

Project Abstract (150 words max):

Scientific Inquiry:

The protein palladin was discovered approximately fifteen years ago, and regulates the cytoskeletal structure of a cell. Mutations associated within the Ig4 domain of palladin have been observed in pancreatic cancer. In the hydrophobic core of the mutated Ig4 domain the amino acid tryptophan has been replaced with the amino acid cysteine, and we hypothesize that the mutation will affect the structure, stability, and function of the protein. Therefore we will compare the mutant and wild type proteins using NMR and CD spectroscopy to examine the structure and cosedimentation assays to measure actin binding. The results obtained from such methods will assist in future studies of palladin's association with metastatic cancerous cells.

Creative Activities:

To gain a better understanding of how light can be recorded and recreated by creating holographic photos of various subjects like money, fruit and portraits. Subjects like money and fruit will be photographed to examine how realistically the captured light can be recreated. The holographic portraits will be experiments as I try to create a mixture of living and dead, beauty and repulsion.

Travel to Conference for Humanities Research:

The international community was caught by surprise in 1982 when Argentine forces invaded the Falkland Islands on April 2; the two-month military response by the United Kingdom puzzled the rest of the world even further. The Falklands crisis seemed to be an anachronistic territorial scuffle after the shift away from violent territorial conflict as an international norm following the Second World War. Nevertheless, the British and Argentine governments charged ahead with a brief but intense armed conflict, producing surprise and chagrin through the rest of the world. This paper examines the historical, economic, political, and personal factors that should have predicted the conflict and explores future prospects regarding the present stalemate in light of economic development.

Travel for Site-Based Inquiry:

Objective Statement: This study will examine the transplant population of New Orleans and the characteristics of the city influencing their decisions to move there. Transplant opinions will be compared with native New Orleanian opinions to address questions about authenticity. Background: Little research has been done to explore observed differences between the demographically small, but culturally significant population of transplants in a city dominated by strong native pride. Methodology: 14 interviews will be conducted with transplants and natives during a three-week period in New Orleans to gather information on their personal perspectives of New Orleans culture. Expected Outcome: I expect my findings will be coherent with the existing narrative that transplant and native experiences are inherently different. My research will provide a more in-depth analysis of these experiences which I hope will offer insight into new perspective of authenticity that denies the idea of Authentic-versus-inauthentic and acknowledges simultaneously co-existing authenticities.