Graduate & Professional Student Research Forum
2015 Outstanding Presentation Awards

Platform Sessions

Science Platform Session A: Room 205
1st place  Jenni Kumanchik, Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences. Abstract Title: Acute Effects of Dynamic Compression on Heart Rate Variability and Peak Heart Rate while Running

2nd place  Alicia Crespin, School of Life Sciences. Abstract Title: Analyzing Caterpillar-Ant Interactions in Three Butterfly Species of the Mojave Desert: Are Caterpillars Buying Protection or Appeasing Potential Predators?

Honorable Mention  Alexis Crisp, School of Life Sciences. Abstract Title: A Tubular 3D Force Analysis of Kangaroo Rat Burrowing

Science Platform Session B: Room 207
1st place  Kenneth Watanabe, School of Life Sciences. Abstract Title: Tiling Assembly: A New Tool for Reference Annotation Independent Transcript Assembly and Novel Gene Identification by RNA-Sequencing

2nd place  Michael Picker, School of Life Sciences. Abstract Title: DNA Twisting and VirB: Mechanistic Insight into a DNA Binding Protein Essential for Virulence in the Human Pathogen Shigella flexneri

Honorable Mention  Andrew Nordin, Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences. Abstract Title: Minimalist vs. Cushioned Running Shoes: Impact Loads Vary with Foot-Strike Pattern

Honorable Mention  Amanda Prisbrey, School of Life Sciences. Abstract Title: Development of Competence Leads to Mutagenesis in Stressed Bacillus subtilis Cells

Science and Engineering Platform Session C: Room 208A
1st place  Jonathan Baker, Department of Geoscience. Abstract Title: Building Better Climate Models: When Caves and Computers Collaborate

2nd place  Sara Gedo, Department of Geoscience. Abstract Title: Influence of Larrea tridentata on Chloride Concentration in Shallow Desert Soils
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Humanities and Fine Arts Platform Session A: Room 208B
1st place Aurora Brackett, Department of English. Abstract Title: Hartford, Connecticut 1900: The Story of a Suicide

2nd place Kayla Miller, Department of English. Abstract Title: John Wayne in Spain

Honorable Mention Derek Pollard, Department of English. Abstract Title: The Poem as Plastic Art: Mina Loy’s “Brancusi’s Golden Bird”

Honorable Mention Rebecca Robison, Department of English. Abstract Title: Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Conference

Social Science Platform Session A: Room 208C
1st place Katelyn DiBenedetto, Department of Anthropology. Abstract Title: Rafts (or floats?) 'Ahoy: Documenting Animal Transportation to Cyprus during the Pre- and Early Neolithic

2nd place Monica Bolton, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: Interactions of Behavioral Training and Ketamine Administration on Changes in Parvalbumin Positive Neurons

Honorable Mention Kimberly Claudat, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: Social Physique Anxiety, Body Surveillance, Ethnic Identity and Bulimic Symptoms among Mexican American Women

Honorable Mention Antoinette Izzo, Department of Anthropology. Abstract Title: Identity as a Predictor of Affective Responses in Polyamorous and Monogamous Individuals

Social Science Platform Session B: Room 209
1st Place Liya Rakhkovskaya, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: Ethnic and American Identity as Correlates of Eating Pathology in College Women

2nd Place Shelly Volsche, Department of Anthropology. Abstract Title: Is the Romantic/Sexual Kiss a Human Universal?

Honorable Mention Michael Moncrieff, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: A Natural History of the Drag Queen Phenomenon

Honorable Mention Jessica E. Nave-Blodgett, Department of Psychology: Abstract Title: Do People Hear Multiple Levels of Metrical Hierarchies in Music?
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Social Science Platform Session C: Room 211

1st Place  Christina Vanden Bosch der Nederlanden, Department of Psychology. **Abstract Title:** Categorizing Speech and Song in Childhood and Adulthood

2nd Place  Aaron Woods, Department of Anthropology. **Abstract Title:** Evaluating Land Use in the Mojave Sink: Survey Data from Afton Canyon, San Bernardino County, California

Honorable Mention  Stefanie Moynihan, Department of Psychology. **Abstract Title:** Inner Experience during Marathon Running

Honorable Mention  Sarah MacIntosh, Department of Anthropology. **Abstract Title:** The Social Consequences of Technological Change: Archaeological Case Studies from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic a Period to the Middle Bronze Age period in the Near East

Social Science and Law Platform Session D: Room 213

1st Place  Jonathan Birds, School of Environmental and Public Affairs. **Abstract Title:** Profiling Proximal Places: How Street Segment Crime Signature Analysis Can Inform Theory and Practice

2nd Place  Keivan Roebuck and Craig Friedel, William S. Boyd School of Law. **Abstract Title:** “Assembly Line of Broken Fingers”: A Roadmap to Combating Occupational Health and Safety Hazards in the Manesar Auto Industrial Belt

Honorable Mention  Al Gourrier, School of Environmental and Public Affairs. **Abstract Title:** Classification of Metropolitan Communities as a Function of Population and Job Shifts

Honorable Mention  Colby Miyose, Department of Communication Studies. **Abstract Title:** Unrealistic Weeds of Love and Romance: The Korean Drama and the “Flower Boy” Genre

Social Science Platform Session E: Room 218

1st Place  Rafael Oganesyan, Department of Political Science. **Abstract Title:** Economic Perceptions and Presidential Trust in the Caucasus

2nd Place  Tyler Schafer, Department of Sociology. **Abstract Title:** Miracle in the Mojave: Miracle in the Mojave: Everyday Religion and the Sacralization of Urban Space

Honorable Mention  Lauren Galloway, Department of Sociology. **Abstract Title:** Love, Marriage, and Movies
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Social Science Platform Session F: Room 219
1st Place  Michael Trevathan, Department of Political Science. Abstract Title: Post-Cold War Era Ethnic Civil Wars.

2nd Place  Allison Sahl, Department of Sociology. Abstract Title: Housework and Employment: Trends Before, During, and After the 2007 U.S. Economic Recession

Honorable Mention  Breanna Boppre, Department of Criminal Justice. Abstract Title: Probation and Parole Officer Attitudes toward Evidence-Based Practices: Application and Modification of the Evidence-Based Practices Attitudes Scale (EBPAS)

Honorable Mention  Jennifer Whitmer, Department of Sociology. Abstract Title: Producing Authenticity: Personal Style Bloggers, Branding, and Cultural Intermediaries

Education Platform Session A: Room 222
1st Place (tie)  Elif Adibelli and Refika Turgut, Department of Teaching & Learning. Abstract Title: Factors for Changing Preservice Teachers’ (PSTs) Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs regarding Second Language Acquisition (SLA) and English Language Learners (ELLs)

1st Place (tie)  Caitlin Saladino, Department of Educational Psychology & Higher Education. Abstract Title: Community College Transfer in Southern Nevada: An Investigation of Policy and Outcomes.

Honorable Mention  Laura Decker, Department of Teaching & Learning. Abstract Title: Teaching Positive Images of Disability in Native American Young Adult Literature

Honorable Mention  Christina Santoyo, Department of Teaching and Learning. Abstract Title: A Case Study of Social Justice Education in a General Methods Course

Poster Sessions

Science and Engineering Poster Session A: Ballroom
1st Place  Ali Pour Yazdanpanah, Department Electrical and Computer of Engineering. Abstract Title: Computed Tomography

2nd Place  Samad Gharehdaghimollahajloo, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Abstract Title: Experimental Measurement of the Pressure Drop in the Flexible Ducting System
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Science and Engineering Poster Session A: Ballroom (cont.)
Honorable Mention  Iani Batilov, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Construction. Abstract Title: Sulfate Resistance of Nano Silica and Micro Silica Contained Mortars

Honorable Mention  Courtney L. Bartlett, Department of Geoscience. Abstract Title: Phosphate Release: The Effect of Prebiotic Organic Compounds on Dissolution of Mars-Relevant Phosphate Minerals

Science and Engineering Poster Session B: Ballroom
1st Place  Sichu Shrestha, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Construction. Abstract Title: Can Industrial Wastewater (Unilever, Ocean Spray and Biodiesel) Generated in Nevada be used as Carbon Source in Place of Conventional Carbon Sources to Treat Groundwater Contaminant-Perchlorate?

2nd Place (tie)  Emily Siska, Department of Chemistry. Abstract Title: Novel Radionuclide Wasteforms Prepared Under Pressure

2nd Place (tie)  Candace Suh-Lee, Department of Computer Science. Abstract Title: Quantifying Security Risk of Network Vulnerability by Risk Conditions

Honorable Mention  Michael Steiner, Department of Geoscience. Abstract Title: Dissolution of Nontronite in Low Water Activity Brines and Implications for the Habitability of Mars

Science and Health Science Poster Session C: Ballroom
1st Place  Michelle Farnoush, School of Dental Medicine. Abstract Title: Melatonin (MLT) Supplementation Reveals Differential Receptor Effects in Oral Carcinomas

2nd Place  Ecsile Chang, School of Dental Medicine. Abstract Title: Oral Prevalence of Fusobacterium Nucleatum Reveals Age-Related Colon Cancer Risks

Honorable Mention  Kristyne Bartel, Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences. Abstract Title: Relationship between Resistance Band Tension and Muscle Activity during Use of a Hip Exercise Device

Honorable Mention  Jessica Dick, School of Dental Medicine. Abstract Title: Analysis of Gender-Specific Differences in Oral Melatonin Receptor Expression

Honorable Mention  Cindy Lee-Tataseo, Department of Health Care Administration and Policy. Abstract Title: Review of IRB processes and metrics for IRB review at UNLV

Honorable Mention  Kit Wilkinson, School of Life Sciences Abstract Title: Instrumental Beam for Measurement of Six Axis Forces and Torques in Grasping Arboreal Vertebrates
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Science and Health Science Poster Session D: Ballroom
1st Place  Katelyn Porter, School of Life Sciences. **Abstract Title:** The Role of Mfd in Oxidative Damage Repair

2nd Place  John Silvaroli, School of Dental Medicine. **Abstract Title:** Correlation between Folate Supplementation and the Proliferation and Survival of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinomas

Honorable Mention  Brady Petersen, School of Dental Medicine. **Abstract Title:** Exosome Analysis: Isolation of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma MicroRNA in Culture

Honorable Mention  Alexa Standerfer, Department of Physical Therapy. **Abstract Title:** The Effects of Locomotion-Induced Shock Loading on Tibiofemoral Bone Stress Injury

Social Science and Law Poster Session A: Ballroom
1st Place  Stacy Newman, Lindsay Liddell and Katerina Chadliev, William S. Boyd School of Law. **Abstract Title:** “Bonded Tenancy”- International Human Rights Framework

2nd Place  Miliaikeala Heen, School of Environmental Studies and Public Affairs. **Abstract Title:** Putting the Microscope on Crime Labs: The Effects of Evidence Complexity and Laboratory Type on Jurors’ Perceptions of Forensic Evidence

Honorable Mention  Logan Kennedy, Department of Criminal Justice. **Abstract Title:** Policing Political Protest Events: Risks and Challenges

Honorable Mention  Carrie Sampson, School of Environmental Studies and Public Affairs. **Abstract Title:** Expanding Educational Opportunity and Equity for English Learners: The Role of School Boards in the U.S. Mountain West

Social Science Poster Session B: Ballroom
1st Place  Chelcie F. Heaney, Department of Psychology. **Abstract Title:** GABAB Ligand Dose-Dependent Changes in Spatial Learning and Hippocampal GABAergic and Plasticity Proteins

2nd Place  Timothy McHale, Department of Anthropology. **Abstract Title:** Steroid Hormone Change in Response to Competition in Juvenile Boys

Honorable Mention  Andrea Kayl, Department of Psychology. **Abstract Title:** The Dynamics of Infants’ Interest in Female and Male Faces: A Recurrence Quantification Analysis

Honorable Mention  Amy J. McAuley, Department of Psychology. **Abstract Title:** It's All About the Timing: Investigating the Self-Report of Math Anxiety
Social Science Poster Session C: Ballroom
1st Place  David Weintraub, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: Effects of Speech Rate Context on Speech Comprehension

2nd Place  Caryn Tegtmeyer, Department of Anthropology. Abstract Title: The Elite’s War: Violence and Social Coercion at Chaco Canyon and Casas Grandes (AD 900-1400)

Honorable Mention Diana Ewing, Department of Anthropology. Abstract Title: Arctic Clothing Construction: A Women’s Adaptive Technology

Honorable Mention Mandy Walsh, Department of Psychology. Abstract Title: The Effects of Gender and Cost on Suspicion: An Evolutionary Perspective

Education Poster Session A: Ballroom
1st Place  Jennifer S. Guttman, Department of Educational Psychology & Higher Learning. Abstract Title: A Bayesian Scale to Measure the Big-5 Personality Traits

2nd Place  Cynthia Clark, Department of Teaching & Learning. Abstract Title: Teacher Candidate Technology Integration: For Student Learning or Instruction?

Honorable Mention Rachel Part, Department of Educational Psychology and Higher Education. Abstract Title: I See You: Comparing the Effect of Asynchronous and Synchronous Video versus Text Based Communication in an Online Teacher Education Course

Honorable Mention Abeera P. Rehmat, Department of Teaching & Learning. Abstract Title: The Earlier the Better: Teacher Beliefs about Design, Engineering, and Technology Instruction

Fine Arts Poster Session A: Ballroom
1st Place  Kyle Fischer, School of Architecture. Abstract Title: Tower-on-base Alternatives Driven by Urban Theory Help to Improve Community Integration

2nd Place  Wendy Chambers, Department of Art. Abstract Title: Transformations of Flesh in Oil Paint

Honorable Mention Audrey Barcio, Department of Art. Abstract Title: Infinite Reflection

Honorable Mention Shelbi Schroeder, Department of Art. Abstract Title: Instax Body Project