

thesis review 2007

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 spring 2007 semester, 65 students completed dissertations and theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of spring 2007 publications by college/school and some research highlights.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Food Science and Nutrition

Melissa Kendra Guerra-Martinez (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Determinants of Milk Type Selection Among Hispanic Mothers
in a California WIC Program
(Chair: Sandra Witte)



Plant Science

Jeremy Brooks Bahne (read [ABSTRACT](#))
The Development of a Triploid Clone Through Endosperm
Tissue Culture of *Sapium Sebiferum* (L.) Roxb.
(Chair: James Farrar)

Jeremy Bahne seeks to develop a seedless variety of the Chinese Tallow tree to decrease its invasiveness, which has become detrimental to native plant species in many parts of the U.S.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Communication

Dawn Marie McIntosh (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Staging the Critical Functions of Identity:
An Ethnography of Latina Drag Queens
(Chair: Shane Morman)

Creative Writing—Master of Fine Arts

Jefferson Beavers (read [ABSTRACT](#))
What Can't Be Erased
(Chair: John Hales)



Ricardo Garza (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Kill the Dog
(Chair: *Connie Hales*)

Guiseppe Getto (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Psychoagricultural
(Chair: *Connie Hales*)

Nigel Medhurst (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Public Grooming and the American Dream
(Chair: *Steve Yarbrough*)

Deanna Pierro (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Something More than Tongues
(Chair: *Steve Yarbrough*)

John Rabb (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Swinging for the Fences
(Chair: *John Hales*)

Jennifer Raimondo (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Stories from the Mainland
(Chair: *Steve Yarbrough*)

Sylvia Savala (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Paper Moon
(Chair: *John Hales*)

Brian Wall (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Outs in Free
(Chair: *Linnea Alexander*)

English

Travis Justin Koll (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Restoring Hardy's Fate
(Chair: *Ruth Jenkins*)

Toby Suzan Roberts (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Wartalk: Tim O'Brien's Postmodern Rhetoric of
the Vietnam War in The Things They Carried
(Chair: *Rick Hansen*)

Heidi Aranka Wilson (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Unveiled: An Examination of Jane Austen's Betrothal Scenes
(Chair: *John Beynon*)

Raymond Winter (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Re-mything Nature: Walt Whitman as an Ancestral Origin of Ecofeminist
Literature
(Chair: *Lyn Johnson*)

Travis Koll challenges more popular notions of Thomas Hardy as pessimist, arguing instead that Hardy's ideal is a "world in which the helpless are helped, the starving are fed, the grieving are comforted, and those most in need of mercy are granted it." Travis's thesis won "Honorable Mention" in the 2006-2007 Outstanding Thesis Award.



Mass Communication and Journalism

Laine Joy Hendricks (read [ABSTRACT](#))
The Uses and Preferences for Reality Television
Viewing Among Age, Sex, and Race
(Chair: *Tamyra Pierce*)

Patrick Hescox (read [ABSTRACT](#))
College Student News Motivations
(Chair: *Tamyra Pierce*)

Rasha Mohamed (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Where are the Real Arabs and Muslims? A Content Analysis of the Portrayals of Arabs and Muslims in Online Print and Video News Reports
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

Rasha Mohamad finds that Western media stereotype Arabs and Muslims, framing “the Arab World and Islam as synonymous with terrorism, war, violence, and religious hysteria.”

Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

Maria Elvira Hernandez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Concha espina: Una perspectiva feminista
(Chair: Debbie Avila)

Maria de Lourdes Pineda (read [ABSTRACT](#))

El libre albedrío vs. predestino en La vida es sueño y El condenado por desconfiado
(Chair: Saul Jiménez-Sandoval)

Norma Ramirez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Mujeres sin escape: Crítica feminista en dos novelas de Carmen de Burgos, La flor de la playa y El perseguidor
(Chair: Saul Jiménez-Sandoval)

Brenda Soto (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Esperanza y desesperanza en la vision Marxista de Baldomero Lillo y Jose Emilio Pacheco
(Chair: Saul Jiménez-Sandoval)



CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Master of Business Administration

Ruby Leonor Camagay Tangonen (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Employer Investment in Wellness Programs: Implications for Fresno Business Firms as Learning Organizations
(Chair: Rafael Solis)

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Civil and Geomatics Engineering and Construction

Martin Paquette (read [ABSTRACT](#))

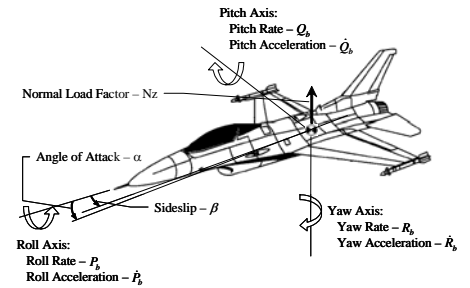
A Toolbox of Computation Methods for the Problem of Double Proportion Corner Restoration in the United States Public Land System
(Chair: James Crossfield)



Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Randolph Thompson (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Using an Artificial Neural Network to Predict Flight Loads for Maneuver Envelope Expansion of a Modern Aircraft
(Chair: Walter Loscutoff)



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies

Ericka Olsen (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Generalization of Personalized Cueing to Enhance Word Finding in Natural Settings
(Chair: Donald Freed)

Health Science

Robert Layne Clegg (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Rate of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Cases and Mothers Who Lacked Regularly Scheduled Prenatal Care Visits in Fresno County, California Between 1992 and 1998
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Tonantzin Eva Soto (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Disparities in Adequate Prenatal Care Among Immigrant Women in the United States
(Chair: John Capitman)

Jessica Woody (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Gross Alpha Levels in Private Drinking Water Wells in Foothill Areas of the Sierra Nevada, California
(Chair: Sandra Donohue)



Kinesiology

Alan Bontya (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Challenge of Being an Intercollegiate Athlete: A Balance Between Academics and Athletics
(Chair: Catherine Jackson)

Lisa Leininger (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Comparing Perception of Exertion and Enjoyment Between Exergaming and Treadmill Exercise
(Chair: Jenelle Gilbert)



Brittany Loney (read [ABSTRACT](#))
The UNIFORM: A High School Sport
Psychology Intervention
(Chair: *Jenelle Gilbert*)

Adam Smith (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Body Appearance and Physical Activity
Attitudes and Behaviors Among Urban Middle
School Youth
(Chair: *Wade Gilbert*)

Nursing

Nichole Lynn Juarez (read [ABSTRACT](#))
The Effect of Alcohol-Based and Alcohol-Free Hand Sanitizer on Subsequent Bacterial Growth
(Chair: *Michael Russler*)

Carol Richina (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Opioid Detoxification: The Relationship of Anxiety and Physical
Withdrawal Symptoms to Addiction Treatment Program Compliance
(Chair: *Sylvia Miller*)

Lee Sandy Vang (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Perception of Hypertension and Antihypertensive Medication
Compliance in the Elderly Hmong Population
(Chair: *Janine Spencer*)



Social Work Education

Rosemary Dobney (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Public Child Welfare Social Workers' Personal Feelings About Their Sibling Relationships and
Their Impact on Their Professional Practices Regarding Sibling Placements in Foster Care
(Chair: *Debra Harris*)

“The social work practitioner is taught to help at-risk populations, which typically include the poor and homeless; abused and neglected children and adults; people of color, women, recent refugees, the chronically mentally ill, developmentally disabled, and the physically ill or disabled; substance abusers; criminal offenders; and the aged.”

—*CSU, Fresno*
Department of Social Work

Kelly Christine Mancuso (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Reunification Outcomes in Methamphetamine
Abusing Families
(Chair: *Virginia Hernandez*)

Yvette Renee Nealy (read [ABSTRACT](#))
People Who Are Deaf: Perceptions and
Perspectives on Education, Family, and Work
Life
(Chair: *Debra Harris*)

Leticia Noriega (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Caregiver Satisfaction with the Transition of
Children's Mental Health Services from a
Private, Nonprofit to Public Service Venue
(Chair: *Debra Harris*)

Michelle Salazar (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Young Family Caregivers: An Invisible Population
(Chair: Debra Harris)

Zang Xiong (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Hmong Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: An
Exploratory Study
(Chair: Anne Petrovich)



KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Joint Doctorate in Educational Leadership

Jose Moreno Castaneda
Effect of Hispanic National Origin on Salary Differential for Male
Elementary School Principals: A Structured Analysis to Explore the
Existence and Implications (Chair: I Phillip Young)

Susan Cox (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Examining the Impact of Asthma on the Provision of Equitable
Educational Attainment for Elementary School Students of the
San Joaquin Valley (Chair: Susan Tracz)

Sharon Cathleen Davis (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Second Language Acquisition Strategies and Methods in the
Classroom: A Study of CLAD Certified Teachers as Mandated by
No Child Left Behind Legislation
(Chair: Karen Carey)

Elida Garza (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Collective Bargaining as a Possible Factor in Title I Schools' Response Measures to Close the
Achievement Gap Between White (Non-Hispanic) and Latino Students
(Chair: James Marshall)

Laurie Beth Goodman
Leadership Practices in California Middle Schools: Sustaining
Organizational Change That Promotes Student Academic Success
(Chair: Joseph Castro)

May Thao Moua (read [ABSTRACT](#))
An Investigation of Factors Impacting Hmong Students' Completion
of a 4-Year Post-Secondary Degree
(Chair: Sharon Brown-Welty)

Pa Pam Vue (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Factors That Contribute Towards and/or Impede Hmong Women
from Obtaining a Higher Education Degree
(Chair: Sharon Brown-Welty)

The doctoral dissertation is the culminating experience for doctoral studies in the Joint Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership—an interdisciplinary doctoral program between California State University, Fresno and the University of California. In 2005-06, seven students completed dissertations, demonstrating the highest level of scholarship. Since the program's inception in 1991, 95 students have completed requirements for the Joint Doctoral Program.

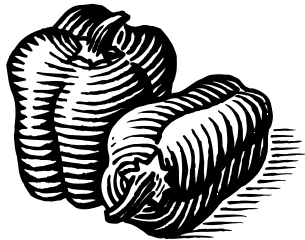


Mui Vuong (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Effects of Self-Efficacy on First-Generation College Sophomore Students
(Chair: Sharon Brown-Welty)



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS



Biology

Linda Donnelly (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Resistance Gene Analogs in Pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) and Their Relationship to *Phytophthora capsici* Resistance Genes
(Chair: Jim Prince)

Denise Lynn Lopez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Mycobacterium smegmatis mc² 155 *fbiC* and MSMEG_2392 Are Involved in Triphenylmethane Dye Degradation and Coenzyme F420 Biosynthesis
(Chair: Mamta Rawat)

Ryan Lopez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Soil Moisture Patterns in Sierra Nevada Mixed-Conifer Forest
(Chair: John Constable)

Earth and Environmental Sciences

Marlon Mauricio Jean (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Central Sierra Nevada Volcanic Field of California:
A Geochemical Study of a Transitional Arc
(Chair: Keith Putirka)



Psychology

Tammie Lynn Fay (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Girl Power! Curriculum Developing a Healthy Body Image: Effectiveness in Reducing Negative Body Image Ideals Among Adolescent Females
(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)



Jennifer Fiedler (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Characteristics of Bullying Interventions and Effectiveness of a Middle School Peer Mediation Program
(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

Danielle Meijer (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Undergraduate Psychology Students' Ability to Transfer Critical Thinking Skills
(Chair: Paul Price)

“Students in the School Psychology program have obtained positions in school systems throughout California and in several other states as school psychologists. Their research over the years has included studies in social anxiety, child sexual abuse, dropout intervention, interprofessional collaboration, and ethnic self-concept comparisons.”

—CSU, Fresno
Department of
Psychology

Farah Janell Mohammadi (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Social Skills Training: Are There Long-Term Effects?
(Chair: Karen Carey)

Cassie Muratore (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Using Parent Recording and Graphic Feedback to Enhance Treatment Integrity and Adherence in In-Home Programs
(Chair: Jennifer Austin)

Jennifer Soeda (read [ABSTRACT](#))
The Importance of Function in Treatment Selection for Children With Minor Behavior Problems
(Chair: Jennifer Austin)

Tara Whitener (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Special Education Students’ Perspectives on Special Education Placement and Programs
(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Criminology

David Cyrus Pyrooz (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Risk Factors of Gang Membership: Results from an Analysis of Self-Reported Gang Members in the Fresno County, California Jail
(Chair: Jerome Jackson)

David Pyrooz’s findings reflect a “new class of gang member,” one who trends toward low self-control and longer duration as part of a gang family. David’s thesis was nominated by his college as its nominee to the 2006-2007 Outstanding Thesis Award.

History

Denise Best (read [ABSTRACT](#))
A Battle of a Different Nature: Civilians Who Were on Wake Island and Their Fight for Compensation After World War II
(Chair: Melissa Jordine)

Patricia Ann Gostanian (read [ABSTRACT](#))
Profile of a Roman Citizen: A Prosopographical Study of Cn. Cornelius Lentulus Marcellinus
(Chair: David Berkey)

