As a culminating experience for the master's degree program, the thesis attests to the highest level of the student’s academic, scholarly, and creative abilities. Each student works under the guidance of a faculty thesis chair and committee. The resulting thesis is viewed with pride as a reflection of the scholarly promise of the student and a commitment to excellence for the university. This summer and fall 2004, 51 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of Summer/Fall 2004 theses by college/school and some research highlights.

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education**

**Catherine Gilbert** (read ABSTRACT)
The Effects of Phytoestrogen Consumption on Cattle Reproduction  
(*Chair: Randy Perry*)

**Monica Harris** (read ABSTRACT)
Control of Digital Dermatitis on a California Commercial Dairy With a *Treponema* Bacterin Vaccine  
(*Chair: Jon Robison*)

**Child, Family, and Consumer Sciences**

**Jackie Flannery** (read ABSTRACT)
Adolescent Drinking Tendencies in a Sample of Rural, Central California High School Students  
(*Chair: Michele Kilner*)

**Lora Reynolds** (read ABSTRACT)
The Evaluation and Effects of a Nutrition Course on Secondary School Students Within the Central Valley of California  
(*Chair: Carolyn Berry Jackson*)

**Food Science and Nutrition**

**Sholeh Shahrokhi** (read ABSTRACT)
Evaluation of Methods Used to Calculate the Estimated Energy Expenditure for Physiologically Stressed Obese Patients  
(*Chair: Sandra Witte*)

Sholeh Shahrokhi’s belief that obese patients should not be excluded from aggressive and adequate nutrition support during acute and critical care was the foundation for her thesis. Using a case series approach, her study determined the most reliable method of calculating energy requirements for physiologically stressed obese patients. With over 30 million Americans now considered obese, Sholeh Shahrokhi’s thesis offers timely original insight into a national problem.
Are artificial intelligence and Expert Systems (ES) now more favored than human intuition and judgment when it comes to executive decision-support activity? Mario Rosso found out in this unique thesis that asked this and other questions via Web-based survey of 68 randomly sampled executive-level decision makers.

**Industrial Technology**

Mario Rosso (read ABSTRACT)
The Impact of Expert Systems on the Performance of Corporate Strategic Decision Making
(Chair: Tony Au)

**Plant Science**

Sebastian Guillen (read ABSTRACT)
Developing Base Crop Coefficients for Irrigation Management of Lettuce Growth in the San Joaquin Valley of California
(Chair: Mahlon Hile)

David Jamison (read ABSTRACT)
Effects of Nitrogen Source and Amount on Lettuce Yield
(Chair: Sharon Benes)

Kimberly Senatore (read ABSTRACT)
Determination of Hydraulic Parameters for Soils Irrigated With Recycled Saline-Sodic Drainage Water
(Chair: Sharon Benes)

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

**English**

Sergio Casillas (read ABSTRACT)
Fashioning an Academic and Social Identity in Often-Shifting Contexts
(Chair: Anthony Michel)

Karl Federspiel (read ABSTRACT)
Ravenswood Blues
(Chair: Lillian Faderman)

Ethan Meyer (read ABSTRACT)
In Pursuit of Happiness: The Spiritual Landscape of Hemingway’s Nick Adams
(Chair: John Hales)

Michael Roberts (read ABSTRACT)
The Particulars of Being
(Chair: Connie Hales)

Lea Steele (read ABSTRACT)
The Artistry of Running
(Chair: John Hales)

Tara Valdez (read ABSTRACT)
Parade of Beauties
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

Poems in The Particulars of Being have appeared in 18 different publications, including The Midwest Poetry Review, Whiststone, and The California Quarterly. The manuscript has also been published in book form by In the Grove Press.
**Mass Communication and Journalism**

Marietta Dalpez (read ABSTRACT)
Diversity Retention Strategies at American Daily Newspapers
(Chair: Paul Adams)

Shanshan You (read ABSTRACT)
Envelope Journalism in China
(Chair: Gary Rice)

Marietta Dalpez surveyed 41 of the country’s top 100 daily newspapers to determine the most effective human resource strategies for retaining top minority journalists.

**Finance and Business Law**

Frederica Dewi (read ABSTRACT)
Pricing Structured Notes: The Case of Stock Participation Accreting Redemption Quarterly-Pay Securities (SPARQS) Issued by Morgan Stanley
(Chair: K.C. Chen)

Lai-Ching Kuo (read ABSTRACT)
A Financial Valuation Study of Dell, Inc.
(Chair: K.C. Chen)

**Kinesiology**

Darpan Patel (read ABSTRACT)
The Effect of Creatine and/or Creatine and Caffeine Ingestion on Wingate Performance and Lower Extremity Muscle Function and Recruitment
(Chair: Felicia Greer)

Kristen Mattox (read ABSTRACT)
Perceptions of High School Female Athletics: The Lesbian Label, Homophobia, and Sport Participation
(Chair: Jenelle N. Gilbert)

**Nursing**

LaSonya Davis (read ABSTRACT)
The Prevalence of Child Obesity in the Fresno Unified School District
(Chair: Michael Russler)

Alice Evans (read ABSTRACT)
Illness Representation and High-Risk Behaviors Related to Self-Care Symptom Management in Persons With HIV/AIDS
(Chair: Ken M. Kirksey)

LaSonya Davis examined the problem of child obesity in a local school district, a timely study given recent figures released by the American Heart Association (December 2004), which show that more than 10 percent of American children from 2 to 5 are overweight, up from 7 percent in 1994.
Public Health

Phyllis Adams  (read ABSTRACT)
The Influence of W. E. Deming's Management Principles on Absenteeism in a Federal Public Health Inspection Project
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Christina Ledesma  (read ABSTRACT)
Female Hispanic Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers and Their Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs About Fruit and Vegetable Intake
(Chair: Miguel Perez)

Sasha Nuñez  (read ABSTRACT)
Perceived Health Needs of a Selected Latino Population of Low Socioeconomic Status in Fresno, California
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Jeff Taber  (read ABSTRACT)
The Effect of Mandated Food Safety Certification in Kings County, California on the Occurrence of Risk Factors Associated With Foodborne Illness
(Chair: Sandra Donahue)

KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum and Instruction

Tami Espinosa  (read ABSTRACT)
The Advantages of Looping in Elementary Education
(Chair: Joe Parks)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Biology

Bonnie Glosier  (read ABSTRACT)
Characterization of Phytophthora capsici Isolates on Pepper for Virulence, Metalaxyl Resistance, and Mating Type
(Chair: James Prince)

Krystal Greene  (read ABSTRACT)
The Annual Cycle and Distribution of the Avifauna in Select Ponding Basins in Fresno, California
(Chair: Stephen Ervin)

Samantha Hageman  (read ABSTRACT)
Regulation of Hemagglutinin/Protease (HAP) in Classical and El Tor Biotype Vibrio cholerae Strains
(Chair: Alice Wright)

DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Monet Hudspeth (read ABSTRACT)
Standardization of a Rapid Flow Cytometry Method for Yeast Antifungal Susceptibility Using NCCLS Macrodiution and Microdiution M-27A Method and the Antifungals Caspofungin and Fluconazole  
(Chair: Alice Wright)

Mark Schreiber (read ABSTRACT)
Cloning and Characterization of Repetitive DNA in Pepper (Capsicum annuum)  
(Chair: James Prince)

Kurt Sterling (read ABSTRACT)
Evolution of Regulatory Elements in the 2,4 Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid Pathway  
(Chair: Alice Wright)

Chemistry

Ray Dickinson (read ABSTRACT)
Master Equation Calculations of Hydroxy Radical Production From Small Vinoxy Radicals  
(Chair: Alam Hassen)

Panaela Mejloumian (read ABSTRACT)
Dehydration of Tertiary Alcohol  
(Chair: Ronald Marhenke)

Saddam Muthana (read ABSTRACT)
Measurements of Effective Henry’s Law Constants for Hydrogen Peroxide in Concentrated Salt Solutions  
(Chair: Alam Hassen)

Alan Preston (read ABSTRACT)
Enantioselective Conjugate Addition of Thiophenol to 2-Cyclohexen-1-One  
(Chair: Saeed Attar)

Samer Qutob (read ABSTRACT)
Isolation and Purification of Angiogenesis Inhibitor from Flemingia macrophylla  
(Chair: Kin-Ping Wong)

Gail Walker (read ABSTRACT)
Laboratory Studies of the Solubility of Atmospherically Important Compounds in Salt Solutions  
(Chair: Alam Hassen)

Geology

Kerry Workman-Ford (read ABSTRACT)
Evidence for Pre-K/T Extirpation of Marine Reptiles and Dinosaurs of the Moreno Formation, Fresno County, California  
(Chair: Fraka Harmsen)

It was a busy year for the graduate program in Chemistry. Students completed seven theses in 2004, six of those in the summer and fall terms. Ray Dickinson, Saddam Muthana, and Gail Walker investigated air pollution in their theses, contributing to the body of work aimed at improving air quality in the Valley and beyond.

Kerry Workman-Ford’s thesis is one of very few to examine the stratigraphic positions of marine reptiles and dinosaurs in Central California. Her work investigated the extinction of these organisms, specifically examining the timing of their extirpation and the factors evoked to explain their demise.
**Psychology**

Keri Machado (read ABSTRACT)
Self-Modeling as a Treatment for Decreasing Disruptive Classroom Behavior in a 12-year-old Male Student  
*(Chair: Karen Carey)*

Joanna Murguia (read ABSTRACT)  
Effectiveness of Social Norms Marketing to Reduce Risky Drinking Behavior Among Hispanics  
*(Chair: Lynnette Zelezný)*

Robin Peters (read ABSTRACT)  
The Accuracy of Student, Parent, and Teacher Judgments of Student Academic Achievement  
*(Chair: Paul Price)*

Katherine Poole (read ABSTRACT)  
The Gap Between Research and Practice in the Assessment of Parental Attachment in Foster Children: What Are the Current Practices and How Can They Be Improved?  
*(Chair: Jean Ritter)*

Junko Sakai (read ABSTRACT)  
Imagery Mnemonic Versus Context Learning: Effects on Kanji Retention  
*(Chair: Karl Oswald)*

Patricia Small (read ABSTRACT)  
Effects of Graphic Feedback on Reading Fluency  
*(Chair: Karen Carey)*

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**History**

Rebecca Ibrahim (read ABSTRACT)  
The Roles and Status of Ancient Egyptian Women of the Pharaonic Period  
*(Chair: Victor Hanson)*

Amy Lawrence (read ABSTRACT)  
Minnie Eshleman Sherman: Agricultural Pioneer, Social Activist, City Mother  
*(Chair: Ephraim Smith)*

Christopher McColm (read ABSTRACT)  
Historical-Cultural Contexts of American Film Noir in the 1970s  
*(Chair: Jill Fields)*

**Political Science**

Donna Small  
Identification of Sexual Risk Behaviors Among Fresno, California Area African American High School Students  
*(Chair: James Aldredge)*

**According to U.S. government data, children’s reading performance has not improved in over 15 years. Can graphic feedback help? Patricia Small studied Fresno schoolchildren to find out.**

**History**

Amy Lawrence investigates one of Fresno’s earliest and most significant agricultural and civic leaders, Minnie Eshleman Sherman, providing what may be the most comprehensive look yet into the life of this Fresno pioneer.

**Christopher McColm examines 1970s America and how the culture influenced the film-noir genre in 12 of the decade’s most notable films.**