EXPLANATION OF FSRP

WHAT IT IS:

The principal purpose of the Faculty/Student Research Program (FSRP) is to offer you the opportunity to be involved in faculty research activities. The FSRP offers you powerful learning experiences which transcend the traditional roles of faculty/student relationships.

The program is university-wide and covers all academic departments. Participation is open to all undergraduate and graduate students in good academic standing. Although this program is offered on a non-credit basis, students will receive transcript recognition for their participation. The FSRP is currently being administered by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and the Registrar’s Office.

BENEFITS:

- FSRP supports and encourages increased research activities at the university level.

- Collaborative efforts of the faculty and students create an environment in which students can conduct research, develop research skills, and apply knowledge gained in coursework.

- Meaningful dialogue between students and faculty is at the core of the learning process. This dialogue is enhanced by the opportunity for faculty and students to interact outside the classroom.

- Faculty benefit from the assistance of capable, motivated students.

FINDING A FACULTY SPONSOR:

In this booklet, you will find a list of faculty sponsors. In order to identify a faculty sponsor that will be a good match for you, first think about your own skills, education, and interests. Try to focus on classes you have taken which you found very interesting, or subject areas that you have always wanted to explore further.

Once you have identified your areas of interest, look through the list of faculty sponsors and pick out several professors who are working in areas which relate to your interests. Note that you are not restricted to working with faculty who are listed in the Faculty Directory. You may work with any faculty member who is interest in working with you. Visit faculty during their office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss your research interests. Most faculty members are NOT looking for students with prior research experience. They ARE looking for students who genuinely want to participate in research and who will be energetic and reliable assistants.
Be prepared to talk about why you wish to participate in the FSRP and what you hope to gain from the experience. Be honest about your motivation in participating in this program. The faculty member, in turn, can let you know what their research has to offer you in the way of learning, and both of you can decide whether or not to work together.

Once you and a faculty member have agreed to work together, the next step is to complete the Learning Contract. This contract details the exact nature of the research you will undertake with your faculty sponsor and serves as a formal agreement between the two of you. After the contract is signed and turned in to the Registrar’s Office, you are officially a part of the FSRP for that term. A new Learning Contract must be filled out and submitted for each term.

You are required to commit a minimum of one full semester/term to FSRP, but may continue your work beyond this. You should expect to devote 60-90 hours per term to the research activities; however, the exact scheduling of your time may vary depending on the particular research needs, your schedule and that of the faculty member.

TRANSCRIPT RECOGNITION:

A unique “course” number (97) will be assigned to FSRP activities. It may be prefixed by any of the active departmental designations (e.g. ENGL, PSYC, HIST, PS, etc.). The appropriate prefix will be selected by the faculty member involved in the contract. The prefix and “97” number will be placed on the contract form at the Registrar’s Office.

A transcript entry for a student might look like this, with the FSRP activity being the third entry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DPT/NUM</th>
<th>COURSE DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>GRD</th>
<th>CR</th>
<th>Q.P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC 115</td>
<td>COST ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC 117</td>
<td>ADV. ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKT 97</td>
<td>FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Giving FSRP Transcript Recognition for essentially the same work being performed in credit courses (e.g. undergraduate research or honors courses) is not appropriate.
SUMMARY OF STEPS

- Consider your skills, interests and education.
- Review the Faculty Directory to identify professors you would like to work with and/or approach them in class even if they are not listed in the directory.
- Visit faculty.
- Jointly complete and sign a Learning Contract.
- Submit one copy of both sides of the completed Learning Contract to the Registrar’s Office (St. Thomas 301) and one copy to Eloise Libassi, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (IMBM 202). Faculty members should keep the original contract. An official roster for each subject area will be sent to the faculty member by the Registrar’s Office.
- Work directly with faculty sponsor.
- At the end of the term, the faculty sponsor and student should jointly complete the evaluation section of the Learning Contract. The faculty sponsor should keep this form. A copy may also be given to the student.
- The Registrar’s Office will send the faculty sponsor a final grade roster on which a “SATISFACTORY” (S) grade or “NO CREDIT” can be reported for the FSRP. This roster will be delivered to the Registrar’s Office by the faculty member.

PLEASE NOTE: Students are NOT penalized for failure to complete the terms of a Learning Contract. Students will simply not receive transcript recognition for their participation in the program. The Registrar’s Office will record the appropriate transcript recognition on your academic record.

FSRP DEADLINES

For the 2011-2012 academic year, the deadlines are as follows:

FALL – September 9, 2011
INTERSESSION - January 6, 2012
SPRING – February 10, 2012
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

MICHAEL CAREY, Biology
941-7544, Loyola 120
(3 students - summer)

Description of research activities:
Observations on breeding biology, sexual selection, and sex roles in parental care in a number of small bird species. Work also includes observations of sexual selection, mate choice, mating behavior in several insect species and vegetation analysis of nesting habitat.

Activities to be performed by student:
- **BIRDS:** Mist netting, trapping, and banding for identification. Field behavioral observations. Collect vegetation data relative to habitat and nest site locations.
- **INSECTS:** Netting, collection and measurements

Student qualifications:
- **FIELD:** Transportation to the field. Incredible patience in observation and willingness to tolerate cold, damp, physical work. (Note: Field work done almost exclusively in the summer.)

GARY KWIECIŃSKI, Biology
941-6387, ggk301@scranton.edu, Loyola 212
(2-3 students)

Description of research activities:

Activities to be performed by student:
- Analysis of mammal activity in the field
- Collection of field-caught mammals, measurements and laboratory preparations
- Histological methods related to endocrinological and physiological adaptation to human disturbances
- Recording of ultrasound on tape and computer analysis of recordings
- Collect, tabulate and analyze data and present findings

Student qualifications:
- GPA is upper 20% of class
- Willingness to perform routine, daily tasks (e.g. section, stain, library literature searches).
- Desire to work independently and as part of a team.
- Must be reliable
ROBERT SMITH, Biology
941-6581, Loyola 208

(4 students)

Description of research activities:
Various projects focused on the ecology, ecophysiology and conservation of landbird migrants.

Activities to be performed by student: Field activities include data collection on migrating and breeding birds via mist netting and trapping, field behavioral observations, finding and monitoring nests, collecting vegetation data to describe habitat and nest site locations, and sampling/quantifying arthropod abundance.
Laboratory activities include identification and quantification of invertebrates, processing of avian blood slides, identification and quantification of white blood cells, analysis of plasma metabolites, spectrophotometric analysis of feathers and eggshells, data entry and summary analyses.

Student qualifications: For fieldwork, students must be willing to begin in the early a.m., be dependable, and have a willingness to tolerate field conditions (cold/hot temperatures, rain, physical work, etc.). For labwork students must be dependable, be detail oriented and be able to work independently and as part of a team.

MARIA SQUIRE, Biology
941-4742, Loyola 114
squirem2@scranton.edu

(1 student)

Description of research activities: Assessment of skeletal morphology in Passerines, including the effects of migration and the effects of hormone treatment.

Activities to be performed by student:
- Dissection of bones from bird carcasses.
- Preparation of bones for scanning using the microCT scanner.
- Image processing, including contour line drawing for evaluation of 3D bone microarchitecture.
- Analysis of 3D bone microarchitecture data to gather information regarding baseline skeletal morphology, the effects of migration, and the effects of hormone treatment.

Student qualifications:
- Completion of Biology 141-142 and either Biology 241, Biology 245, Biology 352, or Biology 374.
- Willingness to handle and dissect bird carcasses.
- Willingness to spend considerable amounts of time at a computer working with images.
ROBERT WALDECK, Biology  
941-4324, Loyola 106  
(2 students)

**Description of research activities:**

What is the neural basis of behavior? What role does modification of the nervous system or synaptic plasticity have in this function? What is the underlying mechanism of synaptic plasticity? What is the neuronal basis of recovery following injury? Identified neurons of the goldfish midbrain *in vivo* can be used to investigate such mechanisms of modification.

**Activities to be performed by student:** Students will be involved in daily animal maintenance, intracellular and EMG recording, histological techniques, behavioral testing, and animal surgery.

**Student qualifications:** Interest in the nervous system. Responsibilities increase with experience.

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COMPUTING SCIENCES

BENJAMIN BISHOP, Computing Sciences  
941-6115, St. Thomas 477  
(1-2 students)

**Description of research activities:** Various projects are available in the areas of Computer Architecture and Graphics.

**Activities to be performed by student:** Duties will vary depending on the project, but this work generally involves running simulations and significant programming.

**Student Qualifications:** Student should be willing to work, and should have completed at least CMPS 240.
ENGLISH and THEATRE DEPARTMENT

LEN GOUGEON, English & Theatre
941-7422, CLP 205
gougeonL1@scranton.edu

(2-3 students)

Description of research activities:

This project deals with how relationships between New England and British writers and intellectuals were impacted by the American Civil War. Overall, the war resulted in a significant cultural conflict between the liberal democracy that was emerging in America and the conservative values held by most of the Victorian elites. Major figures involved in this conflict include Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, Oliver Wendell Holmes (New Englanders), and Matthew Arnold, John Ruskin, and Thomas Carlyle (Victorians).

Activities to be performed by student:

Students will transcribe into an electronic database significant portions of essays, articles, and commentaries that were published in the major British and American journals and newspapers at the time. Copies of these materials with relevant passages highlighted will be provided to the students.

Student qualifications: Literacy, curiosity, patience, and basic typing skills.

HANK WILLENBRINK, Theatre
941-4353, CLP 118

Description of Research activities: Research assistant for a book and performance text.

Activities to be performed by student:

a. internet, library, and newspaper research
b. copying, scanning, and collating
c. transcribing interviews
d. some editing

Student Qualifications:

a. Strong writing skills
b. Interest in the field of performance/theater/performance art
c. attention to detail
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

JOHN J. LEVKO, S.J., Mathematics
941-7606, St. Thomas 376
(3 students)

Description of research activities:
1. Explore topics in vector and tensor analysis - (1 student)
2. Explore topics concerning “Fibonacci sequence and limits” as well as “symmetric functions” - (1 student)
3. Explore topics concerning mathematics and spirituality [Eastern Christian and Ignatian] - (1 student)

Activities to be performed by student: Finding relevant papers, reading, producing examples, and generalizing existing results.

Student qualifications:
1. For description #1, at least a grade of B+ in Math 462, as well as permission of the instructor required.
2. For description #2, at least a grade of B+ in Math 446, as well as permission of the instructor required.
3. For description #3, at least a grade of B+ in T/RS 339 or T/RS 552,
4. as well as permission of the instructor required.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

SHARON M. MEAGHER, Philosophy
941-4075, St. Thomas 552
Meaghers1@scranton.edu
(1 student)

Description of research activities: Research assistant in public philosophy

Activities to be performed by student:

- Internet, newspaper and library research on examples of publicly relevant philosophical work
- Compilation of annotated bibliographies
- Discussion of materials researched
- Some writing and editing for web publication

Student qualifications:
- Strong writing and research skills
- Attention to detail
- Philosophy major or minor with interest in public applications of philosophy
Description of research activities:
I am a theoretical astrophysicist studying orbit changes of interacting binary star systems. My research focuses on the shape of stars when they are in orbit around each other, as well as what happens when the stars get so close as to literally rip matter off the surface of the other star. My research is entirely computational, using a newly built computer cluster on our campus.

Activities to be performed by the students:
Varies dependent on student qualifications and interest, and can include, but is not limited to:

- Developing software to better compute the orbits and shapes of binary stars;
- Modeling data to determine the changes in shape of binary stars;
- Analytic solution to differential equations of a stellar orbit;
- Maintenance, upgrading, developing, and securing a beowulf computer cluster.

Student Qualifications:

- Calculus experience;
- Significant computer experience;
- Willingness to learn programming and a new operating system;
- Experience with Maple, Linux, C, and/or C++ are beneficial, but not required.
ROBERT A. SPALLETTA, Physics
941-6210, LSC 154
ras305@scranton.edu

(3 students)

Description of research activities:
My research interests fall into three general categories, biophysics, physics and engineering. In biophysics I have projects in protein folding, DNA radiation chemistry, heart rate variability, Gait analysis, tactile analysis, health monitoring and assessment (particularly in the elderly). In physics my research revolves around cosmology, photovoltaics and superconductivity. I also have several renewable energy projects. In engineering I have projects involving robotics, prosthetic devices, human machine interfaces and biometrics.

Activities to be performed by the students:
Varies dependent on student qualifications and interest, and can include, but is not limited to:

- Using software to model complex systems ranging in size from quantum wells to collections of galaxies
- Build equipment and integrate data from systems as diverse as ultra low temperature florescence spectroscopy to blood pressure and EKGS.
- Build, modify, upgrade and/or use mechanical, electrical and robotic devices.

Student Qualifications:
- Calculus experience;
- A background in one of the natural sciences
- Willingness to learn specialized software packages such as Labview, Comsol, Tripos, Maple, Matlab, MathCAD and Silvaco
- Willingness to learn specialized programming languages such as C++ and Assembly.

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

JEAN WAHL HARRIS, Political Science
941-7431, O'Hara 412
harrisj2@scranton.edu

Description of research activities: Assist me in one or two research projects. Project one is revising seven chapters in my American government textbook in preparation for its third edition (American Democracy Now, published by McGraw-Hill). Project two is research on the first ladyship of Michelle Obama.

Activities to be performed by student:
- Internet, newspaper, and journal research
- Compilation of annotated bibliographies
- Discussion of research and findings with Dr. Harris
- Possibility of facilitating informal discussions with other University of Scranton students on current political events

Student qualifications:
- Strong writing skills
- Strong critical thinking skills
- Interest and aptitude in American government (institutions, processes, and policies) and/or the first lady (the institution and the incumbent)
- preference for student(s) with completion of PS 130 (American Government I), PS 131 (American Government II), and/or PS 135 (State and Local Government)
WILLIAM PARENTE, PhD, Political Science
941-7644, O’Hara Hall 411, parentew1@scranton.edu

Description of research activities:
Historical research into the politics of ethnic Italians in Scranton during the 1890-1910 period. Newspapers in Lackawanna Historical Society holdings (their building is right next to St Thomas Hall) and Scranton Public Library.

Activities to be performed by student:
Reading the newspapers of the period in search of ethnic politics locally and nationally as it pertains to Italian immigrants and Italian-American citizens. Following up on items in more general histories of the city, state, and nation: e.g., the New Orleans lynching of Italians in the 1890s, the largest mass lynching in the country’s history; the 1892 400th anniversary celebration of Columbus arrival in the New World; Italian immigrants and strife in the coal mining industry here in Northeast Pennsylvania; crime and domestic abuse issues among this newly arrived ethnic group; etc.

Student Qualifications:
History, Political Science, Sociology majors with an interest in ethnic politics.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

BRYAN R. BURNHAM, Psychology
941-6687, AMH 206
attention.perform@gmail.com
burnhamb2@scranton.edu

(2-3 students)

Description of research activities:
My research focuses on human information-processing and on the control of attention. Specifically, how do humans selectively attend to one item or location over another, by what mechanisms do humans control attention, and how do environmental stimuli influence attention. In collaborative research, my lab also examines the relationships between physiology, political and social attitudes, and information processing.

Activities to be performed by student:
- Varies depending on your qualifications and the experience sought
- Assist with carrying out research studies (subject testing)
- Assist me in data analysis, stimulus construction, research design, and computer programming (I will teach)
- Assist in literature searches and reviews, and with manuscript preparation

Student qualifications:
- At a minimum, students must have completed PSYC 110 and PSYC 210, and I prefer my assistants to be at least enrolled in PSYC 330 (or equivalent)
- Must complete the online CITI training course prior to working in my lab
- Please fill out a lab application, which is available outside of my office
TIM CANNON, Psychology/Neuroscience  
941-4266, LCS 275  
https://sites.google.com/site/timcannonshomepage/Home  
cannonjt@gmail.com

(3-5 new students each semester)

Description of research activities:
● In humans we examine how facial and hand characteristics relate to intelligence, personality, and cognition.
● In drosophila we are examining hedonics, nociception, and addiction.

Activities to be performed by student:
● Varies depending on qualifications and the type of experience sought
● Assist in carrying out research studies (design/testing/analysis)
● Data analysis with ImageJ and AnyMaze software.

Student Qualifications: Primarily, students must have interest and time. For human research, students must complete an online CITI training course prior to testing human participants.

HERB HAUSER, Psychology  
941-4237 AMH 207  
hauserh2@scranton.edu

(3-4 students)

Description of research activities:  
● Study the fixed behavioral patterns of the elderly  
● Develop sensors that will assist the elderly to live independently in their own homes  
● Assess physical activity during the sleep cycle in undergraduates  
● Development of remote and autonomous sensor devices to detect functions such as depression, delirium and behaviorally induced changes in environmental odoration.

Activities to be performed by student:  
● Conduct data collection of activity during sleep  
● Work on the development of sensors with Physics Faculty  
● Collect qualitative field data among the elder community  
● Data Analysis  
● Literature Search and Review

Student qualifications: Open only to Juniors and Seniors. Psychology and or Neuroscience Majors preferred. Must complete CITI certification for human research. Must have and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or greater.
THOMAS P. HOGAN, Psychology
941-4268, AMH 223
Thomas.Hogan@Scranton.edu

(2-4 students per year)

Description of research activities:
- Research on quantitative estimation abilities
- Manuscript preparation on variety of topics related to psychological measurement

Activities to be performed by student:
- Literature searching
- Data collection (must complete CITI training for data collection)
- Data input and analysis
- Manuscript editing
- Assisting with design of studies

Student qualifications:
- Psychology major or minor
- Completion of Psyc 210 (Statistics) and preferably Psyc 330 (Research Methods)

BARRY K. KUHLE, Psychology
941-5459, AMH 222
Kuhleb2@scranton.edu

(2-5 students starting in the Fall of 2012)

Description of research activities:
My research focuses on the evolved psychological mechanisms that underlie commitment and jealousy in heterosexual romantic relationships. Specifically, I explore how men and women assess a new dating partner’s commitment intentions and how they navigate a partner’s (and their own) violations of relational commitment (e.g., infidelity).

Activities to be performed by student:
- Attend weekly meetings on time and fully prepared
- Survey design, construction, and implementation on the web via Survey Monkey
- Assist in carrying out the study (subject testing)
- Data entry
- Journal searches, literature reviews, and assistance with poster and paper preparations

Student qualifications:
- Must have earned at least a B in PSYC 110 (Fundamentals) and 210 (Statistics)
- I prefer students to have taken (or currently be taking) PSYC 330 (Research Methods) and 233 (Evolutionary Psychology).
- Must complete the online CITI training course prior to enrollment
JOHN C. NORCROSS, Psychology
941-7638, norcross@scranton.edu, AMH 224
(2 students)

Description of research activities:
Ongoing and diverse projects related to psychotherapy, self-change, and clinical training.

Activities to be performed by student:
- Literature searches
- Data collection
- Data input
- Statistical analyses
- Manuscript preparation

Student qualifications:
- Psychology major or minor
- Junior or senior status
- Completion of Psychological Statistics and Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences
- Avid interest in scientific research
SOCIOLOGY/CRIMINAL JUSTICE

JOSEPH F. CIMINI, J.D., Sociology / Criminal Justice
570-941-7476, O'Hara 422
ciminij1@scranton.edu

Project One:  
(1-2 students)

Description of Research Activities:
• Technical assistant for railroad book project.

Activities to be performed by student:
• Organizing images for publication purposes.
• Scanning photographs, post cards, 35mm slides, color negatives, black and white negatives, newspaper advertisements, charts, maps, magazine pictures, and related images, as well as three-dimensional objects, at 600 dpi, utilizing on campus resources and equipment.
• Saving scanned work in TIFF to an external hard drive.
• Selected enhancement of images through PhotoShop or similar program.

Student qualifications:
• Open to students enrolled in any major or academic program.
• Expertise in scanning photographs, etc. and three-dimensional objects.
• Familiarity with graphic arts techniques used in publishing.
• Knowledge of and experience with PhotoShop or similar program.
• Capability with organizing and storing personal computer files.

Project Two:  
(10 students)

Description of research activities: “Sociology of Lackawanna County - Oral Histories” Research activities in cooperation with the staff and membership of The Lackawanna Historical Society working on “The Women’s Oral History Project of Northeastern Pennsylvania” to date. Research activities are ongoing. At the present time, a number of oral histories have been tape recorded and are housed in the George Catlin Memorial, 232 Monroe Avenue (next to St. Thomas Hall). These need to be transcribed for future accessibility.

Activities to be performed by student: The student investigator will be expected to listen to and transcribe six (6) audio tape recordings of local oral histories of women who have resided in Lackawanna County. Each tape is from 60 to 90 minutes in length. They are personal, individual stories which reflect family life, work experiences, ethnic traditions, everyday reminiscences.

Student qualifications: Very good listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are required. The student investigator should have some working knowledge of WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or other word processing.
DEBRA L. FETHERMAN, Community Health Education and Exercise Science
941-7111, Long Center 143
Fethermand2@scranton.edu

Description of research: Interested in collegiate athletic population, substance abuse/ risky behaviors and their relationship to athletic performance.

Activities to be performed by student: Search databases for extensive review of the literature, discussion of materials researched, volunteer recruitment, assist with exercise testing and interviewing, create and maintain research database.

Student qualifications:
- Health Professions Major (Exercise Science, Community Health Education, Nursing, OT, PT, Pre-Med, Biology)
- Strong writing, research and typing skills
- Attention to detail
AUKJE K. LAMONICA, Exercise Science
941-4525 105 Long Center
lamonicaa3@scranton.edu
(1-2 Students)

Description of research activities:
The purpose of this study is to explore the non-medical use of prescription drugs (NMUPD) by college students age 18 to 24. Review of literature indicates that NMUPD is a relevant issue today due to the increasing supply of legal prescription drugs, as well as the ease of diverting prescription drugs into the hands of people without prescriptions. NMUPD is particularly employed during college for recreational and functional purposes. The use of opioid prescriptions pills (pain pills) is also on the rise with increasing accessibility. The specific aims of this study are to determine the NMUPD using patterns, social determinants of use, motivators of use, meaning of prescription pill addiction, and anticipated trajectory of future use in our study sample. A convenience sample will be recruited from the student population of the University of Scranton. Study subjects will be asked to fill out a short quantitative survey and if applicable participate in a qualitative interview. The data analysis from this project will be used to design a larger comparative study conducted on college students in order to identify patterns and behaviors linked to NMUPD. Findings will add to the literature and potentially be used to help design prevention, intervention and treatment for college-based programs in the future.

Activities performed by the student:
- Find relevant literature and write annotated bibliography if necessary
- Recruit subjects on campus
- Assist with quantitative and qualitative data collection
- Assist with transcription work
- Assist with data analysis

Student qualifications:
- Interest in drug use patterns on campus
- Strong writing, research and interpersonal skills
- Students in health professions (CHED, nursing, counseling etc) in their junior and senior year preferred
- Outgoing personality and willingness to dedicate time to project

GEORGIOS A. STYLIANIDES, Exercise Science and Sport
941-6745, John Long Center 106
stylianideg2@scranton.edu
(1-2 students)

Description of research activities:
- Biomechanical analysis of sports.
- Biomechanical analysis of human movement.
- Biomechanical analysis of conductors.

Activities to be performed by the student:
- Setting up lab and testing subjects
- Data collection and analysis
- Literature review
- Manuscript preparation

Student qualifications:
- Interest in human movement analysis in 3D
- Computer literate
- Knowledge of mechanics/physics
HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

DANIEL J. WEST, Health Administration/Human Resources
941-4126, MGH 417

(2 - 3 students)

Description of research activities:
- Research on global topics via internet, newspaper & library
- Develop and present papers at national and international conferences
- Research on health care competencies
- Co-author journal articles on relevant health care management topics
- Arrange and conduct international faculty/student study tours
- Developing grant proposals for international education projects
- Assist in writing grant proposals in health management education
- Applied research projects with universities in Slovakia, Georgia and Mexico
- Work on ACHE Student Network projects

Activities to be performed by students:
- Grant writing and research
- Library research
- Prepare abstracts
- Literature reviews
- Conduct study tours
- Organize site visits

Student qualifications:
- Interest in health care management
- Proficient writing skills
- Knowledge in utilizing library facilities
- Interest in international activities
- Interpersonal skills
- Interest in other cultures & global issues
**NURSING DEPARTMENT**

**TERESA M. CONTE, Nursing**
941.7647  
contet3@scranton.edu

(1-2 students)

**Description of research activities:**
- Investigating grief and loss among nurses
- Designing an educational and support intervention to assist nurses that are confronted with professional loss
- Dissemination of study results via articles and professional presentations

**Activities to be performed by student:**
- Literature searches
- Compilation of references
- Discussion of data and emerging themes of data
- Assistance with data analysis
- Funding searches

**Student Qualifications:**
- Attention to detail
- Accountability
- Strong search skills
- Ability to handle sensitive information appropriately

Research assistants do not have to be nursing majors-I will consider students from other majors as long as there is a genuine interest in the research project.

**MARY JANE S. HANSON, Nursing**
941-4060, McGurrin Hall 313

(1-2 students)

**Description of research activities:**
Investigation of factors associated with cigarette smoking behavior

**Activities to be performed by student:**
- Data collection
- Computer data entry
- Library research as directed

**Student qualifications:**
- Computer skills
- Junior/Senior status preferred, but not required
PATRICIA WRIGHT, Nursing
941-6484, McGurrin Hall 337
wrightp2@scranton.edu

(1-2 students)

Description of research activities:
- Development of a survey instrument to measure grief after pregnancy loss.

Activities to be performed by student:
- Review of literature on pregnancy loss and grief
- Formatting of scale items
- Formatting references in APA format
- Data entry (in SPSS)

Student qualifications:
- Strong analytical skills
- Interest in nursing research
- Familiarity with APA format
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT

CAROL REINSON, PhD, OTR/L, Occupational Therapy
941-6225, Leahy 3007, Reinsonc2@scranton.edu

Description of Research Activities:

1. The Pathways Project: A Longitudinal Study of Developmental Vulnerability
   A cohort of 31 infants and their families was identified and participated in a year-long study with the primary investigator during 1999-2000. These previously identified children represent prospective case studies and were originally separated into two clusters at birth—those children (n=16) who had a brief, precautionary stay in a NICU (termed a pit-stop) and those who had a typical perinatal experience (n=15). The current research project represents a 10-year empirical longitudinal follow-up study. This project is at the data reduction and data analysis phase for both quantitative and qualitative methods. A preliminary analysis has already been completed.

2. The Use of Narrative Reasoning to Understanding Autism
   This area of inquiry explores the value of using narrative reasoning to understand the impact of autism on the life of individuals and their families. Often, individuals with autism are defined only by their external symptoms and behaviors. Their families are often defined by their challenges and obstacles. In order to fully understand and appreciate the experience of living with autism, it’s imperative to expand our knowledge to include the subjective perspective of individuals and their families. This research project involves an embedded case study of a young man with autism who “independently” uses facilitated communication. This project requires a service learning commitment to engage with an individual with autism under direct faculty supervision on a weekly basis.

3. A Decision Tree System for Designing Sensory Diets
   The purpose of this study is to further develop a decision tree system that could potentially be used to design an individualized “sensory diet curriculum” for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the context of the classroom setting. The results of this particular study are being used to improve upon the experimental design of a larger scale research proposal (A Sensory Diet to Improve Functional Classroom Performance for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder). Work on this project will contribute to writing a comprehensive Grant Proposal.

Activities to be Performed by Student:
- SPSS Data Entry & Analyses
- Qualitative Research
- Library Research (All Data Bases)
- Clerical Duties & Record Keeping
- Observation & Video-Taping
- Manuscript Preparation

Student Qualifications:
- Information Literacy
- CITI Training
- Attentive to Detail
- Flexibility with Dynamics of Research Process

Preferred Majors:
Occupational Therapy; Physical Therapy; Special Education; Exercise Science; and Psychology
Description of research activities:

Community-dwelling older adults with a history of balance dysfunction will be recruited by the primary investigator (PI: Renee Hakim). Participants will be tested using both clinical (e.g., Berg Balance Scale, Timed-Up-and-Go) and laboratory (i.e., NeuroCom Equitest dynamic posturography system) assessments of balance. Based on the exam findings, individualized training programs will include computerized training to improve balance at the impairment, strategy and functional levels.

Activities to be performed by the student:

Conduct literature reviews and participate in discussions; Assist with outcome measures/data collection (under supervision of PI); Set-up and guide participants during training; Perform data analysis.

Student qualifications: Physical therapy majors