

A photograph of the Churchill Downs racetrack. In the foreground, several horses and jockeys are racing on a green track. In the background, there is a large, circular garden bed with a red flower border and a sign that reads "CHURCHILL DOWNS". A white building with a balcony is visible in the upper right. A large red banner is overlaid on the top half of the image.

2026  
Faculty Awards  
*Run for the Roses*  
Research Activity  
Recognition Recipients

**APRIL 9th, 2026**

**DIGITAL PROGRAM**

Organized by Faculty Commons



# Research Activity Recognition

Each year, Faculty Commons invites JSU faculty members to share a glimpse of their scholarly and creative research activities from the previous academic year with their peers at the annual Faculty Awards event.

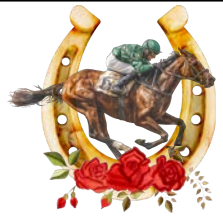
Our goal is to highlight faculty engaged in research who make meaningful contributions to the university and their field. Faculty who submit research activity are recognized at the annual Faculty Awards celebration, both in the digital program and during the ceremony. Additionally, faculty will receive a printed certificate from Faculty Commons.

The due date for the 2025 Faculty Research Activity Recognition submissions ended March 14, 2025. To be recognized, faculty must complete the Faculty Research Activity Recognition form. Submissions are limited to three research work entries per faculty member for program inclusion. Recognized works include peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, conference presentations, professional research awards, creative works (e.g., performances or exhibits), patents, or similar outputs.





# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SCIENCES

### *Dr. Rashad Ahmed, Associate Professor, English*

- Inclusivity and learner engagement through multimodal approaches in English language learning
- Human vs AI Evaluation of Student Writing

### *Dr. Kathryn Catlin, Assistant Professor of Anthropology*

- Sustainable Pasts & Futures in the Archaeological Imagination. *American Anthropologist* 127:879-883.
- "Dynamic Landscape Use at Kotið, North Iceland at the Millennial Scale." K Catlin, D Bolender, K Milek, M Ritchey, and G Cesario. Society for American Anthropology 90th Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, 23-27 April, 2025.
- Invited Talk: "Voss Alumni Talk" at the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, Voss Symposium, Brown University, 19 September 2025.

### *Dr. Jed DeBruin, Assistant Professor of Geography*

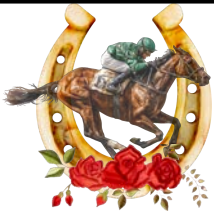
- DeBruin, J. (2026) 'A Better Way to Live, A Better Way to Cultivate': Henry Allen Laine and the Development of the Black Agricultural Extension Service in Kentucky. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, 123(3&4), 373-406. <https://doi.org/10.1353/khs.2025.a981903>.
- DeBruin, J. (2026). "Entanglements of Agency and Statecraft: Examining the Dual Purpose of Black Agricultural Extension through Appalachian Kentucky Archives." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, o(o). <https://doi.org/10.1177/02637758261417173>.

### *Dr. David Dempsey, Professor of Mathematics*

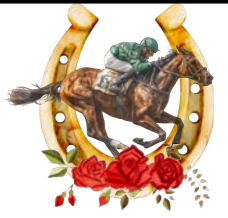
- JSU's Faculty Senate: Past, Present, Future (JSU Faculty Research Symposium, Nov. 7, 2024)
- Leadership Development for Faculty: Shared Governance (Panelist at Alabama Council of University Faculty Presidents conference, May 22, 2025)

### *Dr. Christopher Douglas, Associate Professor of English*

- "A Videogame of the Plague Year: Mapping Robinson Crusoe onto Animal Crossing: New Horizons (2020)"
- "Sedulous Minister of Hocus-Pocus Orthodoxy: Anti-methodism's Long Life in 18th-century It-Narratives"



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SCIENCES

### *Dr. Wendy Freeland, Distinguished Professor of Music*

- **Wendy Freeland and Friends: a Tribute to Francis Poulenc**

### *Dr. Eric Gamess, Professor of Computer Science*

- **A Study of the Resilience of the Mosquitto MQTT Broker Running on Raspberry Pi Against Fuzzy DDoS Attacks**
- **Assessing the Capabilities of Several Raspberry Pi Models for Virtualization with Proxmox VE**
- **Using a Raspberry Pi as a Network-Attached Storage Device: Performance and Limitations**

### *Dr. Joanne E. Gates, Emerita Professor*

- **Revisiting the Anti White-Slavery Novel in the Age of Amber Alerts: Elizabeth Robins' "My Little Sister"**
- **The Poet Doth Protest: The Political Verse of Edna St. Vincent Millay, Re-examined**

### *Dr. Arup Ghosh, Associate Professor of Computer Science*

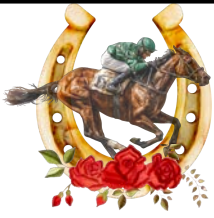
- **Illumination: Crowdsourcing Webpage Safety Information for Parents and Children to Stay Aware in an Evolving Internet Landscape**
- **Enhancing Elderly Care with AI: a Review of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Applications**

### *Dr. Larry Gray, Professor of English*

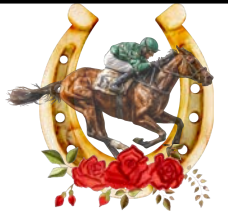
- **"3 Women (1977): Art and Artificial Intelligence"**
- **Tár (2022): Adaptation against Aging**

### *Dr. Jess Griffith, Assistant Professor of English (Professional Writing)*

- **A Field-Wide Examination of Assignments in the Service Course in Technical and Professional Communication**
- **A Primer on the Delphi Approach for Complex Research Questions in Technical and Professional Communication**



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SCIENCES

### *Dr. Jennifer Lynn Gross, Professor of History*

- **Sisterhood of the Lost Cause: Confederate Widows in the New South**
- **“Three Confederate Widows, the Lost Cause, and a New Space for Manless Women in the Late Nineteenth-Century South” presented at the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, 27-29 March 2025.**

### *Dr. Lori Hensley, Department Head and Distinguished Professor of Biology, Assistant Dean CAHS*

- **Collaborative research efforts benefit both Primarily Undergraduate Institution faculty and students and a biotechnology company in reproducibility project.**

### *Dr. Tenzing Ingty, Assistant Professor of Biology*

- **Is spring break coming early? Effects of climate change on Alabama's native plant flowering phenology**

### *Cecilia Johnson, Instructor of Biology*

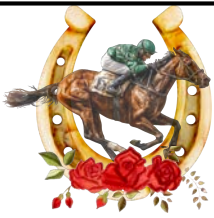
- **A Tale of Two Streams: Differences in Nesting Patterns by Two Species of Two-Lined Salamander (*Eurycea bislineata* complex) in a Sympatric Contact Zone**

### *Dr. Gabriel Lonsberry, Assistant Professor of English*

- **Shakespeare and the Non-Jonsonian Court Masques**
- **Queen Anna, Prince Henry, and an Education in Masquing**
- **Re-centering James at the Stuart Court Masques**

### *Dr. Ashley Rattner, Assistant Professor of English, English*

- **Learning to Read like an Abolitionist: Benjamin Lundy and the Early Antislavery Print Sphere**
- **"Is it necessary to explode a volcano under the foundation of the family union?": Marriage, Property, and Reproduction at New Harmony and Oneida**
- **Bobble Buns: Remembering Birmingham's Industrial Past at the Vulcan Gift Shop**



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SCIENCES

*Dr. Jim Rayburn, Distinguished Professor of Biology.*

- Assessing the Impact of CBD and Caffeine Interaction on *Xenopus laevis* Embryos

*Dr. Marija Reiff, Assistant Professor of English*

- Destroyed, Dispatched, Delivered: Dynamic Christian Ethics and the Fallen Woman on the fin de siècle Stage.

*Dr. Reshmi Upreti, Assistant Professor of Microbiology*

- Evolution in microbial syntropy: Visualizing lineage dynamics across 1000 generations
- ASM Travel Award for presenting the work : Vertical Transmission of Tomato Seed Endophytes: A Comparative Study of Organic and Conventional Cultivars

*Dr. Ryan Burns, Assistant Profess of British History*

- Kirk Discipline and Roman Catholicism in Early Modern Scotland

*Dr. Mark Sciuchetti, Associate Professor*

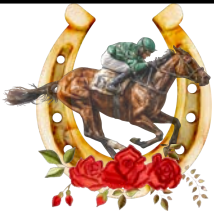
- Geospatial Insights into Consumer Behavior: Mapping the Post-Restriction Pandemic Retail Landscape in Alabama

*Dr. Kimberly Southwick-Thompson, Assistant Professor of English*

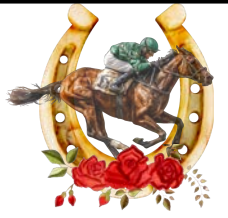
- 2 poems: "First Contact" and "Mars Poetica"
- "Freedom to Bring Creativity into Academic Writing: Roots, Techniques, and Permission," Presenter, College English Association Conference; Philadelphia, PA.
- "'By a flower – By a letter –': Dickinson's Influence on the Contemporary Epistolary," Emily Dickinson International Society Wenshan Conference, Virtual.

*Dr. David Thornton, Professor of Computer Science*

- Application Software Development Project for USSS Malware Grant



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SCIENCES

### *Dr. Julia Tigner, Assistant Professor of English*

- “When and Where I Enter”: Black Women Having Their Say in Transgressive Spaces
- “Oil Wells Pumping in My Living Room”: A Site for Black Women’s Souls in Lorraine Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun*

### *Dr. Monica Trifas, Associate Professor*

- Students Learning in the Age of AI
- Cultivating Compassion in Higher Education( Student Success Summit, 2025)

### *Dr. Tolley-Jordan, Lori, Professor*

- First report of a trematode infection in an invasive population of *Pomacea maculata*: Evidence of a phaneropsolid (Trematoda: Microphalloidea) and recommended methods for surveillance.

### *Dr. Jimmy Triplett, Professor of Biology*

- Our Native Bamboo

### *Dr. Xiaohuan Xue, Assistant Professor of Mathematics*

- Convergent Finite Difference Methods with Higher Order Local Truncation Errors for Stationary Hamilton–Jacobi Equations



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

### *Dr. Benjamin Boozer, Daugette Endowed Professor of Finance*

- **Evaluating the Relationship between Academic Decisions and Risk: A Study of University Business Students**

### *Dr. Jianping Coco Huang, Associate Professor of Marketing*

- **Emotion is dead, but can persuasion survive? The effect of AI-generated reviews in digital marketing on consumer trust. Proceedings of the Atlantic Marketing Association, Fall 2025. Best Paper in Track.**

### *Dr. Keith Lowe, Distinguished Professor of Business Statistics & Analytics*

- **Balancing Popularity and Policy Costs: An Analysis of Sales Tax Holidays**
- **Funding in College Athletics: Current Status of Financial Gender Parity**

### *Dr. Rob Landry, Distinguished Professor of Finance*

- **The Scope of the Subchapter V Corporate Debtor's "Fresh Start": The Eleventh Circuit is Poised to Weigh In, 79(4) University of Miami Law Review 763-782 (Summer 2025)**

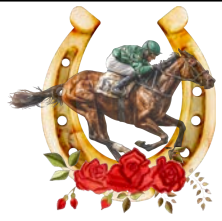
### *Dr. Yajun Lu, Assistant Professor of Management*

- **Flight Delay Dynamics: Unraveling the Impact of Airport-Network-Spilled Propagation on Airline On-Time Performance**
- **Identifying Most Lethal Cliques in Disease Comorbidity Graphs**





# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

*Dr. Ahmad Alhammouri, Associate Department Head and Associate Professor*

- **Helping Students Hit the Target on Probability**

*Dr. Aimee Weathers, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education*

- **The Role of Generative AI in Mathematics Instruction: Effects on Preservice Teachers' Lesson Planning and Attitudes**
- **Where joy meets literacy: Bridging literacy, technology, and STEM in the modern classroom.**
- **Rewriting the Script: How AI Guides Future Math Teachers**

*Dr. Ashley Turner, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education*

- **Validating the Instant Pot: A Novel Approach to Sterilization for Scientific Research and Secondary Education Science Labs. Jax State Faculty Research Symposium. Merrill Hall, Jax State. Jacksonville, AL. November 7, 2024. Awarded Best Short Research Presentation.**
- **Excellence in Science for Excellence in Education Award for Local Educators, Etowah Chamber of Commerce. The Lab. & Instant Pot Project at Jax State. April 2025.**
- **CEPS Dean's Choice Award for Faculty, College of Education & Professional Studies, Jax State. Innovative Teaching & Contributions to Student Learning in Teacher Education. March 2025.**

*Dr. Brandon Gilliland, Assistant Professor*

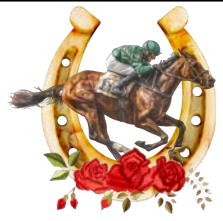
- **"Fostering Connections: Strategies for Building Rapport in the Social Science Classroom."**

*Dr. Candice Byers, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education*

- **The Impact of Female Led Multicultural Young Adult Literature on Rural Adolescent Girls**



# *Faculty Research Activity*



## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

*Dr. HungWei Tseng, Associate Professor of Professional Counseling & Leadership*

- **Setting the Stage for Success: Readiness and Connectedness as Antecedents of Learning Continuance Intention in Online Learning**
- **New Normal in Higher Education for the Post-COVID-19 World: Reimagining and Re-Examining Factors for Student Success in Online Learning**

*Dr. Russell Hammack, Professor of Education*

- **Virtual Reality as part of Inquiry into the Boston Massacre**



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS & WELLNESS

*Dr. Chris Clark, Associate Professor of Master's in Athletic Training*

- Professional Development - Student Session

*Dr. Franco Zengaro, Professor of Kinesiology*

- Zengaro, F., & Zengaro, S. (2025) Inclusive Physical Literacy for All: Innovating Teaching Strategies to Embrace Diverse Abilities. In M. Garcia (Ed.), Global innovations in physical education and health. (pp.473-490). IGI Global.
- Zengaro, F., & Zengaro, S. (2025). Teachers reflect on their identities as former students and future teachers. In N. Bianquin & F. Magni (Eds.), Book of Proceedings. ATEE Spring Conference 2024. Teacher Education Research in Europe: Trends, Challenges, Practices and Perspectives. (pp. 318-325). Universita' degli studi di Bergamo.  
<https://doi.org/10.62336/unibg.978-88-97253-27-3>
- Zengaro, S., & Zengaro, F. (2025) Global Perspectives on Physical Activity: Navigating Cultural Influences for Health and Wellness. In M. Garcia (Ed.), Global innovations in physical education and health. (pp.543-564). IGI Global.

*Dr. Gina Mabrey, Professor of Kinesiology*

- Dose-Response Effects of Short-Term Rhodiola rosea Supplementation on Anaerobic Exercise Performance in Resistance-Trained Athletes: A Randomized, Crossover, Double-Blind, and Placebo-Controlled Study
- Dose-Response Effects of Short-Term Rhodiola rosea Supplementation on Cognitive Function and Readiness to Perform in Athletes: A Randomized, Crossover, Double-Blind, and Placebo-Controlled Study

*Dr. Kelsey McEntyre, Health & Physical Education/Teacher Education*

- Using an Out-of-School Time Initiative to Increase Access and Enjoyment of Physical Activity Opportunities for Adolescent Girls: A RE-AIM Evaluation
- Navigating Student-Initiated Negotiations: Strategies for Physical Educators
- Case-Study of a Tenure-Track Faculty's Recruitment Efforts on Kinesiology Enrollment



# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS & WELLNESS

### *Dr. Kimberly Helm, Professor*

- **A Roadmap to Achieving the Certified Nurse Educator Certification**
- **Innovative Pathways to Academic and Clinical Nurse Educator Roles**

### *Dr. Laura Walker, Professor*

- **A Roadmap to Achieving the Certified Nurse Educator Certification**
- **Innovative Pathways to Academic and Clinical Nurse Educator Roles**

### *Dr. Melissa Duckett, Associate Professor of Nursing*

- **Building Professionalism in Nursing: A Real-World Guide for New Nurse Success**

### *Dr. Serena Gramling, Associate Professor of Nursing*

- **Healthcare Workplace Violence**

### *Dr. Stacy Mikel, Associate Professor of Nursing*

- **NCLEX-style Questions for Brunner & Suddarth's Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing, 16th edition**
- **Electronic Health Record Templates for Pearson MyLab for Nursing**

### *Mrs. Tammy Killen, MSN, RN, Instructor School of Nursing*

- **Building Professionalism in Nursing: A Real-World Guide for New Nurse Success**





# Faculty Research Activity



## COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

### *Dr. Bri Turgeon, Associate Professor of Sociology*

- ‘She who must not be named’: Harry Potter fans’ identity change amid the author’s transphobia
- She Who Must Not Be Scammed: Transphobes, Trolls, and Tricksters in Online Research,
- “Unforgivable Curses: Identity Dilemmas in a Fractured Fandom”

### *Dr. C. Renee Renda, Assistant Professor, Psychology*

- A Comparison of Instructional Methods for Teaching APA Skills

### *Rusty Nall, Assistant Professor of Psychology*

- Distinct behavioral profiles and neuronal correlates of heroin vulnerability versus resiliency in a multi-symptomatic model of heroin use disorder in rats

### *Dr. Sally Zengaro, Associate Professor of Psychology*

- Supporting active learning in online learning: Creating a culture of care
- Global perspectives on physical activity: Navigating cultural influences for health and wellness
- Teachers reflect on their identities as former students and future teachers

### *Dr. Sarah Donley, Professor of Sociology*

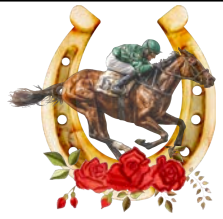
- She Who Must Not Be Scammed: Transphobes, Trolls, and Tricksters in Online Research.
- “Death Bouncers” and “Spiritual Guides”: How End-of-Life Doulas Provide, Frame, and Negotiate Spiritual Care and Spirituality

### *Dr. Shih-Kai Huang, Professor of Emergency Management & Public Administration*

- Exploring Couples’ Information-Seeking Behaviors when Faced with a Rare Tornado Threat
- Risk perception and the U-pattern of protective action changes: Analyzing responses to rare tornado threats
- California First Responder’s Perspective in the Response Phase of a Wildland Fireemic.



# Faculty Research Activity



## LIBRARY SERVICES

*Karlie Johnson, Associate Professor, History, Geography, and Anthropology Librarian*

- **Creating the Perfect Jax MIX Blend with Campus Events: Helping Students Find Deeper Connections and Success through General Education**

*Dr. Laura Pitts, Associate Professor of Library Services and Provost's Faculty Fellow for Experiential Learning*

- **"It's a Miserable, Scary, Stressful Time to Be a Librarian": Attitudes and Opinions of Alabama Library Workers Regarding Intellectual Freedom and Censorship (Part One of a Three-Part Study).**
- **"Retention, Engagement, and Readiness: A High-Impact, Experiential Learning Model" Presented with Dr. J. Seth Johnson at the Society for Experiential Education Annual Convention**
- **"Building Blocks of AI Literacy: Teaching AI Ethics, Understanding, and Engagement to Undergraduates" (Poster Presentation for the AI Exchange with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education)**

*Tang, Yingqi, Professor, Houston Cole Library*

- **Tang, Y., Tseng, H., Kuo, Y., Yeh, H., & Liu, J. (2025). Setting the stage for success: Readiness and connectedness as antecedents of learning continuance intention in online learning. *Online Learning*, 29(1), 214–237. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24059/olj.v29i1.4402>**
- **Tang, Y. (Author & Presenter), Tseng, H. (Author), Alabama Library Association Annual Convention, "Exploring Academic Librarians' Perception of OER Through the Lens of Technology Acceptance Model," ALLA, Guntersville. (April 10, 2025)**

*Research  
Activity  
Recognition*

Thanks to everyone  
who completed the  
Research Activity  
Recognition forms.  
Congratulations on  
a successful year.

