

thesis review 2008

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 2008 semester, 69 students completed theses and dissertations in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of spring 2008 publications by college/school and some research highlights.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education

Tyler Colburn (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Elimination of Alfalfa Hay from the Diets of High-Producing Dairy Cows: Effects on Milk Production

(Chair: Jon Robison)



Nicholas Falcone (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effect of LT4 on Milk Production, Milk Components, Serum Mineral Status, and Serum Hormone Status in Lactating Dairy Cows

(Chair: Jon Robison)

◀ Dairy farming is the leading agricultural commodity in California, producing \$7.3 billion in annual sales in 2007. (California Department of Food and Agriculture)

Jose Francisco Sarmiento (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effect of Selenized-Yeast on Health of Periparturient Dairy Cows

(Chair: Jon Robison)

Food Science and Nutrition

Analisa Woodward (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Beliefs and Behaviors of College Students Toward Weight Management

(Chair: Sandra Witte)

◀ Analisa Woodward focuses her research on dietary practices in relation to preventable disease in a sample of college-aged subjects.



Plant Science

Namratha Pulla Reddy Gari (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Optimizing Nitrogen Rates for Organic Vegetables Subjected to Airjection® Irrigation

(Chair: Dave Goorahoo)



Viticulture and Enology

Olga Karapanou (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Wine Grape Yeast Interactions
(Chair: Roy Thornton)

◀ Olga Karapanou's thesis received a \$500 Honorable Mention prize in the 2007-2008 Outstanding Thesis Award competition.



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Creative Writing—Master of Fine Arts

Neal Blaikie (read [ABSTRACT](#))

A Queenless Box of Bees
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

Erin Cook (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Fly
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

Mark Roberts (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Trying to Connect
(Chair: Steven Church)



Liz Scheid (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Hypervigilance
(Chair: Connie Hales)

Eric Smith (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Facing the Inevitable
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

*"Before her body split through worlds,
she was caught between there & here,
where her eyes first understood light."*

English

Christopher Estep (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Polycultural Theory: Liberating Complexity in American Texts
(Chair: Richard Hansen)

Karla Bulsterbaum Hess (read [ABSTRACT](#))

"Making Sense" in the Center: In Support of Writing
Center-Based Collaborative Writing Groups
(Chair: Magdalena Gilewicz)



◀ Karla Hess provides a model for genuine collaboration and mutual respect in writing center-based writing groups.

Sheri McClure-Baker (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Live to Speak: Power, Language, and Gender in Three Gothic Novels
(Chair: Toni Wein)

Susan McLenithan (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Race, Literacy, and Language: Pedagogy to Build Bridges and Cross Borders
(Chair: Richard Hansen)

Benjamin Ovando (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Ideo-Linguistic Rhetoric: Negotiating Signification and Ideology in
Victorian Novels
(Chair: Ruth Jenkins)

Maria Verdian (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Staging *The Woodlanders*
(Chair: Clare-Marie Wall)

◀ Maria Verdian's thesis includes an adaptation to theatrical script of Thomas Hardy's novel *The Woodlanders*.



Mass Communication and Journalism

Faith Sidlow (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Consumption of News among Various Age Groups:
Traditional Media Versus New Media

(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

Zoua Vang (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Hmong Radio: Its Listeners and Objectivity of the News

(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)



Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

Sylvia Mejía (read [ABSTRACT](#))

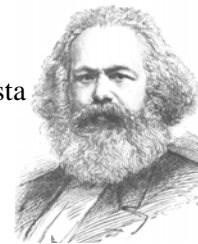
La salvación del hombre en el verso de César Vallejo: Una perspectiva Marxista

(Chair: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval)

Ana Pineda (read [ABSTRACT](#))

La técnica de la interrupción en la obra *Al filo del agua*

(Chair: Cosme Zaragoza)



CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Master of Business Administration

Ann Townsend (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Fear and Loathing in Steinbeck Country: Factors Affecting Technology Change and Skill Acquisition in a Central California School District

(Chair: Rudy Sanchez)

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Mechanical Engineering

Jason Cudnik (read [ABSTRACT](#))

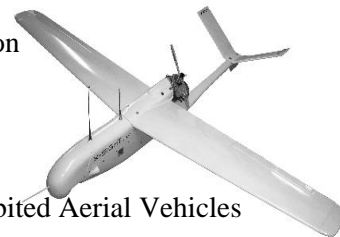
Flow Path Analysis of a Prandtl-Meyer All-External Expansion
Aerospike Nozzle

(Chair: Walter Loscutoff)

Curtis Hanson (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Cooperative Autonomous Thermal Soaring for Small Uninhabited Aerial Vehicles

(Chair: Walter Loscutoff)



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies

Katie Jarvis (read [ABSTRACT](#))

A Comparison of the Effectiveness of Semantic Feature Analysis and Promoting Aphasic Communicative Effectiveness for Treating Anomia in Patients with Aphasia
(Chair: Donald Freed)

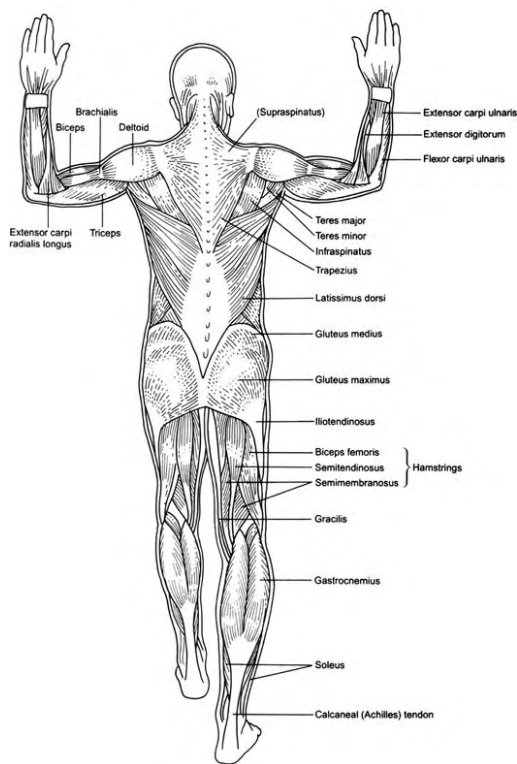
Health Science

Ashley Parks (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Gardasil Vaccine Attitudes and Opinions
Survey of Central Valley, California Mothers
of Girls 14 to 18 Years Old
(Chair: Suzanne Kotkin-Jaszi)



◀ Ashley Parks considers whether mothers should opt to have their teenaged daughters vaccinated against cervical cancer and human papillomavirus.



Kinesiology

Sakiko Imamura (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Athletic Taping Fails To Attenuate Muscular Strain

(Chair: Robert Pettitt)

Klaus Marg (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effects of Caffeine On The VO_2 Slow Component During Heavy Exercise

(Chair: Robert Pettitt)

Matthew Villanueva (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effect of Creatine Loading Combined with Acute Caffeine Ingestion on Lower Body Muscular Strength and Neuromuscular Function
(Chair: Felicia Greer)

Michael Villanueva (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effect of Creatine Loading with Acute Caffeine Ingestion on Upper Body Muscular Strength and Neuromuscular Function

(Chair: Jacobo Morales)

▲ Twin brothers Matthew and Michael Villanueva examined the impact of creatine monohydrate loading combined with acute caffeine ingestion on the human body: Michael studied the effects on muscles in the upper body, and Matthew studied lower body function.

Nursing

Mary Hunsader (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Personality Traits and Career Satisfaction in the Nursing Profession
(Chair: Mary Barakzai)



Alicia Lozano (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Incidence of Comorbidities in Heart Failure
(Chair: Mary Barakzai)

◀ Heart failure is the leading cause of hospital admissions for patients older than 65 years and affects more than 5 million people in the United States alone.

Social Work Education

Anamika Barman-Adhikari (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Acculturation and Its Impact on Psychosocial Functioning Among Asian Indian Immigrants in the United States
(Chair: Jane Yamaguchi)



“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

Ronna Bright (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Intimate Partner Violence in the LGBT+ Community: Perceptions of Service Providers and Community Members
(Chair: Anne Petrovich)

Navjot Grewal (read [ABSTRACT](#))

In Her Words: Five Punjabi Women Discuss Experiencing Depressive Symptoms, Coping Strategies, and Seeking Help
(Chair: Nocona Pewewardy)

Maria Mendez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Substance Abuse Treatment as a Lifestyle Change: Implications for Working with Mothers in the Real World
(Chair: Virginia Rondero Hernandez)

Valente Orozco (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Effects of the Foster Care Experience on the Ethnic Identity Development of Six Former Foster Youth
(Chair: Nocona Pewewardy)

Damien Terronez (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Effects of Recreational Dancing on Quality of Life in Older Adults
(Chair: Anne Petrovich)

◀ Damien Terronez examined how dancing affects quality of life in older adults and might help them cope with depressive symptoms.



Summer Verhines (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Perspectives of African American Kinship Providers on Permanent Placements in Fresno County, California
(Chair: Salvador Montana)

KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Joint Doctorate in Educational Leadership

Leonard Carrillo

What Obstacles or Support Mechanisms Do Latinos and Latinas Encounter in Becoming Principals and Sustaining Their Leadership Positions in California?
(Chair: Karen Watson-Gegeo)

John Forbes (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Salient Factors of Urban Teacher Job Attraction Related to Job Satisfaction: An Empirical Study (Chair: Phillip Young)

Randal Haggard

The Instructional Leadership Practices of Principals in K-8 Schools and Their Impact on Student Learning Outcomes
(Chair: Susan Tracz)

Belinda Peña

Latina Middle School Students' Resistance and Identity
(Chair: Karen Watson-Gegeo)

Maiyoua Vang (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Effects of Student Achievement on the Job Satisfaction of Public Elementary School Principals
(Chair: Phillip Young)

Dennis Wiechmann (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Relationship Between California's Community Day Schools Facility Type and Facility Condition with Measures of Academic Readiness, Academic Achievement, and Resiliency
(Chair: Sharon Brown-Welty)

Karen Holsey Young

Effects of Gender and National Origin of Middle School Principal Applicants on the Screening Decisions Made by Female and Male Superintendents
(Chair: Ronald Unruh)

Kendall Zoller

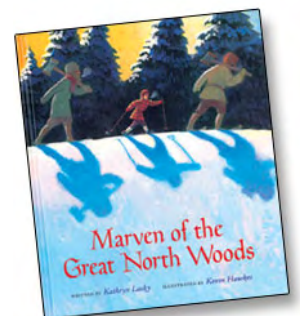
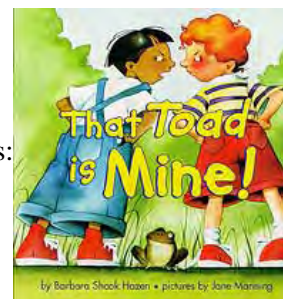
Nonverbal Patterns of Teachers from Five Countries: Results from the TIMSS-R Video Study
(Chair: Karen Watson-Gegeo)

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 2007-08, eight students completed dissertations, demonstrating the highest level of scholarship. Since the program's inception in 1991, 103 students have completed requirements for the Joint Doctoral Program.

Literacy and Early Education

Therese Ewing (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Original Picturebooks and Houghton Mifflin Anthologies: A Comparative Analysis
(Chair: Glenn DeVoogd)



[^] Therese Ewing challenges Houghton Mifflin's claims that its anthologies are as authentic as the originals.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Biology

Vanessa Cadiz (read [ABSTRACT](#))

A *Mycobacterium smegmatis* MC² 155 Mutant Disrupted in Universal Stress Protein is Sensitive to a Variety of Stresses
(Chair: Mamta Rawat)



Christopher Hamm (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Phylogeography of *Tapinoma sessile* in California
(Chair: Paul Crosbie)

◀ Christopher Hamm analyzed morphological and molecular data to discover an ant species new to science.

Chantale Johnson (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Characterization of Disulfide Stress Response in *Mycobacterium smegmatis*
(Chair: Mamta Rawat)

Bobby Kamansky (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Fire and Grazing Effects on Vernal Pool Grasslands
(Chair: Steven C. Blumenshine)



Megan McCullough (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Environmental Stress Effects on the Expression and Efficacy of Bt Toxins in Widestrike® and Bollgard II® Brands of Cotton
(Chair: Alice Wright)

◀ Megan McCullough evaluated the effects of moisture and light stress on the expression level of Cry-toxin proteins in two lines of cotton. The research is useful to farmers looking to maintain efficacy of the toxin in their fields without requiring expensive rescue sprays.

Sarath Peddu (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Pre and Postprandial Effects on the Ghrelin Receptors in the Mozambique Tilapia (*Oreochromis mossambicus*)
(Chair: Larry G. Riley)



Foung Vang studied the impact of selenium on the California Red-Legged Frog. ▶

Maria Wieczorek (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Absence of *Wolbachia* Symbionts in Pacific Coast Hard Ticks (Acari: Ixodidae)
(Chair: Paul Crosbie)

Foung Vang (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Potential Impacts of Selenium on California Red-Legged Frog (*Rana draytonii*)
(Chair: Brian Tsukimura)

Chemistry

Dianne Lim (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Quinones Used as Biomarkers for Exposure to Air Pollution

(Chair: Alam Hasson)

◀Results from Dianne Lim's study may help to improve diagnosis of asthma and to better monitor progression and treatment of the disease.



Teresa Mendoza (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Elucidation of Biological Mechanisms Using Small Molecule Models: Reactivity and Exchange Studies of Zinc and Nickel Cysteine Complexes

(Chair: Ronald Marhenke)

Earth and Environmental Sciences

Rohit Sharma (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Ancestral Cascade Arc Volcanism in the North-Central Sierra Nevada, California

(Chair: Keith Putirka)



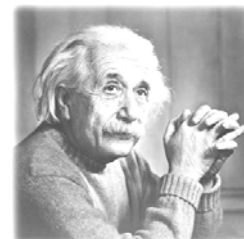
Physics

Daniel Tennant (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Scattering of Light in Born-Infeld
Electrodynamics

(Chair: Gerardo Munoz)

◀Daniel Tennant's thesis won the 2007-2008 Outstanding Thesis Award. His thesis offers an experimental test of String Theory, which is the best theory physicists have for realizing Albert Einstein's dream of a unified field theory.



William Whitaker (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Resistive Plate Chamber Online Data Quality Monitoring for the Compact Muon Solenoid at the European Center for Nuclear Research

(Chair: Raymond Hall)

Psychology

Mary Ann Krating (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Children's Relational Bullying: Gender and Age Differences

(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

◀Do girls actually bully more than boys? Mary Ann Krating investigated bullying behavior in a California school district to find out.



Melissa Lienhard investigated the perceptions of 183 elementary and secondary school principals in California regarding the roles of school psychologists and how valuable they believe these roles to be.▶

Melissa Lienhard (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Roles and Functions of School Psychologists: Principals' Preferences

(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

Steven Marcial (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Need for Cognitive Closure and Helping

(Chair: Robert Levine)



Jason Marshall (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Identification of Function in Maintenance of Smoking Cessation

(Chair: Amanda Adams)

◀Jason Marshall examined a traditional abstinence induction program and a habit-reversal program on reduction of college students' smoking behavior.

Teri Matthews found a positive correlation between tattooing and self-injurious behavior. ▶



Teri Matthews (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Tattooing and Self-Injurious Behavior: Their Relationship and Correlations to Self-Esteem, Anxiety, Body Investment, and Depression

(Chair: Paul Price)

Tiffany Scarritt (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Learning Disabled Students' Self-Perceptions

(Chair: Karen Carey)

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Criminology

Tyson DeWitt (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Different Responses to Violence: A Partial Replication

(Chair: John Dussich)

Interdisciplinary Studies

Shawna Herzog (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Historical Consequences: The Legacy of Sexism and Gender Discrimination and Their Link to Contemporary Sex Trafficking in Russia

(Chair: Loretta Kensinger)



◀Shawna Herzog plumbs the depths of the sex-trafficking industry in Russia.