

College of Liberal Arts

RESEARCH

ACADEMY



Elevating research in Liberal Arts.

RESEARCH DAY

October 29th, 2025

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

John Purdue Room/Marriott Hall

PROGRAM

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

CLARA director Torsten Reimer, Interim Dean Joel Ebarb, Associate Dean of Research & Graduate Education Sorin Matei, and Advisory Board Chair Cherie Maestas provide brief welcome notes.

PART 1: RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AND RESPONSES

Moderator: Michael Johnston, English

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Jen Hoewe, Brian Lamb School of Communication

Understanding News Selection and Its Effects

Inside respondent: **Diana Zulli**, Communication

Outside scholar: **Alei Fan**, Hospitality and Tourism Management

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Lisa Argyle, Department of Political Science

Generative AI as an Interactive Participant in Social Science Experiments

Inside respondent: **Jeremy Foote**, Communication

Outside scholar: **Sooyeon Jeong**, Computer Science

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Nadège Veldwachter, School of Languages and Cultures

Entangled Traumas: The Caribbean, Holocaust Refugees, and Legacies of Violence

Inside respondent: **Rebekah A. Klein-Pejšová**, History

Outside scholar: **Deandrae L. W. Smith**, Food Science

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Jacqui Frost, Department of Sociology

Sacralizing Science in Secular Congregations

Inside respondent: **Dan Winchester**, Sociology

Outside scholar: **Taylor Davis**, Philosophy

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

PART 2: RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AND RESPONSES

Moderator: Tara Grillos, Political Science

4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Shaohua Fang, *Department of English*

Learning Complex Patterns From Limited Input: What Variability Across Languages, Populations, and Individuals Reveals About the Human Capacity for Language

Inside respondent: **Elaine Francis**, English

Outside scholar: **Arielle Borovsky**, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Jonathan Lande, *Department of History*

Freedom Soldiers

Inside respondent: **David Atkinson**, History

Outside scholar: **Robert Kirchubel**, FORCES Initiative

5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Akshath Jitendranath, *Department of Philosophy*

Rational Decision Making Under Unresolved Conflict

Inside respondent: **Jenn (Seoyeon) Kim**, Political Science

Outside scholar: **Matthew Kovach**, Mitchell E. Daniels Jr. School of Business

5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Andrew Flachs, *Department of Anthropology*

Ecological Economics

Inside respondent: **Elizabeth Brite**, Anthropology

Outside scholar: **Zhao Ma**, Forestry & Natural Resources

PART 3: BUFFET AND SOCIAL HOUR

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Enjoy a buffet and live music by the Danny Weiss Trio while networking.

List of Contributors

- Torsten Reimer, Director of the College of Liberal Arts Research Academy (CLARA), Professor
- Joel Ebarb, Rueff School, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Professor
- Sorin Matei, Associate Dean of Research & Graduate Education in the College of Liberal Arts, Professor
- Cherie Maestas, Department of Political Science, Professor and Head
- Michael Johnston, Department of English, Professor
- Jen Hoewe, Brian Lamb School of Communication, Associate Professor
- Diana Zulli, Brian Lamb School of Communication, Associate Professor
- Alei Fan, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Associate Professor
- Lisa Argyle, Department of Political Science, Associate Professor
- Jeremy Foote, Brian Lamb School of Communication, Assistant Professor
- Sooyeon Jeong, Department of Computer Science, Assistant Professor
- Nadège Veldwachter, School of Languages and Cultures, Associate Professor
- Rebekah A. Klein-Pejšová, Department of History, Associate Professor
- Deandrae L. W. Smith, Department of Food Science, Assistant Professor
- Jacqui Frost, Department of Sociology, Assistant Professor
- Dan Winchester, Department of Sociology, Associate Professor
- Taylor Davis, Department of Philosophy, Associate Professor
- Tara Grillos, Department of Political Science, Associate Professor
- Shaohua Fang, Department of English, Postdoctoral Researcher
- Elaine Francis, Department of English, Professor
- Arielle Borovsky, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, Professor
- Jonathan Lande, Department of History, Assistant Professor
- David Atkinson, Department of History, Associate Professor
- Robert Kirchubel, Outreach Director of the FORCES Initiative, College of Liberal Arts
- Akshath Jitendranath, Department of Philosophy, Assistant Professor
- Jenn (Seoyeon) Kim, Department of Political Science, Assistant Professor
- Matthew Kovach, Mitchell E. Daniels Jr. School of Business, Assistant Professor
- Andrew Flachs, Department of Anthropology, Associate Professor
- Elizabeth Brite, Department of Anthropology, Clinical Associate Professor
- Zhao Ma, Department of Forestry & Natural Resources, Professor