

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	2	Abstracts	33
Letter from President Dixon	3	Business & Accountancy	33
Letter from Vice President Gordon	4	Education	33
Conference Information	5	Fine Arts	34
Session and Audio-Visual Information	6	Human Potential & Performance	38
Plenary Address	7	Language & Literature	46
Undergraduate Research Stipend		Mathematics & Computer Science	57
Recipients	8	Science	57
Program-At-A-Glance	9	Social Science	67
Program	11	Interdisciplinary	75
8:15 am – Concurrent Sessions	11	Indices	81
9:30 am – Break	14	Student Author Index	81
9:45 am – Concurrent Sessions	15	Faculty Mentor Index	85
11:00 am – Plenary Session	18	Maps / Floor Plans	88
12:15 pm – Roundtable Discussions	18	Violette Hall	88
1:15 pm – Concurrent Sessions	18	Ophelia Parrish	89, 90
2:30 pm – Break	22	Student Union	91
2:45 pm – Concurrent Sessions	23		
4:15 pm – Posters	27		
4:45 pm – Reception	31		

FOREWORD

TODAY WE CELEBRATE the 20th annual Student Research Conference, our university-wide celebration of undergraduate and graduate research, scholarship, and creative achievement. The first “Undergraduate Research Symposium” featured 24 papers from the Divisions of Science and Human Potential and Performance. Now the “Student Research Conference,” the event includes both undergraduate and graduate research presentations in the form of papers, performances, posters, and other displays, including art exhibitions. This year’s conference also includes a new type of presentation, a research round table, which will be presented as a brown bag lunchtime session. As is appropriate for a landmark anniversary, this year there are a record number of presentations, representing all university divisions.

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING the opportunity to explore and honor the outstanding and varied work of Truman students, one of the highlights of the day will be the Plenary Address by Dr. Keith Devlin, of Stanford University, who will be speaking on the use of mathematics in the television series **NUMB3RS**. His visit to Truman is co-sponsored by the STEP program at Truman State University.

THIS PRINTED VOLUME includes the full schedule of presentations and the complete set of abstracts for the conference. The material is also available online at the Student Research Conference website (<http://src.truman.edu>), at which attendees may design a customized schedule of presentations and events. New this year is the listing in the program book of those projects that were funded, in whole or in part, by Undergraduate Research Stipends from the office of Garry Gordon, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students who receive these stipends commit themselves to presenting their research at the Student Research Conference in the year following their research projects.

THE 2007 STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE has been the result of hard work and support of many people and offices across campus. Jennifer Oughton (Senior Visual Communications major) designed the poster and program/abstract book cover as well as the other promotional materials for the Conference. Greg Marshall has overseen the development and maintenance of the conference website, through which all abstracts were submitted and scheduling of the conference program was done. Teresa Wheeler and Winston Vanderhoof designed the layout for the program/abstract book as well as preparing an insert for *Truman Today*. Cinda Mitchell, Julie Hanes, Tim Mills, Chuck Parks, Mike Rechtien, Chad Tatro, Phil Worley, Shelly Pagliai, and Amy Nunan, along with many students, helped with IT/AV support for the sessions. The Student Research Committee would particularly like to thank Garry Gordon for his support of the Conference, and we greatly appreciate his commitment to student-faculty collaborative research, scholarship, and creative activity.

FINALLY, we salute the student presenters and their faculty mentors, whose creativity, dedication, and hard work make this conference possible. Thank you and congratulations on your achievements.

THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 3, 2007



Dear Colleagues, Students and Friends:

Welcome to the 20th annual Student Research Conference and the 5th annual Graduate Research Conference of Truman State University. This annual University-wide celebration recognizes and pays tribute to the outstanding **student research, scholarship and creative achievement** that occur on the Truman campus each and every day. I am very pleased you could join us and know you will be impressed by what you see.

Students on the Truman campus are able to pursue research on a wide range of topics, continuing Truman's long-standing tradition of student-faculty collaboration. Today's conference is designed to showcase that research and highlight the intellectual inquiry that occurs when highly motivated students are mentored by dedicated and talented teacher/scholars.

On behalf of the Truman community, I thank you for your attendance. I thank the many students involved in today's celebration and the many faculty mentors dedicated to scholarly inquiry. In addition, I thank Dr. Sara Orei and her program committee who have organized and developed an exceptional event.

It is truly an exciting day. Enjoy the experience!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Dixon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Barbara Dixon, President

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FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



Greetings,

When I look back at the ten years that I have had the privilege of serving as Truman's academic vice president, I see as one of our major accomplishments our willingness to create a day in the academic calendar for our Student Research Conference. Before we established this day devoted to student research, we held sessions concurrent with classes and competed for the time and space with other scheduled activities. As we celebrate this 20th anniversary of the Conference, I am pleased to note that this event is now part of the pattern of campus life and as such, exemplifies our focus on student learning through this powerful pedagogical approach. When other members of the academy and research community visit campus, they often remark on our commitment to student research and are envious of the significance it holds in campus life. Our long history of student research is one of the distinctive elements of Truman, and it is one that I am confident will be carried forward as we move into our third decade as a liberal arts institution. I hope that each of you who supports this Conference – through your attendance, active participation and/or mentoring of student research and creative efforts – feels the same sense of pride as I in the accomplishments that are demonstrated through this event and in our commitment to this way of enhancing the learning environment.

I can think of few greater pleasures in my time as Vice President than seeing members of the Truman community share their work. This high-level involvement in inquiry, whether through traditional research, creative endeavor, performance, or other scholarship, is one of the most meaningful learning experiences in our students' education. These opportunities allow students to make connections and discern the often complex relationships among diverse learning experiences. They are also among those experiences most often recognized by students as meaningful in their education.

The Conference grows every year and once again, with 351 presentations, the Conference sets a new record. Just as importantly, the 351 presentations represent the work of 458 students and 148 faculty mentors from all academic divisions. These students will share their knowledge through oral presentation of research papers, poster presentations, studio and performing arts demonstrations, technology showcases, and roundtable discussions. The wide range of formats provides all academic disciplines an opportunity to present scholarship and provides participants an understanding of different disciplinary approaches to scholarship.

A highlight of this year's Conference is the plenary address by Dr. Keith Devlin. The title of his talk is "The Numbers Behind **NUMB3RS**: The Real Mathematical Story That Inspired the Hit Television Series." This presentation promises to be engaging and exciting and I hope that you are able to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to welcome Dr. Devlin back to the Truman campus.

I continue to be impressed by the commitment of Truman faculty to engage students in scholarly endeavors, and I recognize my colleagues for their magnificent work. I want to express my great appreciation to Dr. Sara Orel who chairs our Student Research Committee and to the individuals with whom she has worked to organize and promote this year's Conference. Our staff colleagues who support our technology and other needs deserve our thanks. Finally, I congratulate all of the student participants. It is they who are at the heart of this Conference.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garry L. Gordon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Garry L. Gordon
Vice President for Academic Affairs

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Conference Registration & Name Badges

On-site registration for the 2007 Student Research Conference will be held in the main lobby both of Violette Hall, ground level, and Ophelia Parrish. All student presenters and faculty mentors can pick up name badges and program/abstract books at the Registration Desk. Registration is not required for session attendance; the entire campus community is invited and encouraged to attend. The Registration Desks will be open from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Refreshment Breaks

Complimentary refreshment breaks will be held in the main lobby of both Ophelia Parrish and Violette Hall, the buildings in which the concurrent sessions will be held. Refreshments will be available first thing in the morning, and formal break times will be from 9:30-9:45 am and 2:30-2:45 pm.

Poster/Technology Session & Library Presentation

The Poster and Technology Session will be held in the lobby of Ophelia Parrish Hall; displays will be up throughout the conference. Pickler Memorial Library will have a display in the lobby of Violette Hall through the morning sessions. All students and faculty are encouraged to visit both areas during the day.

All-Conference Reception

A conference-wide reception will be held in the main lobby of Ophelia Parrish from 4:45-6:00 pm, and this will overlap with the last 30 minutes of the Poster, Studio Arts, and Technology Session. The entire campus community is invited to attend and help honor and celebrate the scholarly and creative achievements of all student presenters and faculty mentors.

Student Research Committee

The annual Student Research Conference is planned and coordinated by the university Student Research Committee. In 2006-2007 the Committee includes one faculty representative from each Academic Division, a student member, and a chair. Members of the Committee are listed below.

Business & Accountancy: Dr. Andrew Mun

Education: Dr. Wendy Miner

Fine Arts: Dr. Jesse Krebs

Human Potential & Performance: Dr. Jeremy Houser

Language and Literature: Dr. Hena Ahmad

Library Lisa Glaubit

Math & Computer Science: Dr. Todd Hammond

Science: Dr. Jon Gering

Social Science: Dr. Karen Smith

Student Representative: Douglas Eudy, Art History and Biology

Chair: Dr. Sara Orel, Fine Arts

SESSION & AUDIO-VISUAL INFORMATION

Location of Sessions and Conference Events

All conference sessions and events will occur in three campus buildings: Ophelia Parrish, Violette Hall, and the Student Union. Individual room locations are presented on the conference web site and will be printed in the final program/abstract book.

Presentation Types

Presentations are grouped into disciplinary and interdisciplinary sessions based on the overall distribution of abstracts that were submitted. The student authors selected the scholarly area and the presentation type that was most appropriate for their project. For multi-authored presentations, the primary presenter is indicated by an asterisk (*), and graduate students are denoted by a diamond (◆).

Oral Paper Sessions – Oral paper sessions include presentations that are scheduled for 15 minutes each (inclusive of questions and discussion. A computer (PC or Mac system) with a data projector will be the standard presentation options in each session room. If an author requested additional equipment when their abstract was submitted (e.g., Overhead transparency projector, 35 mm carousel slide projector), it will be available in the session room.

Poster and Technology Showcase Session – All posters and technology displays will be on display throughout the day in the Ophelia Parrish lobby and atrium. Set-up time begins at 7:30 am, and take-down time will be late in the afternoon and should be completed by 6:30 pm.

The author(s) will be available from 4:15 to 5:15 pm to field questions and engage in discussion. This time period represents a single, Conference-wide Poster, Technology and Studio Arts Session, with no other concurrent sessions. The Conference-wide reception will overlap the last 30 minutes of the session to further encourage dialogue with presenters.

Posters should fit onto bulletin boards or foam core boards that are 3 ft tall and 5 ft wide. Push-pins for securing presentation material to the bulletin boards will be available on-site. Technology presentations will be displayed on folding tables, and will also have bulletin/foam core board space.

Performance Sessions – Performing arts presentations are examples of theatrical or musical performances, or a

combination of the two. The performances are 12-18 minutes in length, with an additional 2-3 minutes for questions concerning the composer/writer, style, influence, and performance demands.

Studio Art Displays – Studio arts presentations are examples of creative works from the fields of painting, photography, print making, ceramics, sculpture, fibers, or visual communications. Students should present a body of work to encompass no more than 8 sq ft. These works will be displayed throughout the Ophelia Parrish Fine Arts building and in the University Art Gallery during the Conference.

Roundtable Discussions – A 'brown bag' round table presentation session will held in the Student Union from 12:15 - 1:15 pm. This year the presentation will feature a discussion of intercultural communication, representing research conducted by Communications students and mentored by Dr. James Cianciola, Assistant Professor of Communication.

Computer-Based Presentations – Authors who wish to deliver computer-based presentations should only use software packages that are campus standards, and should save their presentations either on the Y drive on the campus network, or on a CD-R. The computers will be connected to the campus network and will have at least Office 2003, Internet Explorer 6, and a CD-ROM drive. The computer systems will not have floppy or zip drives. If a student wishes to store his/her presentation on the network Y: drive and the student does not currently have enough storage space, he/she may contact the Help Desk at x4544 and inform the Help Desk that he/she needs additional space for the Student Research Conference. ITS will temporarily increase the amount of space available to any student giving a presentation should it be needed.

It is strongly recommend that students giving an electronic presentation, have multiple copies of their presentation in multiple locations. For example, presenters should consider burning their presentation to a CD and storing it on their Y: drive as a backup. The University has several computers available in the campus computer labs so that students can burn their presentations to CD-R's. There are computers with this capability in Violette Hall 2000 and Pickler Memorial Library 308, and in the residence hall computer labs.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Keith Devlin “The Math Guy”

The numbers behind NUMB3RS: The real mathematical story that inspired the hit television series

In the hugely popular weekly television crime drama NUMB3RS, the young math genius Charlie Eppes helps his older brother Don, an FBI agent, solve crimes. Almost all the mathematics depicted in the show is real math, and several of the episodes are based on real cases where math was used to help solve a case. How do criminal investigators use mathematics to catch offenders? In this talk, Dr. Keith Devlin uses clips from the series to uncover some of the real math behind the show.

Devlin was an adviser to the show during the first season, and is currently working with the series' lead mathematics advisor Gary Lorden on a companion book.

Dr. Keith Devlin is a Senior Researcher at The Center for the Study of Language and Information and its Executive Director, a Consulting Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Stanford University, and a co-founder of the Stanford Media X research network and of the university's H-STAR (Human Sciences and Technology Advanced Research) institute. He is a World Economic Forum Fellow and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His current research is focused on the use of different media to teach and communicate mathematics to diverse audiences. He also works on the design of information/reasoning systems for intelligence analysis. Other research interests include: theory of information, models of reasoning, applications of mathematical techniques in the study of communication, and mathematical cognition. He has written 25 books and over 75 published research articles. He is “the Math Guy” on National Public Radio.



Juan Rodrigo Llaguno

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH STIPEND RECIPIENTS

These students presenting at the 20th Annual Student Research Conference are discussing results of research and creative work funded in whole or in part by Undergraduate Research Stipends from the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Truman State University.

Harry Althoff
Nohemi Alvarez
Nathan Birhanu
Courtney Bonney
Jennifer Coolidge
Devin Dorosh
Emily Doucette
Chaeli Dougherty
Kevin Dyke
Douglas Eudy
John Fausz
Lauren Filla
Katelynne Finnegan
Oleksiy Golovin
Paul Goodman
Carissa Holloway
Eneda Hoxha
Breanna Hulsey
Zhian Kamvar
Robert Keichen
Laura Kopff
Danielle Leveston
Andrew Maerz
Jennifer Massa
Lauren Mueller
Emily Murdock
Phuong Nguyen
Bethany Nichols
Melvin Omodon
Rebecca Pace
Andrew Pickering
Kelly Pierce
Kate Randall
Kelly Rowe
Madalyn Schill
Shannan Schoening
Catriona Swift
Jennifer Thomas
John Tressler
Dennis Trinkle, II
Siviya Valkova
Rebecca Verhaeghe
Victoria Weaver
Brynn Weimer
Amy Wessel

PROGRAM-AT-A-GLANCE

- 7:30 am - 2:30 pm** - *Registration* (OP Lobby & VH Lobby)
- 8:15 - 9:30 am** - *Concurrent Sessions* (OP & VH)
- 1 PAPERS: EDUCATION: Education I (OP 2121)
 - 2 PERFORMANCES: FINE ARTS: Music Research I (OP 1393 (Performance Hall))
 - 3 PAPERS: FINE ARTS: Art and Theater Oral Papers (OP 2210)
 - 4 PAPERS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Exercise Physiology (VH 1000)
 - 5 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Environmental Studies (VH 1432)
 - 6 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Colonialism and Postcolonialism (OP 2115)
 - 7 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Psychoanalytic Criticism and Literature (OP 2117)
 - 8 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Language and Culture (OP 2113)
 - 9 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Gender, Race, and Politics (VH 1400)
 - 10 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Gender and Class (VH 1232)
 - 11 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Animal Science (VH 1408)
 - 12 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Chemistry I (VH 1212)
 - 13 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Physics I (VH 1416)
 - 14 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: U. S. History (VH 1320)
 - 15 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Political Science (VH 1412)
 - 16 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Sociology and Anthropology (VH 1010)
- 9:30 - 9:45 am** - *Break* (OP Lobby & VH Lobby)
- 9:45 - 10:45 am** - *Concurrent Sessions* (OP & VH)
- 17 PAPERS: BUSINESS & ACCOUNTANCY: Business Administration I (VH 1010)
 - 18 PAPERS: EDUCATION: Education II (OP 2121)
 - 19 PERFORMANCES: FINE ARTS: Music Research II (OP 1393 (Performance Hall))
 - 20 PAPERS: FINE ARTS: Art History (OP 2210)
 - 21 PAPERS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Biomechanics (VH 1000)
 - 22 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Politics and Medicine (VH 1408)
- 23 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Feminism and Power (OP 2117)
 - 24 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Fantasy and Identity (OP 2113)
 - 25 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Society and Literary Criticism (OP 2115)
 - 26 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Power and Possession in Cather and Elmer Gantry (VH 1400)
 - 27 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Feminist Readings (VH 1232)
 - 28 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Physics II (VH 1416)
 - 29 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Habitat Assessment and Inventories (VH 1432)
 - 30 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Chemistry II (VH 1212)
 - 31 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Philosophy and Religion (OP 2111)
 - 32 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: History: Greece (VH 1320)
 - 33 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Economics (VH 1412)
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm** - *Plenary Session: All Divisions* (VH 1000)
- The Numbers Behind NUMB3RS: The real mathematical story that inspired the hit television series
Dr. Keith Devlin, Executive Director and Senior Researcher at the Center for the Study of Language and Information, and “the Math Guy” on National Public Radio.
- 12:15 - 1:15 pm** - *Roundtable Discussion* (Student Union, Alumni Room)
- RT - 1 ROUNDTABLE: LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE:** Intercultural Communication (Alumni Room, SUB)
- 1:15 - 2:30 pm** - *Concurrent Sessions* (OP & VH)
- 34 PERFORMANCES: FINE ARTS: Music Research III (OP 1393 (Performance Hall))
 - 35 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: FINE ARTS: Studio Art (OP South (Art) Wing Atrium)
 - 36 PAPERS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Nutrition (VH 1000)
 - 37 PAPERS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Psychological Issues in Health (OP 2121)
 - 38 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Phi Kappa Phi: Religion and Politics (OP 2210)

- 39 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Mathematical Biology (VH 1432)
- 40 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: French, German, and Spanish Languages and Literatures (OP 2113)
- 41 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Postcolonial, Transnational Hybridities (OP 2111)
- 42 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Power and Identity in Mahfouz, Mofolo, and Dangarembga (OP 2115)
- 43 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Literature and Reality (OP 2117)
- 44 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Feminism and Negritude: Mariama Ba and Leopold Senghor (VH 1400)
- 45 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Chemistry III (VH 1212)
- 46 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Human Health Issues (VH 1408)
- 47 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Physics III (VH 1416)
- 48 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Personality and Social Psychology (VH 1010)
- 49 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Politics and Products (VH 1412)
- 50 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: European and Middle Eastern History (VH 1320)
- 2:30 - 2:45 pm - Break** (OP Lobby & VH Lobby)
- 2:45 - 4:00 pm - Concurrent Sessions** (OP & VH)
- 51 PAPERS: BUSINESS & ACCOUNTANCY: Business Administration II (VH 1010)
- 52 PERFORMANCES: FINE ARTS: Music Research IV (OP 1393 (Performance Hall))
- 53 PAPERS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Nutrition and Health Issues (VH 1000)
- 54 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Phi Kappa Phi: Politics, Environmental Studies and Mathematics (OP 2210)
- 55 PAPERS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Women's and Gender Studies (VH 1408)
- 56 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Communication: Children, Music, and Free Speech (OP 2113)
- 57 PERFORMANCES: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Literary Performances (OP 2115)
- 58 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: American Literature: Cather and Religion (OP 2117)
- 59 PAPERS: LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Language, Literature, History (VH 1400)
- 60 PAPERS: MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE: Mathematics and Computer Science (VH 1010)

- 61 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Chemistry IV (VH 1212)
- 62 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Agriculture (VH 1432)
- 63 PAPERS: SCIENCE: Virology (VH 1416)
- 64 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Religion (OP 2111)
- 65 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: History: National Identity and International Relations (VH 1320)
- 66 PAPERS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Psychology (VH 1412)

4:15 - 5:15 pm - Posters, Technology Displays: All Divisions (OP Lobby & Atrium)

- P - 1 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: BUSINESS & ACCOUNTANCY: Business Administration Posters (OP Lobby)
- P - 2 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE: Posters: Human Potential and Performance (OP Lobby)
- P - 3 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Interdisciplinary Poster Session (OP Lobby)
- P - 4 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: INTERDISCIPLINARY: Sigma Xi Poster Session (OP Lobby)
- P - 5 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE: Mathematics and Computer Science (OP Lobby)
- P - 6 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: SCIENCE: Agriculture (OP Lobby)
- P - 7 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: SCIENCE: Biology (OP Lobby)
- P - 8 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: SCIENCE: Chemistry (OP Lobby)
- P - 9 POSTERS, TECHNOLOGY DISPLAYS AND STUDIO ARTS: SOCIAL SCIENCE: Social Science Posters (OP Lobby)

4:45 - 6:00 pm - Reception (OP Lobby)