



# ARTS & SCIENCES

## Student Achievement Newsletter

NUMBER 4

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2008

Dear Colleagues,

*Every year this newsletter becomes more impressive in terms of the achievements of our students. I know we don't find out about everything, but thanks to all who contributed this year and congratulations to all of you for helping our students achieve!*

*Keep us in mind this year as you hear about the great things our students are doing!*

Mary Jane Chase  
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

### PROGRAMS

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

##### 2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

**Ashlye Davis, Maria Pappas, Jennifer Pirente, Brittani Barton, James Singer, Megan VanPelt, Conor Walline, Paul Augason:** "Course Evaluations: Westminster College Community's Perceptions and Opinions"

*MOVING ON.....*

**Jacob Fitisemanu** will be attending the University of Utah, School of Medicine.

### ART

#### 2008 SENIOR ART EXHIBITORS

The 2008 Deans Choice Award went to **Mikie Nelson**. Runners up were **Spencer Donovan** and **Ali Jahromi**.

Other artists included **James "Andy" Colburn, Gray Augustus, Kimberly Tiernan, Michael Eggenberger, Michael Friberg, Crystal Ahre, Debe Jacobs, Lizzy Kilbourn.**

### BIOLOGY

**Misty R. Riddle** was awarded the 2008 Outstanding Student Award for Biology.

**Rue Van Dyke** (Bonnie Baxter advising) and **Christopher Roundy** (Han Kim advising) both received Gore Research Stipends this summer.

#### 2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR BIOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

**Hanna Thompson:** "Milieu Musings"

**Morgane Lauf:** "Increased p8 gene expression in selenium and peroxide treated *Artemia franciscana* nauplii"

**Jimena Reppetto, Travis Dehne, Heather Fox:** "Alternative Energy Source in the Great

Salt Lake”

**William “Chert” Griffith:** “Methodology for Isolating and Characterizing Great Salt Lake Halo Archaea”

**Rue Van Dyke & Tabitha Webster:** “UV Protection in Halophiles: Carotenoid Investigation”

**Whitney Jensen:** “Cilia and Left-Right Asymmetry in Zebrafish”

**Kody Nilsson:** “Human DNA Quantification”

**Brooke Crofts & Gary Gonzalez:** “Stormwater Filtration System for LEED Certified Science Building at Westminster College”

*MOVING ON.....*

Graduate **Hillary Burt** (03) has been accepted for a masters program for Immunity and Infections in the Netherlands.

**Ryan Brass** has been accepted at the University of Utah, School of Medicine.

**Kristen Haas** has been accepted at AT Sill University, Rocky Vista University and Des Moines University (D.O.).

***CHEMISTRY***

The 2008 Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry goes to **Amberlyn M. Peterson**. **Amberlyn** was also the recipient of the Trustees’ Character Award at graduation.

**2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR  
CHEMISTRY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Heath Pascoe:** “Novel West Nile Virus Inhibitor Synthesis”

**Mayuka Koizumi:** “Chemical Analysis of Westminster College Swimming Pool Water”

**Colby Duncan** (Will Deutchman advising) and **Heath Pascoe** (Will Deutchman advising) both received Gore Research Stipends this summer.

*MOVING ON.....*

**Scott Fayer** was offered two options in chemical engineering for graduate school at the University of Utah.

***COMMUNICATION***

The 2008 Outstanding Student Awards in Communications went to **Kathryn Mae Ferguson, Anna M. Hansen** and **Daniel J. Iverson**.

**Jonny Bonner** was selected as one of the nation’s best and brightest student journalists by UWire.

***COMPUTER SCIENCE***

**Alex S. Pappas** is the recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Student Award in Computer Science.

**Valerie Yoder** (Helen Hu advising) received a Gore Research Stipend this summer.

***ENGLISH***

This year’s 2008 Outstanding Student Award in English goes to both **Tiffany D. Kinney** and **Lauren G. Olson**.

**Stacy Blaylock** presented her research on “Spanish-English Code” at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference and the Undergraduate Research Fair.

**Alexander Langshall** presented his research

on using “Early Modern Pronunciation in Performances of Shakespeare” at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference.

**Robert Gambles, John Soltis and Kirsten Gwin** also presented papers at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference.

**Paula Porter** presented her paper “Who Visits the Westminster College Writing Center and Why?” at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference at Boise State as well as the Undergraduate Research Fair.

**Michael Bell** is a co-winner of the Academy of American Poets Student Poetry Contest.

**Erin Kelleher** won an honorable mention in the Academy of American Poets Student Poetry Contest.

#### **2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Paula Porter:** “Who Visits the Westminster Writing Center, and Why? A Comparative Analysis of the Writing Center’s Student Population and Classes of Focus”

**Stacy Blaylock:** “Exposing Domestic Language Interactions to a Global Perspective: Imperial Linguistic Trends Acting Upon Spanish Speakers in the United States”

**Milko T. Markov:** “Defining Limits of a Writing Center as a Supportive Tool for ESL Students”

**Carl Evans:** “It’s All in the Clouds: The Nexus and Import of Atmospheric Transference in Film Adaptation”

#### ***ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES***

The Outstanding Student Award for Environmental Studies is **Hanna R. Thompson**.

**Ashley Pederson** is the college’s first-ever winner of the Morris K Udall Scholarship, a \$5000 award. She will use it to continue her studies in environmental studies.

**Jennifer Niedfeldt** is a co-winner of the Academy of American Poets Student Poetry Contest.

#### ***FILM***

Outstanding 2008 Student Award for Film goes to **Kimberly K. Tiernan**.

#### ***GEOLOGY***

#### **2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR GEOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Ivy Abbott & Erik Tamminen:** “Hydrobiid Snails as Taphonomic Indicators for Bear Lake Mollusks”

**Nick Cummings:** “Tumbling Experiments of Bear Lake Mollusks”

#### ***HISTORY***

History’s Outstanding Student Award for 2008 goes to both **Travis R. Estes** and **Sherrie A. Bakelar**.

Graduate **Stewart Anderson** (’04) is the first recipient from Westminster for a Fulbright Scholarship for study in Germany.

**Sherrie Bakelar, Travis Estes, Tiffany Kinney** and **Spencer Woolley** presented history papers at the Utah Regional Phi Alpha

Theta Conference.

**2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR  
HISTORY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Jessica Arnemann:** “History of Racist Drug Policy”

**Sherrie Bakelar:** “The Monster Within: Coming Soon to a Theater Near You! The Creation of the Serial Killer Sub-genre”

**Travis Estes:** “Kennedy & Castro: Fatal Attraction”

**Rachel Lucchini Low:** “Lenin: A Triumphant Exile”

**John Soltis:** “You Can’t Fight in the War Room: Sputnik and the Escalation of the Cold War”

**Robin Shea:** “Guns and Green: Oliver North’s Affair to Remember”

**Tiffany Kinney:** “Second Wave Feminism: Angry Women Swimming in a Sea of Acronyms”

*MOVING ON.....*

**Sherrie Bakelar** will be attending Arizona State University for her Masters in History.

Graduate **Amy Yag** will be up the hill at the University of Utah continuing on in History.

**Tiffany Kinney** will be attending the University of Oregon for a Masters in English to go with her Bachelors of History.

***HONORS***

**Ashley Pedersen** is the college’s first-ever winner of the Morris K Udall Scholarship, a \$5000 award. She will use it to continue her

studies in environmental studies.

***JUSTICE STUDIES***

2008 Outstanding Student Award in Justice Studies goes to **Alison Satterlee**.

***LANGUAGES***

The 2008 Outstanding Student Award goes for **Sharaya E. Coleman** for French.

***MATHEMATICS***

The Mathematics 2008 Outstanding Student Award goes to **Megan Gorringe**.

**Chelsea McCarthy** was awarded the highest Putnam exam score of those participating from Westminster.

**Nick Hansen** (Richard Wellman advising), **Tyler Sherry** (Richard Wellman advising), and **Carolyn Tweedy** (Bill Bynum advising) all received Gore Research Stipends this summer.

*MOVING ON.....*

**Chelsea McCarthy** will be attending graduate school at the University of Colorado in Boulder starting this fall.

Graduate **Megan Gorringe** will be at the University of Utah continuing on with her graduate degree.

**Chris Gibbs**, who double majored in math and economics, will be attending the University of Oregon.

Washington State University will have **Greg Vogel** as a new grad student.

**Tiffany Dodge** is starting graduate school at Gallaudet University this fall.

**Kristen Jensen** is starting a Masters program in statistics at the University of Utah this fall.

### ***MCNAIR SCHOLARS***

**Dusty Moore** was the ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship recipient. He is in Switzerland studying stem cells through a technique using hydrogels.

**Raquel Gabbitas** is the recipient of the prestigious Diversity of Views and Experiences Fellowship. It provides a \$22,000 stipend along with tuition and health insurance. She has been accepted at the University of Minnesota's Institute for Child Development. She also received 3 student leadership awards for her service to various campus organizations as well as receiving the Niesen R. Bank Memorial Award.

**Asia Ferrin** ('07) attends the University of Washington where she is pursuing a PhD in philosophy. Asia received the McNair Fellowship from the university.

### ***MASTERS OF PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION***

**Chalice Randazzo** presented her paper, "Paper Guns: Fidel Castro and the *New York Times* during the 26<sup>th</sup> of July Revolution," at the Pop Culture Conference in San Francisco this past March.

**Jeff Moulton** also presented his paper entitled "The Unintentional Allegory of Spider-man: Defining America after 9/11" at the same conference.

### ***MUSIC***

**Greg Bowen** was recognized as the Outstanding Senior Vocalist.

The Outstanding Senior Instrumentalist went to **Robert Urquidi**.

**Caitlyn Jones** was selected as the Outstanding Underclassman.

Freshman **Amy Kile** was chosen as the Outstanding Freshman in Music for 2008.

### ***PALEONTOLOGY***

The Outstanding 2008 Student Award goes to **Travis R. Estes**.

### ***PHILOSOPHY***

**Marie Robinson** is the recipient of this year's President's Leadership Award given out during the 2008 Commencement Ceremony.

The Outstanding Student Award of 2008 for Philosophy is shared between **Blakely J. Nielson** and **Conor J. Walline**.

**Conor Walline** presented his senior thesis research on "Panopticism and the US Government's Total Information Awareness Program" at the Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research, the National Conference on Undergraduate Research and the Pacific University Philosophy Conference. He also received recognition for a study presented at the Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference and published by *Aporia*, a Dartmouth student publication as well as a leadership award for his work as assistant director in the Writing Center.

Graduate **Mario Castillo** ('06) has received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. This is \$30,000 a year for 3 years.

**Lynette Sieger** received the Elie Wiesel Ethics Essay Award from Elie Wiesel himself.

**Conor Waline, Nissa Roper, Blakely Neilson, Cooper Henderson and Ali Jahromi** competed in the “final four” of the 14<sup>th</sup>-Annual National Ethics Bowl Competition.

**2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR  
PHILOSOPHY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Lynette Sieger:** “Global Justice and Avoidable Humanitarian Crises”

**Nissa Michelle Roper:** “Condemning Reactive Racism (A Response to Marilyn Friedman)”

**Blakely Neilson:** “Cosmopolitan Feminism and The Assignment of Duties: A New Interpretation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”

**Sharayah Coleman:** “The Dream Casts a Classist Shadow: Using Epistemology of Ignorance to Illuminate Classism in the American Dream”

**Andrew Waterhouse:** “Numbers, Numbers, Everywhere: Consideration for Theano’s Claims of an Abstract conception of Numbers”

***PHYSICS***

The 2008 Outstanding Student Award for Physics is shared between **Alicia Haberle, Timothy T. Harden** and **David B. Brough.**

**Jennifer-Lynn Demers** (Tricia Shepherd advising), **Dany Floisand** (Tricia Shepherd advising) and **Matt Polichette** (Peter Conwell advising) all received Gore Research Stipends this summer.

***POLITICAL SCIENCE***

The Outstanding Student Award for 2008 in Political Science goes to **Marie C. Robinson.**

**Heather Hicks** did an internship in the Scottish Parliament.

Freshman **Evelyn Monzon** represented Westminster at the Utah Coalition of La Raza’s Latino Youth Leadership Institute.

***PSYCHOLOGY***

For 2008, the Outstanding Student Award is shared between **Tabitha N. Webster, Lahdan L. Heidarian** and **Raquel A. Gabbitas.**

**Raquel Gabbitas** and **Amanda Ruiz** represented Westminster at the Utah Coalition of La Raza’s Latino Youth Leadership Institute.

**Karen Limansky** was awarded a Gilman Scholarship by the US Department of State for her spring 2008 study abroad in Grenoble, France.

***MOVING ON.....***

**Raquel Gabbitas** has been admitted to the University of Minnesota.

**Lindsey North** will be attending Sam Houston State University.

**Jennifer Morrison** received a scholarship as well as a research assistantship for Western Washington.

Graduate **Jennifer Day** will be starting at Duke.

**Laekin Rogers, Garland Hummel, Emma Haupt** will all continue on with the MSPC

here at Westminster.

**2008 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR  
PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Brandon Beck:** “Functional Cognitive Change in Developing Adolescents”

**Sara Vandermolen:** “The Effect of Social Class on Judgment”

**Tabitha N. Webster & Lahdan S. Heidarian:** “Laugh Away the Stress: Salivary Cortisol Samples and the effects of Laughter on a College Population”

***SOCIOLOGY***

The 2008 Outstanding Student Award goes to **Conor J. Walline** in the category of Sociology.

The Popular Culture Association National Meeting in San Francisco included papers presented by the following:

**Azjezdana Laki Besic:** “Online and In Love: Social Implications of Internet Dating”

**Rachel Low:** “Pop Goes the Princess: Gender, Social Class, and Celebrity Scandal”

**Laura R. Thomas:** “Secrets behind Postsecrets: Human Connectivity in the Time of Cyberspace”