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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Lauren B. Carroll, a senior art major at Illinois Wesleyan University from Bloomington, participated in the 14th annual John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference on April 12.

Carroll, a graduate of Normal Community High School, was among 56 Illinois Wesleyan undergraduates whose projects were featured at the event.

The title of Carroll's project was "Virtual Betta."

The annual conference, named for explorer-geologist John Wesley Powell — a Civil War veteran and a founder of the National Geographic Society, who joined Illinois Wesleyan's faculty in 1865 — recognizes the research projects and creative endeavors of Illinois Wesleyan students. Sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan's Provost's Office and the IWU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, the event showcases Illinois Wesleyan students and their individual research projects with oral and poster presentations in such diverse fields as chemistry, Greek and Roman studies, economics, psychology, nursing, political science, biology, computer science, and international studies.

At this year's event, Jason R. Babcock, a 1994 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan and currently a research scientist at Ultramet, Inc., in California, discussed his work on development components for the next generation of the space shuttle.