

Vol. XXXVII | No. 6

THE HONORS REPORT

MARCH 2023



Contents	Page(s)
Save the Dates!.....	2
Points of Pride.....	2
Made in Millersville Preview.....	3-5
Honors College Baby Photo Match.....	6
Meet Your Librarians: Teresa Weisser.....	7
Research Toolkit.....	7-8

The Honors Report is looking to feature Honors College student accomplishments! Please submit your "Points of Pride" or nominate a friend to be featured, so we may acknowledge and celebrate these achievements! Reach out to Dr. Thyrum or Kereah Keller with your ideas.

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Millersville University
HONORS COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATES!

Mentoring Communities Day **Friday, Mar. 17th**

Are you a mentor or mentee? Enjoy a day of fun activities with your mentoring community! Keep an eye on your email for an updated schedule and information.

Registration Social **Tuesday, Mar. 28th** **7:00pm** **South Great Room**

Stop by the registration social to enjoy some snacks and socializing and to ask your last-minute questions about registration!

FALL 2023 HONORS **REGISTRATION**

Wednesday, Apr. 5th
6:00am

Make sure you have your TAP number and set your alarm bright and early for Honors registration! Dr. Thyrum, Jess, and Brenna will be available by email.

Are you an Honors College student graduating in May 2023? Don't forget to submit your Senior Spotlight information so that your hard work can be acknowledged in the Honors Report and at the Spring Honors Recognition Banquet! If you have not submitted Senior Spotlight information, check your email for the information request or reach out to Jess Hetrick at jmhetri1@millersville.edu for details.

POINTS OF PRIDE

Millersville University Honors College alumni **Daniel Foreacre** was profiled in the local *Penn Manor Advertiser's* February edition! The article, titled "A Story of Perseverance," highlighted the hard work that Daniel, a computer science major who graduated in December 2022, put into overcoming obstacles and earning his degree.

During his time at Millersville, Daniel conducted research into computer models of the brain and artificial intelligence programs, which was the focus of his thesis. He plans to continue his studies by pursuing a doctoral degree in computational neuroscience.

The Honors College would like to thank the *Advertiser* for recognizing Honors College alumni achievements and to wish Daniel the best of luck in his future studies.



Daniel Foreacre

MADE IN MILLERSVILLE PREVIEW

by Elias Peluso

Believe it or not, the semester's just about halfway over. That means it's time to recognize everyone's accomplishments of the past year in the annual Made in Millersville (MIM) conference. On Tuesday, April 11th, students from all areas of academia will present their independent and research-based projects throughout the day. Completing a thesis is one of the core requirements for the Honors College, so students' theses are often the topic of their MIM presentation. Here are some accounts from Honors students who will be presenting this April 11th.



Julia Glatt

"Our research project investigates the correlation between impoverished populations and superfund site locations in Burlington county, New Jersey. This will help us determine if environmental classism is playing a role in determining where superfund sites are located."

Julia Glatt (she/her), Class of May 2025, Environmental and Spatial Science major



"Our project looks to analyze whale populations by applying a logistic growth model with the Allee effect. The goal was to find accurate results modeling survival analysis. Through the

mathematical model and graphical analysis, our project was successful at demonstrating the population growth and decline within the carrying capacity of the environment and the minimum survival level of the population.

We took these findings and applied them to a case study on the Atlantic blue whale population. Furthermore, implications for fisheries and climate change became prevalent through our research.

This was a group project completed as a class requirement for Dr. Ma's Ordinary Differential Equations. Ethan Kerr and Jacob Biondo have a significant contribution to this project as my group partners."

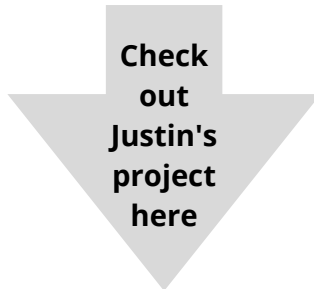
Keelie Steiner, Class of December 2024, Meteorology major, three minors in Mathematics, Environmental Hazards, and Emergency Management (groupmates: Ethan Kerr and Jacob Biondo)



Keelie Steiner

"Modeling a lifelike suture for a microsurgery simulator: 'Simulation Systems is a startup driven by the potential for surgical simulation to improve patient care. We are building a microsurgery simulator that will reduce the cost of training microsurgeons while simultaneously enabling a level of repetition, practice, and skill reinforcement that is not currently possible."

Justin Stevens, Class of May 2024, Computer Science major, Mathematics minor



Justin Stevens



Jillian Bergin

"I am presenting on my honors college thesis I completed titled "Mirrored Lives: The Impact of Two Indigenous Women on European Narratives of Colonization and Conquest of the Americas."

Throughout my thesis, I examine the impact of Pocahontas and Malinche on English and Spanish, respectively, efforts to spread their influence across the Atlantic throughout the 16th and 17th centuries.

I completed by project under the direction of Dr. Robyn Davis and had the opportunity to present my work at the Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention this past January in Albuquerque, New Mexico."

Jillian Bergin, Class of May 2023, History major, dual minors in General Anthropology and International Studies



"This project dives into educating elementary students within the general education classroom on the definition, benefits, and mistreatment of watersheds, as well as inspiring these students to protect their local watersheds.

Discussed within this research is how teachers are prepared to inspire and educate these students and how Pennsylvania elementary schools are already addressing watershed education. There are also lesson plans provided for varying elementary grades to use when addressing watershed education.

Article continued onto next page

Also explored is the usage of MWEEs, or Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences, in Pennsylvania elementary schools, and the utilization of an eight-lesson unit funded by the NOAA B-WET grant awarded to Millersville University."

Kennedy Ross, Class of May 2024, dual Early Childhood Education and Special Education major



"My project was to design, fabricate, and test the proof of concept for a new type of automatic door.

The understanding is that most public spaces have standardized accommodations for individuals with physical disabilities, but incorporating this into a residence can be costly and time-consuming.



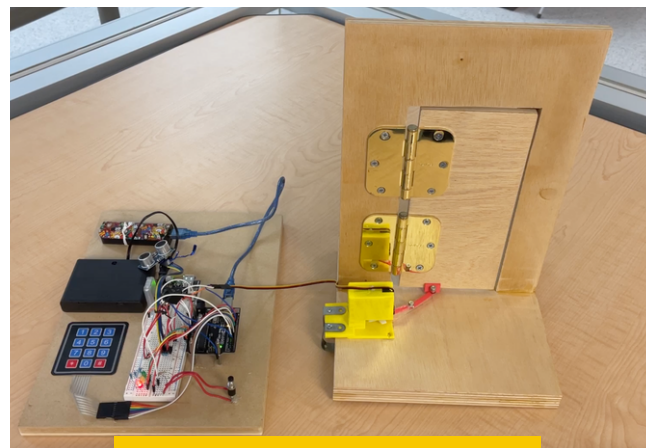
Kennedy Ross



Elias Peluso

Automatic doors are a prime example. They are available commercially, but are arguably expensive and typically need to be professionally installed in a permanent configuration.

If these devices were made less expensive and modular to set



Elias's automatic door

up in a temporary fashion, maneuvering in one's own home with a physical disability could be much less strenuous a task. Therefore, my project aimed to solve this problem with the invention of a new device."

Elias Peluso, Class of May 2023, Applied Engineering in Robotics and Control Systems major

Best of luck to Made in Millersville presenters!

Made in Millersville needs volunteers to put up posters and flyers in March and to assist with event set-up and clean-up in April. This is a great way to get some volunteer hours, learn about presenting research, and serve the MU community! Scan the QR code to sign-up:



How well do you know Honors staff and Report writers? Can you match each person's current photo to the correct baby picture?

Current Photos:



1. Brenna Chernich
Peer Mentor



2. Jess Hetrick
Peer Mentor



3. Bronte Spidaliere
Report Writer



4. Claire DeVinney
Report Editor



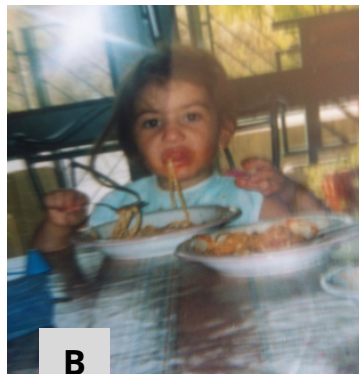
5. Kereah Keller
Administrator



6. Elias Peluso
Report Writer



A



B



C

Baby Photos:



D



E



F

How close were your guesses? Check the answers at the bottom of page 8.

Teresa Weisser is the Cataloging and Metadata Librarian and Government Documents Coordinator at the McNairy Library and Learning Forum. Teresa is the subject librarian for Government, Policy, & Law and International Studies. Contact her at teresa.weisser@millersville.edu or find her on the library website.

Q: What's your favorite thing about working at the library?

A: "Much of my work these days involves figuring out how to use the various technologies available to me to review, revise, and augment records describing the resources that the library has purchased. The answers are different, depending on the resource and the situation, so it is like solving a giant puzzle, often several times a semester."

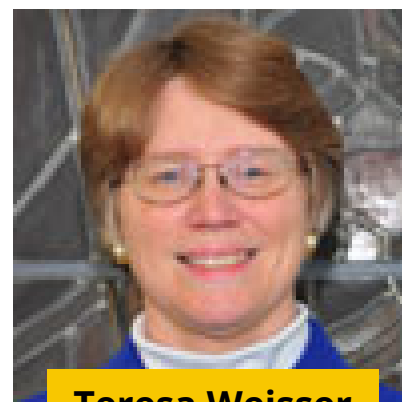
Q: Why did you become a librarian?

A: "I had worked in the college library during my undergraduate years and realized that I would enjoy helping people find information. As a graduate

student in library science, I had the opportunity to work in the Cataloging Department at Drexel University Library and I discovered that I had the aptitude for the very detail-oriented work that is involved in making it possible for library users to locate resources."

Q: Current research interests?

A: "Stephen Smith, an African American businessman who was born in Dauphin County in the late 18th century, lived the first half of his life in Columbia, Pennsylvania, and died in the 1870s in Philadelphia. He was the second wealthiest African American in the United States at the time."



Teresa Weisser

Q: What's your favorite book?

A: "The Lord of the Rings."

Q: What's your favorite movie?

A: "Far too many to list, but I particularly like old movies like Casablanca; Random Harvest; Now, Voyager; etc."

Q: Where would you like to travel?

A: "Europe, especially the United Kingdom and Germany."



RESEARCH TOOLKIT: ADVANCED SEARCH TECHNIQUES: CITATION CHASING

If you have heard your professors talk about engaging with the scholarly conversation, our highlighted technique of "citation chasing" can help you better understand and apply what that means.

Whether you citation chase "backwards" to find an author's resources or citation chase "forwards" to find articles influenced by your chosen article, you will be getting a better sense of how a source is positioned in the scholarly conversation around your topic.

Article continued onto next page

Doing so will help you write a more informed paper and prepare you to take on a more in-depth research project like a capstone or a thesis.

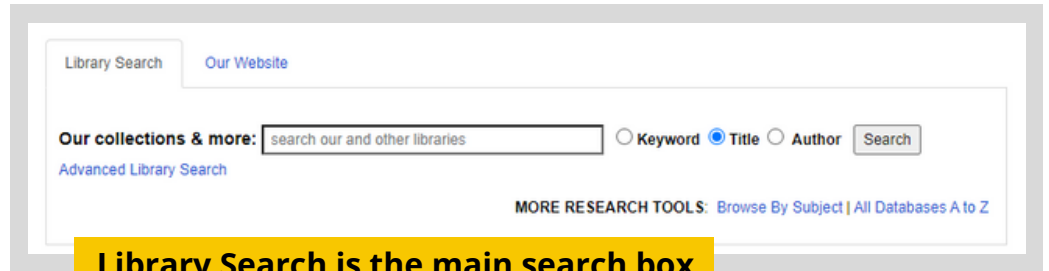
Chasing a citation “backward”

Once you have found a strong article that is relevant to your project, follow its citations to other relevant sources. The following bulleted list tells you what to do if the cited source is not hyperlinked in a digital copy of the article.

1 Find an article with an idea or concept that’s useful to you and has a citation

2 Look up that citation at the end of the article

- Copy the cited article title
- Paste it into Library Search, making sure to have selected the "Title" radio button



Library Search is the main search box at the top of the library homepage

3 Locate the record for the cited article

4 Start reading if it’s immediately available

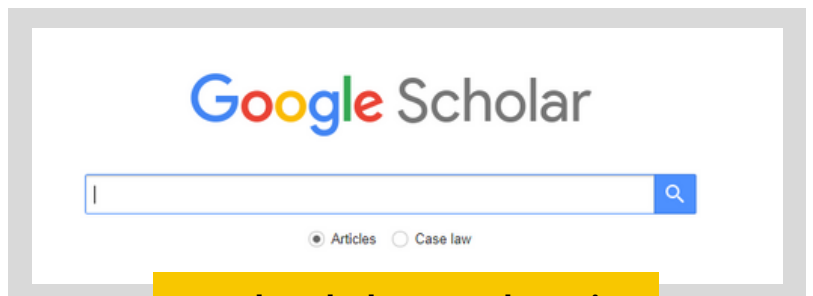
- Or use "Request this Item" to obtain the article from our service

Chasing a citation “forward”

Besides going “backwards” to trace the author’s sources, you can also work “forwards” to find articles that cite your article.

1 Copy your article’s title

2 Go to Google Scholar; you can find it by googling “Google Scholar”



Google Scholar search engine

3 Paste the title in the search bar and search.

4 Once the search result brings up the specific article, click “cited by.”

Have a fun, safe, and relaxing spring break, Honors College!

Baby Photo Match answers: 1=c; 2=F; 3=B; 4=E; 5=D; 6=A