Undergraduate Research

2012: 7th Annual Undergraduate/Graduate Research Conference

The Department of English will hold its 7th Annual English Department Undergraduate/Graduate Research Conference on February 10-11, 2012. This conference allows students in all three undergraduate tracks and in the M.A. and M.A.T. programs the opportunity to submit their work to a juried competition and, if selected, to make a professional presentation that is attended by students, faculty, the Winthrop community, and the general public. The Conference has grown substantially over the years: it now consists of a Creative Reading (as a cultural event) on Friday night, poster sessions and a reception on Friday afternoon, and an all-day conference with free lunch and a speaker on Saturday. In 2011, the Winthrop Literary Society also held a book sale to raise money for departmental writing awards; this was a great success and we hope this will become part of the tradition.

The Program:

Friday February 10

4-6 PM  Used Book Sale to benefit the Winthrop Literary Society and Departmental Awards, outside 114 DIGS

6-7 PM  Poster Presentations by Cayla Eagon, Kim Farrier, Raven Gadsden, Brianna Sanders, Miri Smith, and Joanna Tepper, 114 DIGS (refreshments provided)

7-8 PM  Creative Showcase, Dina’s Place. Readings by Professors Jane Smith and Bryan Ghent and student writers Raven Gadsden, Alex Muller, Mirielle Smith, and Patrick Bryant. APPROVED CULTURAL EVENT!!!

Saturday February 11

Coffee and Goodies: 8:30-9:00
Welcome and Introduction: 9:00—9:15 a.m. : Dr. Leslie Bickford

Panel I: 9:15—10:15 a.m. Critical Approaches to Shakespeare. Chair: Dr. Matthew Fike
2. Aaron Everhart, “‘Thanks, Noble Peer’: Shakespeare’s Richard II and its Counterpart in Holinshed”

Water and Coffee Break: 10:15—10:30 a.m.

Panel II: 10:30—11:30 a.m. Mirrors and Monsters: Criminality and Creatures in 19th-Century Novels. Chair: Dr. Amanda Hiner
1. Lauren Thompson, “Monsters as Mirrors: The Case of Frankenstein”
2. Amanda Covington, “Re-evaluating the Criminal: Poe’s Sympathetic Narrative”
3. Jessica Barber, “ ‘When is She Sybil Vane, or When is She Acting?’: The Mutable Nature of Sybil Vane and its Effects on Dorian in The Picture of Dorian Gray”

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. (Lunch is provided for all attendees!)

Keynote Address: 12:00—12:45 p.m.
Introducing our Speaker: Dr. Casey Cothran
Featured Speaker: Dr. Robert Prickett, “Reading the Past, Composing the Future: Unbound Texts and Transmedia Storytelling in Digital Young Adult Literature”

Water and Coffee Break: 12:45—1:00 p.m.

Panel III: 1:00—2:00 p.m. Class, Consumerism, and Colonialism: Challenging Hegemony through Narrative. Chair: Dr. Siobhan Brownson

1. Allison Howard, “Catch 22: A Postcolonial Perspective”
3. Aubrey Gillespie, “Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby: A Prophetic Commentary on the Jazz Age Consumerism Culture Through Advertising, Cinema, and Print Media”