

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATIONS (SPRING 2013)

Paul A. Lizotte, Ph.D.*

Professor, Department of English and Communications, Rivier University

Meghan Farrell Monday, April 22, 2013, 12:00pm-1:00pm ED301

Title: “The Adhesive Abilities of *Hemidactylus frenatus*”

Director: Dr. Benjamin Philip

This thesis focuses on the adhesive abilities of *Hemidactylus frenatus*, the common house gecko, and how they can be affected. I focused specifically on three different aspects. I looked at how different surfaces, wet vs. dry surfaces, and if temperature can affect the adhesive abilities of *H. frenatus*.

Kenna Finlayson Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 11:00am-12:00pm ED301

Title: “The Use of Biological Control as an Alternative to Chemical Pesticides”

Director: Dr. Susan Barbara

The use of chemicals to control insect pests has brought about many issues in the agricultural world. The development of resistance to chemical pesticides by insects as well as the harmful effects they have on the environment and to human safety have become major issues associated with chemical pesticides. An alternative to these chemical pesticides lies in the use of biological control. This type of pest control is the science and technology of controlling pests with natural enemies. One up and coming biological control agent is the fungi *Beauveria bassiana*. Although there are still issues with its use, with continued research and much persistence the use of biological control will have great success in regulating pest insects across the globe.

Christi Pratte Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 1:00pm-2:00pm ED301

Title: “Learning Styles and Homework Interactions”

Director: Prof. Diane Connell

Research in the field of Mind-Body Education has shown that the manner in which teachers interact with their students may affect student engagement, success, and learning. Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences has provided researchers with an ideal way to examine the academic and emotional effectiveness of teacher-student interactions. In many ways, a parent helping a child with homework can be regarded in a similar role to that of a "teacher." This present study examines the dynamics that exist between the parents and children when parents are engaged in helping their son or daughter with homework.

Kayla Norton Thursday, April 25, 2013, 10:00am-11:00am ED205

Title: “Disgust, Morality, and Stereotypes”

Director: Prof. Jerome Rekart

This paper looks at the origins of the emotion disgust, how it has evolved over time, and why it is still relevant today. It also looks at the relationship between disgust and morality, and if such a relationship exists. The link between morality and stereotypes is also presented, focusing on if disgust has any real influence on stereotypes and the way we look at others.

Sarah Fronckwicz Monday, April 29, 2013, 12:30pm-1:30pm ED301

Title: “Leadership Styles Across Organization Types”

Director: Prof. Patrice O’Donnell

This paper discusses past and current research on leadership styles across organizational cultures. It examines the exploration of leadership, which led to the understanding of a difference between task-focused leading and people/relationship-centered leading. Three major styles of leadership: transactional, transformational, and laissez-faire leadership are discussed, and more recent research involving servant leadership is touched upon. The role which followers play in this dynamic is also investigated. The effects of the chosen leadership style on the followers are addressed, especially in terms of the different types of organizations within which they. Non-profit and for-profit organizations are described and analyzed to determine if the type of organization will call for a certain leadership style.

Sarah Howard Thursday, May 2, 2013, 1:00pm-2:00pm ED301

Title: “The Indigenous Rights Movement in Latin America”

Director: Prof. Barry Jackson

This thesis focuses on the Latin American Indigenous Rights Movement and the policies that were set in place at the both the local and national level. I will examine three communities affected by these policies, including the Mayan Zapatista movement in Chiapas.

Brittany Hewey Thursday, May 2, 2013, 4:00pm-5:00pm ED301

Title: “Examining the Overbooked Student”

Director: Dr. Naomi Schoenfeld

The project examines the activities that college students participate in and the stress that they report that comes from those activities.

* **PAUL A. LIZOTTE**, Ph.D., is Professor of the Department of English and Communications at Rivier University. He received a Ph.D. (English) from Pennsylvania State University, M.A. (English) from the University of Virginia, and A.B. (English, Minor in Philosophy) from Boston College. Dr. Lizotte specializes in British Romantic and Victorian Poetry, 19th Century British Novel, Modern American Poetry, Literature of the Environment, and Literary Theory and Criticism. He is a Member of the Rivier Faculty since 1980 serving as Chair of the English and Communications Department for nine years (1983-1992). Currently, Dr. Lizotte is the Director of the University’s Honors Program, and Director of the Freshman Writing Seminar program.