2012 Undergraduate Research & Creative Work Competition

“Undergraduate Research as Transformative Practice: Developing Leaders and Solutions for a Better Society”
--Council on Undergraduate Research, 2011

April 5, 2012
Professional Schools and Sciences Building

Undergraduate Research
Professional Schools & Sciences Bldg., Rm. 250
2601 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122
Undergraduate Research as Transformative Practice: Developing Leaders and Solutions for a Better Society

Program and Presentation Schedule

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Student Registration and Set Up of Exhibits

9:00 a.m.  Greetings and Announcements:
Dr. James E. Lyons, President
Dr. Phyllis Dawkins, Provost
Dr. Dorothy Smith, Dean, General Studies
Lynn Strong, Director, Undergraduate Research

Exhibit Open to the Public

Judges Evaluate Projects.  (*Student participants must be available to present projects and answer questions.*)

12:00 p.m.  Judging Wrap-Up
Lunch

1:00 p.m.  – 2:00 p.m.  Exhibit Open to the Public *(Continued)*

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.  Awards Reception
Photographs

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  Participants Dismantle Exhibits

Undergraduate Research extends sincere appreciation to the student participants and faculty mentors whose tenacious spirit makes this program possible.
GOALS OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
& CREATIVE WORK

• To introduce students to the empirical methods of inquiry common to intellectual investigation and research,

• To introduce students to the history, language, and culture of intellectual investigation and research,

• To develop in students the aptitude and skills required to conduct research and intellectual investigation,

• To transfer the value of research and scholarship from faculty to students through collaborative endeavors, and

• To prepare students for the rigors of graduate study and professional careers.

The primary responsibility of Undergraduate Research is to advance these goals through research, scholarship, and creative opportunities for students on the Dillard campus, and in national and regional venues.

Lynn Y.R. Strong

Lynn Y.R. Strong, M.P.A., C.I.M.
Director, Undergraduate Research
ENTRIES

Individual exhibit locations are identified by category and number:
CW=Creative Work;  QL = Qualitative Research;  QN = Quantitative Research
CREATIVE WORK

ARTS, LETTERS and SCIENCES

CW 1
Examining the Role of Anesthetics in Minimizing the Stress Response and Prolonging the Survival of Immobilized Zebrafish (Danio Rerio)
Investigator(s): Curvelle Lewis, STEM, Biology, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

CW 2
Using Specimen in a Corrected Optical Rotational Enclosure Technique to Improve Zebrafish Imaging
Investigator(s): Curvelle Lewis, STEM, Biology, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

CW 3
How Space Weather Affects the Earth
Investigator(s): Charne’ Thomas, STEM, Biology, Junior; Pavla Obheyien, STEM, Biology, Junior
Faculty Mentor: Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

CW 4
Robotics: Fly Trap
Investigator(s): Christian M. Ramson, STEM, Computer Science, Freshman; Takunda Jora, STEM, Computer Science, Sophomore; Brandon Mathieu, STEM, Computer Science, Senior; Gary Tucker, STEM, Computer Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Ming-Hsing Chiu, Ph.D. & Linda Louis, Ph.D., STEM, Computer Science

CW 5
LEGO Forklift Robot
Investigator(s): Emole Anya Dimgba, STEM, Physics/Computer Science, Junior; Ogburie Victor, STEM, Physics/Computer Science, Junior; Eric Roberson, STEM, Computer Science, Sophomore; Raffel Gordon, STEM, Computer Science, Junior; Marcel Williams, STEM, Computer Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Ming-Hsing Chiu, Ph.D. & Linda Louis, Ph.D., STEM, Computer Science

CW 6
Hypothesis Test and Application
Investigator(s): Rudy Garza, STEM, Mathematics, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor: Hong Dai, Ph.D., STEM, Mathematics
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

CW 7
Runaway Hearts
**Investigator(s):** Christine Maiden, Mass Communications, Sophomore; Sharay Thibodeaux, Mass Communications, Sophomore
**Faculty Mentor:** Keith Morris, Mass Communications

CW 8
Iron Lynes
**Investigator(s):** Ernest Robertson, Mass Communications, Junior; Cameron Hill, Mass Communications, Junior
**Faculty Mentor:** Keith Morris, Mass Communications

CW 9
Rhythm
**Investigator(s):** Valencia Wise, Mass Communications, Senior; Michari Legette, Mass Communications, Sophomore
**Faculty Mentor:** Keith Morris, Mass Communications

CW 10
WTF the Movie
**Investigator(s):** Stephawn Spears, Mass Communications, Junior; Krislee Griffin, Mass Communications, Junior
**Faculty Mentor:** Keith Morris, Mass Communications
QUALITATIVE

GENERAL STUDIES

QL 1
Are We “Picturing” It Right? Is There Bias in Assessing Early Literacy?
Investigator(s): Sherice Walker, Education, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Ramona Jean-Perkins, Ph.D., Education

ARTS, LETTERS and SCIENCES

QL 2
NOLA: Risk Reduction
Investigator(s): Joy Semien, STEM, Biology, Freshman; Cortney Hill, STEM, Biology, Junior
Faculty Mentor: Amy Lesen, Ph.D., STEM, Biology

QL 3
Antimicrobial Activity of Beet Extract on Fecal Bacteria
Investigator(s): Joshua Daye, STEM, Biology, Senior; Donique Thorpe, STEM, Biology, Junior
Faculty Mentor: Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

QL 4
Determining the Status of Indoor Airborne Microbial Organisms in the Gentilly Area Six Years Post Hurricane Katrina
Investigator(s): Curvelle Lewis, STEM, Biology, Senior; Breanna Ryan, STEM, Biology, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor: Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

QL 5
Predicting Disease Proteins Using Protein Interaction Networks
Investigator(s): Valencia Wise, STEM, Computer Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Todd Gibson, Ph.D. & Debra Goldberg, SMART Program, Computer Science, University of Colorado, Boulder; Linda Louis, Ph.D., STEM, Computer Science

QL 6
Preparation of BaTiO₃ Thin Films by Double-Pulse Lasers Deposition
Investigator(s): Simeon Wilson, STEM, Physics, Junior
Faculty Mentor: Abdalla Darwish, Ph.D., STEM, Physics
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

QL 7
Intervention Study (EIS) on the Knowledge, Health Relief, Health Behavior & Increasing the Use of Gardsil Vaccine in Women of Color Ages 18-45
*Investigator(s):* Bianca Magee, Nursing, Sophomore; Kala Paul, STEM, Biology, Sophomore
*Faculty Mentor:* Charlotte Hurst, Ph.D., RN, MN, CNM, Nursing

ARTS, LETTERS and SOCIAL SCIENCES

QL 8
United States Foreign Policy: Syria and Egypt
*Investigators(s):* Juan Serrano, Political Science, Senior
*Faculty Mentor:* Nchor Okorn, Ph.D., Political Science

QL 9
Dillard University Defense Studies
*Investigator(s):* Juan Serrano, Political Science, Senior
*Faculty Mentor:* Gary Clark, Ph.D., Political Science

QL 10
New Orleans Public Schools: Not Left Behind? A Sociological View of the Changes in New Orleans Public Schools
*Investigator(s):* Markeecha Forcell, Political Science, Senior
*Faculty Mentor:* Gary Clark, Ph.D., Political Science

QL 11
Boundary Disputes Between Cameroon and Nigeria
*Investigator(s):* Michelle Bradley, Political Science, Sophomore
*Faculty Mentor:* Nchor Okorn, Ph.D. Political Science

QL 12
Non-Profit Organizations and Diplomacy In the Case of the American Foreign Policy Toward Africa
*Investigator(s):* Brandon Darrington, History, Senior
*Faculty Mentor:* Nchor Okorn, Ph.D., Political Science

QL 13
Non-ProFIT Organizations and Diplomacy: Their Impact on American Foreign Policy Toward Africa
*Investigator(s):* Kia Hill, Political Science, Junior; Mikcal Todd, Political Science/Sociology, Junior
*Faculty Mentor:* Nchor Okorn, Ph.D., Political Science
QL 14
Analysis of Nigerian Foreign Policy
Investigator(s): Ashely Leigh, Political Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Nchor Okorn, Ph.D., Political Science

QL15
Election Monitoring
Investigator(s): Nicole Tinson, Political Science, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor: Nchor Okorn, Ph.D., Political Science

QL16
Civic Engagement in 2012
Investigator(s): Nicole Tinson, Political Science, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor: Gary Clark, Ph.D., Political Science

QL17
Are We Satisfied with Dillard?
Investigator(s): Nicole Tinson, Political Science, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor: Freddyce Hill, Ph.D., Sociology

QL18
Dillard University Social Science Department Center for Law & Social Justice
Investigator(s): Ashely Leigh, Political Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Gary Clark, Ph.D., Political Science
QUANTITATIVE

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

QN 1
Type 2 Diabetes Risk and Knowledge Level Among African Americans in New Orleans, Louisiana
Investigator(s): Alaina Smith, Public Health, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Wodajo Welldaregay, Ph.D., Public Health

QN 2
Information Not Available at Time of Publication

QN 3
Nutrition Among College Students During the Transitional Period from Childhood to Adulthood
Investigator(s): Nallorie Singleton, Nursing/Public Health, Senior; Taylor McGee, Nursing, Junior; Donald Fondel, Senior, Kelbree White, Public Health, Senior; Kartis Lewis, Public Health, Senior; Donald Fondel, Public Health, Senior
Faculty Mentor: Wodajo Welldaregay, Ph.D., Public Health

ARTS, LETTERS and SCIENCES

QN 4
Assessing the Genotoxicity of the British Petroleum Oil Spill Due to Weathering in the Air and Water at Impact of Louisiana Shorelines
Investigator(s): Nichole Lathan, Chemistry, Junior; Jasmine Scott, Biology, Senior
Faculty Mentor(s): Bernard Singleton, DVM, M.S., STEM, Biology

QN 5
Food Insecurity and Chronic Kidney Disease: The Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity Across the Lifespan (HANDLS) Study
Investigator(s): Alexandria Broadnax, Biology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eric Buckles, Ph.D., STEM, Biology

QN 6
Study on Global Economic Growth and Its Indicators
Investigator(s): Arielle Calloway, STEM, Mathematics, Senior
Faculty Mentor(s): Hong Dai, Ph.D., Mathematics
QN 7
Fractional Derivatives
Investigator(s): Rayon Landry, STEM, Mathematics, Junior; Amber Tramel, STEM, Mathematics, Sophomore; Da’Vonte’ Sullen, STEM, Mathematics, Freshman
Faculty Mentor(s): Peter Frempong, Ph.D., Mathematics

QN 8
The Analytical and Operational Importance of Many Apparatuses Used in Oceanography
Investigator(s): Ebone’ Pierce, STEM, Physics, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Peggy Schexnayder, M.S., Carolyn Philan, M.S., Billy Davidson, M.S., Naval Oceanographic Office, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi; Abdalla Darwish, Ph.D., STEM, Physics

QN 9
Using Ionizing Radiation in Medicine through Innovation
Investigator(s): Johnetra Trotter, Physics, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Abdalla Darwish, Ph.D., STEM, Physics

QN 10
Pulsed Lasers Deposition of epital BaTEO₃ Thin Films
Investigator(s): Michael Sagapolutela, Physics, Sophomore
Faculty Mentor(s): Abdalla Darwish, Ph.D., STEM, Physics

QN 11
A Center of Research: Mass Communications and Government
Investigator(s): Markeecha Forcell, Political Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor(s): Gary Clark, Ph.D., Political Science

QN 12
Racial Threat Theory: David Duke for Governor?
Investigator(s): Markeecha Focell, Political Science, Senior
Faculty Mentor(s): Willie Kirkland, Ph.D., Political Science

QN 13
The Curious Case of the Black Republican
Investigator(s): Mikcal Todd, Political Science/Sociology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Willie Kirkland, Ph.D., Political Science

QN 14
The Impact of Cross-Culture Interaction Post Therapy
Investigator(s): Michaela Nicole Bradley, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 15
“Mean Girls” of the Adolescent School Group
Investigator(s): Rachel Williams, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology
QN 16
Light and Dark: Levels of Discrimination in the African American Community
Investigator(s): Alannia Mosley, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 17
Interracial Dating Among College Students, Specifically African Americans
Investigator(s): Mellanie Martin, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 18
Interracial Adoption
Investigator(s): Shantera Clofer, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 19
Tribal Laws Versus Federal Laws A Moral and Ethical Division
Investigator(s): Sara Forrest, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 20
Colorism
Investigator(s): Danielle Burton, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 21
Race and Reading: A Self Efficacy Study
Investigator(s): Candace Banks, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 22
The Perception: Black Men as Criminals
Investigator(s): Krista Hall, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 23
Children and Behavior Overtime
Investigator(s): Shane Wade, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 24
The Impact of Cross-Cultural Interaction Post Therapy
Investigator(s): Michaela Bradley, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology
QN 25
Do We Know Our Black is Beautiful?
Investigator(s): Lisa Landry, Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

QN 26
Social Classism in the African American Community
Investigator(s): Richard Mosley, Jr., Psychology, Junior
Faculty Mentor(s): Eartha Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology
PANEL OF JUDGES

Ming-Hsing Chiu, Ph.D., Computer Science
Corthel Clark, Arts and Humanities
Ramona Jean-Perkins, Ph.D., General Studies, Education
Carla Morelon, Ph.D., Institutional Effectiveness
Yolanda Powell-Young, Ph.D., Nursing
Reginald Stanton, Ph.D., Chemistry
Dawn Williams, Ph.D., Student Affairs
Carroll Wiltz, Ph.D., Sociology
Keith Wismar, Ph.D., Psychology

SCOREKEEPER

Janice Cook, Ph.D., Mathematics Laboratory
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The faculty and students of Dillard University acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their commitment and support of student research and the 2012 Undergraduate Research and Creative Work Competition.

Dr. James E. Lyons, President
Office of the Academic Affairs
Office of the Executive Vice President
College of General Studies
Dillard Undergraduate Research Advisory Group
2012 Undergraduate Research and Creative Work Panel of Judges
The Academic Deans
Faculty Mentors in the Academic Departments
Dillard University Student Researchers
DU-LAMP Program
Department of Mathematics
Dillard University Community Development Cooperation
School of Nursing
Center for the First-Year Students
Dillard Writing Center
Dillard Mathematics Laboratory-Student Support Services
Office of Institutional Research
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs