



SLAM

The word "SLAM" is rendered in a large, bold, cyan-colored font with a thick black outline. The letters have a glossy, 3D appearance with white highlights and cyan paint drips hanging from the bottom. The text is set against a green, jagged, star-like background with a purple, textured pattern inside. The entire graphic is surrounded by small cyan and purple dots.

STUDENT
LIBERAL
ARTS
MOSAIC



APRIL 9, 2019

The date "APRIL 9, 2019" is written in a bold, yellow, hand-painted style with a black outline. It is set against a blue, irregular, paint-splatter-like background with a pink outline. The text has yellow paint drips hanging from the bottom. The entire graphic is surrounded by small yellow and pink dots.

LOGISTICS for



Please Read Carefully!

*Remove your SLAM Passport from the program.
Add your name and signature to the back of the Passport.
Your Passport is your personal ticket into SLAM activities.
It will be stamped at the door of each session you attend.*

DO NOT LOSE IT!

Many professors will ask to see your Passport as proof of attendance.

- During Oral Presentations (Sessions II and IV), thematically arranged groups of presentations will be happening **SIMULTANEOUSLY** in **MULTIPLE PLACES** on campus. Check your program carefully and decide which you want to attend. You will only be able to attend one group of presentations in each session. Please remain in that session for all presentations.
- The Arts Break Performances (Session III) are also happening simultaneously in **MULTIPLE PLACES** on campus. The performances begin at 1:30 and last for twenty minutes. They will be repeated at 2:00 so you can attend more than one. You only need to attend one to get your passport stamped.
- To be eligible for one of the Fabulous SLAM Door Prizes, you must be present at the Closing Celebration at 3:30pm in Moore Auditorium and your passport must have four stamps that show you have attended:
 - ✓ Session I (Plenary – Gretchen Evans) AND
 - ✓ All 3 other sessions (Sessions II, III, IV)
- **What next?** Enjoy our plenary speaker's presentation, then select one of the exciting presentation groups from Session II. Some may be Standing Room Only, so get there early to get a seat!

HAVE FUN and GET SLAMMED!

CREDITS:

Cover Design:

Slam Stage Banner Design:

Emiley Burriss (SLAM designs are produced each year by MHU Graphic Design students)

Claudia Cala, Kristin Kilpatrick, Katie Ledford, Jessica Lowman, Hannah McGinnis, Elizabeth Ravel, Cody Webb
(2007 Apparel & Interior Merchandising students)

ORDER OF CEREMONIES

IN THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY THIRD YEAR OF MARS HILL UNIVERSITY
APRIL 9, 2019
MOORE AUDITORIUM

THE FANFARE:

9:15 A.M.

MHU Percussion Ensemble

Dr. Brian Tinkel and Mr. Justin Mabry, directors

Brandon Abranches
Art

Luke Rathbone
Music Performance

JC Calhoun
Music Performance

Brooke Reyes
Music Education

Elizabeth Daniel
History

Kendyl Robertson
Music Performance

Jordan Domangue
Music Performance

McKayla Smith
Music Education/Performance

Christian Kraemer
Music Education

Amber Towles
Biology

Joyner Myers
Music Education

Daniel Wilson
Music Performance

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC ... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

OPENING CELEBRATION:

The Invocation

9:30 – 10:00 A.M.

Gabrielle Interdonato
Religion and Sociology

The Vice President's Welcome

Dr. John Omachonu
Provost

Welcome from the SLAM Committee

M. Storm Cash
Biology

Charge to Students, Faculty, and Friends

Mrs. Joy Clifton
Assistant Professor of Physical Education

The MHU Big Band

directed by Dr. Jason Slaughter

Michael Benner
Music Education

Matthew Keenan
Music Education

Joyner Myers
Music Education

Tyler Brownwood
Music Performance

Christian Kraemer
Music Education

Wesley Owen
Music Education

JC Calhoun
Music Performance

Brian Kurtz
Music Education

Raven Poplin
Music Education

Carlos Cruz
Music Education

Ina Messer
Music Performance

Luke Rathbone
Music Education

Avery Gifford
Music Education

Luke Millsaps
Music Education

Megan Towles
Music Education

Nigel Winston
Music Performance

SESSION I: PLENARY

10:00 – 10:45 A.M.
LOCATION: MOORE AUDITORIUM

Introduction of the Speaker

Ben Farlow
Social Work

LIVING
A
NO-BARRIERS
LIFE

Command Sergeant Major Gretchen G. Evans, U.S. Army (Ret.)

INTER-SESSION SNACK BREAK

10:45 – 11:00 A.M.
NEAR ORAL SESSION VENUES

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

SESSION II: ORAL PRESENTATIONS

11:00 – 11:50 A.M

Session II – A: Big & Small

Location: Belk Auditorium

The Psychology of Resistance

Kevin McSurdy
Psychology

Let's Narrow it Down to Everything: Placing History in a Larger Context

Shaylyn Sargent
History

Session II – B: Toxic Roles

Location: Broyhill Chapel

Killing Patriarchs and Buddhas: Gender Role Inversion through Masculine Suicide in Tokugawa Japan

Trevor Reising
History

Effect of Abiotic Factors on the Condensed Tannin Concentration in Chamaecrista Fasciculata

Andrew Disco
Biology

Session II – C: Profit vs. Planet**Location: Owen Theatre***Ethics and the Environment: Policy, Corporate Responsibility and The Community*Michael Baker
*Criminal Justice*Talie Brower
*Zoology*Jerry Clark
*Political Science*Nicholas Hoffman
*History and Political Science*Sarah Lorick
*Athletic Training***Session II – D: Flying Too Close To the Sun****Location: Ferguson Health Sciences 306***Evidence for Geographical Dialects in Northern and Southern Flying Squirrels
(Glaucomys sabrinus and G. Volans)*Rebekah Shoaf
*Biology**Solar Panels Business Proposal*Brendon Cyprianos
Business Administration

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Session II – E: We Are the World

Location: Bentley Fellowship Hall

What is the Model United Nations? Gaining Professional Knowledge and Personal Growth through SRMUN

Makenzie Bennett
Political Science

Christine Foresha
Political Science

Noah Worley
Political Science

LUNCH BREAK

12:00 – 1:15 P.M.

Location: Pittman Dining Hall or on your own

SESSION III: ARTS BREAK

1:30 – 2:20 P.M.

**Each “Act I” performance lasts 20 minutes.
After a 10-minute intermission, the performances
will be repeated during “Act II.”**

**Please use the intermission to change locations.
This makes it possible to attend a second Arts Break event.**

Act I	1:30 P.M.	Various Venues
Act II	2:00 P.M.	Various Venues

Arts Break – A**Location: Weizenblatt Art Gallery***The Annual MHU Student Art Exhibition*

Eriana Ansley
Apparel & Interior Merchandising
Business Administration

Abriah Michelle Batts
Musical Performance

Emiley Burris
Art

Elijah Byrdsell
Computer Science

Eva Castro
Art Therapy

Bailey Clayton
History

Parker Cook
Business Administration

Rebecca Dallman
Pre-Nursing

Kiersten Foust
Athletic Training

Tori Franklin
Art

Vincent Gage
Art

Gabby Gianikos
Art

Zehr Gibbs-Barger
Art Therapy

Laron Gilchrist
Social Work

Santos Gonzalez
Art

Dot Griffin
Art

Gabrielle Hancock
Art

Aubree Hill
Art

Kristie Hollifield
Art

Sarah Ingalls
Art

Madi Johnson
Art

Claire Jones
Biology

Hannah Jones
Computer Science

Carly Koblitiz
Math

Mickey Lambert
Business Administration

Katie Lanier
Art Therapy

McKenzie Laws
Pre-Nursing

Rachel Lowry
Zoology

Lindsey McIntosh
English

River Medlin
Biology

Mar Morrell
Art

Shelby Parrott
Chemistry

Dr. Ann Peiffer
Asst. Professor of Psychology

Lexi Pilson
Social Work

Ashton Pogue
Pre-Nursing

Grayson Ross
Undecided

Cassie Shumate
Undecided

Allison Tomlin
Art Therapy

Rachel Vierheller
Art

Jessica Zedec
Criminal Justice

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC ... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Arts Break – B

Location: Moore Auditorium

A Million Dreams: A Celebration of Humanity Through Dance and Music

Bailey Mountain Cloggers

Hannah Auriemma
Biology

Naomi Jack
Special Education

Hannah Batten
Integrated Education

Maryanne Kenna
Health & Human Performance

Chynna Birkmire
Musical Theatre

Adeline Le Master
History

Mian Brown
Psychology

Morgan Leverette
Elementary Education

Bailey Clayton
History

Samuel Locklear
Nursing

K.D. Adaire Cromer
Apparel & Interior Merchandising

Dayleigh Martin
Elementary Education

Taylor Davis
Computer Science/Business Administration

Dallas Moffat
Criminal Justice

Travis Davis
Undecided

Morgan Murphy
Nursing

Jackie Freeman
Nursing

Makenzie Osborne
Social Work

AnahBelle Hall
Criminal Justice

Tea Pennell
Business Administration

Ashley Hartley
Apparel & Interior Merchandising

Allyson Puckett
Elementary Education

Olivia Heim
Biology

Enrique Rodriguez
Criminal Justice

Arts Break – C**Location: Marshbanks 103***Being You at MHU*

Art Therapy Students

Michelle Bass
Art Therapy & Social Work

Jocelyn Martinez
Criminal Justice

Eva Castro
Art Therapy & Psychology

Susan Adeline Shuler
Art Therapy & Psychology

Zehr Gibbs-Barger
Art Therapy & Psychology

Arts Breaks - D**Location: Peterson Conference Center***The Mini-Slam at SLAM and The Cadenza Sneak Peek*

A'mera Bellamy
Criminal Justice

Sabrina Hartzell
Criminal Justice

Kendall Bines
Art

Adam Hawkins
Religion & Philosophy

Ellie Bloom
English

Jaime Kelly
Criminal Justice

Tyler Branch
English

Brittany Leckrone
Art

Ryan Davis
Zoology

Emmanuel McMillian
Health & Human Performance

Natalie DeBruhl
Art

Eustacia Smith
English

Bakari Harris
Rec & Sport Management

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

SESSION IV: ORAL PRESENTATIONS

2:30 – 3:20 P.M.

Session IV – A: Learning What It Takes

Location: Belk Auditorium

Advanced Superabrasives Job Recruitment

Barrett Hennings
Master of Management

The Effectiveness of Cooperative Learning for Students Developing Their Reading Comprehension

Courtney Thomas
Elementary Education

Session IV – B: Getting In & Getting Out

Location: Broyhill Chapel

We Apologize for the Inconvenience

Michelle Acosta
Integrated Education

Desareen Pafford
Integrated Education

Hannah Batten
Integrated Education

Lauren Smith
Special Education

Olivia Keener
Elementary Education

Esther Summers
Elementary Education

Cassandra Owen
Integrated Education

Secession in North Carolina: The Debate on the Brink of War

Austin Marler
History

Session IV – C: A Step In Time**Location: Owen Theatre***The History of the Bailey Mountain Cloggers*

Hannah Auriemma
Biology

Naomi Jack
Special Education

Hannah Batten
Integrated Education

Maryanne Kenna
Health & Human Performance

Chynna Birkmire
Musical Theatre

Adeline LeMaster
History

Mian Brown
Psychology

Morgan Leverette
Elementary Education

Bailey Clayton
History

Samuel Locklear
Nursing

K.D. Adaire Cromer
Apparel & Interior Merchandising

Dayleigh Martin
Elementary Education

Taylor Davis
Computer Science/Business Administration

Dallas Moffat
Criminal Justice

Travis Davis
Undecided

Morgan Murphy
Nursing

Jackie Freeman
Nursing

Makenzie Osborne
Social Work

AnahBelle Hall
Criminal Justice

Tea Pennell
Business Administration

Ashley Hartley
Apparel & Interior Merchandising

Allyson Puckett
Elementary Education

Olivia Heim
Biology

Enrique Rodriguez
Criminal Justice

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Session IV – D: Fight the Fight!

Location: Ferguson Health Sciences 306

Novus Ordo Seclorum: Conspiracy Theories & Their Status and Influence in American Politics

Leanna Pope
Political Science

The Enhanced Bactericidal and Fungicidal Efficacy of Quinazolinone Silver Carbene Complexes

Arabella Medina
Chemistry

Session IV – E: Belles and Cells

Location: Bentley Fellowship Hall

Southern Women at Odds: The Grimke Sisters and Mary Boykin Chesnut

Adeline LeMaster
History

Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells and the Potential Treatment of Parkinson's Disease

Andrew Disco
Biology

CLOSING CELEBRATION

3:30 P.M.

LOCATION: MOORE AUDITORIUM

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Michelle Acosta, Hannah Batten, Olivia Keener, Cassandra Owen, Desareen Pafford, Lauren Smith, Esther Summers

We Apologize for the Inconvenience

The purpose for our presentation is to bring awareness of the accessibility of our campus. An overview of Mars Hill University's accessibility using excerpts of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance Checklist for Existing Facilities. We are using the ADA Checklist to have an unbiased opinion and we will be looking at the accessibility of our buildings, parking lots, and dining halls. We will be comparing our older buildings to our newer buildings on campus through a timeline to show how far we have come in making buildings accessible to everyone and the challenges still ahead. In addition to bringing awareness about different abilities. The primary question: Has the accessibility of MHU changed as the campus has expanded? We will also use this presentation to encourage individuals to participate in opportunities to improve the accessibility of our campus through projects that we will be hosting on campus this semester.

Bailey Mountain Cloggers: Hannah Auriemma, Hannah Batten, Chynna Birkmire, Mian Brown, Bailey Clayton, K.D. Adaire Cromer, Taylor Davis, Travis Davis, Jackie Freeman, AnahBelle Hall, Ashley Hartley, Olivia Heim, Naomi Jack, Maryanne Kenna, Adeline LeMaster, Morgan Leverette, Samuel Locklear, Dayleigh Martin, Dallas Moffat, Morgan Murphy, Makenzie Osborne, Tea Pennell, Allyson Puckett, Enrique Rodriguez

The History of the Bailey Mountain Cloggers

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers began in 1974 by students at Mars Hill University. The purpose of the dance group was to continue the traditions of the Southern Appalachian Dance and Music that began in this region of the North Carolina Mountain years ago. Today the group continues these traditions of Smooth Mountain Square Dance, Kentucky Running Set Precision, Buck Dancing, Flatfooting, and Drag Slide Clogging. This presentation will showcase costumes, dance styles, and a history of the 27 Time National Champion clogging team.

A Million Dreams: A Celebration of Humanity through Dance and Music

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers will present a portion of their annual Spring Concert, through a mixture of clogging, hip hop, contemporary dance, Irish, and Jazz. The progression of clogging into contemporary styles is shown through a story based loosely on the hit movie "The Greatest Showman." The purpose of the show is to celebrate humanity through dance and music. The full concert is a community involvement event and will be in Moore Auditorium April 26-28.

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Michael Baker, Talie Brower, Jerry Clark, Nicholas Hoffman, Sarah Lorick

Ethics and the Environment: Policy, Corporate Responsibility and The Community

The Ethics Bowl team traveled to the North Carolina Legislative complex in Raleigh to participate in the NCICU's 8th ethics bowl. This competition is between 22 independent colleges across the state to discuss ethical principles and how they intertwine in policies regarding a multitude of subjects. This year we discussed environmental subjects from nuclear power, the Paris Climate accord and whether a body of water should retain the same right as a U.S citizen. We plan on doing a really short debate on two topics and discussing what opinions the audience might have after hearing researched data and ethical principles to justify each position. We would love to advocate many others of the MHU community to join us and gain an understanding of how any concentration can have a strong shaping of opinion in terms of policy-making, personal experiences and even just for a hobby to pick up next year.

Michelle Bass, Eva Castro, Zehr Gibbs-Barger, Jocelyn Martinez, Susan Adeline Shuler

Being You at MHU

As a student at Mars Hill University, you are a part of the campus community. We believe that everyone at MHU brings their own unique talents, quirks, and ways of being/identifying which all help to enrich our community. Please join the Art Therapy Applications class in Marshbanks 103 during the SLAM art break in order to express the uniqueness that is YOU. Students will be asked to create an image on a canvas representing their individuality and how they fit into the MHU community. The finished pieces will all become a part of a larger art installation. No art experience necessary.

A'mera Bellamy, Kendall Bines, Ellie Bloom, Tyler Branch, Ryan Davis, Natalie DeBruhl, Bakari Harris, Sabrina Hartzell, Adam Hawkins, Jaime Kelly, Brittany Leckrone, Emmanuel McMillian, Eustacia Smith

The Mini Slam at SLAM and the Cadenza Sneak Peek

This showcase combines the soon-to-be-released 54th edition of the *Cadenza* literary & arts magazine with a performance of spoken-word poetry. The works contained within the *Cadenza* range from poetry, fiction, and nonfiction to drawings, photographs, 3D art, and paintings; the *Cadenza* presentation will feature student writers and artists reading their works, projecting images of their artworks, and talking about their creative processes. Slam poetry is a type of poetry that uses rhythm, rhyme, passion, and emotion in a style that is reminiscent of hip-hop. Both presentations allow for students of diverse backgrounds to showcase their creativity. The *Cadenza* unveiling will take place on Thursday, 4/18 so make your calendars. We give special thanks to the many students who choose to share their work and make the *Cadenza* possible year after year! We would also like to thank the spoken-word poetry presenters who choose to share their stories.

Makenzie Bennett, Christine Foresha, Noah Worley

What is the Model United Nations? Gaining Professional Knowledge and Personal Growth through SRMUN

Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) is a competition where collegiate delegations represent their respected universities while also representing a previously selected country. SRMUN is a real-life simulation of the United Nations' operations and topics are debated in committees in order to find a resolution. Students are required to put themselves in the position of their assigned country and to research the issue. The committee assignments are to represent their interests appropriately. Within this SLAM presentation we will discuss what students take away from participating in SRMUN. These students will also share the importance of gaining experience in rigorous scholarly research, library resource literacy, and public speaking that will assist to transition them into the workforce. Additionally, this experience stresses the importance for students to become knowledgeable of international events and the role that the United Nations plays in global politics. We want to inform students of this opportunity in hopes of recruiting them to partake in future SRMUN conferences.

Brendon Cyprianos

Solar Panels Business Proposal

This presentation will outline a business plan for a for-profit social venture that aims at one day producing electricity for as much of the African continent as possible. Africa is a continent where 80% of the people do not have any access to electricity. In my home country, Zimbabwe, 1/3rd of the entire population has no access to electricity. This creates a large target market opportunity to bring much-needed electricity to the people of Zimbabwe. With the rise of climate change awareness, the way in which I seek to go about this business venture is by creating solar farms throughout various parts of Zimbabwe to be able to produce renewable energy to smaller towns of the country.

Andrew Disco

Effect of Abiotic Factors on the Condensed Tannin Concentration in Chamaecrista Fasciculata

Plants have many strategies to defend themselves against herbivores. For example, *Chamaecrista fasciculata* (partridge pea) uses multiple defenses: chemical defenses called condensed tannins in leaves and flowers bind proteins to prevent herbivores from digesting them and extrafloral nectaries (EFNs) that secrete nectar to attract aggressive ant protectors. The production of plant defenses is energetically expensive, presenting the potential for tradeoffs between defense strategies. This study tests how resource availability affects condensed tannins compared to EFNs in *C. fasciculata*. *Chamaecrista fasciculata* plants were exposed to varying water and nutrient availabilities. Leaf and flower samples were collected to extract condensed tannins and compare tradeoffs in defending flowers versus leaves. Additionally, these results will be compared to previously collected data on EFNs of the same plants to test for tradeoffs in direct versus indirect defenses. Our results will advance the understanding of patterns in plant defenses across space and time.

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells and the Potential Treatment of Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's Disease (PD) degrades specific neurons in the brain leading to motor and cognitive disfunctions. Treatments of Parkinson's focus on alleviating the symptomatic responses rather than the underlying degradation of ventral midbrain dopaminergic (DA) neurons involved in maintaining muscular control. Stem cells have been studied for disease modeling and treatment over the past decade. Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS) are specific stem cells, derived from the patient's cells, that are genetically reprogrammed to allow differentiation into dopaminergic neurons. IPS-derived dopaminergic neurons can be transplanted into injured brain environments to mature into functioning DA neurons. IPS cells minimize the risk of bodily rejection and mitigate ethical constraints pertaining to the use of embryonic stem cells. Successful differentiation techniques of DA neural progenitor cells open the door to more effective treatment plans for PD patients.

Barrett Hennings

Advanced Superabrasives Job Recruitment

The purpose of this presentation is to share my video that was produced during my time spent at an internship with Advanced Superabrasives of Mars Hill. This video is the first of many that will be produced to help the company with job recruitment. During my presentation I will discuss the steps required to produce this video with Amplified Media of Asheville, as well as my day-to-day assignments for the company. The problem that these videos is trying to solve is difficulty recruiting for manufacturing jobs. Companies like ASI are struggling to find people willing to learn a trade and make it their career. These job recruitment videos are trying to show how current employees feel about working at ASI and that a four degree is not required to be successful.

Eriana Ansley, Abriah Michelle Batts, Emiley Burris, Elijah Byrdsell, Eva Castro, Bailey Clayton, Parker Cook, Rachel Dalleron, Kiersten Foust, Tori Franklin, Vincent Gage, Gabby Gianikos, Zehr Gibbs-Barger, Laron Gilchrist, Santos Gonzalez, Dot Griffin, Gabrielle Hancock, Aubree Hill, Kristie Hollifield, Sarah Ingalls, Madi Johnson, Claire Jones, Hannah Jones, Carly Koblitz, Mickey Lambert, Katie Lanier, McKenzie Laws, Rachel Lowry, Lindsey McIntosh, River Medlin, Mar Morrell, Shelby Parrott, Dr. Ann Peiffer, Lexi Pilson, Ashton Pogue, Grayson Ross, Cassie Shumate, Allison Tomlin, Rachel Vierheller, Jessica Zedec

The Annual MHU Student Art Exhibition

The MHU Student Art Exhibition is open to any student enrolled in an Art course during the Fall and Spring Semester. Student work is submitted to, and juried by MHU Art Faculty in categories of drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, photography, graphic design, illustration, ceramics and sculpture

Adeline LeMaster

Southern Women at Odds: The Grimke Sisters and Mary Boykin Chesnut

Sisters Angelina and Sarah Grimke, along with Mary Boykin Chesnut, are among the most notable elite, southern women in the antebellum era. The large number of letters and diaries these women produced from 1830-1865 provide the historian with a rare view into southern, elite women's lives because most women of this class wrote little about their experiences. Angelina and Sarah Grimke were originally from Charleston, South Carolina, the daughters of John Grimke, a wealthy planter and judge. Because of their first-hand experiences with urban slavery in Charleston, the sisters became staunch abolitionists, fleeing from their home to Philadelphia where they played a prominent role in the movement to end slavery. Mary Boykin Chesnut was also raised among the planter elite. When she married James Chesnut a U.S. Senator, the couple divided their time between his family's plantation in Camden, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. before the war. An examination of the public and private writings of all three women provide a rich opportunity to understand the gendered complexities of religion, abolition, and the early women's rights movement during the antebellum period.

Austin Marler

Secession in North Carolina: The Debate on the Brink of War

In the mid 1850s and early 1860s, in the South, there is not many more things that would cause social unrest in an area than finding out there is an individual or group who opposes slavery or secession or someone helping to expand the knowledge against these things. During the 1850s to early 1860s, North Carolina citizens held diverse opinions on issues such as slavery, state secession, and the confederacy. Despite these diverse opinions seen across the states as early as 1850, prominent North Carolina historians have identified the beginning of the secession debate in North Carolina as happening between 1860 to 1861 and have identified this period in large part with the debate that existed between many important North Carolinians at the time. Through the study of primary sources from the time leading up the secession vote, research shows that the debate over whether or not North Carolina should secede from the Union began earlier than historians have identified. By examining sources from the antebellum period in North Carolina, one can see that the debate over secession begins in 1850.

Kevin McSurdy

The Psychology of Resistance

Resistance means dramatically different things in different contexts. Resistors are necessary in electrical circuits for everything from making music to lighting our homes. Being resistant to insulin often results in a diabetes diagnosis. Resistance in the social context refers to a person or group working against a cause. This talk explores what Leo Tolstoy, Jesus Christ, Stanley Milgram, Carl Jung, the Buddha, Philip Zimbardo, Sigmund Freud, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Paul the Apostle say about resistance. I will review commonalities in their views, distinctions in their views, and why is it so important to be aware of what you are resisting.

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

Leanna Pope

Novus Ordo Seclorum: Conspiracy theories and their Status and Influence in American Politics

Conspiracy theories are a cultural phenomenon that has become a norm of our society, when previously, it was a sign of mental illness. These theories are especially important in today's political climate, given all the doubt and uncertainties posed by our leaders. Conspiracy theories are a method of rebellion and protest, given that they highlight the mistrust between the elected and the electors. They are another outlet for citizens to voice their opinion, and therefore are historically significant. Conspiracy theories will be examined through the lens of the secret, conspiratorial acts that have been carried out by the government, and how these are directly counterintuitive to a democratic system.

Trevor Reising

Killing Patriarchs and Buddahs: Gender Role Inversion through Masculine Suicide in Tokugawa Japan

The agency of samurai wives was extremely constrained during the Edo period where a strong, centralized, and conservative feudal government ruled over the samurai men. This feudal structure was then extended to men who held dominion over their wives. Masculinity was the framework of reality for the culture of Edo period Japan and thus created a gendered and rigid social structure. Killing Patriarchs and Buddhas examines the different forms of suicide performed by men and women of the samurai class during the Edo period, and the unique connection between Zen Buddhism and samurai suicide. This presentation will introduce the main historical themes of Edo Japan, present primary source material on class and gender conflict, and connect socio-religious ideas to gender role inversion through the samurai masculine suicide ritual.

Shaylyn Sargent

Let's Narrow it Down to Everything: Placing History In a Larger Context

History today focuses on the history of humans going as far back as the oldest, written primary sources discovered up to today. This restriction within academics has instilled anthropocentrism into the practice of history, regarding humans as the most important entity in the universe and the only valuable subject to study in history. However, in the grand scheme of things, humans written existence is but only a blink of an eye comparative to the rest of time and our very existence was made possible through numerous cosmic events. By studying a subject called Big History, we can take a small step back to 13.7 billion years ago, the birth of our universe, and better understand humanities place within history. This presentation will focus on anthropocentrism in history, the subject of Big History, and the benefits and challenges it brings to academia.

Rebekah Shoaf

Evidence of Geographical Dialects in Northern and southern Flying Squirrels (*Glaucomys sabrinus* and *G. olans*)

Geographical dialects have been well documented in birds and humans. Dialects in these taxa have been used extensively to study the evolution and systematic learning of social behaviors by way of acoustic communication. Despite the fact that most mammalian taxa vocally or acoustically communicate, relatively little is known about dialects in mammals. The purpose of this study was to determine if northern and southern flying squirrels (*Glaucomys sabrinus* and *G. volans*) exhibit geographical variation in their trill-type calls. We hypothesized that populations separated by the greatest distance would exhibit significantly greater differences in dialects versus populations separated by shorter distances. One-way ANOVA tests were used to analyze call variation in duration, entropy, bandwidth, and frequency at maximum amplitude. Results showed that geographical dialects for trill-type calls exist in both species and that distance between populations did not influence those

Courtney Thomas

The Effectiveness of Cooperative Learning for Students Developing Their Reading Comprehension

Cooperative learning has been shown to improve the development of students' reading comprehension across many dynamics. The purpose of this presentation is to explore the following question: Does cooperative learning have a positive effect on helping developing readers with reading comprehension? This presentation explores four articles in which research has been conducted to prove that reading comprehension is positively affected by cooperative learning. This presentation will look at this in a very broad sense, while also looking at it through specific curriculum and types of instruction, such as Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR), Cooperative Integrated Reading and Composition (CIRC), Jigsaw Cooperative Learning Model, and Student Teams Achievement Division (STAD). This instruction looks at the positive effects that cooperative learning has on helping students develop their reading comprehension.

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

THE SLAM COMMITTEE

Mr. Ryan Bell, Director of First Year Academic Success
 Ms. M. Storm Cash, Student Representative
 Dr. Greg Clemons, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
 Mrs. Joy Clifton, Division of Professional Programs, Committee Chair
 Dr. Brett Johnson, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
 Dr. Amanda Knapp, Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
 Mr. Daniel Morris, Director of Student Involvement
 Mrs. Misty Theisen, Division of Fine Arts
 Mr. Mike Thornhill, Director of Communications

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Alpha Chi
 Amanda Acosta
 Campus Activities Board
 Chartwells staff
 Tony Floyd
 Danielle Hagerman
 Lora Coomer
 Brett Coomer
 Kristie Hollifield
 Information Technology Staff
 Kenn Kotara & the Graphic Design students
 Andrew Mace
 John Omachonu
 Nina T. Pollard
 Richard Seagle
 Jason Slaughter & MHU Big Band
 Brian Tinkel & MHU Percussion Ensemble
 Cory Walters
 The dedicated Students, Staff, Faculty, and Friends of Mars Hill University

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

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THE PLENARY SPEAKER

CSM GRETCHEN G. EVANS, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

A native of Abilene, Texas, Command Sergeant Major Gretchen G. Evans, USA (Ret.) entered the United States Army in September 1979.

Her career included time as an Intelligence Analyst in the Peacetime Aerial Reconnaissance Program in Europe and a counterintelligence agent with the 66th Military Intelligence Group in Italy.

CSM Evans was then selected to become part of a black operations unit. She attended Basic Airborne training, Bill Streets Driving School, sniper training, demolition training, and covert operations training before CSM Evans began her black operations career. During this time, she deployed many times.

After her years in black operations CSM Evans then reentered the “Green Army” and oversaw all training for the Counterintelligence Agents and Interrogators of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion.

Immediately after the attacks of 9/11, CSM Evans assisted in putting troops in civilian airports, and in October 2001, she was part of the ground attack when the United States began the air attack on Afghanistan.

From 2003 until her retirement CSM Evans deployed several times to the Middle East with her final assignment responsible for the security and personnel on all bases and forwarding operation bases in Afghanistan. She earned numerous medals and awards, including the Bronze Star, the Presidential Unit Citation Medal, Global War on Terrorism ribbons, six Meritorious Service Medals, and numerous other awards.

CSM Evans was wounded by incoming fire in 2006 while serving in Afghanistan. In a millisecond her world changed. She incurred life-changing and debilitating injuries, lost all hearing, and suffered a traumatic brain injury and internal injuries.

Her transition from military life to civilian life was difficult. She was lost, sad, and hopeless until she found her way into No Barriers Warriors, a program of No Barriers USA, serving veterans with disabilities from all branches of the military and all eras of service.

CSM Evans was accepted and participated in her first No Barriers Warriors program in 2017. Afterward, she said, “the healing environment provided by No Barriers was life changing. Before, during, and after, No Barriers provided me and my group with avenues to replace hopelessness — not only with hope but with renewed passion for living life to the fullest. A confidence lost, now restored. A new team committed to one another and a new way of life, a life with No Barriers .”

Today, CSM Evans is determined to pay it forward by introducing No Barriers to as many people as she can, to be a living testimony to a program that excels at putting broken pieces back together. She is deeply involved with No Barriers as a volunteer Warrior Alumni Coach and Advocate.



