



UWG Scholars' Day

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# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

A Celebration of Undergraduate Scholarship

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April 4, 2023

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UNIVERSITY OF  
WEST GEORGIA

# OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (OUR)

Faculty-mentored undergraduate research and creative activity complement classroom learning through learning by doing and reflection on doing. In the process, these endeavors offer students an experiential learning opportunity that transforms them into scholars. The Office of Undergraduate Research was established to facilitate collaboration between faculty and staff mentors and student researchers and creators, coordinate university-wide research events, assist students in their preparation and travel to research conferences and professional meetings, and aid students in applying for national scholarships and fellowships. We are dedicated to facilitating undergraduate student involvement in research and creative activity in all disciplines.

[westga.edu/our](http://westga.edu/our)

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**Logan Arrington**, Assistant Professor of Instructional Technology

**Amy Ellison**, Senior Lecturer of English

**James Mayer**, Associate Professor of Geology

**Kathleen Morales**, Associate Professor of Nursing

**Nathan Rees**, Associate Professor of Art History

**Craig Schroer**, Head of Public Services and Systems Librarian, Ingram Library

**Michael Sinkey**, Associate Professor of Economics

**Rossella Traversa**, Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Jeffrey Zamostny**, Professor of Spanish, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research

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# UWG Scholars' Day UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

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A Celebration of Undergraduate Scholarship

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**Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

The Scholars' Day Undergraduate Research Conference supports the University of West Georgia's Strategic Plan, *Becoming UWG*, as well as its upcoming Quality Enhancement Plan on Career Readiness through Experiential Learning.

- The conference advances the strategic priority of **relevance** by showcasing research and creative projects that typically take a semester or more to complete and involve close mentorship between faculty, staff, and students.
- As a venue for the display of student success in research and creative endeavors, the event highlights **competitiveness** in a supportive setting that fosters a culture of excellence.
- Now in its seventh year, the conference is an annual tradition that brings together members of the University community from across colleges, schools, divisions, and units and enlivens a sense of pride and belonging that is essential to **placemaking**.

For the first time in 2023, the Office of Career and Graduate School Connections will host a drop-in workshop during the conference to assist participants with featuring their presentations on their resumes. The event thus connects **experiential learning** through undergraduate research and creative activity with the Quality Enhancement Plan's emphasis on **career readiness**.

The Scholars' Day Undergraduate Research Conference is an inclusive celebration of undergraduate research and creative activity at the University of West Georgia. We invite all in attendance to engage with the many panels and posters presented today!

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

12:00-3:30 pm: Check-in, Campus Center Atrium

12:00-3:30 pm: Drop-in Resume Workshop, Campus Center Atrium

12:30-2:30 pm: Poster and Visual Arts Session, Campus Center Ballrooms

1:30-2:30 pm: Concurrent Panel Session 1, Pafford Social Science Building

2:45-3:45 pm: Concurrent Panel Session 2, Pafford Social Science Building

4:00-5:00 pm: Concurrent Panel Session 3, Pafford Social Science Building

# DROP-IN RESUME WORKSHOP

*Campus Center Atrium 12:00-3:30*

The Office of Career and Graduate School Connections will offer student presenters advice about how to best showcase their conference participation on their resumes. Students, please consider stopping by with your resume! The Office will also share information about its wide-ranging services as you prepare for your next steps.

## PANEL PRESENTATIONS

*Session I 1:30-2:30*

### **The African Diaspora in History and Art, Part I**

**Pafford 107**

**Moderated by Melissa King**

Keturah Auguste, "Sojourner Truth: Women's Rights Advocate"

Mentored by Dr. Stephanie Chalifoux

Tara Lane, "Rejecting the African American Diaspora Stereotype"

Mentored by Dr. Nathan Rees

Ozymandias Cook, "Being the 'Other': Abstraction as a Response of Intersectional Identities within the Diaspora"

Mentored by Dr. Nathan Rees

### **Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Gender & Sexuality Studies**

**Pafford 102**

**Moderated by Alyssa Jones**

Jordyn Rhone, "Sexual Objectification, Consent, and Woman's Agency"

Mentored by Dr. Rosemary Kellison

Danielle Gorman, "Spreading the Wings of the Butterfly: Analyzing the Presence of Heterotopias and the Symbolism of the *Mariposa* in Welty's 'Music from Spain'"

Mentored by Drs. Rebecca Harrison and Laura Miller

Rebecca Lee, "The Lack of Inclusion for the LGBTQIA+ Community in Schools"

Mentored by Dr. Rossella Traversa

### **Initiatives for Inclusive Education**

**Pafford 112**

**Moderated by India Garcia**

Tyesha Harrison, "Inspiring Our Youth"

Mentored by Dr. Thomas Peterson

Elena Spence and Kasilynn McClain, "GEM: Girls Empowering Movement"

Mentored by Sarah Gross

Em Delgado, "Accessibility of English Programs for Immigrants in Georgia"

Mentored by Dr. Tiffany Parsons

## *Session II 2:45-3:45*

### **The African Diaspora in History and Art, Part II**

**Pafford 107**

**Moderated by Ansleigh Thacker**

**Mentored by Dr. Nathan Rees**

Kyree Durham, "African Diaspora: Representing Blackness"

Abigail Boylen, "African Influence in Art during the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights Era"

Pyx Boss, "Vessel of All: Landscape in the African Diaspora"

### **Creative Writing *en español*: Projects from Intro to Hispanic Literature**

**Pafford 102**

**Moderated by Trystyn Hovey**

**Organized and mentored by Dr. Jeffrey Zamostny**

Mark Elmore, "Not once, but twice: Surprise Endings to the Spanish-language Play *El delantal blanco*"

Kaleb Hyatt, "'Sor Dolores': Creative Writing Inspired by Hispanic Literature"

Katelyn Mix, "'El secreto de la Luna': A Creative Work Inspired by Hispanic Poetry"

Madison Renardel de Lavalette, "Una oda a las palabras / An Ode to Words"

### **Studies in Film and Television Analysis: History, Form, and Content**

**Pafford 112**

**Moderated by Megan Flowers**

Phoebe Huckabay, "Mise-en-scene: The Composition of Selected Images in Fritz Lang's Film *M*"

Mentored by Dr. Felix Tweraser

Danielle Gorman, "Leaving the Closet: Analyzing Lesbian Camp in Spanish Film During and After Francoism"

Mentored by Dr. Jeffrey Zamostny

Riley Ford, "Surviving the Odds: How *Survivor's* Production and Players Expose a Misogynistic Society"

Mentored by Prof. Pamela Murphy

## *Session III 4:00-5:00*

### **The Good Life: Approaches to Enlightenment and “the Good”**

**Pafford 102**

**Moderated by Kimberly Barker**

Robin Forsyth, “The Good and its Dynamic Construction in Plato’s ‘Divided Line’”  
Mentored by Dr. John Garner

Shari Mane De la Pena, “An Atomist/Hedonist’s View on Suicide”  
Mentored by Dr. John Garner

Sabrina Skinner, “Clay and Enlightenment: Environmental and Cultural Influences on the Buddhist Art of Tang Dynasty China”

Mentored by Dr. Nathan Rees

### **Gender and Sexuality in French and Francophone Cinema**

**Pafford 107**

**Moderated by Daenecia Hines**

**Organized and mentored by Dr. Lynn Anderson**

Quincy Cali, “A Triangle of Plausible Deniability: Homosexual Repression in Truffaut’s *Jules et Jim*”

Lexy Crews, “Transformed Masculinities in Alain Berliner’s *My Life in Pink* and Josiane Balasko’s *French Twist*”

Genesis Jimenez, “Reshaping Gender in Berliner’s *My Life in Pink* and Besson’s *La Femme Nikita*”

### **Stigma, Bias, and Ethics in Professional Settings**

**Pafford 112**

**Moderated by Grace Camp**

Payton Massey, “Visualizing a Disparate Price Index on Different Marginal Groups”  
Mentored by Drs. Michael Sinkey and Hilde Patron

Emily Moon, “Investigation of the Anomalous Experiences of Hospice Workers”  
Mentored by Dr. Marjorie Snipes

Tayte Fuqua, “Physicians Perform Elective Surgeries like Breast Augmentation which Violate their Code of Ethics”

Mentored by Dr. Melissa Johnson

## POSTER AND VISUAL ARTS PRESENTATIONS

12:30-2:30 | Campus Center Ballrooms

*Listed alphabetically by first presenter's last name*

Barbara Aikins, "Understanding College Students' Use of the Greenbelt"  
Mentored by Dr. Ashlee Davis

Kristel Aladin, "Insulin Pumps Provide Better Assistance to Type One Diabetics"  
Mentored by Dr. David Morgan

Sameerah Amao and Melody Ahuchaogu, "Antioxidant Activity of Vitamin C Serums"  
Mentored by Dr. Vickie Geisler

Alexander Ayers, "GUI vs Console: An Examination of the Effect of Assignment Format on CS1 Workshops"  
Mentored by Dr. Jonathan Corley

Alexander Ayers, "Self-Guided Historic Tour of the University of West Georgia Campus"  
Mentored by Dr. Anja Remshagen and Prof. Keri Adams

Caitlyn Barton, "Propagation Techniques of *Desmodium viridiflorum*"  
Mentored by Dr. Joe Hendricks

Olivia Basant, Jaela Reese, and Payton Rogers, "Quantitative Determination of Complexation of Azathioprine to B-cyclodextrin: Spectroscopic Characteristics Applied to Monitor Thermodynamic Parameters for Transfer from Mobile Phase to Stationary Phase"  
Mentored by Dr. Farooq Khan

Martrell Beall, "Ticket Sales: An Iconic Moment in NBA History for not only King James, but also the League"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Haley Brinkman, "Correlation of University Students' Mental Health and the Carrollton GreenBelt Usage"  
Mentored by Dr. Ashlee Davis

Ezra Brown, "Examining the Pros and Cons of Using Betting on Sports as a Source of Money in Sports"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

John-David Butler, "Degradation of Microcrystalline Cellulose by New Isolates of Adherent, Biofilm-forming Bacteria"  
Mentored by Dr. William Kenyon

Grace Camp, "Relative Abundance and Temporal Patterns of Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) and their Prey between Areas of Higher versus Lower Human Population Densities"  
Mentored by Dr. Andrew Edelman

Dorien Carpenter, "Application of a Diatomic Molecular Model Potential to a Series of Homo- and Heterodiatomic Molecules"  
Mentored by Drs. Javier Hasbun and Ajith DeSilva

Jacob Chadwick, "Transfer Portal and How it Has Affected Collegiate Football"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Janea` Clark, "The Analysis of Autism Experiences from the Perspective of African American Families"  
Mentored by Dr. Twyla Perryman

Juliana Curry, "Pollen Pellet DNA Correlation to Plant Species"  
Mentored by Dr. Frank Fontanella

Miles Debro, "Creating a Mixed Reality Game to Practice Volume Calculation"  
Mentored by Dr. Anja Remshagen and Dr. Sungwoong Lee

Jena Desormo and Juliet Bernard, "Effects of Ligand Environment on SnS Nanocrystal Growth"  
Mentored by Dr. Martin McPhail

Ariel Dildy, "Serial Killers, Mental Illness, and Motivation: What Does the Data Say?"  
Mentored by Dr. Gavin Lee and Dr. Lynn Pazzani

Joel Edmondson, "Archaeological Site Formation Processes at the UWG Site"  
Mentored by Dr. Nathan Lawres

Kiera Ellis, "Is Fan Engagement for Women's Sports Growing Despite Inadequate Media and Marketing?"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Katelyn Enderle and Jaylah Adams, "Diversity and Extinction in a Biodiversity Hotspot"  
Mentored by Dr. Frank Fontanella

Ethan Freligh, "The Impact of Information Shocks on MLB HOF Committee Voting"  
Mentored by Dr. Michael Sinkey

Jackson Gamble, "Why Don't HBCU Division One Programs Receive the Equal Television Time that PWI Division One Programs Receive?"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Marcus Gary, "Why Do Athletes Get Caught Up with Online Sports Betting?"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

William Gates, "Gender Pay Gap in Professional Sports"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Zachary Goins, "NIL Deals Create a League with No Parity"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Alisha Gordon, "Teaching with Technology during Covid-19: How Do You Teach during a Pandemic?"  
Mentored by Dr. Danilo Baylen

Alisha Gordon, "Trends and Critical Issues in K-12 Teacher Makerspace Professional Development: A Systematic Literature Review from 2010 to 2022"  
Mentored by Dr. Ye Chen and Dr. Danilo Baylen

Stephaine Gordon, "Revealing the Heavy Element Compositions of Planetary Nebulae with the NASA-IRTF"  
Mentored by Dr. Nicholas Sterling



Bianca Grant, "Intellectual Experiences of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Adults"  
Mentored by Dr. Aleah Brock

Jasmyn Green, "Sex Offenders: A Dive into Typology and Recidivism"  
Mentored by Dr. Abigail Kolb

Megan Henley, "Comparison of Sulfur Precursors for SnS Nanocrystal Preparation"  
Mentored by Dr. Martin McPhail

Edylson Hernandez, "The Impact of Urbanization on the Sweetwater Creek  
Watershed Affecting the Danger of Floods"  
Mentored by Dr. Jeong Seong

Seth Hopkins and Alexander Ayers, "Hidden Stories of Front Campus Drive"  
Mentored by Prof. Keri Adams and Dr. Anja Remshagen

Bennie Jones and Alma Calvillo, "Tuning the Electrochemical and Magnetic  
Behavior of bis-Terpy Fe(II) via Subtle Structural Shifts of the Molecular Structure"  
Mentored by Dr. Spencer Slattery

Marissa Keeler and Jacob Cash, "Molecular Crowding: When are Too Many Guests  
Present?"  
Mentored by Drs. Farooq Khan and John Hansen

April Lindon, "Discovering Signed Magic Arrays"  
Mentored by Dr. Abdollah Khodkar

Jhane McDonald, "Inequality in Sports"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Christian McDowell and Abigail Wester, "Synthetic Studies to a Novel  
Pyrimidodiazepine-based Anti-folate as a Potential Anti-cancer Drug"  
Mentored by Dr. Partha Ray

Jacob Miller, "Self-Assembly of Acridine Orange and Cucurbit[n]urils: An Atomic  
Force Microscopy Study"  
Mentored by Drs. Martin McPhail and Farooq Khan

Cordell Moore, "Children's Dying Interest in Sports"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Nonso Nwanya, Heidi Perez, and Raymond Eyo, "Can We Use a Linear Correlation  
Model to Substitute for Individually Counting Olfactory Sensory Neurons Expressing  
the M72 Odor Receptor?"  
Mentored by Dr. Melissa Johnson

Mason Peacock, "The Effects of Slit-film Turf on NFL Athletes"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

MaCayla Preiser, "UWG Archaeological Trail"  
Mentored by Dr. Nathan Lawres

Iyante Price, "Transfer Portal"  
Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Rozalin Pridmore, "Comparing Humeral Torsion as an Indicator of Physical Activity in an Ancient Mayan Population Sample and a Modern Yucatecan Cemetery Collection"

Mentored by Dr. Isabel Maggiano

Yizar Rainwater, "Improving Drug Testing in Sports"

Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Nimar Roach, "The Expansion of College Football Playoffs"

Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Ashley Rossman, "Center for Public History Memory Mapping Project"

Mentored by Prof. Keri Adams and Dr. Andy Walter

Daisy Rowser-Grier, "Findings of ASMR and the Introduction of Professor Simmonds-Moore's Psychometry"

Mentored by Dr. Christine Simmonds-Moore

Zoe Santorello, "Analysis of the Antioxidant Capacity of Dog Food"

Mentored by Dr. Vickie Geisler

Allyson Simmons, "Communication and Engagement of Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in an Inclusive Makerspace Environment"

Mentored by Dr. Katy Green

Sabrina Skinner, "Chasing Crystals: Crystalline Glazing Ceramic Forms"

Mentored by Prof. David Collins

Sabrina Skinner, "Gilded Cups: 3D Printing with Clay"

Mentored by Prof. Nathan Carnes

Maeve Spoor, "The Impact of a Professional Development Series on Universal Design for Learning Framework for Engaging All Students"

Mentored by Dr. Katy Green

Mabel Stephenson, "Heavy Element Abundances in Magellanic Cloud Planetary Nebulae"

Mentored by Dr. Nicholas Sterling

Anna Stober, "Second Language Proficiency Impact on Culturally Influenced Behaviors"

Mentored by Dr. Tiffany Parsons

Heyward Stober, "Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Automotive Accidents in the Atlanta Metropolitan Region"

Mentored by Dr. Jeong Seong

Kesiana Tuoyo, "The Impending Consequences that Human Encroachment on Biologically Diverse Ecosystems Will Have on Public Health"

Mentored by Dr. Andrew Edelman

Pedro Vega, "Chitosan Biofilm: An Environmentally Friendly Plastic Alternative"

Mentored by Dr. Megumi Fujita

Luciana Vinci, "Branding and Gallery Work"

Mentored by Prof. Stephanie Smith

Georgia Waddell, "Sediment Provenance of Quartzite Clasts and River Sands from the Early Colorado River"

Mentored by Dr. Cody Mason

Connor Walker, "The Characteristics of Whistleblowers"

Mentored by Prof. Alison Hollingsworth and Dr. Heather Bono

Zoe Wheat, "Comparative Financial Analysis: Coca-Cola Company and PepsiCo, Inc."

Mentored by Dr. Charles Hodges

Alaina White, "A Story in the Stars: Astrology and the Black Death"

Mentored by Dr. Charles Lipp

Ben Whitlock, "Legalizing Sports Gambling Involved with Addiction"

Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Corey Williams, "Event PDF Creation and Email"

Mentored by Dr. Li Yang

Jason Williamson, "The Adults in the Room: Who is Really Controlling the Student Athlete's Value?"

Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

Stephanie Woods, "Travel Abroad and Its Effect on College Students' Eating Habits and Fast-Food Choice"

Mentored by Dr. Beheruz Sethna and Dr. Jack Wei

Xavier Wynn, "Evolving Concussion Protocols in NFL"

Mentored by Dr. HyunSeok Song

## *Acknowledgements and Sponsors*

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