



CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL
STUDENT EXPERIENCES (CTSE)- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSAL SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 31, 2025
9:00AM



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**DR. PATRICK
WHITEHEAD, PH.D.
PROFESSOR OF
PSYCHOLOGY**

THEME

**RESEARCH: A KEY TRANSFORMATION
FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.**

SPONSORED BY
THE OFFICE OF TITLE III

VENUE

**BILLY C. BLACK
AUDITORIUM, ASU
EAST CAMPUS**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSAL SYMPOSIUM

Patrick Whitehead, PhD., Professor of Psychology

Coordinator of General Education at Albany State University (ASU)



Dr. Whitehead is professor of psychology, adjunct professor of graduate education, and coordinator of general education at ASU. He has published seven books, over 30 articles, book chapters in the fields of psychology, philosophy, higher education, and theoretical biology. His most recent book, published by Rowman & Littlefield, is entitled *Autonomy Supportive Teaching in Higher Education: A Practical Guide for College Professors*. In it he explores the psychology of student motivation in the classroom and how faculty can make the most of it.

Dr. Whitehead has always included students and colleagues in his research. His publications and presentations have featured ten former students and seven current and former colleagues as co-authors. He is currently working with students and colleagues on an original qualitative study examining the role tattoos play in the black community. Working with the Center for Faculty Excellent, Dr. Whitehead will soon be hosting an eight-month workshop for junior faculty who are interested in conducting applied classroom research.

Beyond campus, Dr. Whitehead is on editorial boards of interdisciplinary journals of qualitative research and philosophy, and he is an ad hoc reviewer for many academic presses including Cambridge University Press, Routledge, SAGE, and Palgrave Macmillan. He particularly enjoys helping younger and early-career scholars develop their writing skills and style.



CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCES (CTSE)

FALL 2025 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSAL SYMPOSIUM

Friday, October 31, 2025

Venue: BCB Auditorium - Opening

PROGRAM AGENDA

Professor Brandon Henry, Presiding Officer

Time		
9:00-9:05	Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Acknowledgements	Dr. Nneka Nora Osakwe, Director-Center for Transformational Student Experiences (CTSE) Professor of English
9:05-9:15	Provost's Welcome and Opening Remarks	Dr. Rhonda Porter, The Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs Professor of Mathematics Education
	Introduction of Keynote Speaker	
9:15-9:45	KEYNOTE SPEAKER THEME: RESEARCH: A KEY TRANSFORMATION FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.	Dr. Patrick Whitehead, Professor of Psychology Keynote Speech Topic: "On Being a Researcher"
9:45- 9:50	INTERMISSION	STAND, STRETCH & REFRESH
9:50-12:00	PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS BCB AUDITORIUM Student Presenters with Faculty, Mentors	RESEARCH TITLES
	Mykala Eckler Mentor: Dr. John L. Williams College of Arts & Sciences	Investigating the Synergistic Effects of PFOS Chemicals and Microplastics on the Viability and Motility of Brown Planaria (<i>Dugesia</i> sp.)
	Francesca Onumah Mentor: Dr. Patrick Whitehead College of Arts & Sciences	Evaluating the Harms of Using AI Programs as Therapists Among College Students.
	Emery Allen Mentor: Dr. Liqiu Zheng College of Arts & Sciences	Investigation into Stabilized all Inorganic CsPb1-xMnxBr3 (with x=0.1-0.3) Perovskite Solar Cells



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	Emaria Banks Mentor: Jaunice Tunstall-Redditt College of Arts & Humanities	Mental and Emotional Effects of SANE Nurse Evidence Collection on Themselves and Sexual Assault Survivors
	Latosha Collier Mentor: Dr. Patrick Whitehead College of Arts & Sciences	Mental Health in First-year College Students at Albany state
	Senai Chandler Mentor: Dr. Victor Williams College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Different Technology Platforms for Investing and Trading in the Stock Market (update)
	Al Childs Mentor: Dr. Amaechi Nwaokoro College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Do the US Budget and Trade Deficits Lead to an Expansionary or a Contractionary Economy
	Alana Bryant Mentor: Dr. Victor Williams College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Credit Card Fraud
	Brandon Hull Mentor: Dr. Kizzie Donaldson-Richard College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	CPS Criminal Liability in Georgia
	Chelsea Zeon Mentor: Dr. Kathaleena Monds College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Forensic Science's Role in Understanding Environmental Racism: Marginalized Communities at a Crossroads
	Leroy Tolman Mentor: Dr. Johannes A. Badejo College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Harmful Effect of X-ray on Children
	Kendall Davis Mentor: Prof. Samuel Ifedayo College of Arts & Sciences	How Headphone Type and Listening Habits Affect College Students' Hearing
	Zaria Steele Mentor: Dr. Johannes A. Badejo College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Impact of Environmental Racism on Communities

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	Rhyan Winston Mentor: Dr. Kizzie Donaldson-Richard College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Who Watches the Watchers? Power, Abuse, and Accountability in Corrections – A Case Study of Gwinnett County Jail
	Trinity Baggs Mentor: Dr. Kizzie Donaldson-Richard College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Homelessness Among U.S. Military Veterans: Policy Gaps, Health Challenges, and Barriers to Support
	Ayodeji Williams Mentor: Dr. Olabisi Ojo & Dr. Wanjun Hu College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Machine learning Integration for RNA Cancer-specific LncRNA Exploration (MIRACLE)
	Jabari Holmes Mentor: Dr. Jim Muyua College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Title: "Unequal Rights: Felon Voting Bans Versus Presidential Eligibility"
	Destini Fletcher Mentor: Dr. Edgars Patani College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	The Impact of Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics on Audit Quality and Tax Compliance
	Bailey Gray, Kayla Doris Mentor: Dr. Richard Mason College of Arts & Sciences	Design, Synthesis and Characterization of Potential Water Soluble Imidazopyridines: Antimicrobial Compounds.
	Amaya Williams Mentor: Dr. MD Niamul Kabir College of Arts & Sciences	Inactivation of Spores of Bacillus atrophaeus and Geobacillus Stearothermophilus by High Pressure, Mild Heat, Caprylic Acid, and Citricidal
	Jane Oluwaniyi Mentor: Dr. Rachel Ojo College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Trends and Disparities in Undergraduate Internship (TRUDI) Placements Across City Departments: A Case Study of the City of Austin
	Garret Godwin Mentor: Dr. Wanjun Hu College of Arts & Sciences	Classification of Gene Expression Data

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	Manuel Makayla Mentor: Dr. Cajetan C. Ihe College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	The Impact of Drug Abuse and Misuse in Adolescent
	T'Miyah Williams Mentor: Dr. Aram Yoon Darton College of Health Professions	Discrepancies Between Training Goals and Self-Selected Resistance Training Intensity: An Analysis Across Sex, Age, Race/Ethnicity, and Training Experience.
	Katelyn Lunsford Mentor: Prof. Ifedayo Samuel College of Arts & Sciences	The Effect of Water Quality on Yeast Growth: A Comparison of Flint River, Cromatie Beach, and Purified Water Sources
	Emari Knowles Mentor: Prof. Saha Jayanti College of Arts & Sciences	Approximating Roots: A Comparative Study of Numerical Methods for Nonlinear Equations
	Kendra Ross Mentor: Dr. Niamul Kabir College of Arts & Sciences	Biofilm Formation of Wild-Type and Pressure-Stressed Escherichia coli O157:H7, Salmonella enterica, and Listeria monocytogenes Pathogens of Public Health Concern in Pasteurized Milk, Distilled Water, and on Abiotic Surfaces
	Blessing Pierre Mentor: Dr. Ghislain Mandouma College of Arts & Sciences	Mandouma G. Synthesis of tetraarylphosphonium/tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate (TAPR/TFAB, R = 1,2,3- TriOMe, and R = 4,5-DiOMe) Salts and Their Potential Anticancer Activity Against HeLa Human Cell lines.
	Anna Reese, Isaiah Webb Mentor: Dr. Arun Saha College of Arts & Sciences	Factors Affecting Performance of a Microwave Absorber
	Brandice Ingram, Qwaderia Brown, Tramajai Flood, Alexsia Brooks Mentor: Dr. Annalease Gibson College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	The Impact of High Caseloads, Media Stereotypes, and Gender Bias on Burnout, Drug Abuse, and Leadership Opportunities in Social Work
	Tereza Thomas Mentor: Dr. Niamul Kabir College of Arts & Sciences	Decontamination Efficacy of Escherichia Coli and Salmonella by the Synergistic Effect of Ten Different Antimicrobials (Citrospet, Citricidal, Caprylic Acid, Carvacrol, Lactic Acid, Benzoic Acid, Thymol, Sorbic Acid,



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		DL – Malic Acid, and Sorbic Acid) and High-Pressure Processing at 25°C and 37°C.
	C-yanni Outen Mentor: Dr. Kizzie Donaldson Richard College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Locked Away for a Lie: A Study on False Accusations & their Impact on Incarcerated Individuals
	Shakira Howard, Ja'Niya Hayes Mentor: Dr. Annalease Gibson College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Exploration of How Immigration Status and Mental Health Challenges Contribute to Homelessness Among Immigrants
	Jade Johnson Mentor: Dr Donaldson-Richard, Kizzie College of Business, Education & Professional Studies	Negotiating Identity: Natural Hair Professionalism and Politics of Appearance
	Christopher Davis, Jada Rodgers, Kendall Akins Mentor: Dr. Alex Alochukwu & Prof. Lekeon Little College of Arts & Sciences	Optimized Campus Route Planning: A Geospatial Application for Albany State University Navigation
	Collen Lawrence Mentor: Dr. Alex Alochukwu & Prof. Lekeon Little College of Arts & Sciences	Automated Attendance System Using Fused Biometrics and Proximity
11:10-11:20	QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS	REVIEWERS, AUDIENCE, PRESENTERS
	Vote of Thanks, Announcements, & Adjournment	Dr. Nneka Nora Osakwe, Executive Director Center for Transformational Students Experiences (CTSE)



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SAVE THE DATE

ASU-REGIONAL UNDERGRADUATE

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 17, 2026



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Acknowledgements

The Center for Transformational Students Experiences would like to express its appreciation to all the colleges, departments, and individuals who provided support for the Fall 2025 Undergraduate Research Proposal Symposium.

**Thank You Moderators, Committee Members, Reviewers,
Student Researchers, and Faculty Mentors**

Reviewers

Dr. Amir Saheb

Dr. Richard Mason

Dr. Dorene Medlin

Dr. Amaechi Nwaokoro

Dr. Alex Alochukwu

Dr. Anna Gibbs

Dr. Jennifer Snelling

Dr. Balasubamani Subramani Paranthaman

Undergraduate Research Committee Members

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Dr. Arun Saha

Professor Brandon Henry

Dr. Jim Mayua

Dr. Kizzie Donaldson-Richard

Professor Jayanti Saha

Dr. Patrick Whitehead

Professor Samuel Ifedayo

Dr. Alex Alochukwu

Dr. Rondrea Mathis

Dr. Edgars Patani

Dr. MD Niamul Kabir

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