



# THE HONORS TRANSFER COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

Presents  
The 24th Annual

## **BUILDING BRIDGES RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

At UC Riverside  
April 20, 2024

Featuring students of the member colleges of the  
Honors Transfer Council of California

### **2024 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Erik Ozolins, Mt. San Jacinto College  
Christina Yamanaka-Vu, Mt. San Jacinto College  
Emily Liu, Irvine Valley College  
Ruth Blandón, East Los Angeles College  
Evan Kendall, Los Angeles City College  
Judy Cannon, Crafton Hills College  
Stella Setka, West Los Angeles College  
Kathy Patterson, Santa Ana College  
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Nathan Lopez, Compton College  
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Conference Program Chair  
Conference Communication Co-Chair  
Conference Communication Co-Chair  
Poster Coordinator  
Scholarship Committee Chair  
Conference Registration Chair  
Moderator Coordinator  
HTCC Treasurer  
*Building Bridges* Editor

# Welcome

Welcome to the 24th annual Building Bridges Research Conference. The Honors Transfer Council of California, in partnership with the University of California, Riverside, is honored to be part of this conference, which highlights the research produced by community college honors students from across the state of California. This conference started over two decades ago with a small number of presentations by students from a handful of colleges. It has grown over the years in size and quality, and today we welcome hundreds of students, faculty, administrators, and guests to participate in a community of learning and to celebrate the academic accomplishments of our presenters. We are thrilled to form a new partnership with UC Riverside and are grateful to our hosts for this opportunity to showcase the research of honors community college students from across the state of California.

Today you will hear about innovative research from a wide array of disciplines. This conference is a unique opportunity to attend presentations and participate in discussions not only in your own area of specialization, but also in academic fields with which you are less familiar. In the spirit of honors education that embraces intellectual discovery and supporting interdisciplinary approaches to research, learning, and problem solving, we invite you to attend a diversity of sessions that are listed in this program. We hope you will come away from the conference enriched with knowledge you may not have otherwise obtained. Please also be sure to attend the closing plenary session of the conference, where prizes will be awarded to students with outstanding abstracts and posters and to students who have demonstrated outstanding growth and academic success through their involvement in their community college's honors program.

As honors students, you represent some of the best qualities of your respective colleges, reflecting not only your own hard work and academic excellence but also the teaching and mentoring of those who have made a difference in your life. We hope you will embrace your role as an unofficial ambassador of your school, network with honors students from other institutions, and take a few minutes to walk around and experience the UCR campus once the conference is over as you consider your future transfer options.

From all the members of the Honors Transfer Council of California, we wish you an educational and enjoyable conference.



**Christina Yamanaka-Vu**

President, Honors Transfer Council of California

Professor of History and Honors Program Co-Director, Mt. San Jacinto College

**Erik Ozolins**

Vice President and Conference Chair, Honors Transfer Council of California

Professor of Anthropology and Honors Program Co-Director, Mt. San Jacinto College

# Gratitude and Thanks

The Honors Transfer Council of California is grateful to the administration and staff of the University of California, Riverside Honors Program for supporting this annual research conference. The commitment that UC Riverside has made to our organization and this conference is a strong testament of its support of California community colleges and transfer students.

We greatly appreciate the tremendous assistance of **Aaron J. Bushong**, Administrative Director of UC Riverside Honors; **Dr. Rich Cardullo**, Faculty Director of UC Riverside Honors; and **Jonah Myers** and **Veronica Zendejas** from the UC Riverside Office of Admissions.

We owe special thanks to the faculty who read and scored hundreds of abstracts over their winter “break”:

**Amy Fredericks**, Long Beach City College  
**Lauren Hofschneider**, Los Angeles City College  
**Evan Kendall**, Los Angeles City College  
**Melissa King**, San Bernardino Valley College  
**Joel Lamore**, San Bernardino Valley College  
**Emily Liu**, Irvine Valley College  
**Anne Negus**, Fullerton College  
**Kathy Patterson**, Santa Ana College

**Edward Pineda-Castro**, Los Angeles City College  
**Michael Plotkin**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Arej Qasqas**, Citrus College  
**Melissa Rifino Juarez**, Rio Hondo College  
**Stella Setka**, West Los Angeles College  
**Madison Shockley**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Jeff Wheeler**, Long Beach City College  
**Christina Yamanaka-Vu**, Mt. San Jacinto College

To the faculty who read and scored submissions for HTCC scholarships and abstract awards:

**Tim Adell**, Victor Valley College  
**Felipe Agredano**, West Los Angeles College  
**Jeanene Ames**, West Los Angeles College  
**Elena Avilés**, West Los Angeles College  
**Holly Bailey-Hoffman**, West Los Angeles College  
**Tiffany Lanois**, West Los Angeles College  
**Jason Librande**, West Los Angeles College  
**Rick Mayock**, West Los Angeles College

**Dominic Merkle**, West Los Angeles College  
**Jennifer Ortiz**, West Los Angeles College  
**Erik Ozolins**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Sandra Ruiz**, West Los Angeles College  
**Stella Setka**, West Los Angeles College  
**Dave Smith**, West Los Angeles College  
**Leslie Tejada**, West Los Angeles College  
**Christina Yamanaka-Vu**, Mt. San Jacinto College

And to the faculty judges who scored submissions for outstanding posters:

**T.L. Brink**, Crafton Hills College  
**Judy Cannon**, Crafton Hills College  
**Steven Chang**, LA Harbor College  
**Ryan Henderson**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Michael Levine**, San Bernardino Valley College  
**Jon Mochizuki**, Orange Coast College

**Anjeanette Oberg**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Guck Ooi**, Cerro Coso College  
**Michael Plotkin**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Nick Reeves**, Mt. San Jacinto College  
**Lindsay Weiler**, Crafton Hills College

# Gratitude and Thanks

Finally, special thanks goes to

**Christina Yamanaka-Vu**, whose leadership of HTCC enhances the quality of honors programs across the state.

**Erik Ozolins** for coordinating all the moving pieces of this conference.

**Emily Liu** for facilitating review of submitted abstracts and creating the conference program.

**Ruth Blandón and Evan Kendall**, who sent important communications to student researchers.

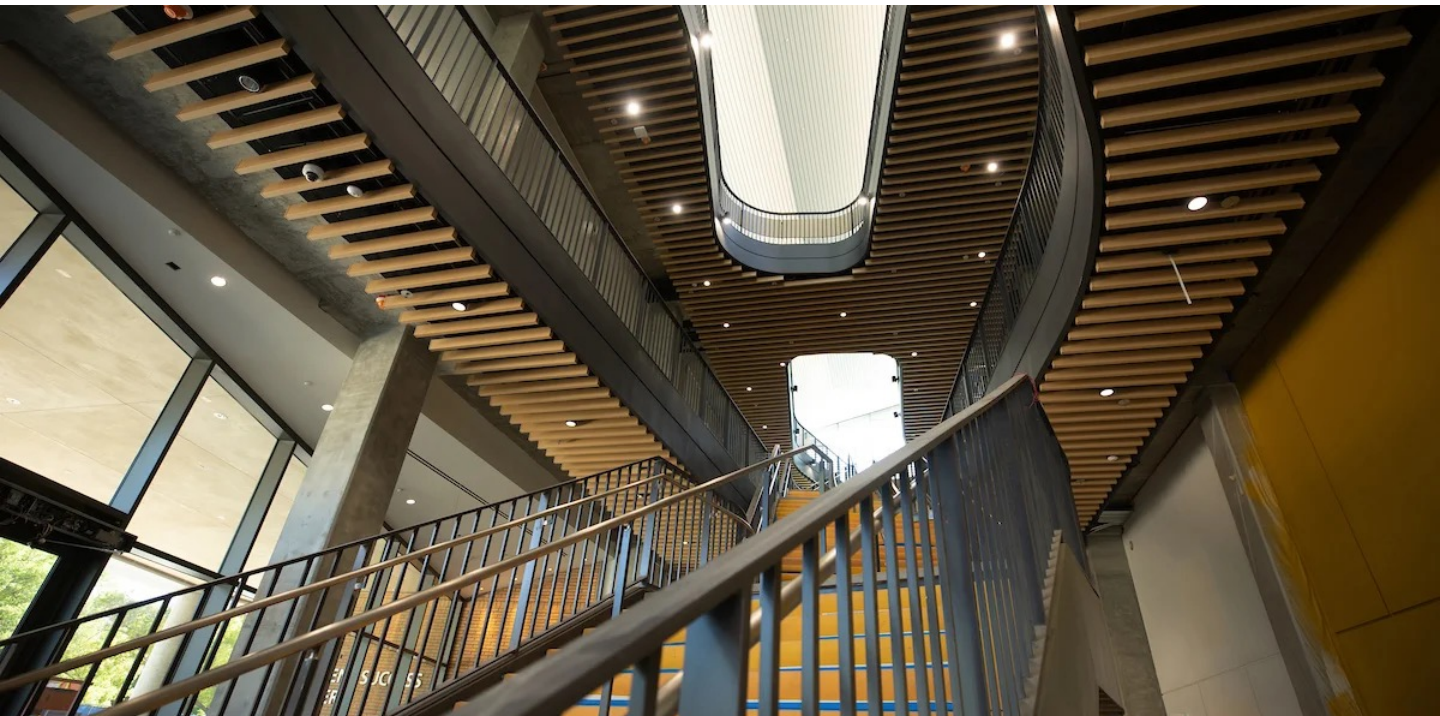
**Judy Cannon** for coordinating review of posters.

**Stella Setka** for facilitating review of scholarship and award applications.

**Nathan Lopez** for coordinating our student moderators.

**Kathy Patterson** for managing the conference registration desk.

**Tim Adell**, who will edit the 2024 edition of *Building Bridges* so that our students can share their research with the wider world.





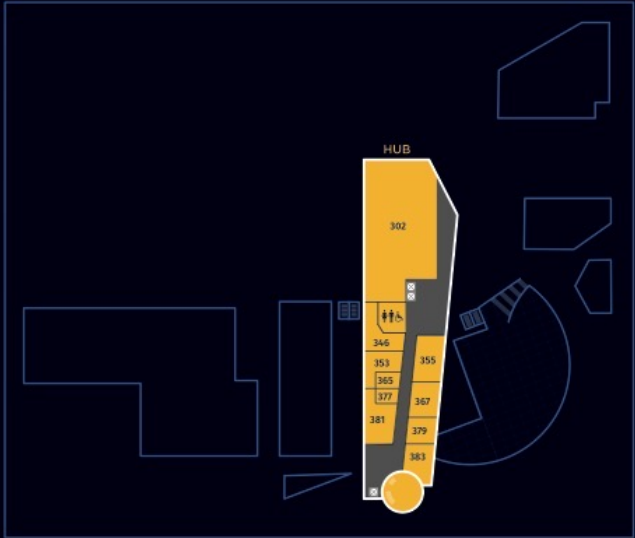
# 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Building Bridges Research Conference

## PROGRAM

7:30-8:00	Registration	HUB 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
	Breakfast	HUB 3 <sup>rd</sup> lobby
8:00-8:40	Opening Plenary	HUB 302
8:50-9:30	Poster Session A	SSC 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
9:35-10:15	Poster Session B	SSC 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
10:30-11:45	Oral Session 1	HUB and SSC classrooms
11:45-12:45	Lunch	HUB Plaza (by The Coffee Bean)
12:45-2:00	Oral Session 2	HUB and SSC classrooms
2:15-3:30	Oral Session 3	HUB and SSC classrooms
3:45-4:30	Closing Plenary / Awards	SSC 229



# UC Riverside Highlander Union Building (HUB)



**LEVEL 3**  
**HUB**

- 302, 355, 367, 379 PROGRAMMING/CONFERENCE ROOM
- 346 R'PANTRY
- 353 HUB ADMINISTRATION
- 365 UC IMMIGRANT LEGAL SERVICES
- 377 CAMPUS ADVOCACY, RESOURCES & EDUCATION (CARE)
- 383 GRADUATE STUDENT LOUNGE



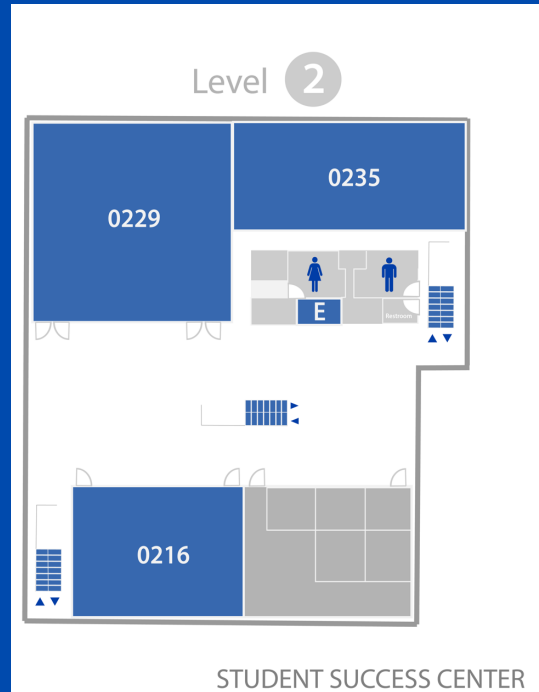
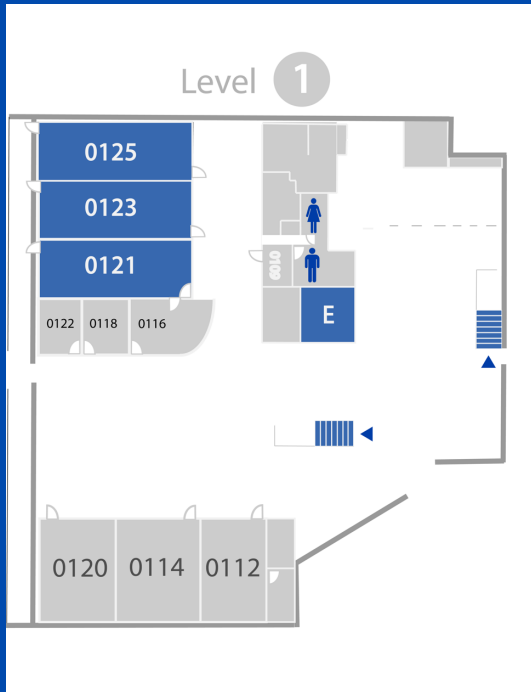
**LEVEL 2**  
**HUB**


- 202 ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
- 203 GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
- 221 SENATE CHAMBER
- 228 STUDENT ORGANIZATION WORK ROOM
- 229 STUDENT LIFE
- 248 THE WELL
- 260, 265, 268, 269 CONFERENCE ROOMS
- 261 TRIO SCHOLARS
- 272 COMMUTER & TRANSFER LOUNGE

**COSTO HALL**

- 224 UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT PROGRAMS (USP)
- 228 MEDITATION ROOM
- 229 NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT PROGRAMS (NASP)
- 241 HILLEL
- 244 ASIAN PACIFIC STUDENT PROGRAMS (APSP)
- 245 LGBT RESOURCE CENTER (LGBTRC)
- 260 WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER (WRC)

# UC Riverside Student Success Center (SSC)





# Opening Plenary 8:00-8:40 am

## HUB 302

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

#### **Christina Yamanaka-Vu**

President, Honors Transfer Council of California  
History Professor, Mt. San Jacinto College

#### **Erik Ozolins**

Vice President, Honors Transfer Council of California  
Anthropology Professor, Mt. San Jacinto College

#### **Richard A. Cardullo, Ph.D.**

Howard H Hays Jr. Chair and Faculty Director, University  
Honors

#### **Sandy Reyes-Moran**

2023 UCR and University Honors Graduate  
MBA Student, UCR School of Business



# Poster Session A

## 8:50-9:30 am

SSC 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor		
A1	<b>Alvaro Villareal</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentor: Michael Plotkin	<b>Tacky Tribulus Terrestris: A Spiky Weed's Growth in an Urban World</b> A terror to the agriculture and shoes of Southern California, Tribulus terrestris' spread now faces herbivorous weevils, competition, and an increasingly urban environment.
A2	<b>Fatemeh Aghasadeghhabbaz</b> Mt. San Antonio College Mentor: Diana Churchill	<b>Orientation of Argentine Ants in Response to Temperature</b> Argentine ants, which are known for their widespread distribution and highly invasive nature, tend to have a preference for colder environments.
A3	<b>Alfina Eull</b> El Camino College Mentor: Karla Villatoro	<b>Slimy Secrets: The Antimicrobial Potential of Slug Mucus</b> While increasingly antibiotic-resistant bacteria pose a greater threat to humanity than ever, the mucus of slugs and the wider Mollusca phylum is a research avenue.
A4	<b>Spencer Song</b> <b>Nicolas Lam</b> Mt. San Antonio College Mentor: Diana Churchill	<b>Alfalfa Seed Germination Unaffected by Scarification</b> Non-scarified and scarified alfalfa seeds were planted and received high and low levels of water, which determined that scarification did not affect germination.
A5	<b>Tan Loc (John) Huynh</b> <b>Kaden Vu</b> Orange Coast College Mentor: Amy Hellman	<b>Mitigation of Algal Blooms through Absorption of Phosphorus and Nitrogen by Clay and Sediments</b> Research aims to curb algal blooms by exploring strategies to mitigate nutrient runoff. Examining effective measures for prevention to safeguard water ecosystems and promote environmental sustainability.
A6	<b>Karen Salazar</b> Cypress College Mentors: Kenneth Collins, Kathryn Sonne	<b>The Flowering Plants of Oak Canyon Nature Center</b> Suburban natural areas are essential to preserving biodiversity. Documenting, maintaining, and conserving regional richness and genetic diversity of native plant and animal populations is critical.
A7	<b>Alayna Trejo</b> Mt. San Antonio College Mentor: Daniel Tejada-Lunn	<b>Investigating Novel Genes to Reduce Stomatal Density and Modify Epidermal Patterning</b> The research examines the effects of novel gene knockdown on stomatal density in Setaria viridis and overexpression of genes on epidermal patterning in Saccharum officinarum.

# Poster Session A

## 8:50-9:30 am

SSC 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor		
A8	<b>Jaime Alvarez</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Kris Pardo	<b>Setting Constraints on Gravitational Waves using Hipparcos and Gaia EDR3 Astrometry</b> Exploring gravitational waves' properties through astrometric techniques, focusing on supermassive black hole binaries' chirp mass and distance, using Hipparcos and Gaia EDR3 data.
A9	<b>Analy Lopez</b> West Los Angeles College Mentor: Joana Tavares-Reager	<b>It's in the Air: The Devastating Effects of Air Pollution on Urban Communities of Color</b> Using Southeast Los Angeles as a case study, my research examines the ways in which air pollution disproportionately impacts low-income communities in urban areas.
A10	<b>Ibrahim Yaaseen</b> El Camino College Mentor: Darcie McClelland	<b>What is Mitochondrial DNA, and What is its Role in Health and Aging?</b> What is Mitochondrial DNA, and why it is important? Should we be concerned about it, and how does it relate to aging?
A11	<b>Audrey Qi</b> Mt. San Antonio College Mentor: Diana Churchill	<b>Background Noise Has No Effect on the Ability to Recall Information</b> At a community college, different words and background noises were used to simulate a student studying; noises have no effect on cognitive ability and performance.
A12	<b>Karla Tapia Ayala</b> Crafton Hills College Mentor: T.L. Brink	<b>Insomnia Medications: Patient Satisfaction with Melatonin and Benadryl</b> This survey of WebMD insomnia patient evaluations found that Benadryl scored higher effectiveness and satisfaction compared to Melatonin. Effectiveness was the best predictor of satisfaction.
A13	<b>Sara Sohaei</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Dominick DiGiacomo, Deanna Scherger	<b>The Screen of Comparison: Exploring the Effect of Social Media on Increasing Social Comparison and Its Link to Anxiety</b> This study examines how using social media can create a social comparison issue which can leads to anxiety and depression among young users.
A14	<b>Steven Chamul</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentors: Michelle Vogel-Trautt, Nick Zappia	<b>Confronting the impact of Social and Economic Conservatism on Depressive symptoms amongst California Community College Students</b> Rising depression rates pose a critical public health concern for college students. This study explores the relationship between Social and Economic Conservatism and depressive symptoms.

# Poster Session A

## 8:50-9:30 am

### SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

A15	<p><b>Joseph Awad</b>  <b>Luis Guerrero-Escoto</b>  Mt. San Jacinto College  Mentor: Nick Zappia</p>	<p><b>Assessing the Psychosocial &amp; Demographical Determinants of Voter Willingness amongst California Community College Students: Exploring the Roles of Perceived Powerlessness, Hopelessness &amp; Age</b></p> <p>A voting behavior study involving Mt. San Jacinto College students reveals a connection between mental health factors and voter turnout in the 2024 election.</p>
A16	<p><b>Jahan Mohazab-Hosseinian</b>  <b>Darlene Yazan</b>  <b>Aryan Saha</b>  <b>Sofia Gabrielle Marin</b>  Irvine Valley College  Mentor: Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>Greener Spaces for Greater Engagement: Community College Green Spaces and its Influence on School-Sponsored Event Participation</b></p> <p>This study analyzes college students' positive and negative sentiments towards outdoor green spaces and their impact on school-sponsored event participation on community college campuses.</p>
A17	<p><b>Sylvia Tsai</b>  <b>Isabella Lu</b>  Irvine Valley College  Mentor: Kari Tucker</p>	<p><b>Happiness and its Relationship to an Individual's Ability to Imagine Worse</b></p> <p>Investigate links between happiness, the ability to imagine worse, and anxiety. Ethical data collection reveals positive correlations, shedding light on well-being dynamics.</p>
A18	<p><b>Catherine Thai</b>  Mt. San Antonio College  Mentor: Misty Kolchakian</p>	<p><b>Intergenerational Poverty and Wealth: How Nature and Nurture Shape Mindsets</b></p> <p>The research examines how nature and nurture shape mindsets around wealth and poverty across generations to inform policies supporting academic enrichment and community growth.</p>
A19	<p><b>Emma Varshochi</b>  Saddleback College  Mentor: Tina Jenkins</p>	<p><b>Beyond the Prescription: A Closer Look at the Trade-offs of Antidepressant Medications</b></p> <p>This study reviews antidepressant effectiveness and risks, revealing mixed efficacy. Adolescents face increased suicide-related risks with SSRIs. Long-term impacts require further investigation for safer use.</p>
A20	<p><b>Caroline Mertens</b>  Saddleback College  Mentor: Tina Jenkins</p>	<p><b>Chiari Type One - The Fairly Unknown Condition</b></p> <p>Discussion about a medical condition not normal known by physicians. Chiari Type one is a disability which can cause vestibular issues and much more.</p>

# Poster Session A

## 8:50-9:30 am

### SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

A21	<p><b>Kristianna Trinidad</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Katie Heaton-Smith</p>	<p><b>“Alternative Lifestyles” and “Sexual Deviancies”: A Social-Psychological Analysis of Homophobic Rhetoric in Modern America</b></p> <p>The notion that homosexuality or “gay lifestyle” is a voluntary sexual deviancy rather than a complex identity is spearheaded by epistemic, existential, and social-psychological motivations.</p>
A22	<p><b>Yareni Pelayo Sanchez</b> <b>Leslie Constantino</b> <b>Emmanuel Palos</b> <b>Vanya Pizzaro</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Priscilla Hernandez</p>	<p><b>Virtual Reality: A Look Into Social Problems</b></p> <p>Ethnographic research that aims to unpack the usage of Virtual Reality (VR) in exploring, understanding, and addressing social problems.</p>
A23	<p><b>Kamila Bustos</b> El Camino College Mentor: Amy Himsel</p>	<p><b>Brain Candy: How Social Media is Rotting the Minds of Adolescents</b></p> <p>Psychologists have already seen a drastic change in mental well-being in teenagers today and studies suggest that social media plays a role.</p>
A24	<p><b>Taylor Montoya</b> Rio Hondo College Mentor: Melissa Rifino Juarez</p>	<p><b>The Influence of Social Media Narratives on College Men</b></p> <p>Social media is tainting people’s views with countless videos talking negatively about women; men are not as easily influenced to believe the narrative.</p>
A25	<p><b>Maddie Paul</b> Crafton Hills College Mentor: Heather Gilmore</p>	<p><b>Communication Lost in the Nonverbal Emoticon</b></p> <p>An assessment of emoji use shows how internet users of varying demographics interpret the functions of emojis, both isolated and in immediate verbal contexts.</p>



# Poster Session B

## 9:35-10:15 am

### SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

B1	<b>Oscar Lopez</b> West Los Angeles College Mentors: Mark Mueller, Elizabeth Bell	<b>Quadcopter Design with Infinitesimally Adjustable Arms Coupled with a Pre-existing Universal Controller</b> Drones face uncertainties when modifying arm spans. Our solution: an adjustable arm and a universal adaptive controller for stability to eliminate constant tuning.
B2	<b>Colin Pham</b> <b>Emmanuel Hernandez</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Lan Pham	<b>From Physics to Computer Graphics : Applying of Particle Scattering and Absorption to Generate Art</b> Apply particle scattering and absorption governed by law of Physics as a tool in computer graphics to render two-dimension portraits with intricate features.
B3	<b>Syon Huang</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Xiaodan Leng	<b>How You Can Predict the Weather: Applications of Markov Chains for The Everyday Person</b> Markov chains serve as a bridge between higher-order mathematics and everyday life, enabling all an effective method to produce speculations about various fields of interest.
B4	<b>Grant Luo</b> <b>Charles Victorio</b> <b>Hannah Mou</b> <b>Lucas Bai</b> <b>Mark Tikhonov</b> <b>Victoria Sun</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Lan Pham	<b>Comparative Analysis of Numerical Integration Methods: Evaluating Non-Analytic Techniques and Their Real-World Applicability</b> Exploring numerical integration methods, this project compares algorithms like Newton-Cotes, Monte Carlo, etc. for accuracy and efficiency in computational mathematics and floating-point arithmetic.
B5	<b>Tuan Dien Tran</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Brian Kennedy	<b>Investigate Forecast Efficiency of a Combination of Artificial Intelligence and First-Order Two-Variable Polynomial Modelling on Inventory Demand of Small F&amp;B Businesses</b> Inventory Demand of Small F&B businesses: This paper investigate whether artificial intelligence algorithms and mathematical modeling for inventory demand forecasting efficient than manual methods.
B6	<b>Aimee Ortiz-Ramirez</b> Citrus College Mentor: Mariano Rubio	<b>Plasma-Enhanced Combustion of Methane and Hydrogen in Piston Engine Applications</b> Experimenting with TPS system and Conventional Spark to find the lowest flow rate for conventional with no load and repeating with TPS with fuel alternatives.

# Poster Session B

## 9:35-10:15 am

### SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

B7	<p><b>Tanner Rall</b>  <b>Dani Casares</b>  <b>Elaina Jeansonne</b>  Grossmont College  Mentor: Sebastien Cormier</p>	<p><b>The Lost Part: A Study of the BU 751 Stellar System</b>  The BU 751 trinary system was found to contain one unknown orbit and one linear pair which is described by its confirmed linear ephemeris.</p>
B8		
B9	<p><b>Walter Cheng</b>  Orange Coast College  Mentor: Sara Qubbaj</p>	<p><b>The Current State of Quantum Computers and Methods of Researching Potential Breakthrough Materials</b>  A literature review of quantum computing research with a focus on qubits and the methods used to analyze materials that could accelerate qubit development.</p>
B10	<p><b>Madison Jones-Coello</b>  Irvine Valley College  Mentor: Lewis Long</p>	<p><b>Economic Ripples: Decrypting the Puzzle of Price Surges in the Eyes of IVC Scholars</b>  This research unveils the intricate connections between concerns about price surge variables. Through statistical and trend analysis, the ever-evolving consumer landscape at IVC is uncovered.</p>
B11	<p><b>Seokwon Choi</b>  El Camino College  Mentor: Melissa Fujiwara</p>	<p><b>Correlation of Diversity and Workplaces: The Effects of Increasing Workplace Diversity</b>  This project explores how workplace diversity impacts organizational dynamics and offers strategies for inclusive workplaces striving to promote growth and innovation.</p>
B12	<p><b>Stephanie Vega</b>  Pasadena City College  Mentor: Trish Herrera</p>	<p><b>Pink isn't just a color; it's an additional cost: Pink Tax and Its Hidden Impact</b>  The pink tax inflates the price of items women purchase over similar products consumed by men, exacerbating the economic impacts of rising consumer prices.</p>
B13	<p><b>Collin McDonnell</b>  MiraCosta College  Mentor: Christopher Sleeper</p>	<p><b>How did Labor Unions Rise through the Great Depression?</b>  This paper analyzes the decline of labor in the 1920s, how it suffered from the Great Depression, and how it recovered.</p>

# Poster Session B

## 9:35-10:15 am

### SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

B14	<b>Katty Sanchez</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Melanie Vansell	<b>California Mythology: The El Camino Real is a Hoax!</b> For decades the glorification of the California Missions hid the horrific truth Native Americans faced throughout the 17th century.
B15	<b>Mikaila Keck</b> Crafton Hills College Mentor: Karla Franko	<b>Disaster Across Cultures: Unveiling Ancient Flood Narratives Through Multidisciplinary Insights</b> Exploring ancient global flood narratives by analyzing geological, mythological, and archaeological evidence uncovers cultural connections and scientific insights.
B16	<b>Stacie Ayon</b> West Los Angeles College Mentor: Sandra Ruiz	<b>Is Straying from Tradition Worse Than Venturing into the Unknown? A Look Inside Traditional Mexican Social Structures</b> A close reading analysis of the novel's characters and stories to identify the behaviors of imprisoned Mexican women who challenge traditional Mexican social structures.
B17	<b>Marie Beccue</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Allison Murray	<b>Thirty-One Planes of Psychospiritual Adventure to Visit After You Die: The Western Rebirth of Buddhist Cosmology</b> Explore how an ancient Buddhist cosmos maps to cutting-edge scientific models of psychological, ethical, and spiritual growth, creating an imaginative space for modern virtual tourists.
B18	<b>Rebecca Yingling</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Jodi Balma	<b>Chinese Adoptees: Our Loss of Culture</b> This project aims to bring awareness of the great cultural loss among Chinese adoptees and the impact that loss carries through sharing our stories.
B19	<b>Zara Kareem Zoya Khan</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Emily Liu	<b>Lost Innocence: Sexual and Reproductive Health Amongst South Asian Adolescents</b> This research explores the alarming teenage pregnancy rates in South Asia, driven by cultural norms, socioeconomic factors, and lack of education among girls aged 15-20.
B20	<b>Kexuan Li</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Kurt Meyer, Emily Liu	<b>Obstacles or Opportunities? Test-Optional Policies in College Admissions</b> Examines the impact of test-optional policies in college admissions, analyzing obstacles and opportunities for different student groups, advocating for equity and diversity in higher education.

# Poster Session B

## 9:35-10:15 am

SSC 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor		
B21	<b>Shubham Waldiya</b> El Camino College Mentor: Orion Teal	<b>Analysis of Algorithmic Bias in Educational Tools</b> Exploration into the causes of algorithmic biases in educational technologies, the effects it can have on students and educators, and possible solutions.
B22	<b>Isabella Resendiz</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentor: Kristin Hamilton	<b>Hunger in America: Using Education as a Foundation in the Fight Against Food Insecurity</b> Millions of people go hungry every day. However, by using education as a foundation, we can alleviate these food-insecure areas and improve lives.
B23	<b>Caitlyn Kim</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Brian Kennedy	<b>Effective Environmental Change Begins with an Intersectional Approach Through Environmental Justice</b> Individual sustainability efforts fail to address systemic issues exacerbating the climate crisis. An intersectional approach, specifically environmental justice, emphasizes marginalized communities' role in generating change.
B24	<b>Minh Pham</b> Santa Ana College Mentor: Christina Axtell	<b>The Scientific-Technological and Social Impact of Lithium-Based Batteries</b> As lithium-ion batteries continue to gain prominence, it is critical that their scientific, technical, social and ethical implications are carefully evaluated; Sylvatex shows promise.
B25	<b>Andre Houston</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Daniel Nigro	<b>Bibliophilia: How Gaming Technology Can Save the Environment</b> Biophilia Hypothesis basically means that humans have a tendency to seek and feel connected with nature and many types of other forms of life.



# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 260

<p><b>Ryan Le</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Sanjai Gupta</p>	<p><b>Predicting a Modified Fibonacci Sequence Modulo a Prime</b> Using Galois Theory and Number Theory in order to predict when the Modified Fibonacci Sequence repeats itself</p>
<p><b>Rustin Kabiri</b> <b>Dante Masci</b> <b>Vincent Ton</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: William Spinella</p>	<p><b>LiDAR: Why Should You Care?</b> Transformative potential of 2D MEMS LiDAR in revolutionizing robotics and SLAM technology. Delving into the advantages size, speed, and precision, showcasing role in navigating environments.</p>
<p><b>Chit Way</b> El Camino College Mentor: Karl Striepe</p>	<p><b>From Science-Fiction to Reality: How Quantum Computers Reshape the Future</b> This project explores what quantum computers are, and how they can solve complex problems in multiple sectors, providing a major leap forward for our society.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 268

<p><b>Cristina Gonzalez Carbajal</b> Los Angeles Pierce College Mentor: Cristine Ersig-Marcus</p>	<p><b>The Unforeseen Dangers of Unconscious Biases in Doctor-Patient Relationships</b> Doctors must become aware of implicit bias to reduce discriminatory behaviors that can inhibit the communication and quality of care their respective patients receive.</p>
<p><b>Gabby Acosta</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Jeff Wheeler</p>	<p><b>Health Advocacy: The Fight Against Debilitating Misogynoir and Racism in Maternal Healthcare</b> Black mothers are four times more likely to suffer maternal-related deaths. This literature review addresses the deep-rooted racism in United States healthcare.</p>
<p><b>Ellaine Peralta</b> <b>Isabella Shead</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Geetha Rajaram</p>	<p><b>Teaching Abstinence in Schools and Lack of Women's Health Care Relating to Teenage Abortion Rates in the U.S.</b> Recent Supreme Court abortion ruling influences 2022 elections. Regression study using Kaiser Family Foundation data reveals positive link between abstinence-only education and teenage abortion rates.</p>
<p><b>Melanie Stuart</b> San Diego Mesa College Mentor: Jennifer Sime</p>	<p><b>Gender Based Prioritization in Africa: the Legacy of Economic Apartheid and the Prevalence of HIV/AIDs</b> Disparate treatment in the realm of infectious disease: what are the ramifications of gender in the determination of quality healthcare?</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 269

<p><b>Amy Chen</b> <b>Kaylin Hahm</b> <b>Helen Samuel Wan</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Mark Collinson, Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>Cultivating Consumer Devotion: Exploring the Psychology of Emotional Attachment in Digital Marketing for Retail Brands</b> This study seeks to demonstrate how marketing campaigns influenced by behavioral psychology increase consumer loyalty and differentiate a leading brand from other less successful competitors.</p>
<p><b>Priscila Tea</b> <b>Nancy Sao</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Fred Beebe</p>	<p><b>The Art of Persuasion: Decoding the Power of Marketing on Consumer Behavior</b> Social media utilizes cognitive limitations and biases, employing marketing tactics that exploit heuristics, biases, and social influences to drive user engagement and generate revenue.</p>
<p><b>Karim Debian</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Carrie Goulding</p>	<p><b>An Overview: Warmer Climate Temperatures Harming Workers</b> Too Hot To Handle: Workers' health is deteriorating due to global warming. The solution is for workers to advocate solutions independent from governments or businesses.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 355

**Said Hernandez**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Julie Peggarr

#### **The Needs and Struggles of Multi-Cultural Students**

This study explores the unique needs of multi-cultural students to feel like they belong in a school's community, which affects how they perform academically.

**Citlali Naranjo**  
**Angel Valencia**  
Fullerton College  
Mentor: Katheryn McGuthry

#### **Knowledge Insecurity: Basic Needs and Campus Services**

We analyzed the awareness of, need for, and usage of non-academic basic need services provided at Fullerton College and if they aid a student's success.

**Kai Fujiwara**  
Irvine Valley College  
Mentor: Liz Burkhalter

#### **Humanized or Color-Blind Classrooms?: Exploring Community College Students' Perceptions of Racism in Online Courses**

Online courses are revolutionizing education as we know it, so this study examines how community college students experience race and racism in these classrooms.

**Angel Wang**  
**Emily Ibarra**  
Fullerton College  
Mentor: Katheryn McGuthry

#### **Call to Mind: Closed Captions, Video Learning, and the Typical Student**

An experiment was conducted to determine if including closed captions or not on a travel video affects how students learn and recall information.



# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 367

**Mhret Gebremiceal**

Los Angeles City College

Mentor: Christina Heisser

**The Legacy of Colonial Rule in Congo Affects It to This Day**

Learning the history of colonial rule in Congo (DRC) can help to understand the nature of the current crises in the country.

**Ryan Kelman**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentor: Christina Yamanaka-Vu

**Jewish Pogroms in Russia: The Attempted Genocide of Jews in Ukraine During the Bolshevik Revolution**

The Jewish pogroms in Ukraine were blatant attempts to physically, economically, and socially eradicate Russian Jews in an attempt to promote nationalism in the state.

**Hailey Strayer**

Saddleback College

Mentor: Margot Lovett

**Benefitting from and Justifying Slavery: Methods Utilized by The Old School Presbyterian Church**

Old School Presbyterian ministers utilized the Bible, moral philosophy, and the argument that it benefitted mankind to justify their usage of slavery.

**Bala Vazrala**

Irvine Valley College

Mentor: Lewis Long

**The Psychological Profiles of Totalitarian Leaders and their Implications for Society**

Exploring the Dark Tetrad traits — machiavellianism, narcissism, psychopathy, sadism — offers deeper insight into totalitarian leaders and their dictatorial regimes, challenging conventional views and emphasizing democratic safeguards.

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### HUB 379

**Ryan Doyle**

Saddleback College

Mentor: Tina Jenkins

**How Much of Our Gender Identity Is Our Choice: How Is It Influenced?**

Gender identity is a life-altering, mostly once-in-a-lifetime choice, profoundly and permanently influenced by hormones and by family, with the child facing possible ostracism by family.

**Charles Hall**

Glendale Community College

Mentor: Michael Harnett

**A Tug of War: The Juxtaposing Roles of Masculinity and Femininity in Queer Men**

Analyzing how internalized homophobia persuades queer-identifying men to seek hypermasculinity and suppress femininity, fostering tension among them, an already heteronormative society, and their LGBTQ+ counterparts.

**Miguel Delos Santos**

Long Beach City College

Mentor: Geetha Rajaram

**The Gender Pay Gap Causes Poor Health**

There is a causation between the gender pay gap and higher rates of poor health in women as well as men.

**Sydney Fuchs**

El Camino College

Mentor: Agnes Davies

**Shaping the Future: Representations of Women and Gender Bias in Plastic Surgery Practices**

Compelling profiles of resilient female plastic surgeons and their experiences overcoming unfair obstacles, gender biases, and underrepresentation in history, education, mentorship, practice, and career advancement.

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 121 (MPR 3)

<p><b>Riccardo Kessesshak</b> <b>Sabre Iglesias</b> <b>David Lawler</b> <b>Alex Boshara</b> Citrus College Mentors: Areej Qasqas, Brian Waddington</p>	<p><b>The Effects of Nostalgia on College Students under Academic Pressure</b> Discover Phi Theta Kappa HIA's project, highlighting nostalgia's impact on college students' well-being and success through the event "PTK Show and Tell."</p>
<p><b>Elena Sargsyan</b> Glendale Community College Mentor: Michael Harnett</p>	<p><b>A Jack of All Trades is a Master of Generalism: Supporting Polymathy</b> Although there is stigma around generalists, they can become proficient polymaths if supported and nurtured in the educational system through diverse and interdisciplinary experiences.</p>
<p><b>Tracy Le</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Joon Kil</p>	<p><b>Cross-Cultural Academic Transitions: A Comparative Study of Vietnamese International Students Preference in Higher Education Environments of the USA and UK</b> While the U.S and U.K are open to international students, Vietnamese students prefer the presence of the educational-focused programs, Vietnamese community &amp; job opportunities.</p>
<p><b>Nishabell Rubio</b> <b>Huu Loc Tran</b> Mt. San Antonio College Mentor: Louis Vayo</p>	<p><b>How Important is Extra Credit in Improving Student Performance?</b> Does extra credit really improve student learning? This study investigates student behavior in response to changes in extra credit points in additional practice assignments.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 123 (MPR 2)

**Adina Morales**

East Los Angeles College  
Mentor: Bryant Horowitz

**Addressing the Stigma of Violence in Schizophrenia**

Violent behavior is often blamed on mental illness, especially those diagnosed with schizophrenia. I will be addressing the stigma of violence in schizophrenia.

**Aiza Khalil****Dara Jazaeri****Sara Sohaei**

Irvine Valley College  
Mentor: Emily Liu

**Useless Antidepressants: How Do Antidepressants Affect the Neurology and Emotions of Users**

Rapid changes college students face cause many to turn to antidepressants unaware of the neurohistorical processes; this causes the misperception of them being ineffective.

**Sam Molina**

East Los Angeles College  
Mentor: Bryant Horowitz

**Reclaiming Identity with an Invisible Injury**

This presentation will be looking at Traumatic Brain Injuries and define them, classify them as an invisible illness, and recount personal experience with a TBI.



# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 125 (MPR 1)

**Jovan Avila**

**Brennan Quinn**

Mt. San Antonio College

Mentor: John Norvell

#### **On the Demographics and Future of Ukraine**

The historical challenges Ukraine has faced, coupled with the effects and repercussions of the Russo-Ukrainian War, may contribute to the emergence of a demographic crisis.

**Tramaine Franklin**

Moreno Valley College

Mentor: James Bany

#### **Exploring the Intersectionality of the Israel-Hamas Conflict and Race Relations**

The Israel-Hamas conflict and race relations expose complex dynamics, intertwining racial discrimination with political conflicts and escalating tensions.

**Isaiah Moses**

**Alex Boshara**

Citrus College

Mentor: Areej Qasqas

#### **The Shared Struggle for Liberation**

The Pro-Palestinian liberation movement has an unlikely ally, the Black Lives Matter movement.

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 216

<p><b>Fuyan Shan</b> East Los Angeles College Mentor: Bryant Horowitz</p>	<p><b>How the Performance of Bystanders in Bullying Affects the Whole Bullying Incident</b> Study on how bystanders perform in bullying events, the impact on aggressors, the impact on the victims, and what they affect have affected.</p>
<p><b>Marcus Rahman</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Shane Underwood</p>	<p><b>The Rhetoric of Tiger Parenting and the Negative Effects on Children of Asian American Families</b> Investigate the rhetoric surrounding tiger parenting in Asian American families, focusing on the negative effects underscored by the values inherent in tiger parenting.</p>
<p><b>Yareni Pelayo Sanchez</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Priscilla Hernandez</p>	<p><b>Generational Trauma: The Never Ending Cycle</b> In a similar way that family traditions, jewelry, and genetics get passed down in the family so does trauma.</p>
<p><b>Thanh Nga (Veronica) Huynh Mai Thy Phan</b> Orange Coast College Mentor: Rachel Ridnor</p>	<p><b>What Causes Suicide?</b> Our research distinguishes myths and facts about why people commit suicide. It is usable to predict suicidal patterns in different countries around the world.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 235

<p><b>Aletza Romero</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Jodi Balma</p>	<p><b>"Unearthing Truths &amp; Provoking a Movement": A Community's Fight to Reform their City</b> Community Youth Organization fined by the city of Pomona for displaying on public-facing exterior walls art that say "end institutional violence" and "defund Pomona police."</p>
<p><b>Jordan Slack</b> Los Angeles City College Mentor: Charles Gaylord</p>	<p><b>Combat Imperialism: How Liberalism Prevents Liberty and What Black People Should Do About It</b> The race and class violence inherent to Liberal ideology prevents Black-led movements from achieving societal progress more effectively than openly racist conservatives and fascist terrorism.</p>
<p><b>Nicole Prizer</b> Los Angeles Pierce College Mentor: Cristine Ersig-Marcus</p>	<p><b>COVID-19 Pandemic Effects on Family Communication</b> The Covid-19 pandemic had both negative and positive effects on communication in families and was determined to be dependent on our communication with others.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 308

<p><b>Evan Tan</b> Pasadena City College Mentors: Albert Shin, Erika Kennelly</p>	<p><b>Why We Should Be Virtuously Racist</b> This paper reevaluates racial equality, challenging conventional views on systemic racism and personal biases and advocating for individual responsibility in fostering a genuinely equitable society.</p>
<p><b>Carissa Kuan</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Kelly Nelson-Wright</p>	<p><b>Building a Multiracial Identity: A Social Conflict Analysis of the Monoracial Paradigm</b> Society is built on a monoracial paradigm that results in multiracial individuals having insecure identities and poor psychological well-being when compared to their monoracial peers.</p>
<p><b>Jenelle Macapaz</b> Long Beach City College Mentor: Laura Scavuzzo Wheeler</p>	<p><b>Appreciating a Land of Purple: The Role of Social Media in the Cultural Appropriation of Food</b> This paper aims to uncover the complications of spotlighting cultural food in social media by using the Filipino tuber ube as an example.</p>
<p><b>Paulina Castillo Gonzalez</b> Crafton Hills College Mentors: Vanesse Hiten, T.L. Brink</p>	<p><b>Undocumented vs. Illegal: What a Choice of Words Says about the Speaker</b> Whether a geographic region says "illegal" immigrants or "undocumented" can be predicted by its demographic and psychographic profile. Openness and education levels are the keys.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 316

**Catherine Lockie**  
Irvine Valley College  
Mentor: Lewis Long

**Digital Assistant: How AI is Crucial in Social Media Content Creation**

The ability of AI to generate content quickly makes it advantageous for social media marketing, so workers must be properly trained to use AI effectively.

**Ryan Kossarian**  
Los Angeles Pierce College  
Mentor: Ersig Ersig-Marcus

**Relationships with Artificial Intelligence: How do Individuals Form Personal Relationships and Emotional Connections with Artificial Intelligence**

While the development of relationships with AI may mitigate some social deficits in the short term, consumers face dangerous consequences in the long run.

**Ilya Akradi**  
Saddleback College  
Mentor: Marni Fisher

**Artificial Acceptance: The Importance of AI Integration Within the Software Industry**

The ever-growing development of artificial intelligence and continuous funding of AI research makes its integration into the field of software development necessary.

**Mohammad Shirmohammadi**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Brian Kennedy

**The Contemporary A.I. Boom: Navigating the Thin Line Between Progress and Privacy**

Rattling the tech industry, the meteoric rise in machine learning models empowers innovation, yet raises safety concerns for humanity if acquired by the wrong hands.

# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

SSC 329	
<p><b>Evan Torres Romero</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Kelly Nelson-Wright</p>	<p><b>Symbolic Interactionism in Education: Examining Educator-Learner Dynamics and the Shaping of Student Self-Perception</b> Exploring Educator-Learner Dynamics: Unveil how positive interactions, influenced by symbolic interactionism and labeling theory, shape student self-perception, subsequently impacting academic success and societal structures.</p>
<p><b>Simra Mirza</b> Norco College Mentor: Michael Bobo</p>	<p><b>Pre-medical Community College Student Resource Access: A Study at Norco College</b> This study explores the variation in access of community college pre-medical students to career-relevant resources based on a pool of pre-medical students attending Norco College.</p>
<p><b>Sylvia Tsai</b> <b>Isabella Lu</b> <b>Nicholas Nguyen</b> <b>Aditi Salunkhe</b> <b>Shireen Mohamdjawad</b> <b>Sena Barlas</b> <b>Sarah Harris</b> <b>Wendy Pan</b> <b>Annabel Kim</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Kari Tucker, Jerry Rudmann</p>	<p><b>Exploring the Dynamics of Honors Education: The Impact on Mistakes, Purpose, and Academic Self-Efficacy in Honors and Non-Honors College Students</b> Examining honors and non-honors students' differences in factors like GPA, extracurriculars, and attitudes, anticipating higher engagement and success among honors students.</p>
<p><b>Sabrina Soriano</b> Citrus College Mentors: Jeffrey Thompson, Jennifer MillerThayer</p>	<p><b>Bridging the Gap Between Community College Student Athletes and Academic Success</b> Exploring strategies to ensure completion, study focuses on optimizing resources of student athletes in California Community Colleges, enhancing support for academic success.</p>



# Oral Presentations: Session 1

## 10:30-11:45 am

### SSC 335

**Alexis Czvik**  
**Taylor West**

**Aamina Usmani**  
MiraCosta College  
Mentors: Lynn Trzoss,  
Dominique Ingato

**Ciprofloxacin: An Antibiotic Derivation and Antimicrobial Study**  
With the aim of increasing antibiotic effectiveness, Ciprofloxacin analogs are prepared by varying experimental conditions. Their antimicrobial activity is tested in *E. coli*.

**Angelina McCarron**  
**Shantty Gonzalez**  
**Pawin Suksunpantep**  
**Fatimah Amer**  
**Evelyn Gutierrez**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Nick Reeves

**Exploring the Geographical Origins of Homo sapiens CO1 Mitochondrial DNA Mutations: A DNA Barcoding Study**  
Barcoding college students' mitochondrial DNA reveals diverse haplogroups, tracing ancestral roots from the Americas, Mediterranean, and Europe to offer a captivating exploration of human history.

**Antoine Atallah**  
**Khalid Hajar**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Nick Reeves

**Characterization of a New lacZ Mutation Created by CRISPR-Cas9 in E. coli**  
CRISPR-Cas9 produced a surprising new type of mutation in the lacZ gene of *E. coli* that we are analyzing with DNA sequencing.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 260

**Matthew Sanders**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentors: Morgan

Hoodenpyle, Jennifer Baney

**Terror on Display: Horror Films and the Great War**

The research paper discusses the link between horror film making and World War I, as well as the meaning of the art they created.

**Ruby Bartlett**

Citrus College

Mentor: Jennifer MillerThayer

**Ableist Tropes and the Misrepresentation of Down Syndrome Characters in TV and Film**

Characters with Down Syndrome are underrepresented and often misrepresented in the film industry, resulting in misunderstandings of the disability being perpetuated, impacting treatment of disabilities.

**Melissa Kan**

Pasadena City College

Mentor: Shane Underwood

**At A Glance: The “Feminine Gaze” in Cinema**

Studies regarding the value of the feminine gaze in cinema enable vulnerability and authenticity through the perspective of the audience, subject, and content.

**Diego Trejo**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentor: Jennifer Baney

**Hauntings of the Past: On the Displacement of Time in Contemporary American Cinema**

This paper analyzes Contemporary American Film through a hauntological lens to seek out current views of time and the future within the U.S.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 268

<b>Joseph Casteran</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentor: Christina Yamanaka-Vu	<b>The Bracero Program: A Legacy of Exploitative Isolation</b> An exploration of the dynamics within the Bracero Program that often led to the exploitation and isolation of Bracero guest workers and their families.
<b>Katty Sanchez</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Ed Gomez	<b>¡Escúchame! This Is My Music: Chicano Experiences in the Music Industry</b> Despite the growing popularity, Chicanos continued to face discrimination in the music industry throughout the 1950s and 60s.
<b>Ramona Hernandez</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Ed Gomez	<b>The Barrio Meets John Steinbeck: The Merging of Spanglish into the Canon of American Literature</b> The use of Spanglish in Chicano literature during the 1960s and 1970s helped develop Chicano identity and culture in media.
<b>James Urim Jimenez Escobar</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Anita Juarez	<b>Reshaping Justice: Chicanx Community Resistance and the Evolution of 'Civil Gang Injunctions' in Southern California</b> Explore the transformative impact of Chicanx activism in Southern California, challenging 'civil gang injunctions' and reshaping justice, witness community resilience, and advocate for change.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 269

**Keneth Munoz**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentor: Nick Reeves

**Sequencing and Analysis of the *Plutella xylostella* DNA Barcode**

Is there a more efficient way to identify a species? I utilized the new approach of DNA barcoding to identify the *Plutella xylostella* moth.

**Tiffany Qualls**

MiraCosta College

Mentor: Kristine Arquero

**Native Bees: Why They're Important and What We Can Do to Protect Them**

How to protect the local bees of California, which make up about 40% of all bee species native to North America.

**Fatima Anwar**

Lacy Roberts

Aria Ayres

Jessica Cliff

Elajae Lee

Cerro Coso Community

College

Mentors: Claudia Sellers, Guck

Ooi

**No Hives Left Behind: Discovering Native Bee Diversity in the High Desert**

This study examines the diversity and floral host associations of native bees on campus and surrounding desert areas during the 2023 floral super bloom.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 355

**Jenna Alame**

Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Jensea Storie

**The Modern-Day Death of Art**

AI-generated art challenges human creativity, erodes the connection between the creator and the creation, and robs the sublime from the essence of authentic artistic expression.

**Tamia Newman**

Chaffey College  
Mentor: David Karp

**Human vs. Robot? An Interrogation of LawGPT**

This paper provides a historical overview of Artificial Intelligence in the legal field, and a detailed analysis of its advantages and drawbacks.

**Mher Sahakyan  
Sattwick Banerjee**

Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Erin Shaw

**Preserving Education amidst AI: A Scholarly Analysis of Integration Challenges**

Preserving academia amidst machine learning commercialization necessitates nuanced reforms aligned with scientific advancements, rejecting blanket AI regulation in favor of adapting to rapid technological evolution.

**Parya Mosayebi**

Saddleback College  
Mentor: Jeffrey Barnett

**The Integration of ChatGPT™ into Academia**

The arrival of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in society is impacting various domains including academia; the impact of this innovation cannot be restrained but manipulated positively.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 367

<b>Bridget Cline</b> MiraCosta College Mentor: Christopher Sleeper	<b>From Queen to Contemporary Feminist Icon: A Global Struggle Over the Memory of Marie Antoinette</b> Marie Antoinette's transition to becoming a feminist martyr in contemporary media reflects the various perspectives, cultures, and societal values of the cultures that created them.
<b>Olivia Martin</b> Saddleback College Mentor: Margot Lovett	<b>From the Gender to the Society: The Transformation of Cherokee Women's Roles due to Missionary Influences from the 1750s to Early 1900s</b> Missionaries and the American government slowly transformed Cherokee gender roles while dismantling the power, importance, and connection Cherokee women had to their culture and society.
<b>Andrea Feodorov</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Ed Gomez	<b>The Epidemic Continues: A New Methodology to Examine Violence Against Native American Women</b> Feminism Is not the answer to Native women's Issues of genocide, settler-colonialism, cisheteropatriarchy, culturicide, alterity, ethnic stereotypes, and the theft of Native American sovereignty.
<b>Emmy Schimmel</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Carrie Goulding	<b>Beyond Beauty: Navigating the Complex Landscape of Sorority Ideals</b> Unveiling the sorority beauty paradox: a contemporary examination of the body image pressures, expectations, and health implications caused by beauty standards set for sorority women

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### HUB 379

**Dalayah Jimenez**  
El Camino College  
Mentor: Amy Himself

**Beneath Emotional Connections and Mental Health: Exploring the Role of Attachment in the Development of Psychological Disorder**

This presentation will further explore how attachment within relationships, platonic and romantic, can be correlated to the development of psychological disorders.

**Thien Le**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Shane Underwood

**Rhetorizz**

The values perpetuated behind the infrastructure and rhetoric of popular online dating platforms reinforces hookup culture and inauthenticity from their relationship seeking users.

**Yasmin Morris**  
Los Angeles Harbor College  
Mentor: Joachin Arias

**The Psychological Link Between Sexual Preferences/Fetishes and One's Environment**

There is a psychological link between fetishes and one's environment and upbringing. Fetishes and sexual preferences form during childhood and adolescence due to unintentional conditioning.



# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 121 (MPR 3)

**May Kyi Phyu Thinn**  
**Donya Sharafkhanian**

Irvine Valley College  
Mentor: Kurt Meyer

**Unlocking the Past: Can Childhood Video Games Improve Mental Health in College Students by Evoking Nostalgia?**

Investigating the retroactive potential of nostalgia as an effective stress mitigation for college students through the medium of childhood video game play.

**Gio Judson**

Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Shane Underwood

**Getting Out Of Mom's Basement: The Rhetoric of Dungeons and Dragons on Social Development**

Playing Dungeons and Dragons improves players' ability to interact socially and foster interpersonal relationships through the values of improvisation, teamwork, and empathy.

**Kendra Williams**

Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Truc HaMai

**Nesting Grassroots: Soaring Beyond Stigmas**

Mental health stigmas damage communities. Applying the Citizenship Model, this Service Learning Project merges multiple grassroots perspectives and empowers communities to combat isolation and shame.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 123 (MPR 2)

<p><b>Amelia Li</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Alison Bjorkedal</p>	<p><b>Extending the Trails Left By Our Veterans: Expanding the Current Modalities of Psychiatry Through Music Therapy and PTSD</b> Documented effects of music therapy administered upon veterans with PTSD bring forth an unrealized psychiatric toolset useful in expanding overall treatment for similar mood-based conditions.</p>
<p><b>Atharv Attri</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Carrie Goulding</p>	<p><b>Exorbitant Medication Prices: The Adverse Effects on American Consumers</b> Examining the causes and impacts of high drug prices in the US and recommending regulatory reforms for the pharmaceutical industry.</p>
<p><b>Jennifer Kennedy</b> MiraCosta College Mentor: Tina Walker</p>	<p><b>Alzheimers in America</b> An exploration into Alzheimer's in America, a common and progressive brain disorder.</p>
<p><b>Kai Wynn</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Carrie Goulding</p>	<p><b>Curing Alzheimer's</b> There has been minimal progress in the Alzheimer's research field, so to cure Alzheimer's we must reassess our research targets and concept of the disease.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 125 (MPR 1)

<p><b>Jon Campbell</b> Rio Hondo College Mentor: Abbie Perry</p>	<p><b>Imperial Examination: A Brief Analysis of the Southern Holy Roman Empire Culture</b> A brief analysis of the southern holy Roman empire culture in the first half of the sixteenth century through three contemporaneous primary sources.</p>
<p><b>Gabriel Graves</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentor: Morgan Hoodenpyle</p>	<p><b>Shadows and Spirits: Unveiling the Cultural Mosaic of Evil in Global Mythologies</b> Examining the role of evil and demons in shaping societal values and behaviors across different cultures.</p>
<p><b>Kexuan Li</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Emily Liu, Lewis Long</p>	<p><b>Medieval Gothic Aesthetics: Amiens Cathedral and Milan Cathedral</b> A comparison of two Gothic cathedrals illuminates medieval architectural aesthetics. This research explores medieval Europeans' spiritual world and reflects on cultural conservation and architectural aesthetics.</p>
<p><b>Caitlin Voorhees</b> El Camino College Mentor: Karen Whitney</p>	<p><b>Breaking the Silence: Barbara Kruger's Untitled (We Are Your Circumstantial Evidence) and Gender Roles in 20th Century America</b> This presentation explores common 20th-century gender roles, power dynamics, and their legal and social implications through the analysis of Barbara Kruger's artwork.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 216

**Emma Rose Manetta**  
Long Beach City College  
Mentor: R. Hollenberg

**Redefining Rape Law Through a Decolonizing Lens Amidst the Epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People**  
Decolonizing rape law is crucial to acknowledging the historical subordination of Indigenous peoples and mitigating the recidivism of sexual violence.

**Kristianna Trinidad**  
Long Beach City College  
Mentor: Allison Murray

**The Paradox of Pornography: Mitigating the Dangers of Online Pornography in a Hypersexual Society**  
The unmoderated landscape of online pornography has facilitated the proliferation of violent depictions of sex in media, while its psychological implications necessitate systemic criticism.

**Rita Awad**  
Chaffey College  
Mentor: Ryan Falcioni

**The Devil's in the Details: The Culture Itself**  
This paper examines rape culture and sexual assault in fraternities and the ethnics and effectiveness of preventative policies.

**Juan Lorenzo Ordenes**  
Long Beach City College  
Mentor: Geetha Rajaram

**Comprehensive Sex Education in the United States: The Effect of Timing and Availability on Teen Birth Rates**  
Comparative linear regressions reveal that comprehensive sex education taught at later grades is more effective at lowering teen birth rates than earlier comprehensive sex education.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 235

<b>Alexia Gallon</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Joon Kil	<b>Foreign Worker Dilemma: A Comparative Analysis of Japan and the UK's Labor Force</b> This research project turns a critical eye to the differing federal policies, strategies, and welfare protections to attract foreign workers to Japan and the UK.
<b>Lori Shrikian</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Joon Kil	<b>Armenia's Imbalance: Investigating Why Armenia has a Higher Volume of Trade with Russia than the United States</b> Due to many factors, Armenia has a higher volume of trade with Russia than the United States from 2015 to the present.
<b>Kenneth Vladimir Pilco-Romero</b> MiraCosta College Mentor: Kristen Huyck	<b>ASEAN Futures: The Uphill Effort for a Monetary Union</b> Exploring the economic and political feasibility of forming a single currency union within ASEAN to reach their economic potential.
<b>Eli Sepulveda</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Joon Kil	<b>Religious Influence and Soft Power: Moroccan Religious Diplomacy</b> Despite stigmas from the War-on-Terror, Morocco leveraged soft power through religion, making it a unique case that informs on the interplay of culture and influence.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 308

**Abigail Lewis-Sandlin**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Michael Plotkin

#### **The Impact of Plastic Grocery Bags on Plants: Microplastic in Terrestrial Plants**

The effect of microplastic on plants is a recent area of concern. My research suggests microplastic has an effect on plant germination, height and biomass.

**Scarlett Velazquez**  
Victor Valley College  
Mentor: Tim Adell

#### **Restoration of Wolves in Yellowstone**

The reintroduction of wolves in Yellowstone demonstrates the fall and rise of ecosystems through the importance of revealing restoration and environmental problems to the world.

**Sara Ramirez**  
Long Beach City College  
Mentor: Geetha Rajaram

#### **The Effects of Climate Change on Coral Reefs**

As climate change has increased over the past decade, coral reefs around the world have been affected.

**Andrew Lai**  
**Caleb Lewis**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Patricia Michel

#### **Powering the Future: Nuclear Energy's Superiority in a Low-Carbon Future**

A deep exploration into the potential of nuclear energy reveals its comparative advantages over alternative forms of green energy in a low-carbon future.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 316

<p><b>Starr Swanson</b> Los Angeles City College Mentor: Can Aksoy, Danielle Muller</p>	<p><b>Women's Writing is Risky! Risk and Forecasting Dangers in A Room of One's Own</b> This presentation analyzes Virginia Woolf's A Room of One's Own using the concept of Statistical Panic and Maslow's Hierarchy of Need.</p>
<p><b>Kaitlin Rock</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>The Naked Truth: A Comparative Analysis of Sylvia Plath and Cardi B's Poetic Contributions to the Feminist Movement</b> Analyzing the symbol of female nakedness in both Sylvia Plath's poetry and Cardi B's rap verse unveils double standards within a patriarchal society.</p>
<p><b>Juan Herrera Alatorre</b> East Los Angeles College Mentor: Joshua Rodriguez</p>	<p><b>Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre: Cementing the Nascent Feminist Movement in England</b> Jane Eyre's journey voiced concerns over the freedoms, both legal and social, that women lacked during the nineteenth century.</p>
<p><b>Victoria Williams</b> Cerro Coso Community College Mentor: Gary Enns</p>	<p><b>The Naked Truth, the Realized Self: A Biographical Study of Truth in Henrik Ibsen's Most Controversial Plays</b> Henrik Ibsen spent his career exploring concepts of truth and self-realization, so his plays, which center around these concepts, are better understood through biographical criticism.</p>



# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 329

**Lehli Burke**  
**Jinhui (Penny) Wang**  
MiraCosta College  
Mentors: Daniel Ante-  
Contreras, Lynne Miller

#### **Playing with Our Dreams: How Childhood Play Impacts Dream Career Aspirations**

While our childhood play experiences can shape our career aspirations, additional external factors impact the career path we ultimately pursue.

**Isis Hernandez**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Dan Peace

#### **The Impact of Unconscious Racial Bias on the Perception of Workplace Feedback: An Empirical Research Study Proving that Even a Diverse California Community College is not Immune From Implicit Racial Bias**

A study on the main effect of race and gender as well as their interaction when it comes to the perception of an emotional reaction.

**Samantha Daisher**  
Los Angeles City College  
Mentor: Sarah Crachiolo-  
Garcia

#### **Interpersonal Communication Classes Can Bridge Social Gaps**

Empowering education by adding interpersonal communication classes to core curriculums will bridge the social gap and build an empathetic society in this age of technology.

# Oral Presentations: Session 2

## 12:45-2:00 pm

### SSC 335

<b>Josue Vazquez-Manriquez</b> Chaffey College Mentor: Sean Connelly	<b>The Battle at Valladolid: Bartolome De Las Casas and Juan Gines de Sepulveda</b> This project examines the debate between Sepulveda and De Las Casas regarding the Spanish Inquisition and colonization of Native Americans.
<b>Carolina Leos</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Ed Gomez	<b>Have a Drink On Me: Alcoholism on the Pine Ridge Reservation During the 20th Century</b> Alcohol restriction on the Pine Ridge Reservation during the 20th century has contributed to alcoholism, child abuse, rape, and suicide.
<b>Aida Erape</b> Norco College Mentors: Michael Bobo, Caroline Hutchings	<b>The Dissertation and Restoration of the Purépechas Indigenous Religions Lost by Colonization</b> The lack of communication and outwardly suppressed culture of the Purepecha has resulted in a loss of traditional beliefs.
<b>Maggie Huang</b> Rio Hondo College Mentor: Abbie Perry	<b>The History and Effects of Native American Policy and Cultural Assimilation on Indigenous Youth</b> An analysis using perspectives of elite yeoman farmers and Native Americans to understand the loss of identity faced by Native American youth in boarding schools.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 260

**Elissa Ferguson**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Erik Ozolins

**The Price of Mourning**  
American death rituals have been affected by the funeral industry in ways that make people feel disconnected and absent from their deceased loved ones.

**Kenneth Hanson**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Brian Kennedy

**Total Breakdown: The Denigration of Fathers Symptomatic of An Unjust Criminal Justice Complex and the Social Suboptimum**  
For all the benefits of singlehood, society is worse off socially, psychologically, and economically without the presence of fathers in the lives of children.

**Valentina Liu**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Shane Underwood

**In Service of a More Humanistic Reform: A Philosophical Hermeneutic Lens for Inmate Rehabilitation**  
This paper examines the insufficiencies of methodology-driven rehabilitation as perpetuated by the California state prison system and proposes a supplemental program based in philosophical hermeneutics.

**Clarissa Alvarez**  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Shane Underwood

**A Hermeneutic Revision to the Parole Eligibility Procedure for Youth Offenders in Los Angeles County**  
This paper seeks to revise Los Angeles County youth offender parole eligibility methodologies' through a philosophical hermeneutic lens.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 268

**Raymond Chen**

Santiago Canyon College

Mentor: Vienne Vu

**Speaking Across Time: Language Coexistence in a Changing China**

Exploring intricate sociolinguistic shifts within Greater China through the impact of Mandarin promotion on communication and cultural identity—essential insights into the region's evolving dynamics.

**Anastasia Yang**

Santiago Canyon College

Mentor: Tiffany Gause

**Fast Bamboo: How Chopsticks Dominated Chinese Culture**

The history of chopsticks and the etymology of the Chinese word to the superstitions, table manners, and art forms are important to understand.

**Alex Callow**

San Bernardino Valley College

Mentor: Melanie Vansell

**The Rise and Fall of Riverside's Chinatowns: A Forgotten History**

Riverside, California owes much of its legacy to Chinese immigrants, yet despite their vast contributions neither of the city's two Chinatowns survived the 20th century.

**Leila Wu**

Pasadena City College

Mentor: Lauren Arenson

**"I'm Asian Too, So It's Okay": An Analysis of the Moral Implications of Pro-Asian-on-Asian Gentrification Rhetoric in Los Angeles Chinatown**

"Asian-on-Asian" gentrification and its resulting resource divestment away from native residents disguises the harms of traditional gentrification by ignoring intersectional factors, including ethnicity and class.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 269

<p><b>Kristine Chai</b> <b>Zifang Shi</b> <b>Shireen Mohamdjawad</b> <b>Maya Dalati</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>Understanding Alzheimer's Disease: A Comprehensive Study Among Pathology, Insulin Resistance, Immunosenescence, and Neuroinflammation</b></p> <p>The research investigates the underlying mechanisms of amyloid plaques and tau proteins, insulin resistance, immunosenescence, and neuroinflammation to advance the understanding of Alzheimer's disease.</p>
<p><b>Sydney Zheng</b> East Los Angeles College Mentor: Timothy Reonisto</p>	<p><b>Progress towards Treating the Untreatable: Alzheimer's Disease</b></p> <p>After almost three decades of failed clinical trials, a new paradigm concluded from various research indicates progress towards a cure for Alzheimer's Disease.</p>
<p><b>Rebecca King</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Shane Underwood</p>	<p><b>Bettering of Current Preoperative Anxiety Management: A Hermeneutical Analysis</b></p> <p>This paper examines the methodological approach to minimizing patient preoperative anxiety and suggests implementing psychological criteria informed by philosophical hermeneutics to improve the preoperative process.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 355

<p><b>Halle Aldrich</b> Crafton Hills College Mentors: Christopher Olivera, Renee Sanford</p>	<p><b>Microbial Exploration of Campus Ecosystems: Unveiling Hidden Bacterial Communities and Potential Health Risks</b> This research aims to reveal the microorganisms encountered by students and staff, assess their prevalence in each location on campus, and examine potential health implications.</p>
<p><b>Alessandra Zagaceta</b> Los Angeles Harbor College Mentor: Joachin Arias</p>	<p><b>“It’s All in Your Head”: The Relationship Between Depression and Gut Bacteria</b> A comprehensive analysis of research that affirms the microbiota-gut-brain axis hypothesis and strengthens the correlation between depression and an altered gut microbiome.</p>
<p><b>Thuong Nguyen</b> <b>Ansharah Asif</b> <b>Shreya Kalyanaraman</b> <b>Ellie Nguyen</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>Influencing Public Health? Social Media Affects Public Perceptions of Unpasteurized Milk</b> Social media provides platforms for influencers to promote the consumption of raw milk despite many health organizations discouraging it.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 367

<p><b>Brianna Lopez</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Shane Underwood</p>	<p><b>The Rhetoric of Online Images: How Social Media impacts Self Esteem</b> This study will investigate how unhealthy exposure to Instagram has a negative impact on self image.</p>
<p><b>Ryan Kubota</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Emily Liu</p>	<p><b>The Abstainers of Social Media: Examining New Outliers in a Connected World</b> Non-users of social media have become a minority due to today's omnipresent usage of the technology. This research investigates social media's potential effects on non-users.</p>
<p><b>Ethan Cheng</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Kelly Nelson-Wright</p>	<p><b>Virtual Social Networks and Social Isolation: An Interactionist Analysis on How the Substitution of Real-Life Social Networks for Virtual Social Networks Correlates with Social Isolation</b> This paper features an interactionist analysis of how substituting real-life social networks for virtual ones correlates with social isolation.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### HUB 379

**Anthony Munoz**  
Victor Valley College  
Mentor: Keiry Borrueal

#### **Mass Hysteria in the United States**

Mass hysteria has recently afflicted the United States. The literature underscores its impact on well-being, emphasizing the need for collaborative strategies and mental health support.

**Ali Alleyasin**  
Irvine Valley College  
Mentor: Carrie Goulding

#### **Behind the Screen: Screen Time and Children's Health**

While many believe social media harms children's health, this paper proposes that the primary factor is instead screen time and the sedentary lifestyle it promotes.

**David Ko**  
El Camino College  
Mentor: Tom Cody

#### **Examining the Conditions Musicians Must Meet to Access the Flow State**

This project explores the factors that induce the flow state in musicians, a desirable state due to the feelings of control and immersion it provides.

**Nithila Balasubramanian**  
**Leo Andonian**  
**Ani Mkhitarian**  
**Gohar Boroyan**  
Glendale Community College  
Mentor: Michael Harnett

#### **The Influence of Personality Traits on Career Satisfaction**

A study probing the connections between personality and career path among two groups: college students and professionals already in their careers.



# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 121 (MPR 3)

<p><b>Emilia Ramirez</b> Citrus College Mentors: Jennifer MillerThayer, Toros Berberyan</p>	<p><b>Beyond Binary: An Analysis of the Stigmatization of Gender-Nonconforming Youth</b> As the population of gender non-conforming youth grows, normalization of their existence is necessary to reflect the current cultural shift occurring in the U.S.</p>
<p><b>Felix Resenson</b> Pasadena City College Mentor: Shane Underwood</p>	<p><b>Upholding the Norm: The U.S. Legislative Rhetoric of Trans Identity in the 21st Century</b> This study explores values asserted by conservative U.S. legislators in rhetoric of transgender identity and how these values negatively influence both transgender and non-transgender individuals.</p>
<p><b>Matthew Rodriguez</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Kelly Nelson-Wright</p>	<p><b>Acceptance and Opportunity: Navigating Nonbinary Gender Identity in Changing Social Contexts</b> Acceptance and Opportunity: Despite increasing anti-LGBTQ backlash, nonbinary individuals are finding greater acceptance of gender-nonconformity as they traverse various social contexts in their daily lives.</p>
<p><b>Olivia Nicol</b> Mt. San Jacinto College Mentors: Christina Yamanaka-Vu, Michael Plotkin</p>	<p><b>Breaking the Chains: Unveiling Systemic Barriers to Gender-Affirming Care for Transgender Individuals- An Urgent Call for Policy Reforms</b> Insurance policies and systemic barriers impede transgender access to Gender-Affirming Care, demanding urgent reforms to combat discrimination, redefine 'medical necessity,' and address untreated gender dysphoria.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 123 (MPR 2)

**Karolina Divisova**

**Lucius Gibbons**

**Sydney Hoang**

**Kevin Tran**

**Harvey Yang**

Irvine Valley College

Mentors: Lan Pham, Emily Liu

#### **Optimizing Wildfire Evacuation Strategies: A Comprehensive Analysis of AI Integration for Enhanced Safety and Resilience**

AI can revolutionize outdated and unsafe wildfire evacuation protocols by enhancing early detection, risk assessment, communication, route optimization, and resource allocation.

**Nicole Ordubegian**

Glendale Community College

Mentor: Michael Harnett

#### **The Lack of Smart Urban Planning in American Cities: A Meta-Analysis on Possible Design Solutions and Strategies**

Examining the issues stemming from cities' current urban planning while proposing design solutions focusing on smarter, healthier, and sustainable cities in enhancing individuals' lifestyles.

**Mya Ward**

Chaffey College

Mentor: Marc Meyer

#### **The Rise and Fall of Agriculture in Southern California's Inland Empire**

This paper examines the environmental and socioeconomic factors that led to a shift from an agricultural to an industrial based economy in the Inland Empire.

**Genesis Sandoval**

Pasadena City College

Mentor: Brian Kennedy

#### **Curing East LA Soils: Unearthing Sustainable Solutions for the Exide Battery Plant Cleanup**

Outdated lead remediation processes in East LA's Exide Battery Plant cleanup mitigate against community health, whereas use of mycorrhizae and phytoremediation seeds promises ecosystem restoration.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 125 (MPR 1)

**Jake Yelvington**  
Saddleback College  
Mentor: Margot Lovett

**“America is Our Country”: African American Resistance to the American Colonization Society in the Fight for Racial Equality**  
19th century Black Americans fought against the American Colonization Society and emigration to Liberia with arguments emphasizing racial pride, national identity, and racial equality.

**Joia Miller**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentors: Morgan Hoodenpyle, Madison Shockley

**Marie Laveau: A Black Woman’s Influence in the Early Nineteenth Century South - A Problem of Race, Gender, and Politics in Antebellum New Orleans**  
Marie Laveau's role in nineteenth century America was influenced by her Voodoo expertise, autonomy, and navigation of societal constraints, leaving a legacy of cultural empowerment.

**Isabella Santana**  
El Camino College  
Mentor: Michael Fraga

**Here Lie These Severed Wings**  
An artistic exploration through the lens of a Guatemalan immigrant experiencing American imperialism and genocide.

**Vanya Pizarro**  
San Bernardino Valley College  
Mentor: Ed Gomez

**Chicano Nationalism and La Raza Unida: How Women Rose to the Top**  
Within La Raza Unida, male control of the organization caused females to create an internal female cadre in order to express their needs and concerns

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 216

<p><b>Melina Eftekhari</b> MiraCosta College Mentor: Shawn Firouzian</p>	<p><b>LAPD Data Shifts from 2010 to 2020</b> Comprehensive analysis of LAPD arrest data from 2010-2020 using Python, including chi-square tests and one-way ANOVA to investigate changing relationships between ethnicity, age, and crime.</p>
<p><b>Vincent Ton</b> <b>Noor Shmara</b> <b>Peter Le</b> Irvine Valley College Mentors: Alec Sim, Lan Pham</p>	<p><b>Electrodynamic Tethers: An Effective Alternative for Enhancing Satellite Maneuverability</b> A CubeSat was designed to demonstrate the usage of electrodynamic tether systems for satellite maneuverability using simulation modeling of electromagnetic forces acting on space tethers.</p>
<p><b>Jacob Peracha</b> Saddleback College Mentor: Heidi Ochoa</p>	<p><b>Lean and Hip Hop: A Python Case Study Analysis of Rapper LUCKI</b> A detailed analysis of rapper LUCKI's lyrics over time, and how drugs have affected them, using Spotify and Genius API, Python.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 235

**Rose Marie Romer**  
Crafton Hills College  
Mentor: Sabrina Jimenez

#### **The Assyrian Empire Under The Rule of Ashurbanipal: Why the Way He Ruled Caused Their Downfall**

The Assyrians were a feared Empire, especially with Ashurbanipal as their ruler; however, during the height of his reign, they collapsed.

**Shahab Besharatlou**  
Mt. San Jacinto College  
Mentor: Christina Yamanaka-Vu

#### **The Impact of Foreign Intervention Leading to the Rise of Ruhollah Khomeini**

The ascendancy, rule, and repercussion of Ayatollah Khomeini as a consequence of the Islamic Revolution of 1979 in Iran and the role of international powers.

**Milad Davaran**  
Saddleback College  
Mentor: Anthony Szczurek

#### **The Hidden Impacts of Foreign Policy: The Iran Nuclear Deal**

The JCPOA was flawed because it didn't address Iran's support for terrorists, its ballistic missile program, sunset clauses, and the slow IAEA access.

**Devin Dadah**  
Norco College  
Mentor: Michael Bobo

#### **The Iraq War in Star Wars: Invasion, Occupation and Resistance**

This presentation compares storyline and real-world parallels between the Star Wars franchise and the U.S. invasions of Iraq.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 308

**Miray Laktineh**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentor: Michelle Stewart

**Buried More Than Once: The Complex Factors Causing Human Rights Violations against Syrian Girls and the Western Media's Contribution**

Western media, by oversimplifying the factors contributing to Syrian girls' rights violations, directed efforts to focus on intrapersonal ineffective solutions instead of international, efficacious intervention.

**Joseph Awad**

Mt. San Jacinto College

Mentors: Morgan

Hoodenpyle, Anjeanette

Oberg

**Contextualizing the Lived Experiences of Queer Arabs: Understanding the Dimensions & Manifestations of Fear**

Investigating the impact of legislative, rhetorical, linguistic, and physical violence on the lived experiences of Queer Arab individuals, and their nuances on health implications.

**Lidia Cuevas**

Citrus College

Mentor: Jennifer MillerThayer

**Structural Violence and Cartel influence in the Mexican Government**

The many ways the government harms Mexico's people through structural violence, and how the drug war has influenced a cultural shift toward new values.

**Uzair Pasta**

El Camino College

Mentor: Karl Striepe

**Crisis of Faith: Navigating Identity and Belonging in Post-9/11 America**

This project explores South Asian Muslim identity post-9/11, blending personal narrative and historical context, revealing resilience, adaptation, and the quest for genuine understanding.

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 316

<p><b>Lorenzo (Laurie) DesiderioGiampiccolo</b> Citrus College Mentor: Jennifer MillerThayer</p>	<p><b>Why Language Matters: Examining the Controversy of Inclusive Language in the U.S.</b> Examining the usage of inclusive language in the U.S., including an analysis of the controversy surrounding the issue and recommendations for future practices.</p>
<p><b>Zainub Latif</b> West Los Angeles College Mentor: Stella Setka</p>	<p><b>Accidentally Abolitionist: Race and the Perverse in Poe's Gothic Tales</b> While some scholars argue that Edgar Allan Poe espoused the racist ideas of the antebellum South, several of his gothic tales tell a different story.</p>
<p><b>Scotty Hong</b> East Los Angeles College Mentor: Raeanna Gleason</p>	<p><b>Fighting Fascism: Analyzing Attack on Titan's Critique on Control, Abuse, and the Threat to Democracy Today</b> This critique of fascism in Hajime Isayama's story, Attack on Titan, emphasizes the need to continuously fight against threats to democracy.</p>
<p><b>E.F. Watson</b> Los Angeles City College Mentor: Evan Kendall</p>	<p><b>A Humanist Perspective Towards Future Sentient Machine Life, Gleaned from Science Fiction</b> As we strive towards human-like AGI, science fiction can give insight into how we can foster a more humanist approach in future human-robot relations.</p>

# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 329

<p><b>Isaac Alpert</b> El Camino College Mentor: Kassia Wosick, Rachel Williams</p>	<p><b>Judicial Selection: Impartiality on the Docket</b> An argument in favor of a politically impartial U.S. Supreme Court and how to reform its judicial selection method accordingly.</p>
<p><b>Keylin Bedrosian</b> <b>Emily Aivazian</b> Glendale Community College Mentor: Michael Harnett</p>	<p><b>Tech vs. Ties: A Comparative Analysis of the Impact of Technology and Family on Children's Political Views</b> Our study aims to comparatively quantify the effects of technology and family on children's political views to determine the most significant effect on their development.</p>
<p><b>Amanda Nguyen</b> Irvine Valley College Mentor: Danilo Caputo</p>	<p><b>Displaced and Disadvantaged: Climate Migration and Racial Injustice</b> My research elucidates climate migration through a human rights lens, ultimately defining the problem as a discrimination issue based on class and race.</p>



# Oral Presentations: Session 3

## 2:15-3:30 pm

### SSC 335

<b>Josef Ammari</b> Fullerton College Mentor: Jodi Balma	<b>Veterans Affairs: The Failure to Serve Those Who Serve Us</b> This presentation delves into the unsatisfactory state of Veterans Affairs' function within Orange County, and the regrettable consequences Orange County veterans face as a result.
<b>Jaime Rivera</b> San Bernardino Valley College Mentor: Michael Rounds	<b>Road Trip Engineering: The Interstate Highway System</b> This presentation examines the engineering principles and innovations that the U.S. interstate system borrowed and enhanced from Germany's autobahn.
<b>Trevor Wong</b> Santiago Canyon College Mentor: Tiffany Gause	<b>The Case For California High Speed Rail</b> California's High Speed Rail project implores Governor Newsom to provide funding because of traffic benefits and positive economic environmental impacts the project would have.
<b>Aidan Afahi</b> Santiago Canyon College Mentor: Tiffany Gause	<b>The War on the NFL's Landscape: Artificial Turf vs. Natural Grass</b> Research compares artificial turf and natural grass in different sports, analyzing data on lower body injuries; results determine if banning turf fields benefits the NFL.

# Closing Plenary / Awards

3:45-4:30 pm

SSC 229

## HTCC Director's Award

Every year, HTCC recognizes a former honors program leader for their contributions to community college honors education. The recipient of the Director's Award announces the first-place winner among the Outstanding Abstract Awards.

This year's Director's Award goes to Brian Waddington, Professor of History from Citrus College.

## Brian Waddington, Citrus College

Brian Waddington was a community college student who went on to work as a college history professor for over 30 years. In addition to teaching, he has served in several leadership roles at Citrus College, including the advisor for the Native American Student Association (NASA), the co-advisor for the award winning PTK Honor Society Citrus chapter, and many years as the Honors Coordinator. He was honored to be able to work for over ten years in various capacities with members of the HTCC. During his time with the HTCC, he served as the webmaster, Conference Chair, and as President. He is remembered fondly as someone who could always be relied on for sound advice on how best to support students and Honors Directors. His legacy is reflected in the many students and faculty who he mentored and supported throughout the years. We are excited to acknowledge all his contributions to community college honors education by honoring him today with the Director's Award.

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# Closing Plenary / Awards

3:45-4:30 pm

SSC 229

## Outstanding Poster Awards

Posters are judged on visual presentation, creativity, originality and reflection of sound scholarship. First, second, and third-place awards will be given for research posters in two categories, based on discipline.

## Outstanding Abstract Awards

Outstanding abstract awards are presented to oral presenters who have submitted top-rated abstracts describing their research projects. The abstracts are judged on organization, quality of writing, and originality and importance of the research. The most highly ranked Outstanding Abstract earns the HTCC Director's Award.

## HTCC Director's Award

The Honors Transfer Council of California confers its Directors Award annually to the student who has submitted the finest presentation abstract and has been judged as exemplifying the qualities of an outstanding honors student. The Director's Award is presented by a former honors program leader who HTCC recognizes for their contributions to community college honors education.

## Exemplary Achievement Scholarships

The Honors Transfer Council of California gives awards to students graduating this year who show extraordinary achievement in scholarship, especially related to performance in an honors program. Students must be nominated by their honors director. These students display exceptional perseverance in overcoming obstacles to success in college or in an honors program. They have given outstanding service to their college or community or distinguished themselves as leaders in cultural or athletic activities. Finally, their application essays reveal a high quality of thought and expression.

## Juan Lara Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Juan Lara created a scholarship to give special honor to a student who has overcome great financial, personal, cultural, or other obstacles to achieve significant success as an honors student. Candidates have been nominated by their honors directors for the Exemplary Achievement Scholarship. With this award, we also honor the memory of Juan Lara, former Assistant Vice Chancellor of UC Irvine, who was always a generous supporter of this conference and of our efforts to serve community college honors students. As an energetic and inspirational Director for the UCI Center for Educational Partnerships, Dr. Lara created opportunities for countless non-traditional students, leading them to seek – and attain – the highest success in their academic lives and career.

## Conference Publication: *Building Bridges*

Every year, the HTCC publishes its award-winning abstracts as well as others submitted for publication. Submissions can be made after the conference during the spring semester. Contact Tim Adell at [Tim.Adell@vvc.edu](mailto:Tim.Adell@vvc.edu) for information.

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## Final Thanks

We thank all of you who shared your research with us today! Thank you to our intrepid moderators, who made each session more welcoming and well managed. Thank you also to all students, faculty, and administrators who came to hear the best in community college research.

# Faculty Mentors

**Finally, join us in thanking the faculty who mentored all this research!** The individuals below are some of the hardest-working, most dedicated faculty at the California community colleges.

Tim Adell, Victor Valley College

Can Aksoy, Los Angeles City College

Daniel Ante-Contreras, MiraCosta College

Lauren Arenson, Pasadena City College

Joachin Arias, Los Angeles Harbor College

Kristine Arquero, MiraCosta College

Christina Axtell, Santa Ana College

Jodi Balma, Fullerton College

Jennifer Baney, Mt. San Jacinto College

James Bany, Moreno Valley College

Jeffrey Barnett, Saddleback College

Brian Bartelt, Los Angeles City College

Fred Beebe, Long Beach City College

Elizabeth Bell, West Los Angeles College

Toros Berberyan, Citrus College

Alison Bjorkedal, Pasadena City College

Michael Bobo, Norco College

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