

## Undergraduate Research Symposium 2012

### **HARRIET L. WILKES HONORS COLLEGE**

#### **Social Networks and Personality in a Liberal Arts College**

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This study examines relationships between social networks and personality at a small liberal arts college. Participants were asked to list members of their social networks and the activities in which they participated, and to complete the Sentence Completion Test (SCT) and the California Psychological Inventory (CPI). I hypothesized that participants who were high in extraversion (CPI sociability and externality scales) would have a greater network size and report a larger number of activities. I also examined the extent to which participants formed relationships with individuals with similar levels of ego development, and similar personality profiles, that is, the degree of assortativity in relationships. Finally, I examined whether this assortativity increased over time, that is, whether students increasingly gravitate towards others with similar personalities during the college years.