2018
HONORS THESIS FORUM
Dear members of the Tulane community,

I am pleased to welcome you to the Inaugural Honors Thesis Forum. Over a four-day period this week, Senior Thesis writers, after spending years developing, researching, and writing (and rewriting) their Honors Theses, will present their research to the Tulane community. I would like to congratulate all Honors Thesis writers, who have committed so much of their intellectual, academic, and personal energy to these scholarly projects. Also, I would like to acknowledge the dedicated faculty who have devoted their time by serving as Thesis committee members. They have held their students to the highest standards and provided them with the careful and thoughtful guidance that has enabled them to meet, and many times exceed, those expectations.

Whether your interests are in the arts, sciences, politics, anthropology, business, or public health, to name a few areas, these presentations will introduce you to new ideas and enable you to explore new ways of thinking. This event is merely one way in which we can celebrate the vibrant scholarly community in Honors that these writers represent. In so doing, we bear witness to many of the most outstanding minds and spirits at Tulane University.

All the best,

Charlotte Maheu Vail, PhD
Director, Honors Program
Special Thanks

Jake Ward  
Cameron Leahy  
Cathy Balfe  
Parker Evans  
Sierra Lear  
Zaib Qayyum  
Dylan Koester  
Madeleine Swanstrom  
Matt Coleman  
Regan Manayan  
Noa Elliott  
Office of the President  
Dean James MacLaren

Honors Program Staff

Charlotte Maheu Vail, PhD  
Norah Lovell, MFA  
Jennifer Beers, PhD  
Katie Fitzpatrick  
Jake Ward
# Individual Presentations

**Tuesday, April 17**

- **5:00 PM**  
  James MacLaren, Dean  
  Newcomb Tulane College  
  Welcome and Introduction  
  Charlotte Maheu Vail  
  Director, Honors Program

- **5:15 PM**  
  Hannah Novak  
  Public Health  
  Asking About It, Not Asking For It: Critical Assessment of Evaluation Strategies for Sexual Violence Prevention Programming

- **5:55 PM**  
  Cameron Leahy  
  Political Science  
  Homelessness Policy in the U.S. - A Legal and Practical Assessment

- **6:35 PM**  
  Jake Ward  
  Political Economy  
  Legitimate Radicals: The UK Independence Party and the *Alternative für Deutschland*

- **7:15 PM** (Joint)  
  Jamie Katz  
  Business  
  Spread the Word: Online Word of Mouth  
  Sarah Lawhorne  
  Finance  
  Restructuring Distressed Retail Stores
## Individual Presentations

### Wednesday, April 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Jordan Eisenberg</td>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>The Construction of Female Characters and Femininity by Gay Male Playwrights on the Contemporary American Stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:40 PM</td>
<td>Hannah Hoover</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>The Rad Clay Pad the Spaniards Had: A Geoarchaeological Examination of 16th Century Spanish Forts in the American South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:20 PM</td>
<td>Maia Schoenberg</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
<td>The Effect of Environmental Enrichment on Hippocampal Nuclear Estrogen Receptor Alpha Levels in Ovariectomized Female Rats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Parker Evans</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>On Self-Overlapping Curves, Interior Boundaries, and Minimum Area Homotopies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LBC 203, Stibbs Conference Room
## Individual Presentations

**Thursday, April 19**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department / Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Briley Bourgeois</td>
<td>Physics and Engineering Physics</td>
<td>Photonic Processing of Transition Metal Oxide Films</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:40 PM</td>
<td>Nate Koch</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Thank You, Paul Tulane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:20 PM</td>
<td>Nicole Saville</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Chromatic Imaginaries: Color Constructs the Human Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Jacob Morrow-Spitzer</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>The Appointee, the Democrat, and the Redeemer: Three Jewish Mayors in Post-Civil War Louisiana and Mississippi and Their Roles in the Shifting Politics of Reconstruction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panel Presentations

Sunday, April 22: Morning Session, LBC 203, Stibbs Conference Room

9:00am: Nature and the Environment

- **Social Attributes Predict Reproductive Behavior in American Flamingos (Phoenicopterus ruber)**
  - Elliot Hill  
  - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

- **Ornamented Plumage in the Nonbreeding Season is Associated with Behavioral Change in a Tropical Passerine**
  - Trey Hendrix  
  - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

- **Investigating Driving Forces of Habitat Suitability Loss and Conservation for a Critically Endangered Species in a Biodiversity Hotspot**
  - Darcy Gray  
  - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

- **Evolutionary Specialization in New World Wood Warblers (Parulidae): Predicting Diet from Morphology, with Implications for Conservation**
  - Kristen Rosamond  
  - Environmental Studies

Moderator: Thomas Sherry (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)

10:00am: Gender and Discrimination

- **Sexual Orientation Discrimination in Mortgage Lending: A Pre-Analysis Plan for a Correspondence Field Experiment**
  - Cathy Balfe  
  - Economics

- **Creating Space: Women at the 1893 Columbian Exposition**
  - Barbara Wilkie  
  - History

- **Violence Against Refugee Women in the Context of the European Refugee Crisis**
  - Hannah Craig  
  - Public Health

Moderator: Kathryn Edwards (History)
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History
Creating Space: Women at the 1893 Columbian Exposition

Hannah Craig
Public Health
Violence Against Refugee Women in the Context of the European Refugee Crisis

11:00am: Public Health
Moderator: Mollye Demosthenidy (Public Health)

Abrania Marrero
Psychology and Public Health
Untangling Happiness and Health: The Effect of Eudemonic Well-being on Health Behavior

Andrew Beeco
Public Health
A Comparative Analysis on City-Level Naloxone Distribution Programs and Their Effect on the Opioid Epidemic

Will Shipman
Public Health and Economics
The Relationship Between the Economy and Suicide Incidence Across American Counties During the Great Recession
**Panel Presentations**

**Sunday, April 22: Afternoon Concurrent Session A, LBC 201, Race Conference Room**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1:00pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Creative Disciplines</strong></td>
<td><strong>Moderator: Norah Lovell (Honors Program)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David Maples Architecture</td>
<td>Designing Material Networks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bryce Berman English</td>
<td>The Commodification of the Addicted Artist as Contemporary Performance Art</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dylan Koester Music</td>
<td>From Palace Chamber to Conducting Symposium: A Conductor’s Perspective on the Dynamic Role of the Chamber Wind Ensemble through Score Study, Rehearsal and Performance of Three Pieces of Varying 19th and 20th Century Styles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1:45pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Neuroscience and Psychology</strong></td>
<td><strong>Moderator: Andrew MacLean (Neuroscience)</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sierra Lear Chemical Engineering and Neuroscience</td>
<td>Investigating Interactions Between Biological Stress and the Adenosine A2a Receptor Signaling in Alzheimer's Disease</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matt Coleman Neuroscience</td>
<td>The Interaction of Positive Prediction Error and Active Learning on Memory</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brooke Bailey Psychology</td>
<td>Eye-Hand Coordination in Children during Beery-Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual-Motor Integration</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Panel Presentations

Sunday, April 22: Afternoon Concurrent Session A, LBC 201, Race Conference Room

2:30pm: Biology and Chemistry
Shea McGrinder  Cell and Molecular Biology
Amelia Bergeson  Chemical Engineering
Joseph Ramsey  Neuroscience

Moderator: Laura Schrader (Neuroscience)
Parametric Study of an Excise Laser Ablation Apparatus
Thin Film Stability in Linear and Cyclic Blends of Poly(ε-Caprolactone) (PCL)
Changes in Glial Morphology and Activation in Response to Severe Acute Stress in Rattus norvegicus
# Panel Presentations

**Sunday, April 22: Afternoon Concurrent Session B, LBC 202, Rechler Conference Room**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Panelists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td><strong>Race and Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td>Moderator: Rosanne Adderley (History &amp; Africana Studies)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christopher Downey Linguistics</td>
<td>Lakota, Chichewa, and Competing Motivations Driving Semi-Optimal Focus Construction Types</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rebecca Whitney Linguistics</td>
<td>Rabbit and Opossum: Quapaw Stories Translated and Analyzed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lily Milwit Political Science</td>
<td>&quot;They Tried To Bury Us&quot;: The Influence of Post-Apartheid Education Reform on Student Activism in South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Madeleine Swanstrom History and Economics</td>
<td>Streetcars and Segregation: Ferguson from the Civil War to Michael Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45pm</td>
<td><strong>International Perspectives on Politics</strong></td>
<td>Moderator: Geoffrey Dancy (Political Science)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alex Kornfeld Political Science and Philosophy</td>
<td>Victor Orbán’s Platonic Moment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Katherine Bloomfield Political Science</td>
<td>The Methods and Consequences of Israel's Continued Control Over Gaza Since Disengagement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Claire Davenport Political Science</td>
<td>Settlers and Solutions: Entrenchment in Israeli Society</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Panel Presentations

Sunday, April 22: Afternoon Concurrent Session B, LBC 202, Rechler Conference Room

2:30: Anthropology

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillian Mays</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Entertainment Vs. Education: Museum Ethics and Human Remains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francesca Luria</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Through the Looking Glass: Archaeological Representation in Museum Display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shehan McFadden</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>In the Shadow of the Giralda: ‘Europeanness’ and the Anxiety of Liminality in the South of Spain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moderator: John Verano (Anthropology)