



The
**Honors
Program**
of
Meredith College
proudly
welcomes you
to the

NCHA Conference
September 19-20, 2008

*Learning for the
Environment/*
**Environments
for Learning**

2008 NCHA Conference Overview

Friday, September 19

3:00 p.m.	Meredith Science & Math Building (SMB), room 118	Registration begins
4:00 p.m.	Atrium SMB	Poster presentations begin
5:00 p.m.	Atrium SMB	Reception
6:00 p.m.	Belk Dining Hall, Oakwood A & B (lower level)	Dinner
Evening	8:00 p.m.	<p>No scheduled Conference events.</p> <p>Meredith Campus Activities Board presents "Sizzlin' September" Concert featuring Edwin McCain with special guest Brooks Wood Band at Meredith. Gates open at 7 p.m. Rain location is Dorton Arena on the NC State Fairgrounds. Public Ticket Information: Public tickets are \$10. Purchase tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com</p> <p>Alternatively, conference attendees might enjoy the Royal Bean Coffeehouse (located opposite the Hillsborough Street entrance to Meredith College). Coffee, drinks, games, conversation (and wireless internet).</p>

Saturday, September 20

8:00 a.m.	SMB 118	Conference Registration
8:15 a.m.	Atrium SMB	Continental Breakfast
8:15-3:15	Atrium SMB	Poster Presentations
9:00-10:00 a.m.	SMB 162, 260, and 261	Conference Presentations
10:00-11:00 a.m.	SMB 162, 260 and 261	Conference Presentations
11:15-noon	Belk Dining Hall, west side	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Emily Bernhardt
12-1:00 p.m.	Belk Dining Hall, west side	Lunch
1 – 1:45 p.m.	Belk Dining Hall, west side	The "Green Band" — Honors Students' Coalition Focused on the Environment
2:00-3:00 pm	SMB 160, 162, 260, and 261	Conference Presentations
3:15-5:00 p.m.	Greenway and Johnson Hall Rotunda	Walk and talk (viewing environmentally-themed installations)
5:00 pm	Atrium SMB	Closing reception

SMB = Science & Math Building, Meredith College

2008 NCHA Presentation Schedule (Saturday morning)

Location	SMB 162	SMB 260	SMB 261
9-10am	<p>Joy Strickland, Meredith College <i>The "Weaker" Sex? A Study of Female Figures and Gender Equality in Norse Mythology</i> Abstract: The women of Norse mythology were not considered equal to their male counterparts; however, the myths and sagas of the Norse people show that women broke from their gender-appointed roles and demanded respect on the battlefield, in the act of revenge, in giving words of wisdom, and in using magic.</p> <p>Evan Watson, University of North Carolina, Wilmington <i>Catholicism in Antebellum North Carolina</i> Abstract: This research explores the lived experience of Catholics in antebellum North Carolina. It examines the demographics of these individuals, as well as a significant shift from Catholic orthodoxy in their worship practices, which both in turned reduced the intensity of anti-Catholic sentiment compared to that elsewhere in the country.</p> <p>Monica Ball, Winston Salem State University <i>Alexander Rivera: The Story Behind The Photographs</i> Abstract: Alexander Rivera was a photojournalist who captured the Civil Rights Movement and the adverse environment in which he was immersed. I will examine two of Rivera's famous photographs, "For Colored Patrons Only" and "Marian Anderson." The photographs of Rivera tell a story that goes beyond what meets the viewer's eye. Acknowledgements: This research was supported by the North Carolina Museum of History through an internship at the institution. Research was conducted to coincide with the traveling exhibit, <i>Bearing Witness: Civil Rights Photographs of Alexander Rivera</i>. This exhibit is on display from January 5, 2008 to March 1, 2009.</p>	<p>Bryce J. Burton, North Carolina A&T University <i>We can Talk Corn for Chicken Feed: A Comparison of Feeding Programs and Living Environments for Poultry</i> Abstract: It has been hypothesized that a high-yielding poultry feed could be devised from a low energy, high protein composition. In other words, if higher concentrations of protein were added to the diet, would the chickens gain the same weights (or possibly weigh more) as conventionally-fed chickens? This would allow for lesser amounts of corn to be added, while still maintaining industry standards on weight gain. Also, would it make a difference if chicks were raised in pens or if they were allowed free range? The results of this study could have implications for both our economic and physical environment.</p> <p>Megan Yohpe, Meredith College <i>First Year Engineering: A Fountain Design Project</i> Abstract. Engineers not only have to plan, manage, and construct projects in group settings, but must also possess time management and communication skills. Freshman Engineering Design Day at NCSU gave our group the opportunity to design a fountain that was both operational and aesthetically pleasing, while at the same time utilizing the ten steps of the Engineering Design Cycle.</p> <p>Anna Morgante, Meredith College <i>The Research and Reproductive Environment</i> Abstract: Research provides a very different learning environment from that of the classroom. I spent my summer in a mathematics research program at NC State University. The amount of independent learning was significantly higher than that of a classroom setting. My research topic was menstrual cycle modeling. This required a lot of interdisciplinary work between mathematics, computer science, and biology.</p>	<p>Claire Keane, Meredith College <i>My Kiwi Experience</i> Abstract: Spending a semester abroad in New Zealand provided me with multiple opportunities to grow both as a student and a person, and it challenged my "environments" in several ways. Through school and travel, I developed a deeper understanding of myself as well as my own culture. Since returning from New Zealand, I have become more thankful for the experiences I had with nature, especially because I am aware that future generations may not have the same opportunities due to the growing threat of global warming.</p> <p>Margaret Lally, Meredith College <i>Visiting a Land of Poetry: Study Abroad in Ireland</i> Abstract: After taking Irish Literature, I traveled to Ireland in summer 2008 to study and explore, especially the literary tradition. My three week adventure not only brought the literature to life, but also provided an opportunity for immersion in the visual poetry of the landscapes and cities that inspired my beloved writers.</p> <p>Calley Jones, Meredith College <i>Study Abroad with the Presidential Scholars</i> Abstract: Each year, Dr. Hartford, President of Meredith College, travels with the students she selected as recipients of Presidential Scholarships. The destination changes from year to year, chosen primarily by the students. This unique opportunity gives students a chance to explore other cultures and learn ore about themselves in the process.</p>

2008 NCHA Presentation Schedule (Saturday morning)

Location	SMB 162	SMB 260	SMB 261
10-11am	<p>Jonathan McCoy, Talore Harrison, Endya Frye, North Carolina A & T University – Caitlin Brooks, Kai Feliciano, Colin Nolan, UNC Wilmington <i>Providing a Supportive Environment for Learning: Peer Mentoring in Honors</i> Abstract: Some Honors Programs in North Carolina have instituted mentoring or peer advising programs for the benefit of their students. This session will focus on helping student participants understand what mentoring is, what the process of mentoring involves, how to develop and expand mentoring styles, and how to administer a successful program. Student leaders from North Carolina A & T State University and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington will present “best practices.”</p> <p>Jennifer Bonds-Raacke and Jesse Peters, University of North Carolina at Pembroke (Roundtable – 10:20-11am) <i>Best Practices: Increasing the Diversity of Honors College Applicants</i> Abstract. The Maynor Honors College at UNCP has been tracking a trend in the minority status of members. Specifically, the percentage of minority students (excluding sex) has substantially increased in recent years. We will discuss possible reasons for this increase and measures we are taking to maintain diversity in the future.</p>	<p>Sarah McKone, University of North Carolina, Wilmington <i>Non-Traditional Designs of Writing: Multimodality of Composing</i> Abstract: This project investigates the relationship between traditional writing processes and the new processes of composing with digital texts, video and audio. I use a multimodal research design to gather data from ENG 101 and 201 courses. This data will be collected through an online survey and seminar-style focus groups.</p> <p>Matthew Wynne, University of North Carolina-Fayetteville State University <i>Music’s Role in the Learning Environment of the Classroom</i> Abstract: Music played in the classroom environment provides students with a relaxing, learning conducive atmosphere, and makes instructional material more tangible to students in all academic areas. Research has shown that when music is played in the classroom setting that it activates neurons in the brains and strengthens the cognitive ability of students in the classroom setting.</p> <p>Marquelle Turner, Anchalee Frazier, Zerranti McLean Fayetteville State University <i>Educational Learning Environments: Does Gender Really Matter?</i> Abstract: The environment of one’s learning is an essential element in the success or failure of one’s academic career. This research will analyze the cultures of single-gender and co-ed higher learning institutions in an effort to examine how the difference in the atmosphere ultimately affects a student’s professional, social, and academic capabilities.</p>	<p>Aisha Hilliard, Winston Salem State University <i>Microarray Analysis of Arabidopsis Root Sections under Sulfur Deficiency</i> Abstract: Environmental factors affect plant development significantly. Deficiencies in vital nutrients can limit crop production and can also serve to comprehend development. This project uses microarray analysis, which quantifies changes in gene expression, to determine if certain genes are responsible for cell type specific formations that occur in Arabidopsis roots under sulfur deficiency.</p> <p>Tiffany Hoi-Yan Lee, East Carolina University [*co-researcher Joseph A. Miri, Princeton University] <i>Gene Expression in the Oculomotor Neural Integrators of the Zebrafish*</i> Abstract: Persistent neural activity, a sustained change in neural firing in response to transient input, is observed in many brain regions and may be an essential form of brain dynamics. This circuit of dynamic has been associated with short-term memory and memory guided behavior. In order to better understand the mechanisms of persistent neural activity, we study the oculomotor neural integrator of the zebrafish.</p> <p>Morika Williams, North Carolina A&T State University <i>Potential Role of BRG1 and BRM, Components of the SWI/SNF Chromatin Remodeling Complex, in Non-Small Cell Lung Carcinoma (NSCLC) Development</i> Abstract: Lung cancer is the number one cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. In 2004, more people died from lung cancer than breast cancer, colon cancer, and prostate cancer combined. Only 4 out of 10 people with lung cancer are alive one year after diagnosis. Previous reports have shown that epigenetic changes play a key role in lung cancer. This research explores some of the components of the SWI/SNF Chromatin Remodeling Complex to determine if it plays a role in the expression level of specific genes.</p>

2008 NCHA Presentation Schedule (Saturday afternoon)

Location	Belk Dining Hall, West Side
11:15-12	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Emily Bernhardt
12-1 pm	<i>Lunch in Belk Dining Hall</i>
1:00-1:45pm	<p>Jessie Jessup, John Kindy, Stephanie Nordin, Steve Carlisle, Bethel Bower, Nathan White, Raleigh Rumley, Alex Templeton, Western Carolina Univ. <i>The "Green Band": Honors Students' Coalition Focused on the Environment</i> (Following lunch in Belk Dining Hall)</p> <p>An open forum led by student discussion leaders from Western Carolina University to discuss how to create a coalition of Honors Students from across North Carolina and beyond focused on environmental undergraduate research (in all disciplines) and creating greener college campuses. After a brief presentation by students from Western Carolina University, the emphasis of this session will be a discussion about forming such a group and "where to go from here."</p>
2-3 pm	Final Four (Presentation Sessions)
SMB 160	<p>Sanjeeka Silva, Meredith College <i>Tsunamis: The Good and the Bad</i> Abstract: "The ocean is moving in! Run for your life; run to the top most floor of the building!" My best friend recalled these panic stricken screams as she told me about her most terrifying experience – the 2004 Tsunami! What is a tsunami? What is it not? Did any good come out of the 2004 catastrophe?</p> <p>Erin Etheridge and Katie Nagel, Meredith College <i>The gnats of the aves class: How valuable are the hummingbirds of Costa Rica to tourists, Costa Ricans, and guides?</i> Abstract: In 2007, we conducted research concerning hummingbirds for the final project of our Costa Rican study abroad experience. We focused on hummingbirds' impact on the various groups of people present in the nation. Our evidence indicates an appreciation of hummingbirds in Costa Rica for their influence on tourism and biodiversity.</p> <p>Calley Jones, Meredith College <i>Small Mammal Trapping</i> Abstract: <i>Peromyscus leucopus</i> is a rodent found in the fragmented forest on Meredith College campus. It is a prey species and avoids open spaces to avoid predation. Woody debris provides the most abundant form of cover. It is expected to capture more mice in areas with high volume of woody debris.</p> <p>Sara Roberson, Meredith College [with Dr. Erin Lindquist, Meredith College, Department of Biological Sciences] <i>The Effects of Forest Fragmentation on Ectoparasite Loads of Small Mammals on Meredith College Campus</i> Abstract: Urbanization has become increasingly prevalent, but what impact does this have on animal populations? As more forests are destroyed, habitats are shrinking, populations are becoming less healthy, and interactions between species drastically change. This presentation looks at the factors that affect ectoparasite loads on a particular species in the Meredith forest, <i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>.</p>
SMB 162	<p>Bill Atwill, Kate Bruce and Sarah Fann, University of North Carolina, Wilmington <i>NCHC and Partners in the Park: A Model for Local Environmental Stewardship</i> Abstract: Partners in the Park, a cooperative environmental stewardship project between the National Parks Service and the National Collegiate Honors Council, provides a model for experiential learning we can emulate locally. We will discuss our Acadia National Park experience and suggest strategies for using local NC environments to implement similar programs.</p> <p>Brittany Nicolaysen, Bill Atwill and Kate Bruce, University of North Carolina, Wilmington <i>The Real Field Practical: Public Policy and Resource: Management in an Honors Enrichment Course</i> Abstract: Honors 120: Barrier Island Ecology is a cooperative effort between the Bald Head Island Conservancy and the UNCW Honors Program where student research shapes public policy on the island community. Students learn about barrier island environments and their management issues as increasing coastal development interacts with climate change.</p>
SMB 260	<p>Colloquia – Interdisciplinary Honors Courses at Meredith College Francie Cuffney and Walda Powell, <i>The Science behind CSI</i> Susan Kincheloe McClintock, <i>Native American History and Culture</i> Rebecca Duncan and Steven Benko, <i>Thinking the Digital Self</i> Samantha Cibelli and Marie LaHaye, <i>Memory & Memoir</i></p>
SMB 261	<p>Meredith College Office of International Programs <i>Study Abroad Retrospective: The Impact of Study Abroad Experiences for Honors Program Alumnae from Meredith College</i></p>

2008 NCHA Conference: Poster Presentations

Friday-Saturday, September 19-20

<p>Krishna Chagarlamudi and Francie Cuffney <i>Quantification of Pharmaceutical Uptake by Corbicula fluminea</i></p>	<p>Abstract. Pharmaceuticals have been detected in surface waters. This is an emerging environmental issue as little is known of the impact they have on aquatic organisms. This research makes use of quantitative techniques to determine the amount of pollutant removed by <i>Corbicula fluminea</i>, a freshwater bivalve.</p>
<p>Willisa Covington, Fayetteville State University <i>African American Women in Corporate America</i></p>	<p>Abstract: Historically women in business have had to face the ever-present "glass ceiling," but unfortunately for African American women the ceiling is not glass...it is concrete—more dense and harder to penetrate. The strategies that companies have used have proven to be largely ineffective and I believe that they should not be the primary, and certainly not the only approach to obtaining the respect and recognition that Black women in Corporate America want.</p>
<p>Meredith Cowart and Francie Cuffney <i>Morphology of Corbicula fluminea After Exposure to PPCP's</i></p>	<p>Abstract: Pharmaceuticals and personal care products have been detected in freshwater systems. Filter feeders, such as <i>Corbicula fluminea</i>, experience high exposure to PPCP's. Images of the gill cilia produced using a digital camera microscopy indicate crystal accumulation after exposure to acetaminophen and variation in cilia movement after exposed to caffeine.</p>
<p>Kaylan Fisher and Francie Cuffney, Meredith College <i>The Effects of Serotonin on Corbicula fluminea</i></p>	<p>Abstract: A variety of pharmaceuticals have been detected in surface waters. Little is known of their effects on organisms in these systems. The LD-50 was established for serotonin in <i>Corbicula fluminea</i>. While other pharmaceuticals have typically been lethal at levels of 150 – 250 ppm the LD-50 for serotonin was 15 ppm.</p>
<p>Alyssa Johnson, University of North Carolina at Pembroke <i>Sesame Street and Dora: Exploring the Learning Environment of Television for Children</i></p>	<p>Abstract. In this poster, I will present current research on topics related to what children learn from viewing television. Examples will include: mental effort utilized during viewing, prosocial media and positive effects, and advertising in children's television. I conclude by providing suggestions on how parents can use television in the home.</p>
<p>Janice Jones, Fayetteville State University <i>The Educational Environment</i></p>	<p>Abstract. How important is classroom set-up to one's educational experience? Does it really matter if the desks are round or square and/or if the wall color is white or multicolored? When considering our younger children, specifically elementary school-age children, colors and tables really matter. The environmental set-up of a classroom is extremely effective on the learning and stimulation of our children. Let's take a gander into the most effective "Environment for Learning!"</p>

2008 NCHA Conference: Poster Presentations

Friday-Saturday, September 19-20

	<p>Kelly Niccum, University of North Carolina at Pembroke <i>Would you see a psychologist?: Inappropriate portrayals of psychologists in the media</i></p>	<p>Abstract: This poster will discuss what consumers of media learn about psychologists through television portrayals. Specifically, I will highlight four commonly depicted inappropriate behaviors engaged in by psychologists on television (breaking boundaries, sexual relations with clients, physical assault, and violating confidentiality) and discuss why these are of concern to the field.</p>
	<p>Jorge Piocuda, University of North Carolina at Pembroke <i>Video Games as a Learning Environment: A Self-Study</i></p>	<p>Abstract. To begin, I reviewed literature on the effects of playing video games. Next, I tested my own behavior by systematically varying the type of video game that I played (e.g., violent / nonviolent) and recording physiological responses before and after play (e.g., heart rate). Results are compared to previous findings.</p>
	<p>Josie Torrence and Anna Queen, University of North Carolina at Pembroke <i>Teaching Patterns across the World: America, China, and France</i></p>	<p>Abstract. Our research study is a comparison of the teaching patterns and learning behaviors among the youth of America, China, and France. We will compare American middle school and high school levels up to the equivalence of American EOG tests and SATs, to the tests required in other countries.</p>