

# **FIRST ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVITY**

*MORE THAN 30 PRESENTATIONS OF EXEMPLARY STUDENT WORK*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2010  
SLAVIN CENTER — LOWER LEVEL**



**FOSTERING A CULTURE OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**  
*at Providence College*



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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Christine Baccari, Office of Academic Affairs  
Kathleen Benacci '12, Friars Club  
Paul Bienvenue, Academic Media Services  
Kevin Buzzerio, Physical Plant  
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# FIRST ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVITY

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

## **CELEBRATION OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVITY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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## **EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

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## **SPONSORS**

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*Funded through a generous grant from the Davis Educational Foundation to support Providence College's "Fostering a Culture of Student Engagement" initiative*

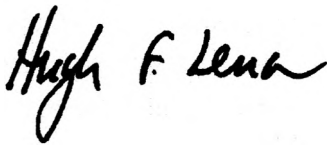
## WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for Providence College's First Annual Celebration of Student Scholarship and Creativity! More than 30 undergraduate students, all nominated by faculty or departments/programs from a wide range of academic disciplines, have prepared poster, laptop, and other types of presentations to showcase their research, scholarship, and/or creative work.

The work of these students, supported by their faculty mentors, provides some terrific examples of active, engaged learning on our campus. We hope and expect that this inaugural Celebration will become an annual event that signifies the importance of student learning and engagement at Providence College. Our institutional mission and current strategic plan make explicit the College's ambitions with respect to promoting, sustaining, and enhancing academic excellence; the Celebration provides tangible evidence of the College's success in this important endeavor.

The Celebration of Student Scholarship and Creativity is supported through the College's three-year *Fostering a Culture of Student Engagement* grant from the Davis Educational Foundation. Aligned with our mission and goals, the purpose of this project is to strengthen students' engagement in their learning and to establish durable structures for extending and supporting high-quality student engagement well into the future. Providence College thanks the Davis Educational Foundation for partnering in this meaningful initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh F. Lena". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hugh F. Lena, Ph.D.  
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS**

### **AMBIENCE SERIES**

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**Blair Brendli**, Studio Art (Concentration in Digital Imaging), Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Janecek, Department of Art/Art History*

*Presentation Type: Digital Inkjet Prints*

This project researches the new media of digital imaging. The prints present a mature artistic statement about the process of visual thinking. The images, with their colorfully invented illumination, multiple textures and mesmerizing structure, show new and original ideas through non-traditional means. This thesis will form a one-person exhibition in the Reilly Gallery in April 2010 and be published in Providence College's *Art Journal*.

### **ANCIENT EPIGRAPHY OF THE ROMAN WORLD**

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**Kathryn Caliva**, Humanities, Class of 2010

**William Mastrianna**, History, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Fred Drogula, Department of History*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

Epigraphy, the study of inscriptions, is perhaps the richest source of information about Roman culture. In an independent study these students are learning to translate and understand Roman laws, monumental inscriptions, funeral epitaphs, public and private documents, and graffiti from the Roman Empire. In doing so, they are gaining unparalleled access to the minds of the ancient Romans.

### **ANDY WARHOL: PAINTER OF THE SPECTACLE**

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**Samantha Cataldo**, Art History, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deborah Johnson, Department of Art/Art History*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This thesis analyzes the art and methods of the enigmatic Pop artist, Andy Warhol, in relationship to one of the most difficult theorists in postmodern studies, the French philosopher Guy Debord. The article, vetted by an outside scholar, will be published in Providence College's annual *Art Journal*. Supported by Providence College Undergraduate Research Grant.

### **THE ART OF STORYTELLING**

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**Molly Driessen**, Public and Community Service Studies, Class of 2012

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nicholas Longo, Department of Public and Community Service Studies/Global Studies Program*

*Presentation Type: Laptop*

This presentation demonstrates an online forum that aims to create a dialogue among students, faculty, and alumni about the various service initiatives at Providence College. This forum enables the PC community and prospective students and family members to remain updated on these service endeavors. It also provides resources and inspiration for service at Providence College.



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **BODY SATISFACTION AND COSMETIC CONSUMERISM**

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**Kathryn Hickey**, Social Work, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Susan Griffith-Grossman, Department of Social Work*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

Ninety female Providence College undergraduate students were evaluated on body dissatisfaction and materialism. Findings revealed that women who spent more money on beauty products to enhance their attractiveness were more dissatisfied with their bodies. Women who try to mold their natural body shape to conform to the beauty ideal are more likely to develop eating disorders and turn to dangerous cosmetic procedures.

### **A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FRENCH AND AMERICAN SCHOOLS**

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**Rebecca Racine**, French/Secondary Education, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Patricia Lawlor, Department of Foreign Language Studies*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This thesis, written in French, explores the parallels and dramatic differences between the French and American educational systems. The centralization of French schools is impressive, as is their mission to create individuals committed to the French state who work for the common good. Though their pedagogies and philosophies differ, French and American teachers share the desire to prepare their students to participate in society and to reach their potential.

### **CASPOFUNGIN INDUCES PROGRAMMED CELL DEATH IN SACCHAROMYCES CEREVISIAE AND CANDIDA ALBICANS**

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**Christopher Chin**, Biology/Mathematics, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., Department of Biology*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This study shows that culturing the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida albicans* in media containing caspofungin induces several known hallmarks of programmed cell death. This gives insight into the manner by which caspofungin kills and identifies possible ways for resistance to be acquired, both important for determining which drug combinations will result in higher rate of death. Supported by RI-INBRE Grant #P20RR016457 from NCRR, NIH.

### **COMMUNITY-BUILDING AND NGOS IN LATIN AMERICA**

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**Bridget Landry**, Global Studies/Spanish, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nicholas Longo, Department of Public and Community Service Studies/Global Studies Program*

*Presentation Type: PowerPoint*

This presentation gives a brief overview of what NGOs are and how they operate, exploring different organizational structures and missions. It subsequently examines several case studies of NGOs working in Latin America, analyzing their structures and effectiveness in achieving their goals. Ultimately, the presentation questions whether the empowerment of local communities is a goal in conflict with the global political context of the 21st century. Supported by Providence College Undergraduate Research Grant.



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **CONSTRUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF A FLOATABLE GUIDED INSTRUMENT ARRAY TO MEASURE SALINITY GRADIENTS**

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**Martin Rubino**, Pre-Engineering, Class of 2010

**Kathleen Walsh**, Pre-Engineering, Class of 2011

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Stephen Mecca, Department of Engineering-Physics-Systems*

*Presentation Type: Poster/Laptop*

This project is part of an effort to establish fundamental baseline parameters for a recently restored estuary in Portsmouth, RI. It focuses on measuring spatial and temporal salinity gradients during a complete tidal cycle. It also involves the design of a floating device which hosts array sensors, power supplies and data loggers, controlled with long reeled nylon wires on either side of the estuary.

### **CREATING, DESIGNING, PUBLISHING, AND MARKETING A PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE USING ON DEMAND PUBLISHING TECHNOLOGY**

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**Emma Hansen**, Marketing, Class of 2010

**John Vaghi**, Marketing, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. A. Cemal Ekin, Department of Marketing*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

Two marketing majors, who minor in art, explored the process of obtaining content, establishing an editorial process, selecting submissions, and designing *PSReye Focus*, a photography magazine. This project has given birth to Project Connect, a student-run organization that offers graphic design services to small- and medium-size clients in the area.

### **DESIGN OF A MICROFLUSH TOILET VALVE FOR USE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD**

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**Colin MacDonagh**, Physics, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Stephen Mecca, Department of Engineering-Physics-Systems*

*Presentation Type: Poster/Laptop*

As part of an effort to develop a model village public toilet in Ghana, this project aimed to perfect a toilet valve functioning to control odor and effect hygiene using just 200 cc of water per use. The project involved developing a mechanical model of the valve, developing a locally sustainable assembly, and building and testing prototypes using industry standard stimulants. *Supported by Providence College Undergraduate Research Grant.*

### **EXPLORING SOCIETAL OPPRESSION AND ITS RELATION TO INFANTICIDE AND ABANDONMENT IN "BELOVED" AND "FRANKENSTEIN"**

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**Julie Hamel**, English/Women's Studies, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Prof. Jane Lunin Perel, Department of English/Women's Studies Program*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This paper compares two examples of infanticide in the works of two female authors. It compares the death of *Beloved* in Toni Morrison's novel of the same name, at the hands of her mother, to the pursuit of the monster in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. Together these works provide examples of how oppressive societies encourage the destruction of individuals at the hands of their "parents" out of desperation.



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **EFFECTS OF DANCE ON THE YOUNG AND OLD**

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**Katelyn Uyehara**, Psychology, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mary O'Keeffe, Department of Psychology*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This research examines the effects of dance on elementary school age children and senior citizens with dementia. Quantitative and Qualitative analyses were performed. Significant improvement in overall self-concept was observed, anxiety scores improved, and happiness scores increased.

### **FILAMENTATION PROTECTS THE HUMAN FUNGAL PATHOGEN CANDIDA ALBICANS FROM PROGRAMMED CELL DEATH**

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**David Laprade**, Biology, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., Department of Biology*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

Apoptosis, or programmed cell death, is a controlled form of cell suicide that occurs when cells are exposed to stressful conditions. We now provide evidence that filamentation, the process by which blastospores become hyphae, protects *C.albicans*, the most common human fungal pathogen, from anti-fungal drug-induced apoptosis. Supported by RI-INBRE Grant #P20RR016457 from NCRR, NIH, and CAFR grant from Providence College.

### **HEALTHY AND AFFORDABLE FOOD IN LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS: A COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT OF SMITH HILL**

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**Kelly Bevis**, Social Work, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Katherine Kranz, Department of Social Work*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

A community food security assessment was done in the Smith Hill neighborhood of Providence, RI to evaluate whether or not residents had sufficient access to nutritious and affordable food. This assessment includes demographic and socioeconomic data, as well as interviews with key stakeholders in the community who work in areas related to food access.

### **LESSONS OF ALBANY: CIVIL RIGHTS PROTEST IN ALBANY, GEORGIA, 1961-62**

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**Brendan Nelligan**, History, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentors: Dr. Patrick Breen and Dr. Sharon Murphy, Department of History*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This thesis offers a critical reevaluation of nonviolent direct action protest during the American Civil Rights Movement. For previous historians, the failure of the Albany Movement supposedly taught Civil Rights leaders lessons that were later adopted for the successful campaign in Birmingham, Alabama. In contrast, this thesis demonstrates that leaders in Birmingham failed to learn from Albany, adopting the same failed strategy, which nearly led to the same failed outcome.



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **LEGALIZING ACTIVE EUTHANASIA IN AMERICA**

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**Stephen Orlando**, Health Policy and Management/Philosophy, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Robert Hackey, Health Policy and Management Program*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This essay argues that there is both legal justification and a moral obligation to legalize the practice of active euthanasia. Many of the arguments against active euthanasia are discussed and analyzed, but the paper finds that a number of Supreme Court cases provide the legal justification for legalizing active euthanasia in the United States, and the ethical obligation to promote a society of mercy and compassion further supports the legalization of active euthanasia in America.

### **LONELY IMPULSE OF DELIGHT**

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**Kevin Lynch**, History, Class of 2013

**Ben Perry**, English, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Prof. Mary Farrell, Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film*

*Presentation Type: Five-Minute Play*

*Location: McPhail's – 3:15pm*

*Lonely Impulse of Delight* is a very short play by John Patrick Shanley. The only information the playwright gives the actor is that a young man drags his friend out to Central Park Lake at 2:00 a.m. to meet his new girlfriend – a mermaid. The actors have to create dimensional, truthful characters w/strong motivations, make clear, playable choices and develop circumstantial information which 'explains' and accounts for what the characters say. This scene was developed in the Spring 2010 *Introduction to Acting* class.

### **MONITORING BAX-INDUCED CELL DEATH IN THE BUDDING YEAST, *S. CEREVISIAE*, USING A CAMELEON CALCIUM NANOSENSOR**

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**Kevin R. Murphy**, Biology, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., Department of Biology*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

Upon Activation, BAX, a proapoptotic member of the Bcl-2 family of proteins, binds to the outer mitochondrial membrane, ultimately inducing programmed cell death in mammalian cells. This study investigates the role of calcium in BAX-induced cell death in yeast by over-expressing human BAX in several yeast calcium mutants. We have discovered that mutants lacking genes important for calcium regulation, including *CCH1*, *CRZ1/TCN1*, *PMC1*, *PMR1* and *VCX1*, are all relatively resistant to BAX-induced toxicity. Preliminary data suggests that BAX-induced toxicity leading to apoptosis or programmed cell death rises as calcium levels rise. *Supported by RI-INBRE Grant #P20RR016457 from NCRR, NIH.*

### **NARROWING VISION**

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**Matthew Longobardi**, Studio Art (Photography Concentration), Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eric Sung, Department of Art/Art History*

*Presentation Type: Photographic Works*

This is a photographic project emanating from the student's concern about ongoing treatment of eye disease. The images are formed by the composite of approximately 100 digital exposures. The photographs were displayed in the Reilly Gallery on campus and will be published in Providence College's annual *Art Journal*. *Large prints supported by Providence College Undergraduate Research Grant.*

## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### ***THE NEGATIVE IMAGES OF NURSING PORTRAYED ON GREY'S ANATOMY, HOUSE AND ER AND ITS EFFECT ON PUBLIC PERCEPTION AND THE CONTEMPORARY NURSING SHORTAGE IN AMERICA***

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**Jacquelyn Bishop**, Health Policy and Management, Class of 2011

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Robert Hackey, Health Policy and Management Program*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

*ER, Grey's Anatomy, and House are three popular medical dramas that fail to portray nurses with a positive image and essentially undermine the profession. These negative images of nurses actually contribute to the overall nursing shortage that has plagued so many hospitals across the nation; whether it be undermining, insulting, or misrepresenting the profession, contemporary media have not done a good job of being a "health educator" when it comes to nursing.*

### ***THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND PC BUSINESS STUDENTS – TWO SURVEY RESEARCH PROJECTS***

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***"You Can't Always Get What You Want: Employees' Desire for Non-Traditional Benefits"***

***"Green Revolution 3.0: The Consumers' Demand For and Organizations' Response to Green Products and Services"***

**Krista Morisi**, Management, Class of 2010

**Ye Chen**, Management, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Karen Whelan-Berry, Department of Management*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

*This presentation includes a synopsis of two business students' research, as well as an overview of their experience at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), which is attended by more than 2500 students representing 300+ colleges and universities.*

### ***PROMOTING WELL-BEING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL-AGED GIRLS***

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**Jessica Jones**, Social Work, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Katherine Kranz, Department of Social Work*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

*This study sought to explore whether two small, gender specific skills groups, offered by a community-based mentor program, improved at-risk, adolescent girls' overall sense of well-being. Results indicated that the Life Choices groups helped the participants more fully grasp the concept of healthy relationships, deal with peer pressure, and improve self esteem.*



## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **REFLECTIONS ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA**

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**Julie McNulty**, English, Class of 2010

**Lauren Ouellet**, Public and Community Service Studies, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nicholas Longo, Department of Public and Community Service Studies/Global Studies Program*

*Presentation Type: Computer Display and Photo Boards*

This project displays the sights and experiences of students who recently traveled to Nicaragua for a cross-cultural immersion experience. The display and photos illustrate students' work with an NGO in Nicaragua and students' engagement in Nicaraguan society. The presentation seeks to elicit questions and dialogue about short-term service and cross-cultural immersion.

### **SELF-INJURIOUS BEHAVIOR VS. NON-SUICIDAL SELF-INJURY: THE CNS STIMULANT PEMOLINE AS A MODEL OF SELF-DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR**

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**Adam Miller**, Psychology, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christopher Bloom, Department of Psychology*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

To surmount the challenges surrounding research with human populations demonstrating self-injury, researchers investigating Self Injurious Behavior (SIB) and Non-Suicidal Self Injury (NSSI) have turned to animal models. The pemoline model of SIB, in which rats are given daily injections of the stimulant pemoline, is one successful model. Whether this model is also applicable to questions concerning NSSI populations, however, remains untested. The current experiment investigates whether such a generalization is warranted. *Supported by RI-INBRE Grant #P20RR016457 from NCRR, NIH, and CAFR grant from Providence College.*

### **SOLO PERFORMANCE**

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**Catherine McDonnell**, Music Education, Class of 2011

*Faculty Mentor: Prof. Mary Farrell, Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film*

*Presentation Type: One-Woman Play*

*Location: McPhail's – 3:25pm*

This solo theatrical piece, written and performed by Cat McDonnell, uses a comical approach in order to tackle some of the issues faced by women on a regular basis. It was developed in the Solo Performance class in the fall of 2009.

### **THE SIXTH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND UNDERGRADUATE PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE**

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**Gina Santiago**, Philosophy/Sociology, Class of 2009

**Stephen Mendelsohn**, Political Science, Class of 2011

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christopher Arroyo, Department of Philosophy*

*Presentation Type: Poster Table*

This table exhibits presentations from the Sixth Annual New England Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, hosted by the Providence College Philosophy Department. The conference, started by Dr. Peter Costello and several students, assembles undergraduates from across the country who share a passion for studying and practicing philosophy in a setting that is hospitable to various approaches.

## **PROGRAM ABSTRACTS, CON'T.**

### **THE TRIUMPHANT TRAGEDY OF "KING LEAR"**

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**Erin Lamontagne**, English, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Suzanne Fournier, Department of English*

*Presentation Type: Poster*

This paper analyzes Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear* in light of its Christian underpinning, claiming that the play ends not with a message of nihilism but with an affirmation of divine love's power to transcend human suffering. Through the suffering he largely brings upon himself, Lear becomes broken enough to see his unworthiness of love; but ironically, this true vision allows him to experience love and to transcend the defeat of death.

### **VOICES FROM EL SALVADOR: COMMUNITY HOPES, DREAMS, AND REALITIES**

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**Nicole Sabatino**, Elementary/Special Education, Class of 2012

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nuria Alonso-Garcia, Department of Foreign Language Studies*

*Presentation Type: Documentary Film*

*Location: McPhail's – 4:00pm*

Las Delicias, a small, impoverished village in El Salvador, is greatly affected by such socio-economic problems as alcoholism, domestic abuse, threats of gangs, violence, poor education, unemployment, and hunger. Despite these harsh realities, the men, women, and children of Las Delicias possess hopes and dreams of a better future. Each person has a different story to tell, and they all want their voices to be heard.

### **THE IN-DWC (I'M NOT DONE WITH CIV) PROJECT [FILM COMPETITION]**

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#### **Winning Entry**

**Christina Bartley**, Social Work/Political Science, Class of 2012

**Christine Castracane**, Art History, Class of 2012

**Phillip Edward**, Marketing, Class of 2012

**Joshua Soares**, Biology, Class of 2012

**Nicole Stuver**, Political Science, Class of 2012

#### **Runner-Up Entry**

**Nick Mammano**, Accountancy, Class of 2012

**Caroline Morgan**, Studio Art, Class of 2012

**Michael Ragosta**, Marketing, Class of 2012

**Lauren Shimmel**, English, Class of 2012

**Paula Tran**, Biology, Class of 2012

*Faculty Mentor: Rev. Gabriel Pivarnik, O.P., Department of Theology*

*Presentation Type: Short Video*

*Location: McPhail's – 4:35pm*

The motivation for this student engagement project stemmed from Fr. Gabriel Pivarnik's dismay over the student euphoria surrounding "Done with Civ" events at the end of sophomore year. The project was simple: All of his seminar students were divided into groups and required to make a five-minute short film that explains why DWC matters. These student groups earned first and second place honors in the "competition" for best short film. Supported through Davis Educational Foundation mini-grant awarded to Providence College's Instructional Technology Development Program.



## **SATELLITE PRESENTATIONS**

### **ANTI-OBESITY PROGRAMS IN RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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**Alyssa Sylvaria**, Political Science, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joseph Cammarano, Department of Political Science*

*Presentation Type: Formal Presentation*

*Location: Harkins Hall LL13*

This research focuses on recent efforts in Rhode Island to positively affect the health of children, particularly as it applies to nutrition, exercise, and obesity. Through a case-study approach, this project looks at how effective these programs are, and what recommendations might follow for future policy and programming.

### **COMMUNITY CONSEQUENCES OF CHANGING SEA LEVELS**

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**Shannon Hulst**, Political Science, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. William Hudson, Department of Political Science*

*Presentation Type: Formal Presentation*

*Location: Harkins Hall LL13*

This project, conducted under the guidance of *Save the Bay*, investigates the effect of climate-induced sea level changes on the coast of Rhode Island and its properties. Through a case study focused on the Watch Hill area in southern Rhode Island, this project provides *Save The Bay* with valuable background information that will help in efforts to create policy changes that can positively affect coastal properties.

### **GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT SURROUNDING COLLEGE CAMPUSES**

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**Owen Bligh**, Political Science, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joseph Cammarano, Department of Political Science*

*Presentation Type: Formal Presentation*

*Location: Harkins Hall LL13*

This project focuses on why some colleges have thriving commercial areas bordering their campuses while other colleges are unable to attract such economic development. The research is narrowed to institutions of higher education that are located outside of "centralized business districts" with pre-existing areas of commercial prosperity. The research concludes with suggestions for Providence College to improve the prospect of commercial businesses in its neighborhood.

### **MATERNITY/PATERNITY LEAVE IN THE UNITED STATES**

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**Andrew Kowal**, Political Science, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Susan McCarthy, Department of Political Science*

*Presentation Type: Formal Presentation*

*Location: Harkins Hall LL13*

This project is focused on the different parental leave policies that cities and towns in Rhode Island have for their employees and teachers. This information is compared with policies for state, federal, and private sector employees, to help determine what the most effective way of administering parental leave is, and what additional policies might be recommended.

## **SATELLITE PRESENTATIONS, CON'T.**

### ***SHORT- VS. LONG-TERM APPROACHES TO REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT***

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**Tinacho Chitongo**, Political Science, Class of 2010

*Faculty Mentors: Dr. Paola Cesarini and Dr. Robert Trudeau, Department of Political Science*

*Presentation Type: Formal Presentation*

*Location: Harkins Hall LL13*

This project focuses on the efforts of the International Institute of Rhode Island (IIRI) in assisting newly resettled refugees. The research explores two related questions: 1) how sensitive is IIRI to the long-term needs of resettled refugee families for integration; and 2) what contributions are being made by resettled refugees to the communities in which they assimilate?



## **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Student Engagement Mini-Grants**

Proposal Development Workshop  
Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> - Feinstein 304

Application Deadlines: May 19, 2010; November 15, 2010  
<http://itdp.providence.edu/studentengagement/minigrants09/>

#### **Eligibility**

Faculty, staff, and academic or administrative units are invited to submit proposals. Students can be involved in group or collaborative projects but cannot be sole applicants. Part-time faculty, including those teaching in the College's SCE or graduate programs, are eligible to apply for funds in a collaborative proposal. Each project needs a lead applicant who is a full time employee of the College. Projects that are interdisciplinary in nature are especially encouraged.

#### **Funding Amounts**

Typical grant awards for individuals are expected to range up to \$3,000, while awards for multidisciplinary or cross-departmental projects may be up to \$5,000. Some projects, especially those that may impact a greater number of individuals, may be awarded additional funds. All projects must clearly identify links between proposed activities, expenditures and the goals of increasing student-faculty interaction, promoting active and collaborative learning, and/or enriching educational experiences.

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### **Undergraduate Research Grant Program – Fall 2010**

Application Deadline: April 30<sup>th</sup>  
<http://www.providence.edu/Academic+Affairs/>

#### **Eligibility/Priority**

- Full-time undergraduates with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Junior or senior standing
- Students from all academic disciplines are encouraged to apply
- Preference will be given to students enrolled in a credit earning research course during the Fall semester
- Mentor must be a full-time faculty member at Providence College

#### **Funding for Undergraduate Research**

Funds are intended to cover costs related to conducting individual research. Most awards are expected to be up to \$500, although funding may be granted up to a maximum of \$1,000 if the student's project warrants greater support and funds are available. Items that may be funded (if not already supported through other sources) include:

- General, lab, or media supplies, or other expendable materials related to research;
- Archival copying, photocopying, printing, postage, telephone or communication expenses related to research project or presentation of findings;
- Software, data sets, books, and small equipment, if necessary to conduct research and otherwise unavailable; and
- Travel to libraries, archives, museums, field or research sites, laboratories, research centers, or approved educational institutions to conduct research