



Writing Abstracts for Research Projects

Organized by the Writing Across the Curriculum, Emerging Scholars, and Honors Scholars Programs

What goes into an abstract?

The following abstract has been adapted from a past Emerging Scholar project. **Identify the motivation/significance, problem/objective, methodology, conclusions/results/predictions, and implications.**

Abstract 1

Title: Assessing Participants' Feedback to Dental Hygiene Care Provided by City Tech's Dental Hygiene Students

The purpose of this research is to determine if CUNY students, faculty and staff are aware of the Dental Hygiene Program and services located at New York City College of Technology (NYCCT). Dental Hygiene students at NYCCT provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services to the public in accordance with individual state Dental Hygiene practice acts. Prevention and treatment of oral disease are recognized as important factors in a patient's overall health and well-being. Dental hygienists are important members of the dental health care team providing these services.

The first phase of the project consisted of a free dental screening event that was held during a Wellness Fair at the CUNY Graduate Center on May 2nd, 2018. The study received CUNY IRB approval and the individuals that participated in this event were contacted to schedule an appointment in order to receive a prophylaxis (comprehensive Dental Hygiene examination and treatment/care) with a Dental Hygiene student. The second phase of the project involved an electronic survey completed by the dental screening participants as well as a hard copy (paper) survey that was given to individuals who complete dental treatment at NYCCT's Dental Hygiene clinic. The findings of this research demonstrated that those individuals who received the dental screening are likely to schedule an appointment to receive a prophylaxis. Additionally, most of the participants who received oral hygiene services at NYCCT greatly benefited from their treatment, oral health education and care. Even though poor oral hygiene is preventable, many individuals from lower-income households and ethnic minorities lack access to dental care services. Although efforts to increase access to services have improved, there is still much to be done at an individual, professional and community level to improve the oral health status of our population. The findings of this study will support raising the level of awareness of the services available in our dental clinic in terms of future dental screenings.

Abstract 2

Title: Using the Mediation Methodology to Analyze the Northern Ireland communal conflict

Mediation is part of the conflict resolution family and falls in the Alternate Dispute Resolution category. Mediation is basically when two or more parties voluntarily come together with an impartial third party to resolve a conflict. The purpose of this paper is to explain the six steps to the mediation methodology presented in "Peacemakers Toolkit: Managing a Mediation Process" which is authored by Amy L. Smith and David R. Smock. I will be using the Northern Ireland Communal Conflict as a case study.

The six steps to the mediation process include: a) assessing the conflict, b) ensuring mediator readiness, c) ensuring conflict ripeness d) conducting track I mediation e) conducting track II- dialogue and f) constructing a peace agreement. The Northern Ireland Communal conflict deals with the tension between the Protestants who have held the majority of the population whereas the Catholics who have been the minority in Northern Ireland- a case of ethno-nationalism. The Protestants desired to be part of the UK as they identified themselves as British. On the other hand, the Catholics identified themselves as Irish and desired a separate governing structure from the United Kingdom. John W. Burton (1915- 2010) is considered by many to be one of the founders of the conflict resolution scholarship.

Throughout this paper I will be mainly referencing to the works of John W. Burton. He derived the concept of "provention" - which involved eliminating the sources of conflict, removing the causes of conflict and promoting an atmosphere where conflict does not exist.

Abstract 3

Title: Cranberry Juice And Grape Juice As Anti-Viral Agents and Cytotoxicity Studies

Defined phytochemicals in potable juices (grape juice and cranberry juice) have been shown to possess antiviral properties both in vitro and in vivo. However, cytotoxicity by chemical treatment of cells may mask any antiviral effects. Accordingly, such testing is critical to validate the effect of the juices in question as antiviral agents.

Antiviral testing in cell culture has addressed the potential issue of cytotoxicity by monolayer pretreatment with cranberry and Concord grape juices. Such [cytotoxicity] testing employed trypan blue exclusion and cell subpassage. However, confirmatory testing to identify subtle effects by juices and other phytochemicals or nutraceuticals needs to be tested by a metabolic assay. This required a non-destructive bioluminescent cytotoxicity assay, which quantitatively measures the release of adenylate kinase (AK) from damaged cells. Release of AK from damaged cells, in complex with ADP, luciferein and luciferase additives from the ToxilightR BioAssay kit, yields an ATP spark – which can be detected by placement of the reaction mix in a luminometer. The luminometer was procured through a GRTI grant, which was used in this collaborative effort.

After the assay was perfected, the data collected from the luminometer showed that 50% Purple, Niagara, and pure cranberry juice reveal no cytotoxicity to monkey kidney cells grown in monolayer culture.

This data confirms earlier results in that the antiviral effects were clearly due to the juices, and not artifact associated to host cell cytotoxicity.