



ANNUAL

SRSU
UNDERGRADUATE
AND GRADUATE

SYMPOSIUM

RESEARCH

INNOVATE

2023

COLLABORATE

2023 KEYNOTE CO-SPEAKERS:

Dr. Alicia Trotman

Asst. Professor of Psychology - SRSU

Dr. Tiffany Culver

Asst. Professor of Psychology - Schreiner University



JOIN US TO SUPPORT OUR SRSU
STUDENTS FROM ALL CAMPUSES
AS THEY SHOW THEIR RESEARCH
IN PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS
BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY!

APRIL 17th - IN-PERSON SESSIONS

ALPINE CAMPUS - UC ESPINO CENTER

NOON - 6:00 PM

APRIL 18th - VIRTUAL SESSIONS

ONLINE - SRSUSYMPOSIUM WEBSITE

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

srinfo.sulross.edu/srsusymposium
SRSUSYMPOSIUM@SULROSS.EDU

COMMUNICATE



SUL ROSS
THE FRONTIER UNIVERSITY of Texas

12:00 - 12:50 PM

WELCOME AND KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION

12:00 - 12:05 PM

WELCOME AND KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION

Dr. Carlos Hernandez
SRSU President

12:05 - 12:45 PM

KEYNOTE CO-SPEAKERS

Dr. Alicia Trotman
Assistant Professor of Psychology -Sul Ross State University
Dr. Tiffany Culver
Assistant Professor of Psychology – Schreiner University

1:00 - 1:50 PM

SYMPOSIUM STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

UC Espino A: Languages and Literature

Cole Payne, Alayna Damm, Jason Fortner, Taryn Aguilar, Irene Curry, Andreas Buttner (Languages and Literature)
"Writing Programs at Sul Ross State University"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Rosemary Briseño**
Moderator: Dr. Rosemary Briseño
1:00-1:45 pm

UC Espino B: Wildlife Management

Caleb Hughes (Wildlife Management)
"Winter Habitat Selection, Movement and Survival of Scaled Quail in the Trans-Pecos, Texas"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Justin T. French**
Moderator: Dr. Ryan Luna
1:00-1:25 pm

Maya Ressler (Wildlife Management)
"Correlation Between Demographic Rates and the Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma Quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Ryan Luna**
Moderator: Dr. Ryan Luna
1:25-1:50 pm

UC Espino C/D: Animal Science & Kinesiology

Caroline Lisboa Viana (Animal Science)
"Health Parameter Variation in Emaciated Stock-Type Horses Going Through Two Refeeding Protocols"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Laura Patterson Rosa**
Moderator: Dr. Shanna Moody
1:00-1:25 pm

Camryn Medina (Kinesiology)
"A Post-Pandemic Exploration of the Baseline Health Status of College Students in a Rural Division III University"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Shanna U. Moody**
Moderator: Dr. Shanna Moody
1:25-1:50 pm

UC Espino 210: Public and Professional Communication

Madalyn Warren, Kilian Maeve McDonald-Boyer, Caitlyn Peña, Dawson Beard (Public and Professional Communication)
"We're on a Mission: A Demonstration of Public & Professional Communication Skills"
Faculty Nominator: **Dr. Joseph Velasco**
Moderator: Dr. Joseph Velasco
1:00-1:45 pm

UC Espino A: Interpersonal Communication Research

Jake Spurlock, Grace Knight, Andrea Morales (Interpersonal Communication Research)
"Close Encounters: Communicating with the Ones We Love"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Joseph Velasco

Moderator: Dr. Joseph Velasco

2:00-2:45 pm

UC Espino B: Theater

Yaritza Corona, Caitlynn Almance (Theater)
"2023 SRSU Undergraduate and Graduate Symposium Mock Auditions"

Faculty Nominator: Carolyn Barrientes

Moderator: Carolyn Barrientes

2:00-2:45 pm

UC Espino C/D: Criminal Justice

Hugo Andres Flores (Criminal Justice)
"Domestic Violence"

Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes

Moderator: Dr. Shanna Moody

2:25-2:50pm

UC Espino 210: Wildlife Management & Philosophy and Political Science

Jason Crosby (Wildlife Management)
"Comparing Precision of Fine-Scale Rangeland Monitoring Methods for Grassland Enhancement in the Trans-Pecos, Texas"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Justin T. French

Moderator: Dr. Justin French

2:00-2:25 pm

Sharon Barrett (Philosophy and Political Science)
"Interdependent Bodies: Re-Envisioning Women's Autonomy with the Help of Feminist Philosophy and Natural Law"

Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes

Moderator: Benjamin Barrientes

2:25-2:50 pm

Brianna Berry

Title: *"Examining Eating Competence and Maladaptive Eating Behaviors Amongst College Students"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
(Psychology)

Daniel Flores

Title: *"Investigating the Correlation Between Fantasy-Action Video Games and Advanced Vocabulary Acquisition"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
(Psychology)

Desiree Macias

Title: *"Utilizing Standardized Assessments Measuring Binge Watching Among College Undergraduate Students"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
(Psychology)

Eliana Dykehouse

Title: *"Overlap in Desert Bighorn Sheep, Aoudad, and Mule Deer Diets in the Van Horn Mountains, Texas"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Carlos Gonzalez
(Wildlife Management)

Gabriel Cervantes

Title: *"Examination of Emotion Suppression and Self-Monitoring and its Correlates with Loneliness"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
(Psychology)

Grace Knight

Title: *"Examining How Emotional Distress in Athletic and Non-Athletic Female College Students Manifests as Localized Non-Specific Chronic Pain"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
(Psychology)

Jimena Proana

Title: *"Nutrition and the Female Athlete Menstrual Cycle"*

Faculty Nominator: Mary Powers
(Kinesiology)

Nicole Dickan

Title: *"Fine-Scale Habitat Selection and Denning Ecology of the Newly Recolonizing West Texas Black Bear Population"*

Faculty Nominator: Amanda Dutt
(Wildlife Management)

Tina Neufeld

Title: *"Geochronologic Analysis of Multiple Occurrences of Fault-Related Calcite on a Variable-Slip-Direction Fault in Big Bend National Park, Texas"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Jesse Kelsch
(Geology)

Ty Goodwin

Title: *"Common Forbes of the Trans-Pecos: A Field and Lab Guide"*

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Carlos Gonzalez
(Wildlife Management)

4:00 - 4:50 PM

SYMPOSIUM STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

UC Espino A: Environmental Literature

Stephen Falick, William Fievre, Richard Foley, Sara Ramos, Silvestre Silva, Samuel Valadez, Jesus Gutierrez (Environmental Literature)

"Creative Writing on the West Texas Landscape"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Theron Francis

Moderator: Dr. Theron Francis

4:00-4:45 pm

UC Espino B: Criminal Justice

Saul Jadon Baruch Barrientes (Criminal Justice)

"Caylee Anthony: Is There a Theory of the Case by Mr. Baez?"

Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes

Moderator: Benjamin Barrientes

4:00-4:25 pm

UC Espino C/D: Wildlife Management

David Wellborn (Wildlife Management)

"Optimizing Efficiency in Wildlife Research Through Effective Relational Database Programming"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Justin T. French

Moderator: Dr. Justin French

4:00-4:25 pm

Elle Sutherland (Wildlife Management)

"Niche Conservatism of Desert Bighorn Sheep in the Trans-Pecos Region, Texas"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Justin T. French

Moderator: Dr. Justin French

4:25-4:50 pm

UC Espino 210: Theater & Architecture and Interior Design

Melissa Urness (Theater)

"A Look Inside Technical Theatre: The Props Design for "Silent Sky"

Faculty Nominator: Carolyn Barrientes

Moderator: Carolyn Barrientes

4:00-4:25 pm

Caleb Woods (Architecture and Interior Design)

"A Remodel Project for Universal Design"

Faculty Nominator: Carolyn Barrientes

Moderator: Carolyn Barrientes

4:25-4:50 pm

5:00 - 5:50 PM

SYMPOSIUM STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

UC Espino A: Journalism

Brooke Manuel, Johanna Covington (Journalism)

"Skyline Attends 2023 TIPA Conference"

Faculty Nominator: Sid Balman

Moderator: Sid Balman

5:00-5:45 pm

SRSU UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH, 2023

VIA TEAMS/SESSION LINKS AVAILABLE ON SYMPOSIUM WEBSITE SCHEDULE

2:00 - 2:50 PM

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Virtual Room A: Languages and Literature

Sinai Valdez Dominguez, Autumn McFadden
(Literature)

"Report from the Sigma Tau Delta English
Honor Society Convention on YA Literature"

Faculty Nominator: Robin Alvarez

Moderator: Robin Alvarez

2:00-2:20 pm

Virtual Room C : Languages and Literature

Kiahna Garcia, Edwin Urias, Brooke Manuel, Abigail
Elizondo (Languages and Literature)

"Spanish and English in the Publication History of The
Sage, SRSU's Art & Literature Journal"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Theron Francis

Moderator: Dr. Theron Francis

2:00-2:50 pm

Virtual Room B: Political Science

Ian Craigie, Caitlyn Peña, Marley Rokas
(Political Science)

"Gun Violence in Schools, Teacher Harassment,
& Sports Betting"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Jessica Velasco

Moderator: Dr. Jessica Velasco

2:00-2:50 pm

3:00 - 3:50 PM

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Virtual Room A: Wildlife Management & Criminal Justice

Brooke Bowman (Wildlife Management)
"Habitat Selection of Scaled Quail Across a
Gradient of Oil and Gas Development in the
Permian Basin, Texas"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Ryan Luna

Moderator: Dr. Chris Herrera

3:00-3:20 pm

Samiah Bass-Walker (Criminal Justice)
"The Future of Crime and How We Stop It"

Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes

Moderator: Dr. Chris Herrera

3:30-3:50 pm

Virtual Room B: Languages and Literature

Kiahna Garcia (English)
"World-Building in the Genre of Horror Manga:
Cosmic Horror and the Weird in the Works of
Jūnji Itō"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Audrey Taylor

Moderator: Dr. Audrey Taylor

3:00-3:20 pm

Melissa Montoya (Languages and Literature)
"Seamus Heaney: Relocating the English
Language"

Faculty Nominator: Ian Peddie

Moderator: Dr. Audrey Taylor

3:30-3:50 pm

Virtual Room C: Construction Management

Caleb Wood, Garner Hancock, Yasmine
Guevara, Kyle Villalon (Construction
Management)

"A Custom Home for Iowa City, Iowa"

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Eric Busby

Moderator: Dr. Eric Busby

3:00-3:40 pm

4:00 - 4:50 PM

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Virtual Room A: Criminal Justice

Maybe Ramirez (Criminal Justice)
"Offering a Class on Juvenile Crime Prevention"
Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes
Moderator: Benjamin Barrientes
4:00-4:20 pm

Art "Zack" Gutierrez (Criminal Justice)
"Mental Health and Juvenile Justice"
Faculty Nominator: Benjamin Barrientes
Moderator: Benjamin Barrientes
4:30-4:50 pm

Virtual Room B : Languages and Literature

Brooke Manuel, Mary Bara, Jason Fortner, Claire Jones, Edwin Urias, Katrina Flores (Languages and Literature)
"A Poetry Reading by the Writers in Dr. Nelson Sager and Dr. Theron Francis' Poetry Classes"
Faculty Nominator: Dr. Theron Francis
Moderator: Dr. Theron Francis
4:00-4:50 pm

5:00 - 5:50 PM

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Virtual Room A: Education Technology & Political Science

Joyce Bachert (Education Technology)
"Comparing Rural West Texas Parental Perceptions to Adolescents Regarding Online Behavior"
Faculty Nominator: Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray
Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray
5:00-5:20 pm

Charles Shewell, III (Education Technology and Political Science)
"Social Media Influences on Presidential Elections"
Faculty Nominator: Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray
Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray
5:30-5:50 pm

Virtual Room B: Behavioral Science

Allison Cohen, Karla Ramos, Desiree Mecias, Breeana Berry, Gabrielle Cervantes (Behavioral Science)
"Ethics in Research Training"
Faculty Nominator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
Moderator: Dr. Alicia Trotman
5:00-5:50 pm

Virtual Room C: Construction Management

William Bullock (Interpersonal Communication)
"Domestic Violence: An Alternative Perspective for Comprehensive Treatment"
Faculty Nominator: Dr. Joseph Velasco
Moderator: Ida Hoelscher
5:00-5:20 pm

**DR. ALICIA M. TROTMAN**

Dr. Alicia M. Trotman is an Assistant Professor in Psychology whose Caribbean heritage hails from Trinidad and Tobago. She has an academic background in Computer Science and Applied Psychology from Pace University in New York, and earned her doctorate in Learning, Technology and Culture at Michigan State University. Her divine calling has always included teaching and working with students, which began in 1996. She came to Sul Ross State University in 2017 and has continued to work diligently with her instruction having been awarded SRSU Outstanding Teacher of the Year 2021-2022. Her favorite classes to teach are Emotions & Motivation, Psychology of Religion and Spirituality, and Humanistic Psychology, and she advises the students' Psychology Club and Anime Manga Club.

She is dynamically involved in creating professional development opportunities in mental health for students. She conducts research in emotions using humanistic, spiritual, and person-centered methodologies, gradually building a dynamic digital presence at her university with PRISM (Promotores de la Salud Mental Restauradora y Integrativa / Promoting Restorative and Integrative Mental Health). She and her colleague, Dr. Tiffany Culver, were awarded a CEMRRAT (Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training) Grants from the American Psychological Association to ensure that students obtain stipends as they develop PRISM.

Furthermore, she is collaborating with a non-profit organization in México that specializes in grief counseling and death culture to humanize and heal the processes that accompany death and dying. Essentially, her hope is to help transform the experience of loss that many people experience at different points of life from regret/resentment/repression towards passion/ideation and resolve.

She is an active member of APA Division 1 (Society for General Psychology) and was the Program Co-Chair for the Division's program "Bridging the Gap: Integrating Diverse Perspectives in Psychological Science" in 2021-22 for the APA Convention held in Minneapolis, MN. She is also an active member of the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP) producing the newsletter from 2019-23. Within her professional expertise, she collaborates with members of the Committee on Online and Distance Education, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Faculty Learning and Teaching Center, and the Library and Technologies and Research Council respectively to improve processes and structures to enable student access and success. She is also affiliated with the Committees of the Student Research Symposium and Big Bend Comic Con (BBCC), and BBCC last hosted their Comic Con in Alpine, TX in 2021. Besides teaching, conducting research, and committing to service, she is a loyal enthusiast of tea, yoga, aerobics, soca, electronic dance music, movies, and anime.

**DR. TIFFANY CULVER**

Dr. Tiffany Culver's professional career began with a Bachelor's in Psychology at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She then continued her education at Mississippi State University and earned her Master's and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. Dr. Culver has contributed to her field with several published peer-reviewed scholarly articles in the Journal of College Reading and Learning, College Teaching, and Delta Educational Journal. Currently, she has over 63 research presentations. A far cry from her original undergraduate major in Chemical Engineering.

Dr. Culver is an Educational Psychologist with teaching experience at both public and private institutions/universities. She currently holds the rank of Assistant Professor of Psychology at Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas. Prior to this, Dr. Culver taught as an Associate Professor at Sul Ross State University - Rio Grande College in Uvalde, Texas. At SRSU, the student body repeatedly/proudly recognized her as a "Faculty Favorite." Dr. Culver accepted this heart-felt award from them in 2011-2012, 2017-2018 and 2019-2020.

Her career is driven by a personal interest in seeing students progress and achieve. Reading compliance, metacognitive readings strategies, and reading comprehension in college students are her primary concerns. Recently, her focus has evolved to study the mental health of college students as mental well-being is a growing national concern.

The American Psychological Association recently awarded her and her colleague, Dr. Alicia Trotman a CEMRRAT (Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training) grant from the American Psychological Association to create opportunities for their Psychology students to access mental health resources and simultaneously benefit from unique opportunities to develop their own clinical experience. Besides her professional and class-based activities, she is the advisor for the Psychology Club and employs three Psychology Coordinators. Under her direction, Psychology students are allotted the experience of at least four community speakers/tours per semester. She encourages students to assist in community organizations involved in mental health, such as the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Uvalde Bereavement Center Grief Camp, and Kerrville Volunteer Service Council.

Culver is a board member and Secretary/Regional Liaison for the South Texas chapter of the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention. She also serves on the Volunteer Service Council of Kerrville State Hospital, Kiwanis of Kerrville (board) and the National Alliance on Mental Illness. In addition, Dr. Culver has coordinated mental health programs at Schreiner University for students, faculty and staff. She has also developed the New Faculty Mentoring Program at Schreiner University.

On a personal note, Dr. Culver is a very proud mother of her son, Myles Culver. He is currently enrolled as a police cadet the Law Enforcement Academy of Southwest Texas Junior College and resides in Uvalde, Texas with his lovely wife, Anna.