

# 16th Annual SC Upstate Research Symposium Student Awards

## ORAL PRESENTATION CATEGORIES AND AWARDS

### CONSTRUCTING IDENTITY

**Tia Williams**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Birds of Prey (And the Conceptual Metaphors that Shape its Characters)*  
Mentor: David Marlow

### NATURAL SCIENCES I: ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

**Cayla Smith**, Lander University  
*Are Omnivores Partitioning Resources?*  
Mentor: Emily Prince

### SERVICE LEARNING

**Caroline Cooley**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Learning and Serving: Linguistics in Child Literacy*  
Mentor: David Marlow

### MATHEMATICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE, & INFORMATICS

**Matthew Cox**, Lander University  
*Implementing a Video Game Artificial Intelligence with Deep Reinforcement Learning*  
Mentor: Gilliean Lee

### HISTORY & POLITICAL SCIENCES

**William Lucht**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*The Effect of Economic Satisfaction on Trust in Government and Support for Normative Democracy in Tunisia*  
Mentor: Matthew Placek

### NATURAL SCIENCES II: ORGANISM DISTRIBUTION AND GROWTH

**Nichole Simpson**, Lander University  
*Testing the Effectiveness of Passive Gravitational Separation for Quantifying Limno-terrestrial Tardigrades*  
Mentor: Elizabeth McDonald

### PHILOSOPHY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Brandon Riddle**, Greenville Technical College  
*How Social Media Influences the Use of Political Dog-Whistles*  
Mentor: Jill Walker

### GRADUATE STUDENT: HEALTH SCIENCES

**Amanda Smith**, Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy  
*Heat Shock Protein 90 $\beta$  Plays a Leading Role in Promoting Lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-Induced Inflammation in Microglial Cells*  
Mentor: Wei Lei

### GRADUATE STUDENT: INFORMATICS

**Elizabeth Sullivan**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Communicating with an Elderly Cognitive Companion*  
Mentor: Ron Fulbright

## POSTER PRESENTATION CATEGORIES AND AWARDS

### HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Sara Iraheta**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Nnedi Okorafor and the Technological Future of Black Humanism*  
Mentor: Colleen O'Brien

### PSYCHOLOGY

**Dondre Crosby**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Examining the Effects of Type of Crime and Race on Sentencing Length and Subsequent Hiring Decisions*  
Mentor: Kenneth Barideaux Jr.

### CHEMISTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**Zachary Bailey**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Bisphenol A Degradation by Peroxymonosulfate Activated Via Magnetically Separable Nanocomposite*  
Mentor: Anselm Omoike

### BIOLOGY & HEALTH SCIENCES

**Shenandoah Shackelford**, University of South Carolina Upstate  
*Use of Supplemental Nursing Staff Influences on Patient Outcomes*  
Mentor: Colleen Kilgore

### GRADUATE STUDENT: HEALTH SCIENCES

#### *TIE BETWEEN:*

**Alyssa Guo**, University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville  
*Addressing Community Needs Through Medical School and Community Partner Collaborations*  
Mentor: Lauren Fowler

**Keiko Cooley**, University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville  
*Ejaculatory Duct Obstruction in the Setting of Ectopic Ureter*  
Mentor: Patrick Springhart