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Lake Ritter, Jennifer Vandebussche* (jennifer.vandebussche@kennesaw.edu) and
Christina Scherrer. *A study of student perceptions of office hours and the impact of required and elective attendance on those perceptions.*

Numerous studies have confirmed the positive effect of faculty-student interaction on a variety of student outcomes. Office hours are well-accepted as an essential component of the faculty-student relationship. However, there are few rigorous studies available to guide faculty who wish to implement best practices in office hour implementation. In this talk, we report on a study conducted to address three questions related to this area: How do students entering into an introductory course like Calculus I understand office hours (how they are used, their value, their academic role) and how do those perceptions change over the semester? What impact does office hour attendance, both required and elective, have on student perceptions of office hours? Are there demographic factors, such as gender or race, that affect the answers to these first two questions? (Received September 19, 2018)