Elizabeth Foley, *Nutrition and Food Science*

**Alterations in the Gut Microbiome of Osteopenic Men After Three Months of Dried Plum Consumption**

My research focuses on prune as a functional food for the prevention and treatment of osteopenia in older men, and more specifically investigates the effect of prune on the gut health, bone biomarkers, and blood flow, each of which are interconnected. While prunes are colloquially known to be beneficial for gut health, very little research has been done regarding prune and the gut microbiome. My research hopes to link alterations in the gut bacteria to favorable changes in inflammatory biomarkers, bone biomarkers, and blood flow.

Luke Arredondo, *Religion*

**Pope Leo XIII and the Development of 20th Century Catholic Theology**

Many scholars consider the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) as the single most important event in the Catholic Church since the Protestant Reformation. While there is some truth to that claim, it also overlooks an important period of Catholic history, namely the papacy of Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903). In my dissertation I argue that Leo XIII actually initiated some changes and developments within the Catholic Church that would reach their culmination at Vatican II. Leo XIII brought forward a different vision of the relationship between the Catholic Church and the modern world, utilized new forms of communication effectively to convey his message, and made important contributions to the development of theology within Catholicism that would continue on into the 20th century. In other words, to fully appreciate the changes and developments within Catholicism, one needs to look further than Vatican II, and back to Leo XIII.

Keanan Joyner, *Clinical Psychology*

**Alcohol Demand and Alcohol Problems - Chicken or the Egg?**

The study of behavioral economic demand has generated substantial interest in addiction research. However, it is unknown if alcohol demand is a risk factor for alcohol problems, or a consequence of the phenotype itself. To understand the temporal ordering of these processes, the current work applied a random intercept, cross-lagged panel model to six waves of data over 18 months. Results suggested Intensity is a consequence of increased problems. Conversely, Elasticity showed evidence of being a prospective risk factor. Lastly, Omax showed evidence of a dynamic association – operating both as a consequence of and risk factor for future alcohol problems.