**

**Presenter:** Kelsey Beilstein

I am researching the harmful impacts of cell-phone use while driving, in order to help my peers become more knowledgeable of how harmful this problem is, how closely impacted our community is by this issue, and to potentially influence my peers to help do their part to prevent this problem.

**Human Interaction with Artificial Intelligences and Other Decision Making Systems and Body Augmentation with Technology**

**Presenter:** Sebastion Raggio

I want to provide examples of technology being integrated into the human form, from DIY biohacking to cybernetic enhancement. As a relatively new phenomena originating from miniaturization of existing technology, I also want to provide examples overlooked by many in this field such as a laser-microphone hearing aid.
Artificial Cloning of Extinct Animals

Presenters: Laraib Fatima, Ryutaro Young, Sonya Archer, Alejandro Alday, Claudia Holton

Our research proposal is over restoring endangered species through artificial cloning. It mainly focuses on therapeutic and reproductive cloning. It explains how they work, and gives examples of how they were practiced and what were the outcomes of the experiment. It explains us why humans should follow cloning or they should just stick with the reproductive system present there is themselves.

Anchor Ballroom B

Session Chair: Peter Jurmu

Philosophy of Mind

Presenters: Raven Jones, Nora Windham-Waite, Leah Macey, Erica Mire

Using various philosophical concepts regarding the body and soul, this presentation analyzes the notorious court case of Casey Marie Anthony v State of Florida. With the philosophies of mind, we examine Anthony's guilt or innocence using monistic and dualistic ideas, John Searle's counterarguments to dualism, and other relevant philosophical concepts.

Jane Toppan’s Moral Insanity

Presenters: Hannah Glasson, Daisy Aguilar, Krystiana Massengill

We've all thought nurses were supposed to be supportive of their patients and be the foundation of healthcare aid, you'd never expect anything less of them. In this case Jane Toppan totally acted the opposite of what a dedicated nurse should. She was in fact the person who killed her patients, instead of saving them.

Polluted Drinking Water, Globally and Locally

Presenters: Sydney Reynard, Miguel Teran, Brandon Richardson, William Alexander

This is an investigation into the polluted water of Corpus Christi and the world and the effects it's having, conducted through research and interviews by all members of the group. We'd found that despite efforts from many different groups, water quality and sanitation is still a major problem in the world and the effects of it are widespread, from Corpus Christi to desert villages in Africa and Asia.
Improving Foster Care

Presenter: Heather Carpenter, Chelsea Branecky, Madison Longoria, Felisha Gonzalez

Our group is focusing on foster care and the flaws that we have cultivated from research that can be improved in order to ensure good mental, physical as well as emotional health for all of the children within these programs. With this information we seek to inform and persuade others to help impact the foster care programs to better these children.

The Philosophy of the Mind

Presenters: Jeffrey Smith, Tyler McNeel, Isaac Vargas

Using the philosophy of the mind, the very complex and emotional Casey Anthony is dissected and analyzed through philosophic lenses. The guilt and/or innocence of the defendant is weighed through multiple philosophic perspectives, and concise objections are raised in opposition and in support of Casey Anthony's controversial not-guilty verdict.

The Effect Fisherman have on the Amount of Ghost Fishing Debris at Packery Boat Channel

Presenters: Abigail Tyler, Brandy Avila, Baleigh Burmaster, Natalie Yanez

Our goal is to determine if areas with more fisherman have more ghost fishing debris left behind. We examined Packery Boat Channel and counted each unit of ghost fishing debris in two different locations. We found that more populated fishing areas had more units of ghost fishing debris.
3:30pm-4:15pm

Anchor Ballroom B

Session Chair: Hector Galvan

Bio-Diversity and Chem-munication: Promoting Interest and Diversity in the Sciences

Presenters: Tetrad S Students

Diversity has multiple meanings and is an important issue both politically and scientifically. Even within the scientific community studies have shown that diverse research teams are more productive, produce greater quality research, and have a greater reach and impact on the scientific community. Therefore, our projects focus on the diversity of individuals within the scientific community as well as the diverse and often overlooked research fields within scientific literature with the hopes of raising awareness and spreading the word concerning the value of diversity in our field.

Anchor Ballroom D

Session Chair: Chimene Burnett

The Renaissance of Activism

Presenters: Jacqueline Cortina, Arianna Aloia, Sydney Cole, Kryslean Lopez

The purpose of this presentation is to analyze the correlation and similarities between the American activist of the 19th century with today's renaissance of activism. Throughout our research we examined four inspirational activists of that era. By selecting an event or action performed by each activist we could successfully compare their goals and ideas with modern events or conflicts.

4:00pm-4:45pm

Anchor Ballroom A

Session Chair: Chelsie Hawkinson

Gratitude and Self-Actualization

Presenters: Isiah Foster, Kristen MacDonald

Interested in achieving higher levels of success and reaching your full potential? Want to know the key to attaining more satisfaction at school and in life? Come watch our presentation explaining how practicing gratitude leads to self-actualization, resulting in better grades, an improved social life, and greater life satisfaction!
Reaching for Gratitude

Presenter: Alex Jackson

Depression can seem hopeless at times. However, Maslow's Hierarchy of needs says that if all stages of needs are fulfilled then a person can reach self-actualization. This presentation will focus on the importance of expressing gratitude to reach self-actualization and if practicing gratitude can be a coping mechanism for depression.

Effects of Human Interactions on the Diversity of Birds

Presenters: Alyssa Trickey, Andres Lankenau, Natasha Raisanen-Ryan, Asia Riley, Nikki Treuthardt, Josh Vasquez

Our presentation will show the extent to which bird diversity is being impacted by humans disrupting different beach environments. Every part of the environment plays a part in keeping the balance, and it is crucial to realize that this balance can be thrown off by any altering of the environment.