Author Biographies

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“An Infrasonic Missing Fundamental Rises at 18.5Hz”

Chris Lacomba is a senior majoring in Psychological Science and minoring in Biology at the University of North Georgia. His academic interests include the neurosciences, sensation & perception, cognitive sciences, psychophysics, and music theory. He believes in bridging the scientific disciplines, and even the arts, together to solve a question at hand. In 2013, he presented his research findings on the infrasonic missing fundamental illusion at the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) conference in Atlanta, Georgia. He spends his free time playing and writing music, a powerful source of inspiration for studying perception. He is a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. His ultimate goal is to earn a Ph.D. in Neuroscience and work with brain-computer interfaces (BCIs).

Steven A. Lloyd is an Associate Professor and Department Head of Psychological Science at the University of North Georgia. He earned a M.S. in Psychology from The University of Memphis and a Ph.D. in Anatomy and Neurobiology from The University of Tennessee Health Science Center. He has authored and coauthored book chapters and journal articles on such topics as the effective use of technology in the classroom and the effects of psychostimulants on the adult and developing brain. His current interests are in the development and assessment of cross-disciplinary undergraduate research experiences and the long-lasting behavioral teratogenic effects of in utero exposures to prescription stimulant medications.

Ryan A. Shanks is an associate professor in the Department of Biology at the University of North Georgia. He earned a Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine and Genetics from the Medical College of Georgia with subsequent postdoctoral work at Wake Forest School of Medicine and Baylor College of Medicine. He has authored journal articles in the fields of cell biology, immunology, and neuroscience. His current interests are in the development of research opportunities for undergraduates to study the underlying biological mechanisms of psychostimulant-induced behavioral changes and in integration and assessment of cross-disciplinary research experiences into psychology and biology curriculums.

“APG-Containing Product Reduces Water Quality and Food Availability to Primary Consumers in Freshwater Microcosms”

Sara Benevente earned her Bachelors degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry in 2013 from Georgia Southern University. Named a Ronald E. McNair Scholar in 2012, Sara conducted an undergraduate research project under the mentorship of Dr. Risa Cohen. Sara’s research was focused on the effects of contaminants on water quality and aquatic community health, and she presented her findings in oral presentations on the Georgia Southern University campus as well as at the National McNair Undergraduate Research Symposium in Buffalo, NY. Sara is planning to continue her education at the graduate level in the field of Environmental Health.

She would like to thank the Ronald E. McNair Program and the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern University for providing funding for this research. She would also like to thank Steven Riera for laboratory assistance, and the editor and two anonymous reviewers for valuable comments that greatly improved the manuscript.
“Changing Attitudes toward LGBT Students: An Analysis of an Awareness Training Paradigm Aimed at Increasing Pro-LGBT Attitudes”

Melissa A. Deese is currently an undergraduate at the University of North Georgia. She is studying in the Psychology program with a minor in Gender Studies. Her research interests include topics related to sexuality and gender (specifically that of the LGBT community), suicide, and self-harm. Other current research focuses on social loafing in the context of collaborative memory and sensitization periods related to methamphetamine in mice.

Bryan L. Dawson, Ph.D. is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychological Science at the University of North Georgia. His research focuses on discrimination and the attitudinal and behavioral effects of positive and negative beliefs toward women, people of color, and LGBT people. In addition, Bryan is currently investigating the potential antecedents and predictors of hostile discrimination in online environments and the effects on perceptions of women and people of color.

“Criminological Theory as Represented in Music Lyrics”

Arielle Hollman is currently a senior at Florida Southern College, where she is pursuing a B.S. in both Criminology and Sociology. Arielle is a member of the honor society Phi Kappa Phi and a volunteer with Big Brothers, Big Sisters. The research presented in this paper was first presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 49th Annual Meeting in New York City, NY, in March 2012.

She would like to acknowledge and extend her heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Slate, Professor of Criminology at Florida Southern College, for introducing her to the topic of criminological theory in music lyrics and for his constant support and assistance. She would also like to express her gratitude to Ms. Lisa Lapointe, Reference and Instruction Librarian at Florida Southern College, for her invaluable guidance and assistance in the collection of journal articles used in this paper.

“Developing the College Student Stress Inventory for Black Women (CSSI-BW)”

April Brown, daughter of Michael and Debra Brown, is from Yazoo City, a small town in central Mississippi. April earned her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology with a minor in Public Health Science from Spelman College, where she graduated summa cum laude (C’2013) and conducted research on stress and Black college women. During her tenure at Spelman, April served as an executive member of several honor societies. By junior year, she was invited to join Phi Beta Kappa, America’s oldest and most prestigious university organization, which only extends membership to the country’s top ten percent of college undergraduates.

April has been afforded many opportunities to pursue novel research endeavors at several top-tier institutions like Emory University and Yale University. She is currently a guest researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and she is work examining social factors
that impact IQ in children. April is a current Gates Millennium Scholar and is continuing her education at the University of California, Berkeley, where she is earning her doctorate in Social Epidemiology as the only student in her cohort of ten who was admitted directly from undergrad. Upon completing her Ph.D., April plans to return to the CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Officer, where she will serve as frontline responder for national disease outbreaks.

A. Nayena Blankson, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Spelman College. She earned her Ph.D. in quantitative psychology from the University of Southern California, where she was mentored by the late Dr. John L. Horn. Prior to her appointment at Spelman, Dr. Blankson was as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Family Research Center at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Blankson’s research interests straddle both quantitative and developmental psychology. Her quantitative interests include psychometrics, multivariate methods, moderated mediation, the design of psychological research, and structural equation modeling. Her developmental research interests include early academic achievement as it relates to cognition, parenting, schooling, and personality.

“DTC Depression & Social Anxiety”

Willem Parshley is a recent graduate of Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he majored in Psychology. Will’s fascination with psychology blossomed after completing two small diagnostic assignments in a lower-level high school course. Subsequent volunteer and research experiences cultivated a desire to practice therapy, and over the next year, he will be applying to doctoral programs in clinical psychology. In the future, he plans to work with recent veterans and other victims of trauma. His research interests include substance abuse, eating disorders, posttraumatic stress disorder, psychoanalysis, British Romantic and Victorian literature, and post-structural philosophy. Born and raised in Portland, Maine, Will loves the Atlantic Ocean, basketball, and all four seasons with equal zeal.

He would like to thank his family for their unconditional support, and his advisor, Richie Zweigenhaft, for all of his guidance over the past three years.

“Fiddler Crabs (Uca pugilator) as Bioindicators of Environmental Health in Coastal Estuarine Communities of Beaufort, South Carolina”

Steven Giblock is a recent graduate of Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee. Originally from Farragut, Tennessee, Steven earned his B.S. in Biology. Maryville College awarded Steven with the distinction of “Exemplary Senior Study” for his undergraduate thesis, published in this journal. His thesis was selected for permanent inclusion in the Maryville College Library and Undergraduate Research website. Steven hopes to initiate a career as a field biologist.

He would like to thank his advisor Dr. Drew Crain for his constant optimism, encouragement, and wisdom throughout the course of this project. He also would like to extend thanks to Dr. Steve Borgianini and his student Paul Miller at USCB for their assistance in scouting out sites in Beaufort, and for their knowledge of fiddler crabs. Additionally, he would like to thank his friend
Miguel Rodriguez for his assistance in the field which made sampling a breeze. He would also like to thank all of his friends for their constant support, and his parents as well as the rest of his family for always being there.

“Fifty Shades of Rosa Coldfield: Sex, Gender, and Trauma in Absalom, Absalom!”

Renée Clare-Kovacs returned to study English literature after becoming a wife and mother. Those roles created an interest in the changing roles of women in the twentieth century, which she plans to research in graduate school. Her article “New Woman, Old Form” won the 2012 Simone du Beauvoir award for excellence in Gender Studies after being presented at the 2012 North Georgia Research Conference. Her sincere gratitude goes to Wendy Kurant-Rollins for her ceaseless encouragement and confidence in Renée.

“Heirloom Seed & Story Keepers: Growing Community & Sustainability through Arts-Based Research”

Jonathan Winskie is a senior at the University of North Georgia majoring in History with a minor in Appalachian Studies. Upon graduation, he hopes to pursue a placement in a Ph.D. or M.A. program in History, or a career in the National Park Service.

Jessica Murray is a junior at the University of North Georgia majoring in Biology and minoring in Appalachian Studies and Philosophy. She is interested in sustainable agriculture and conservation and hopes to pursue these interests in graduate school. Jonathan and Jessica completed the Intro to Appalachian Studies class in December 2012.

They would like to thank the students of UNG’s Fall 2012 Introduction to Appalachian Studies class: Maximillian Post, Savannah Moss, Deborah Postell, Ricardo Rojas, and Margaret Summers for all of their hard work collecting seeds and interviews from the community members and for their overall contribution to the Heirloom Seedkeepers & Their Stories project.

They would like to thank the Art Stream art education students: Ashley Echols, Kyle Clark, Sidney Dye, Anne Burton, and Angel Estrella for their creative contribution and craftsmanship of the communograph piece.

They would also like to thank the community members who so kindly shared seeds, stories, and wisdom with us: Billy Brooksher, Skippy Edwards, Carol Meeks, Scott Lacey, Bonnelle Davis, Bryson Wilkins, Robert and Elizabeth Grindle, and Archie Gilreath. Thanks to Jonathan and Jessica’s community partner, the Dahlonega Farmer’s Market, for fostering these community connections.

They owe special thanks to Appalachian Teaching Fellows Chris Dockery, M.F.A., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Art Education and Rosann Kent, M.A., Director, Appalachian Studies at UNG for their strategic planning, dedication, and mentorship to those involved with this project.
Special thanks also goes to Karrie Ann Fadroski, biology instructor at UNG Biology Department, for supervising and organizing the heirloom seed bank.

Finally, they would like to thank the Appalachian Regional Commission’s Appalachian Teaching Project for funding this project.

“Implementation of Smart Grid Technology in the United States”

Theresa Monypeny is a recent graduate from Sewanee: University of the South with a Bachelors of Science in Ecology and Biodiversity. She is interested both energy efficiency and city sustainability as well as how the built environment interacts or impacts natural ecosystems. Currently, Theresa is looking to pursue a career in sustainable real estate development and increasing energy efficiency in the residential sector.

“Male Carolina Chickadees Provide More Parental Care”

Cassie Volker was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH. She enjoys many different activities such as drawing and playing soccer, but her greatest interest has always been in animals and why they do what they do. Her love of animals led her to be a Biological Sciences major with a concentration in Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology at Northern Kentucky University. She has conducted research with Dr. Lindsey Walters for the past two years, observing the parental care behavior of the Carolina Chickadee (Poecile carolinensis). Cassie presented the research in this paper at the 5th North American Ornithological Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, in August 2012. Along with studying the provisioning behavior of the species described in this paper, she also won a Greaves Summer Fellowship from Northern Kentucky University to study the incubation behavior of the female Carolina Chickadee. She graduated in May 2013 and has been accepted into graduate school at Florida Atlantic University, where she will study animal behavior in the Atlantic spotted dolphin.

She would like to thank the Greaves Undergraduate Summer Research Grant, NKU Faculty Project Grant, NKU CINSAM, and NSF UR-STEM for funding her research, and St. Anne Convent for access to the field site. She would also like to thank Brittany Jones, Zachary Holtkamp, Allison Rigger, and Ashley Haws for all their hours of fieldwork and two anonymous reviewers who provided helpful comments on the manuscript.

“The Relevance and Redefining of Du Bois’s Talented Tenth: Two Centuries Later”

L’Monique King is a literary enthusiast and senior at University of North Carolina at Charlotte, pursuing a B.A. in English with a minor in Africana Studies. Transferring an Associate’s degree in Liberal Arts from a SUNY-New York State College, this Phi Theta Kappa member aims to teach high school English upon graduating UNCC. For this (biological) mother of two, adoptive parent of one, therapeutic foster parent, spouse, performing Spoken Word Artist, and nontraditional student (having returned to school at over 40 years of age), her academic journey
has been challenging to say the least. However, keeping her grounded and motivated has always been her love of poetry and writing. Her literary credits include bylines in community newspapers and two self-published volumes of poetry. Additionally, she has performed as the organizer and host of many community and theatre events, such as annual Juneteenth festivals, Black History Month theater productions, and youth voter registration drives. Believing that “knowledge is power” and language the gateway, she seeks to empower people with tools she hopes will enable them to function successfully and confidently in today’s global community. Through sharing her passion for writing and literature, she hopes to impress upon those she comes in contact with (both personally and academically) that limitless possibilities exist for those who have the skills to communicate effectively.

It is with great pride and resolve that this paper has been written and submitted. All praises are due to her ancestors upon whose shoulders she proudly stands. Immense gratitude is extended to all those (friends, family members, and fellow classmates) who have supported her in her writing and academic endeavors. Special thanks and eternal gratitude to her life partner and spouse, T. King. Additional thanks are extended to UNCC Professor J. Turner for believing in her and encouraging her to take the next step in her academic journey by publishing this paper and pursuing her goal of becoming a High School English teacher who makes a positive and indelible impact on the students she comes in contact with.

“To Belong or Not to Belong?: A Literature Review to Determine the Past, Current, and Future States of the African American Canon”

Ebony Gibson recently completed her M.A. in African American Studies at Georgia State University. She also has an M.F.A in Fiction from Columbia University. Her research interests include using social science methodologies to investigate issues related to defining African American literature and investigating the creative writing process of Black writers. She is adjunct faculty at Clayton State University.

Kya Reaves, Assistant Professor of English at the University of North Georgia, received a Ph.D., M.F.A, and M.A. in English from The University of Memphis. Her research interests include canonization of African American literature and marginalization of the street novel and slave narratives. She is currently working on publishing a critical analysis of the texts of Iceberg Slim.

“Too Happy for Letter-Writing:’ Irresolute and Distracted Suitors in Mansfield Park”

Sarah Lentz is currently a senior at Elon University. Her article is part of a multi-chapter thesis entitled “‘Shortcut to the Heart:’ A Historical Analysis of Men’s Courtship Letters in Jane Austen’s Fiction,” which draws on recent research on masculinity and letter-writing practices during the eighteenth century. Through the support of the Lumen Prize, a $15,000 grant awarded by Elon University, she has conducted archival research for the project at the British Library. She has also presented this paper at the 2013 British Women Writers Conference.
This research would not be possible without the funding of the Lumen Prize, administered by Elon University, and the gracious support and guidance of her mentor, Dr. Janet Myers, to whom she is sincerely grateful.