

Editorial Introduction

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Greetings Readers,

We are all currently facing a trying time that requires us to relinquish former expectations to develop new strategies for functioning in our recently restructured daily and professional lives. However, a key characteristic of living organisms is their ability to adapt to their changing environment to ultimately become better suited for it. Likewise, our adaptations to new schedules and modes of communication are necessary for us to function properly in this new world seemingly governed by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, we want to sincerely thank everyone who submitted their CSURF posters to the UCCS Undergraduate Journal when the change to our environment (CSURF's cancellation) encouraged an alternate plan. This decision required flexibility and patience, so we will again express our gratitude: thank you.

The posters in this special edition of the UCCS Undergraduate Research Journal showcase the work from both UCCS and USAFA, linking undergraduate research between institutions in a digital format. However, since everyone is no longer gathering together at an event to discuss their research, this unfortunately means that the potential future collaboration and dissemination of this research is sorely missing. So, I would like to strongly encourage any and all readers to reach out to the poster authors with any questions or comments regarding their research; even though we may be separated physically, let's not allow that to hinder the discussion of new ideas or halt collaboration in the future! Now, I'm sure you're all eager to dive into these posters, so check out the following titles for ideas on what to check out first and enjoy learning about some really cool work our local undergraduates have been conducting!

- "The Salience of Color-blindness Among Students of Color: Racial Microaggressions and their Impact on Campus Racial Climate" by Sung Ahn and Dr. Stephen Cho Suh (UCCS)
- "Views of Emotion in Adulthood: The Role of Caregiver Meta-Emotional Philosophy" by Beatriz Avelar and Dr. Michael Kisley (UCCS)
- "Determining the Effect of Galectin Insertion on Membrane Organization" by Danielle Browne, Yvonne Weissbarth, Jaroslaw Majewski, Hans-Joachim Gabius, Crystal Vander Zanden (UCCS)
- "Building a Better Droplet Generator: Examination of Brown University Harris Laboratory's Schematics and Design" by Nicolette L. Clark and James A. Scoville (USAFA)
- "Hoary Bats (*Lasiurus cinereus*) Forego Echolocation During Flight" by Annalise Hopkins, Kacie Quigley, and Aaron Corcoran (UCCS)

- "Using Deep Learning for Quantifying Bat Flight Maneuvering" by Aaron Corcoran, Emmy Hynes, Emily Patton (UCCS)
- "A Study Examining the Reliability of Identification & Validity of Ventilatory Thresholds in Relation to Human Endurance Performance" by Miramani M. Lenzini, Elizabeth D. Hubbell, Keston G. Lindsay, Addison D. Rhodes, James Pearson, Andrew W. Subudhi, & Robert A. Jacobs (UCCS)
- "Binding Analysis of Factor H Related Proteins with C3d" by Aleesa Muir and James M Kovacs (UCCS)
- "UCCS Moontain Lions Almost Mars Lunar Base Design" by Noble Kilman, Paul Park, Dyan Hansen, Ronan Summers, Lindsey Nast, Douglas Wilcox (UCCS)
- "Investigating the Characteristics of Middle-Aged and Older Adults Who Do and Do Not Seek Memory Screenings" by Alexandra Robledo and Molly Maxfield, Ph. D. (UCCS)
- "Molecular Dynamics Simulations to Determine the Neuroprotective Mechanisms of Curcumin" by William Stone and Crystal Vander Zanden (UCCS)
- "Holloman Air Force Base High Speed Test Track Rocket Prototype" by Nicholas Curtis, Matthew Olsen, Jackson Trent. Collaborators: Luke Sauter, Anthony Alt, Kody Sparks, Bryan Sinkovec, Aubrey Prado, Del Olmstead, Aimee Grills (USAFA)
- "Characterizing a Novel Engineered Therapeutic Agent to Reverse Lupus Symptoms" by Brianna Vigil and James M. Kovacs (UCCS)
- "Towards Understanding the EBV gp350-Complement Receptor 2 Interaction" by Michael J. Wheeler and Dr. James M. Kovacs (UCCS)