



The First Annual Vermont State University

# Academic Excellence Conference

September 9, 2023  
Lyndon Campus

## OVERVIEW

<b>10 a.m.-10:15 a.m.</b>	Arrival and Coffee, Academic and Student Activities Center (ASAC) 100
<b>10:15 a.m.-11:20 a.m.</b>	Plenary Session, ASAC 100
<b>11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</b>	Session 1, ASAC 106, 214, 216, 319; Library and Academic Center (LAC) 400
<b>12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.</b>	Lunch, Lyndon Dining Hall
<b>1:40 p.m.-2:40 p.m.</b>	Session 2, ASAC 106, 214, 216, 319; LAC 400
<b>2:50 p.m.-4 p.m.</b>	Music and Social Hour, ASAC 100

## DETAILED SCHEDULE

### PLENARY SESSION: 10:15 A.M.-11:20 A.M., ASAC 100

<b>10 a.m.</b>	Arrival and Coffee
<b>10:15-10:20 a.m.</b>	Introduction from Provost, Dr. Nolan Atkins
<b>10:20-10:50 a.m.</b>	First Plenary Speaker, Dr. Paul Searls, Professor of History. Department of Social Sciences
<b>10:50-11:20 a.m.</b>	Second Plenary Speaker, Dr. Ross Lieblappen, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Sciences.

### SESSION 1: 11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

#### VTSU Teaching and Learning Opportunities Panel: ASAC 106

Chair/Moderator: James Noyes

- 1. James Noyes:** The Learning, Working, Community Project-Based Model
- 2. Philip Lamy:** Cannabis Studies: A New Era in Higher Education
- 3. Brad Moskowitz:** Aligning with the AMGA: Providing Exceptional Opportunities Through Accreditation and Ongoing Professional Development

#### History Panel: ASAC 216

Chair/Moderator: Taylor Tobias

- 1. Edinson Oquendo:** Herodotus and the Transformation of the Ancient World
- 2. Andre Fleche:** The American Civil War and the Shaping of the Western Hemisphere
- 3. Alexandre Strokanov:** GULAG During World War Two

#### Technology in Education Panel: ASAC 214

Chair/Moderator: Jacob Park and Brian Warwick

- 1. Monica McEnergy:** The SHOW/TELL/ASK Video Pen Pal Initiative: A Collaboration Among U.S. and Kazakh Students and Teachers
- 2. Brian Warwick:** A Necessary Evil: An Overview of the Pitch Correction Course Offered at VTSU
- 3. Carl Brandon:** It IS Rocket Science: Vermont Technical College's CubeSat Lab Since 2004

## Environmental Sciences Panel: LAC 400

Chair/Moderator: Alan Giese

1. **Alan Giese:** The Environmental Impact of Mountain Bike Trails
2. **Ari Preston:** Utilizing Geostationary Lightning Mapper for Severe Storm Warnings in Vermont
3. **Lisa Zinn:** Shifts in the Timing of Songbird Nesting and Fledging in Response to Climate Change

## Health and Human Development Panel: ASAC 319

Chair/Moderator: Emily Tarleton, Kate Ledoux

1. **Emily Tarleton:** Perceived Supports and Barriers to Optimal Nutrition and Physical Activity in a Cohort of Vermont Older Adults
2. **Michael Reeves:** Research with the Homeless: The Lived Experience of Adolescents in Homeless Families and New Research into the Experience of Homelessness during the Pandemic
3. **Grae Verner, Ethan Kile, Peyton Hathaway:** Understanding How Infants Differentiate Humorous from Magical Events

## LUNCH

12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m., Lyndon Dining Hall

## SESSION 2: 1:40 P.M.-2:40 P.M.

### Technology and Computer Science Panel: ASAC 106

Chair/Moderator: Brad Miller, Bradley Beth

1. **Bradley Beth:** Using Game-Based Learning in Computing Courses
2. **Scott Sabol:** Conversion of Historic Stowe Electric Department Facility to New Use
3. **Jose Luzardo:** Towards the Real-Time Implementation of the Adjustable Neural Network Controller

### Education and Pedagogy Panel: ASAC 214

Chair/Moderator: Michaela Stone

1. **Lisa Hayward:** Embrace the Power of Belonging: Community Building in Online Teaching and Learning at VTSU
2. **Anne Slonaker:** Taking a Literacy Listen Tour to Explore the Ways Teachers Situate Their Understandings of Reading Instruction
3. **Hannah Miller:** TeachOut Vermont: Studying the Process of Transformational Social Change With and For LGBTQ+ Educators in Vermont

## Art, Literature, and Theater Panel: ASAC 216

Chair/Moderator: Alexandre Strokanov

1. **Elena Strokanova:** Doctor Zhivago's Yuryatin and Varykino: Their Prototypes and the Mystery of Names and these Places
2. **Katherine Renner:** Illuminating Ireland's History: Cartoon Saloon's Secret of Kells
3. **Laura Roald:** Boundaries Make Us Braver: Integrating Consent-Based Practices and Intimacy Choreography in Established Theatre Production Models

## Understanding Human Behavior and Needs Panel: ASAC 319

Chair/Moderator: Janet Bennion

1. **Janet Bennion:** Polyamory in Paris: A Social Network Theory Application
2. **Ethan Kile:** Discrepancies Between the PCL-5 and CAPS in Individuals with Co-Occurring OUD and PTSD and the Association with PTSD and other Psychiatric Treatment Outcomes
3. **Lacy Skinner:** Increasing the Mental Health Supports in Vermont Schools

## Politics and Public Policy Panel: LAC 400

Chair/Moderator: Brandon Stroup

1. **David Plazek:** Realist or Liberal? Canadian Foreign Policy, 2006-2009
2. **Jacob Park:** Conducting Global Interdisciplinary Sustainability Research: Lessons and Insights from the UN Environment Program
3. **Brandon Stroup and Jessica Visnesky:** Restorative Justice Practitioners' Perceptions of Career Readiness: Assessing Educational Needs of an Emergent Occupation

## MUSIC AND SOCIAL HOUR

2:50 p.m.-4 p.m., ASAC 100

Join us for a social hour featuring live music provided by Ashley Jane's Hootenanny.  
[www.ashleyjaneshootenanny.com](http://www.ashleyjaneshootenanny.com)

**Ashley Warwick:** *Classic Country and Western Music Review 1935-1970: A Celebration of Rural America Through Song*



**Vermont State  
University**