

Goshen College Student Research Symposium 2013 Titles and Abstracts

Matthew Amstutz
*People-to-People: China Educational Exchange
as a New Mutual Approach to Mennonite Mission Work*
Department of History

In 1979 J. Lawrence Burkholder, president of Goshen College and administrator of relief supplies in China in the 1940's, successfully negotiated an educational exchange between Goshen College, a small liberal arts college affiliated with the Mennonite Church, and the Sichuan (China) Bureau of Higher Education. This was the first undergraduate exchange program in post-revolution China between an American and Chinese institute of higher education. This unprecedented exchange was quickly opened to the Mennonite church as a whole, resulting in China Educational Exchange, now known as Mennonite Partners in China. The collaborative founding of China Educational Exchange in 1981 by five Mennonite organizations, as facilitated by Goshen College, was a result of mutual respect and trust established by personal relationships, and signified a new approach to mission work for the Mennonite Church in China, in which both sides were invested in learning from and benefiting each other.

Jackson W. Beck
The Elkhart Victim Offender Reconciliation Program: A Story of Witness, 1978-1984
Department of Social Work

This project is about the Elkhart Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) which started in 1978 to serve as an alternative to the criminal justice system and incarceration. The paper traces the philosophical and organizational origins of the Elkhart VORP, which was the second program of its kind and the first in the United States. By mapping the formal and informal connections of the program with the Mennonite Church, this history clears up the confusing mix of institutional and individual initiatives which led to the development of this groundbreaking program. The project argues that the Elkhart VORP served as a witness to the criminal justice system and was essential to the development and spread of a radical concept of justice, a relationship-based perspective that was later deemed 'restorative justice.' This historical outline and philosophical analysis serves as an essential overview to the early history of the restorative justice field and reports the inspiring story of the Elkhart VORP.

Yvette C. Cardenas
Latino Adolescents at Risk for Type II Diabetes

Department of Nursing

Over the past two decades, type II diabetes has been on the rise—increasing every year. Various factors contribute to this problem. More importantly several populations are at risk for developing the condition. One such population is Latino adolescents. According to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), about one in every 400 children and adolescents has diabetes ("American diabetes association," 1995-2012). Also, in 2006 and 2007, the U.S. Department of Health asserted that Latinos are more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes as well as other conditions—such, asthma—than their non-Latinos counterparts (Feldman, Trupin, Walker, & Hansen, 2009). Moreover, from 2003 to 2006, about 39% of Mexican-American adolescents (ages 12-19) were at risk for developing type II diabetes due to obesity. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 50% of Latino adolescents that were born after the year 2000 will develop type II diabetes in their lifetime (Shaibi, Knopken, Hoppin, Keller, Ortega, & Castro, 2012). During their annual health fairs, the Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition (NIHHC) usually has a small percentage of Latino adolescents who are screened for type II diabetes. As a result of these numbers, many Latino adolescents are at continuing risk for developing type II diabetes. Analyzing objective and subjective data, and reviewing the literature, will pave the way for identifying appropriate community diagnoses as well as finding suitable interventions to assist this population at risk. Moreover, evaluating these interventions is also essential to identify key factors that may help in contributing to the prevention of type II diabetes among Latino adolescents.

Hannah J. Eberly
Native American Youth: At Risk for Alcoholism
Department of Nursing

The purpose of this paper is to recognize the increased prevalence of alcoholism affecting Native American adolescents and to explore the external and internal factors surrounding Native American youth that contributes to such data. Through research aimed at understanding and addressing the problem of alcoholism this paper will highlight hypothetical interventions aimed at a primary, secondary and tertiary preventative levels focused on Native American youth.

Kate Ellen Friesen
Locked in a Tower: Taking a Second Look at 'The Rapunzel Syndrome'
Department of English

In my paper, I respond to critic Shuli Barzilai's argument that the Rapunzel syndrome applies to Alfred, Lord Tennyson's poem "The Lady of Shalott". According to Barzilai, the Rapunzel syndrome is the "coalescence of woman and tower", and applies to

many famous literary women as well as women in today's pop culture. Although the Lady of Shalott is embowered and distanced from everyday activity, her artistry and her assertiveness empower her and give her a place in society. Barzilai brings light to the affects of the Rapunzel syndrome in Tennyson's poem, although this affect takes on a different role than in the actual Rapunzel story.

Jessica R. Gotwals
Healthcare Needs of Inadequately Vaccinated Children in the U.S.
Department of Nursing

Vaccinations are one of the greatest accomplishments in the history of public health. Since the creation of vaccines, morbidity and mortality rates have decreased for vaccine-preventable diseases, and medical professionals now recommended that children follow a set vaccination schedule. Despite the evidence supporting the efficacy of vaccinations, not all children are adequately protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. The purpose of this research is to investigate the health needs of inadequately vaccinated children ages zero to eighteen in the U.S. Discussion will include objective and subjective data on vaccinations as well as common misconceptions of vaccines and their side effects. The research also addresses the the web of demographic factors that cause low vaccination rates, problems faced by inadequately vaccinated children, and interventions for increasing vaccination rates.

Jair Hernandez
*Look at the Bright Side:
The Realities of Renewable Energy and the Future of the Industry*
Department of Communication

The renewable energy industry is still relatively young, and new technology is making new ventures more attractive. But while the many new technologies have great potential it is also important for them to be realistically implementable; making investment in the industry a walk on a fine line between a world revolutionizing movement and a fortune loosing snipe hunt. For that reason it is important to take a critical look at the technologies leading the way in renewable energy, where the technology stands now, and what the near future holds for these technologies.

Joshua Kinder
Describing the World with Functions: A Teaching Plan for an Algebra 2 Unit
Department of Education

How do mathematicians describe changes in the world? This essential question frames a four-week Algebra 2 unit. Beginning with the notion of a function as a tool we use to describe how two varying quantities change in relation to each other, students will understand how mathematicians categorize functions into families according to their rate of change. Students will learn various ways to manipulate, combine, transform, and

represent functions. Throughout the unit, students work to use functions and real data to describe some quantifiable change in the world around them, with a special focus on the local community. The unit culminates in a classroom symposium where students share their work by poster, presentation, or paper. Using a combination of cooperative learning methods and individual journal writing, students will begin to see themselves and their peers as mathematicians using mathematics to describe their world.

Hannah Lake-Rayburn
Health Needs of Young Homeless Pregnant Women
Department of Nursing

There are approximately 2.3 to 3.5 million people living in America that deal with homelessness each year and of these it is estimated that 1.6 million are under the age of 18. From this number anywhere from 6 to 22% of the women under age 18 and approximately 12% of those between 18 and 19 years old may be pregnant while homeless. Women without homes face new stresses when pregnancy enters the picture and often, these women are young, teenagers or in their early 20s, without good support systems, adding further psychosocial and physical stressors. Without intervention, the configuration of all of the above risk factors can lead to adverse health outcomes for both mother and child. The purpose of this paper is to explore the health needs of homeless pregnant women between the ages of 15 and 22 and possible strategies to meet some of these needs.

Rebecca S. Lintz
Quechua, It's Just Like English!
International Education

The purpose of this study was to investigate the theory commonly held amongst Peruvian people that speakers of the native Andean language of Quechua are able to learn English much quicker and more easily than native Spanish speakers. The idea is that Quechua so closely resembles the English language in both its phonetic and grammatical structure that it makes it very easy for Quechua speakers to pick it up. This study examines the relationship between Quechua and English as well as the cultural influences that may or may not make this theory true.

Jonathan Mark
Synthesis of Beta-hydroxy-epsilon-N-trimethyl-L-lysine for Characterization of a Key Enzyme in Carnitine Biosynthesis
Department of Chemistry

Hydroxy-trimethyllysine aldolase (HTMLA), a mostly uncharacteristic enzyme in carnitine biosynthesis, shares key characteristics with serine hydroxymethyltransferase (SHMT), a well-characterized enzyme. possibly SHMT is a putative HTMLA. In order to purify and characterize HTMLA, its substrate, beta-hydroxy-epsilon-N-trimethyl-L-lysine, must be synthesized in sufficient quantity from L-lysine. After blocking the alpha-group of L-lysine

and trimethylation of the epsilon-amino group, followed by cation exchange chromatography, pure epsilon-N-trimethyl-L-lysine was obtained and evaluated by thin layer chromatography and NMR. Continuing work will attempt to convert this intermediate to beta-hydroxy-epsilon-N-trimethyl-L-lysine.

Grant Miller

A Transforming Peace Witness:

The Mennonite Response to the Iraq Wars 1990-1991 and 2002-2003

Department of History

Throughout the 20th century Mennonites expressed their peace witness through abstention from military service. Whether through refusal to fight in WWI, alternative service in WWII, or draft resistance in the Vietnam War, the Mennonite peace witness centered on the rejection of the national command for military service. However, with the shift in warfare of the Gulf War in 1991 Mennonites could no longer center their peace witness on the draft and a refusal to fight. This shift in warfare began a transformation in the peace witness of the Mennonite Church that moved towards acting and speaking out against warfare and the broader socio, economic, and political forces that created war. This new model gave Mennonites more creativity and ability to voice their opposition to war but also created uncertainty within the church and weakened their ability to compose a cohesive, focused, and unified peace witness in a rapidly changing global context.

Michael A. Miller

Language Liminality: Tamazight, Arabic and French in

Guigou, Morocco

International Education

Morocco is a cultural crossroads; its unique language mix of Tamazight, French, Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial Moroccan Arabic reflects this history of contact and diversity. The agricultural town of Guigou in the Middle Atlas mountains forms a borderline geographically and socioeconomically between indigenous Tamazight usage and Colloquial Moroccan Arabic. Outsiders, youth, those more strongly connected with the regional farming industry and urban, mobile culture tend toward Moroccan Arabic; older residents and those invested in local business use Tamazight. Within the same ethnic groups and often the same families, both spoken languages have intricate differences in usage. This study attempts to untangle who uses which language in which circumstances, and what social, economic, political and cultural domains are associated with Tamazight, French, Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial Moroccan Arabic in Guigou.

Grace N. Parker

Jesus as Radical Literary Critic in the Interpretative Community of the Religious Leaders
Departments of Bible and Religion and English

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus bandies with, condemns, and praises the religious leaders for their various approaches to Scripture. I propose that Matthew presents Jesus as a literary critic who steps into this highly interpretive world of the Pharisee and Sadducee sects. By calling Jesus a literary critic, rather than a teacher, exegete, or prophet, I hope to signify how Jesus examines the texts in light of the text themselves. His solid foundation in the Holy Scriptures allows him to speak into and undermine the existing religious structures. His radical break from the literary-critical norms in the circle of religious authority ultimately endangers his life. Finally, Jesus gives us a vital model of how to read Scripture today in a way that inaugurates the holistic, ethical, and Scripture-founded kingdom.

Mohammad Rasoulipour

Facial Attitudes

Department of Art

<http://www.behance.net/gallery/Facial-Attitudes/6980691>

Kayla Riportella

Gendered Symbolism Generating the Sense of Self
in Samuel Taylor Coleridge's The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
Department of English

This paper considers the way that gendered symbolism in Coleridge's epic poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* mirrors the development of the Mariner's emerging feminine personality. I compare Amy Williams' reading of the poem, which states the creation of the speaking subject acts as a flight from "spectral persecution", with my own interpretation of the poem in that the creation of the speaking subject exemplifies the self-actualization process of the Mariner. The Mariner at the beginning of the poem after his journey represents an individual with a dominantly feminine personality and upon realizing this aspect about himself, the Mariner assimilates himself into society to fulfill the role he is condemned to play. The tale the mariner shares with others embodies his process of transformation from an individual ignorant to his gendered identity to one embracing his becoming. This poetic allegory addresses a process in which the individual confronts the opposing influences that contribute to the determining of the inner self, a process that everyone faces within their lifetimes. This piece while being a dark take on self-enlightenment is also a relatable one for many as they age.

Ariel B. Ropp and Natasha Weisenbeck
Student Engagement with The Goshen College Record
Department of Communication

Over the last 100 years, The Goshen College Record has served as a chronicle of campus issues and events and as an important forum for student voices. In light of the student newspaper's centennial anniversary, this paper analyzes Record readership trends and asks two primary questions: "How do Goshen College students engage with The Record?" and "How can we make The Record a more effective newspaper?" A survey of 70 Goshen College students was conducted to assess reading frequency, engagement, and content preferences; supplementary field research and web analytics were used to determine physical and online evidence of readership. Our results showed that while a large proportion of students regularly pick up The Record, hundreds of copies of The Record go unread each week. Our paper concludes with practical solutions on how to tailor the paper's content to audience preferences and calls for a print reduction in order to save paper, a change that has already taken effect this spring.

Sandrine Uwase Sandrali
Political Accountability, Not AID: Somaliland's Solution to the 2011 Famine
Department of History

Kelsey L. Schrock
Women's Struggle in Nicaragua
International Education

The role of women has been changing throughout history, but for Nicaraguan women, significant changes did not occur until the revolution that began in the 1960's. Despite still facing substantial oppression, Nicaraguan women have made considerable progress in their struggle towards equal rights. While living in Santa Julia, a rural agricultural community, I had the privilege of meeting women who had started their own women's cooperative in the community. My service experience gave me a desire to further analyze the women's movement in Nicaragua and the current role of women in the community of Santa Julia. By briefly exploring the history of the women's movement in Nicaragua as well as interviewing three influential women in my community, I came to understand the struggle of Nicaraguan women as part of a universal struggle toward justice and equality for all women.

Rachel A. Smucker and Lauren B. Weaver
RedPost: A Study on Advertising Effectiveness of Digital Signage
Department of Communication

Our group (including Quinn Brenneke and Isaac Fast) conducted an observational study on the advertising effectiveness of RedPost's digital signs in The County Seat and The Brew

downtown Goshen. We conducted a survey with various questions pertaining to the advertisements on the signs for customers at both locations. We also observed customers at The Brew for three hours, recording the amount of glances and time they looked at the RedPost sign. We concluded that about half of the customers at both locations saw the RedPost sign, so the RedPost signs are effective in their notability.

Benjamin E. Sutter
*The Message of a Mennonite Medium:
How Mennonite Broadcasts Found a Place on Television (between 1969 and 1983)*
Department of History

In the middle of the twentieth century, the Mennonite Broadcasters of the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities gave the institutional church structure of the Mennonite Church (MC) a public voice. This organization worked within an increasing acculturation of their communities that threatened to dilute their faith commitments to community, peace, and simple living. As the institutional church's public voice, Mennonite Broadcasters began to explore the medium of television, eventually settling on the use of public service announcements. These commercials for the public good were subsequently played on free airtime on hundreds of television stations throughout the US and Canada. Rough estimates of playing the spots for one year put the expected cost to the stations at around five million dollars' worth of airtime. In this way, the PSAs opened a new platform for the Mennonite Church that reached outside of the religious timeblock. Through the radical intersection of theology and technology in the television PSAs they helped produce, the Mennonite Church was able to articulate their faith commitments despite, and because of, the increasing acculturation within their denominations.

Mara Weaver
*Knowing the Congregation, Knowing the Community: Challenges of Dual Conference
Affiliation and Community Outreach at the Mennonite Church of Normal, 1971-2002*
Department of History

On September 26, 1976 in Normal, Illinois, members of First Mennonite Church [FMC] and Bloomington Mennonite Church [BMC] voted unanimously to merge their congregations. These two groups, the former belonging to the Central District Conference [CDC] of the General Conference [GC] Mennonite Church and the latter belonging to the Illinois Mennonite Conference of the "Old" Mennonite Church [MC or OM], took a nearly unprecedented step when they chose to join their existing congregations of two different Mennonite denominations. FMC—a well-established, relatively mainstream congregation of over 200 members with a history of progressivism (in the classic U.S.-American sense)—and BMC—a newer 35-member congregation planted by the OM Mission Board, with a mind and heart for ministry to its neighborhood—were different in many ways, yet they found common ideals (mutual desire to further explore Anabaptist theology, strengthened and united Mennonite witness to the community), as well as circumstances (survival of BMC, increased opportunities for internal and external ministries for FMC) drawing them

together. The decision to maintain ties to both conferences was monumental because it entailed bridging historical, cultural, and institutional differences. This was a step that members of both congregations saw as not just necessary but natural for their particular situation; they let their vision for a future—built on common ideals, not their baggage from the past—drive them forward. However, merger does not end with a vote or shaking of hands; it is a decision that has lasting implications, joys, and challenges. The future members of MCN came together to embark on a quest to determine what it meant to be Mennonite in a shifting social and denominational context. In order to answer that question and secure themselves in that identity, ultimately being church to each other—through nurture, fellowship, and work with Mennonite institutions such as colleges, camps and, most importantly, conferences—took priority over what they had envisioned as areas with great potential for growth, namely being church to the local community through outreach.

Elizabeth G. Wiebe
United States Male Veterans Ages 45-64 Years and the Risk for Suicide
Department of Nursing

The incidence of suicides in U.S. war veterans have increased steadily at alarming rates in the past five years. For the first time in history, veteran suicide rates surpassed civilian rates in 2010. Veterans, particularly males, are at a high risk for suicide due to the factors of mental health struggles, insomnia, rural isolation, dominant masculinity norms, substance use, relationship problems, and struggles to achieve the middle-aged psychosocial developmental stage. The purpose of this paper is to describe the health needs of middle-aged male war veterans, identify the contributing factors to suicide, apply a nursing community health diagnosis, and explore possible interventions that will alleviate this issue. The interventions discussed center on the three levels of primary, secondary, and tertiary suicide prevention strategies.

Laurel Woodward
Beyond the Photograph: The Expressive Potential of Art
Department of Art

This presentation will look closely at drawings I created for the Senior Art Show 2013. I explore both the technical and conceptual aspects of creating and exhibiting an interrelated body of work. For this project, I selected photographs for visual interest and personal significance but became more complicated through the drawing process. The lecture will focus particularly on the ongoing process of defining these images. I connect this process with the way art is used in conflict transformation – as a form that comes from an individual but embraces the collective experience of those who come into contact with that work. Exhibiting the work reminded me of the words by Persian poet, Rumi: “Let the beauty we love be what we do. There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.” Hearing such varied responses to these pieces allowed me to understand the “hundreds of ways” art can communicate with others. I hope to inspire in others the sense of mystery

that I find so beautiful as well as talk through some of the more technical and conceptual ways that artists create work.

Becca Yoder
Ponaphnora: Menarche Among the Yanesha
International Education

A female's first menstruation among the Yanesha of the Peruvian Amazon rainforest marks one of her most celebrated life stages. Her passage into womanhood is recognized by a Ponaphnora ceremony in which the young female is celebrated through embodied rituals and communal care. This research explores the formation of identity through Yanesha traditions and the effects of urban migration and globalization on Ponaphnora customs. The information from this study is derived from personal interviews with Yanesha members of Azulis and Santo Domingo, Peru.

Bethesda Zewdie
The Africanization of Islam
Department of History

North and West African women used a combination of African customs and Islam to empower themselves and thus were important forces in Africanizing Islam. Africa has influenced Islam just as Islam has influenced Africa. Although one cannot precisely measure the level of influence, it is evident that Africans have made Islam their own. In addition to the incorporation of Islam into the culture of Africa, Islam also provided West and North African women with the ability to use the Qur'an as a weapon to fight injustice. Although Islamic teachings provided guidelines for women, African women also used components of African customs, beliefs and traditions as foundations for how they viewed Islamic teachings. This was evident in how women used a combination of African culture and Islam to assert religious authority, expand the limitations of marital laws and even advocate for education. Although the interaction of religion and culture promoted positive change for women, in some instances it also resulted in the seclusion of women as well as the eradication of traditionally African women's roles. Despite some of the disadvantages of the syncretism of culture and religion, Muslim women in North and West Africa manipulated both of these systems to empower themselves.