2013 Graduate Awards Brunch

Wednesday, April 24, 2013
10 a.m.
Student Center Ballroom
Welcome
Graduate School Dean George Flowers

Presentation of Graduate School Awards
Presentation of Graduate Scholars Symposium Awards
Presentation of Outstanding Graduate Mentor Awards
Presentation of Special Awards
Recognition of GSC Executive Committee
Outstanding Master’s Students

Joel Abrahams  
*Geology and Geography*

Lauren Behnke  
*Forestry and Wildlife Sciences*

Kristin Courtney  
*Mathematics and Statistics*

Julie Davis  
*Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures*

Zach DeVries  
*Entomology and Plant Pathology*

Laura Elmer  
*English*

Colin Haser  
*Chemical Engineering*

Hyeon Lee  
*Mechanical Engineering*

Elaine Norton  
*Clinical Sciences*

Allen Sabey  
*Human Development and Family Studies*
Outstanding Doctoral Students

David Branscomb
*Polymer and Fiber Engineering*

Yating Chai
*Materials Engineering*

Leanne Dillard
*Animal Sciences*

Ting Li
*Entomology and Plant Pathology*

Xiu-Lei Mo
*Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology*

Mahmoud Moeini Sedeh
*Mechanical Engineering*

Laura Morgan
*Human Development and Family Studies*

Benjamin Newcomer
*Pathobiology*

Hema Ramsurn
*Chemical Engineering*

Kimberly Smith
*Curriculum and Teaching*
Merriwether Fellowships

Christy Blevins
Psychology

Hamed Ghaednia
Mechanical Engineering

Graham McGinnis
Kinesiology

Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely
Human Development and Family Studies

Presidential Award

Subin Hada
Chemical Engineering

SGA Outstanding Student Award

Jennifer Duggan
Chemical Engineering
Distinguished Dissertation Awards

Social Sciences Category

Lori Elmore-Staton (Human Development and Family Studies)
Sleep and Cognitive Functioning: The Moderating Role of Vagal Indices
Advisor: Mona El-Sheikh

Samuel Logan (Kinesiology)
The influence of instructional climates on the motor skill competence, physical activity behaviors, and psychosocial variables of elementary students
Advisor: Leah E. Robinson

* John Magnotti (Psychology)
Assessing Capacity and Control of Visual Working Memory
Advisor: Jeffrey Katz

* Moved on to compete for the national Distinguished Dissertation Award, sponsored by the Council of Graduate Schools and ProQuest.
Distinguished Dissertation Awards

Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Engineering Category

* Jan Boronski (Mathematics and Statistics)
  Fixed Points and Periodic Points of Orientation-reversing Planar Homeomorphisms
  Advisor: Krystyna Kuperberg

Idris Cerkez (Polymer and Fiber Engineering)
  Synthesis and Application of Novel Polymeric N-halamine Antimicrobial Agents
  Advisor: Roy M. Broughton, Jr.

Hao Yu (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
  Advanced Learning Algorithms of Neural Networks
  Advisor: Bogdan Wilamowski

* Moved on to compete for the national Distinguished Dissertation Award, sponsored by the Council of Graduate Schools and ProQuest.
Master’s Thesis Awards

**Humanities and Fine Arts Category**

Leah Craig (History)
*Un-Living History: Programming, Interpretation, and Management at Haunted Historic Sites*
Advisor: Aaron Shapiro

* Harrison Meadows (Foreign Languages and Literatures)
*The Use of Negative Water Imagery in the Rimas of Juan de Moncayo y Gurrea*
Advisor: Ted McVay, Jr.

Zachary Wakefield (History)
*Taking the Stand: Theodore Bilbo’s 1946 Senate Hearing and the Complexities of Mississippi’s Post-War Civil Rights Struggle*
Advisor: David Carter

**Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Engineering Category**

* Brandon Swan (Mathematics and Statistics)
*Competition Graphs*
Advisor: Chris Rodger

* Moved on to compete for the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools’ Master’s Thesis Awards*
Graduate Scholars Symposium

Engineering Oral Session

1. Alexander Hodge, Chemical Engineering: *Controlling Stem Cell-derived Cardiomyocyte Development Using S-Nitrosocysteine*
2. Charlotte Stewart, Chemical Engineering: *Effect of H$_2$/CO Ratio on the Production of Higher Alcohols from Syngas under Gas Phase and Supercritical Phase Conditions*
3. Christopher Ward, Polymer & Fiber Engineering: *Remote Photothermal Activation of Polyurethane/Gold Shape Memory Nanocomposites*

Sciences Oral Session

1. Christopher Hamilton, Biological Sciences: *An integrative approach to delimiting species using multiple DNA barcoding methods: a case study of the North American tarantula genus Aphonopelma*
2. Justin Havird, Biological Sciences: *The effects of shrimp grazing on the microbial communities of Hawaiian anchialine habitats*
3. Znar Barwary, Entomology and Plant Pathology: *Concentration and Distance Effects of Soil Treatment with Altriset on Eastern Subterranean Termite (Isoptera: Rhinotermitidae)*
Graduate Scholars Symposium

Social Sciences Oral Session

1. Allen Sabey, Human Development & Family Studies: *Religiosity and Compassionate Love as Predictors of Older Adults’ Marital Satisfaction*
2. Ian Cero, Psychology: *Improving the prediction of suicide: a non-linear approach*
3. Jia Zhongyuan, Consumer and Design Sciences: *Why People Use Fashion Companies’ Facebook Pages*

Humanities Oral Session

1. Millie Harrison, Communication & Journalism: *“Go Glitz or Go Home”: When Little Girls Are No Longer Little in TLC’s Toddlers and Tiaras*
3. Jakob Jensen, Human Development & Family Studies: *A dyadic view of support in marriage: The critical role of men’s support provision*
Graduate Scholars Symposium

**Engineering Poster Session**

1. Shantanu Pradhan, Chemical Engineering: 
   *An Artificial Breast Cancer Tissue for Drug-testing Applications*
2. MariAnne Sullivan, Materials Engineering: 
   *Strengthening mechanisms of nacre in the abalone shell*
3. Selcuk Poyraz, Polymer and Fiber Engineering: 
   *Carbon Nanotube Growth on Tires...Really?*

**Sciences Poster Session**

1. Tolulope Morawo, Entomology & Plant Pathology: 
   *Behavioral responses of the parasitoids, Microplitis croceipes (specialist) and Cotesia marginiventris (generalist) to host related volatile*
2. Ford Dyke, Kinesiology: 
   *Validating a novel physiological metric of cognitive workload*
3. Walter Casper IV, Chemistry and Biochemistry: 
   *Laser ablation studies of RDX sensitivity and combustion*
Graduate Scholars Symposium

Social Sciences Poster Session

1. Ting Wang, Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology: *Chinese School Principals’ Behavioral Intentions in Relation to Green School Practices*
2. Christopher Ballmann, Kinesiology: *Effect Of Hypoxic Recovery Post-Exercise On Blood Oxidative Stress Markers*
3. Marc Jackson, Psychology: *Self-Control for Healthy Eating Under Time Pressure*
Outstanding Graduate Mentors

Rajesh Amin
Pharmacal Sciences

Barry Burkhart
Psychology

Amy Wright
Horticulture

Ed Youngblood
Communication and Journalism