Dear Colleagues,

Thank you so much for helping us identify and recognize all these great students! We’re working with Jeremy Pugh to find new ways to publicize the achievements of our students and show off our record of success. We can only do that with your help, so thank you once again.

Keep us in mind this coming year as you see and hear about the great things our students are doing.

Mary Jane Chase
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

PROGRAMS

ANTHROPOLOGY

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:


Clara Jane Hallar, Chris Baer and Jarrett Morgan: “Social Media and Its Impact on Political Activism”


Isaac Merrill, John Coleman and Dane Jensen: “Innovation in Sustainable Development”

Brooke Muir, Katie Merrill, Joshua Overdiek, and Rebecca Burke: “The Diversity of Social Change Movements”

ART

Jared Christensen and Nadia Rea Morales shared the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Art.

Arlene Landry received a summer research grant from the office of the provost.

2012 SENIOR ART EXHIBITORS

The 2012 Dean’s Choice Award went to Madeline Savarese. Runners-up were Jared Christensen and Nadia Rea Morales.

Other artists included Hailey Hall, Holly Hughes, Kimberly Nichols, Katie Panzer, Grace Richards, Dina Michael Sage, and
Meghan Smith.

2012 Undergraduate Research Fair
Art Presentations:

David Luhr: “The Significance of Decay”

MOVING ON…..

In July, Gia Thronsden-Whitlock ('02) held a showing of her art at the Caffe Niche.

Biology

C.J. Johnston and Allison Treleaven shared the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Biology.

Lisa Swift returned to Alaska this summer to participate in the Alaska Sea Life Internship program.

Maxwell Rutherford and Heidi Saxton both received Gore Summer Research Grants.

Natalie Batty, Graham Doherty, James Goodman, and Heather Reynolds all received BRINE Summer Research Grants provided by The Keck Foundation.

Dakota Hawkins received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

2012 Undergraduate Research Fair
Biology Presentations:

Natalie Batty, Cassandra Mulkey, and Allie Roach: “Isolation of Hydrocarbon Metabolizing Microorganisms in the Great Salt Lake”

Brett Bird: “Quantitative Oocyst Shedding of Avian Coccidian of the Genus Eimeria”

Cordell Johnston and Laura Wolf: “Great Salt Lake Halophiles: Characterization and Phylogenetic Implications” and “Isolation, Identification and Characterization of the Microbial Life in the Bonneville Salt Lake”

Leslie Kobinsky, Alizabeth Potucek, and Mikenna Smith: “The Effects of Biodiversity on Biomimicry in Small Scale Aquaponic Systems”


Cassandra Mulkey, Natalie Batty, and Allie Roach: “Isolation and Identification of Hydrocarbon-Metabolizing Archaea from a Hypersaline Environment (GSL) with Known Oil Seeps” and “Isolation of Hydrocarbon-Degrading Extremely Halophilic Archaea from a Contaminated Hypersaline Environment (Great Salt Lake)”

Kirstie Savage: “Parental Alarm Calls and Nesting Response of the Northern Mockingbird”

MOVING ON…..

Cassandra Mulkey ('12) received a very prestigious commissioning as a Nuclear Surface Warfare Officer and will leave soon to serve on the USS Bonhomme Richard in Sasebo, Japan.

Chemistry

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry went to Sage Dunham.

In April, Merima Beganovic, Wiktoria Glowczynski and Sarah Martin traveled with faculty members Paul Hooker and Robyn Hyde to the American Chemical Society national meeting in San Diego, CA. Merima and Sarah showcased their research at an undergraduate research poster session, and Wiktoria presented a hands-on activity for children at a workshop. Merima has been developing a method that could be used to
monitor waterways for contamination resulting from vehicle traffic and this method was presented in her poster titled, “Identification of hydrocarbons in water by fluorescence spectrometry.” Wiktoria demonstrated how to get kids interested in chemistry by wowing them with the characteristics and uses of polymers.

Rebecca Goldstein was accepted into a summer research program sponsored by the National Science Foundation at the Materials Research Science & Engineering Center at University of Utah.

Doug Bergquist, Adrianne Braun, Sarah Martin, Rita Okumu, and Jamie Resnick received Gore Summer Research Grants.

Hanna Horrocks, Marcus Parry, and Laura Wolf received BRINE Summer Research Grants provided by The Keck Foundation.

Victor Boss received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR CHEMISTRY PRESENTATIONS:

Merima Beganovic: “Identification of Hydrocarbons in Water by Fluorescence Spectrophotometry”

Sarah Martin: “Extraction of Alpha Acids from Hops Using Accelerated Solvent Extraction”

Julie Kilpatrick: “Identification of Hop Cultivars Using DNA Melt Curve Profiles”

Shane McKee: “Development of a Campus-Wide Energy Dashboard”

MOVING ON…..

Valerie Gonzales (‘07) earned a PharmD from Creighton University. She has moved to South Carolina where she seeks a position as a pharmacist.

COMMUNICATION

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Communication went to both Jana Lindsey and Danielle Chard.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR COMMUNICATION PRESENTATIONS:

Jillian Bryant: “Moral Ambiguity in Young Adult Literature”

Stephanie Current: “Fairy Tales in Young Adult Literature”

Chera Fernelius: “Boys Don’t Want ‘Girly’ Books”

Phill Gipson: “Young Men Need Not Apply”

Katrina Maurer: “Teaching Rape to Eliminate It: Using Speak and Sold as Accurate Depictions of Recovering from Rape”

Justina McCandless: “The Space in Between: Faltering Identities in Young Adult Literature”

Adri Montero: “Subtle Masculinity”

Laura Ward: “Where Art Meets Words: How Connections Between Images and Text Combine and Affect Graphic Novels in a Classroom Setting”

Mikayla Williamson: “Examining the Sexualization and Exploitation of Women in Sold”

MOVING ON…..

In June, Justina McCandless (‘12) was quoted in the Salt Lake Tribune, “Summer interns speak well for journalism’s future.”

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Computer Science went to Steven Chamberlin.

Shane McKee received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR

COMPUTER SCIENCE PRESENTATIONS:

Zachary Morin: “The Devil’s Sandbox: Paravirtualized Hacking”

ENGLISH

This year’s 2012 Outstanding Student Award in English went to both Mattie Matheson and Anne Terashima.

In March, Lauren Allen and Katie Watkins presented their independent research at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

Lauren Johnson received a summer research grant from the office of the provost.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR

ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:

Helen Makhdoumian: “The ‘Subjects’ in Storyteller: Adopting Traditions to Perpetuate Culture and Community”

Cyndi Lloyd, Monica Walker, Lauren Johnson and Thomas Johnson: “Contemporary Literary Review”

Joanna Pham, Megan Singer and Sheena Nyann: “Exploring the Roles of the Navajo Women”

Sarah Tumpowski, Nichole Walker, Jordyn Page and Emilie Martinson: “Renaissance Women in Literature”

Sam Webster, Zach Moon-Collins, Joanna Pham, Paul Christian, Anne Terashima, James Madsen, Cyndi Lloyd, Christian Felt: “A Reading by Creative Writing Seniors”

MOVING ON…..

Sheena Nyann (‘12) has begun her MA in the Department of Education, Culture, and Society at the University of Utah.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The Outstanding Student Award for 2012 in Environmental Studies was shared between Benjamin Dove, Kyle Knutson, Carson Chambers and Jay McConagha.

Benjamin Dove was the recipient of the prestigious 2012 President’s Leadership Award at graduation.

Natalie Fakelmann is an intern with the environmental consulting firm Energy Strategies.

Arly Landry is a conservation intern with Utah Open Lands.

Jack Stauss is a sustainability intern at the Salzburg Global Seminar in Austria.

Morgan Anderson received a BRINE Summer Research Grant provided by The Keck Foundation.
Nyssa Landres and Kailey Kornhauser both received Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grants.

Leslie Kobinsky and Kailey Kornhauser both received summer research grants from Environmental Studies.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PRESENTATIONS:

Carson Chambers: “Real Food at Westminster”


FILM

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Film went to both Jared Christensen and Ariane Dupaix.

Connor Brown submitted film edits to Nike’s Snowboarding division in a video edit competition titled “The Chosen,” and his crew (3 snowboarders and a videographer/editor) won the US competition as amateurs and finished second world-wide to a professional German team, RocksonSB. The event included an all-expense-paid trip to Montafon, Austria, in April to film and compete on a closed course that Nike developed.

FRENCH

The French 2012 Outstanding Student Award went to Marya Smith.

GENDER STUDIES

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR GENDER PRESENTATIONS:

Quayle M. Chew: “Gender Variation Across Cultures”

HISTORY

Brittany Machian received the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in History.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR HISTORY PRESENTATIONS:

Paris Dunlap: “Sticking It to the Man: The Music that Inspired a Nation”

Kaitlyn Jolley: “From the Pulpit to the Tent: Charles Grandison Finney and the Remaking of American Protestantism”

Brittany Machian: “Royal Dalliances and Palace Intrigue: The British Royal Family 1933-36”


Melinda Peiffer: “Japanese-Internment: An Internee Perspective”

Victoria Valencia: “We Got the Beat: A Historical Analysis of Jazz and Swing Music”
HONORS

2011–2012 Writing Award Recipients

Humanities: Jessica Bowen
“All You Need is (the Right Kind of) Love”

Sciences: Melanie Long
“Tool or Science? The Methodological Paradox of Neoclassical Economics”

Social Sciences: David Luhr
“The Dangers of Emulation and Conspicuous Consumption”

Special Topics & Cross-Listed: Sam Webster
“Negotiating the Space between Urban and Rural: Simmel’s Blasé Attitude Visits the Suburbs”

2012 Independent Summer Research Grant Recipients ($2,500 each)

Jeff Collins received an Honors Summer Research Grant.

MOVING ON…..

Ben Rackham (’09) has been accepted into the PhD program in Astronomy with full funding at the University of Arizona, his top choice.

JUSTICE STUDIES

Neva Wagner received the 2012 Outstanding Student Award for Justice Studies.

MATHEMATICS

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Mathematics went to Adair Kovac.

Alizabeth Potucek, Leslie Kobinsky, and Mikenna Smith shared the STAT award given out at the Undergraduate Research Fair.


2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
MATHMATICS PRESENTATIONS:

Andrew Larsen: “Beyond Regression: Using Learning Machines to Predict NBA”

Taylor Sibbett: “Discrete Signal Processing with Fractal Wavelet Transforms”

MCNAIR SCHOLARS

This coming year’s A&S McNair Scholars are Catherine Mullin, Charity Jessop, Chrono Nu, Hailey Edwards, Helen Makhdoumian, and Kailey Kornhauser.

Catherine Mullin, Charity Jessop, Chrono Nu, Hailey Edwards, Helen Makhdoumian, Kailey Kornhauser attended the 19th annual UC Berkeley McNair Conference last August.

MOVING ON…..

Kasey Serdar (’06) is the first Westminster College McNair alum to earn a PhD! Her PhD is in psychology.

MUSIC

Anna Morris received the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Music.
**NEUROSCIENCE**

Katie Bonebrake and Christina Della Iacono received the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Neuroscience.

Marlayna Townsend received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

Akosua Amankwatia received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

**2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR NEUROSCIENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

Katie Bonebrake: “Gene Interaction in Emotional regulation and Executive Attention”

Lindsay Helm: “Investigations of Real-Time Attention Allocation in Task Switching”

MOVING ON…..

Christina Della Iacono (‘12) will attend the University of Oregon’s Neuroscience PhD Program with full-tuition, health insurance, and $24,000 annual stipend in fall 2012.

**PHILOSOPHY**

Jillian Edmonds attended Butler University’s Undergraduate Research Fair on April 19th and presented both her philosophy summer research and her political science thesis.

Condie Howell received the 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Philosophy.

Marvin Backes, Duke Cruz, and Edward Norton received summer research grants from the provost office.

John Allred studied abroad in Mongolia for the 2012 spring semester.


**2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHILOSOPHY PRESENTATIONS:**

Duke Cruz: “I’m Late! I’m Late for a Very Important Date: Down the Rabbit Hole in Search of Rationality”


Condie Howell: “Justice as Not Injustice”


Tyler Sutton: “New Born Screening and Parental Autonomy”

Paul Whisman: “Tim DeChristopher: A Case Study on Civil Disobedience and the Necessity Defense”

(Alfred) Keith Young: “Exploring Libertarianism as a Social Order”

MOVING ON…..

Jillian Edmonds (‘12) has been accepted to Masters of Public Policy programs at USC, Georgetown, UT Austin, and Washington University in St. Louis. She was also accepted for law school to USC, Georgetown, UT Austin, and the University of Utah.

Paul Whisman (‘12) was accepted into the University Of Utah Masters Of Environmental Humanities Program. He received a half tuition waver and a $6,500 stipend as a teaching assistant.
**PHYSICS**

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Physics went to *Jay Bowman-Kirigin*.

This summer *Fehmi Yasin* conducted nanophotonics research at the University of Colorado and is currently in Chile on a semester abroad.

**2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHYSICS PRESENTATIONS:**

*Zak Burkley:* “The Design and Study of Cherenkov Detectors in an Electron-Ion Collider”

*Fehmi Yasin:* “Defects in the Bulk of CIGS Semiconductor Devices”

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

The Outstanding Student Award for 2012 in Political Science went to *Jillian Edmonds*.

Jillian Edmonds received the 2012 Trustee’s Character Award at graduation.

**PRE-MEDICAL**

*Medical School Acceptances*

**Kathryn Arthur:** Uniformed Services University

**Katie Bonebrake:** University of Utah

**Lindsey Brickell:** Rocky Vista University

**Tanner Gregory:** Pennsylvania State University

**Jesse Resnick:** University of Washington (MD/Ph.D)

**Thomas Stevens:** Loma Linda School of Medicine, CA

**Allison Treleaven:** Ohio State University

**Stephanie Woodward:** University of Utah

**PSYCHOLOGY**

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Psychology was shared between *Nicole Fisher, Emilee Naylor* and *Jeriha Michel*.

*Dexter Thomas* was selected as one of 11 recipients nationwide to receive the very prestigious scholarship from The Scientific Review Committee of the National Institute of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program. He will receive a scholarship for qualified educational and living expenses up to $20,000 for this academic year and will be a paid research trainee at the NIH for the UGSP Summer 2013 Program.

*Emilee Naylor* won the 2012 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award for her essay, “Psychometrics of the Imaginative Involvement Questionnaire (IIQ).”

In March, *Nicole Fisher* presented her independent research at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

*Leslie Arellano Brown* spent the summer at Columbia University where she participated in the Leadership Alliance’s undergraduate research program.

*Jaiya Choles, Chelsea Farrell, Zach Glass,* and *Stephen Rutishauser* were awarded Eskuche Foundation Summer Grants.

*Nicholas Gailey* and *Paige Martinez* both received McNair Summer Research Grants.

*Yvonne Clark* received a summer research grant from the office of the provost.
2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Brady Arnold: “Homeless Youth in Utah State and the Impact Gender Plays on Their Lives”

Weston Jenson and Kira Wallace: “Migrational Disruptions in Dyad Developmental Relationships”

MOVING ON…..

Jayci Robb ('10) earned her Master’s in rehabilitation counseling from the University of Arizona, where she continues in the PhD program.

Kasey Serdar ('06) earned a PhD in counseling psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University. For 2012-13, she accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Eating Disorders at Sheppard Pratt Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

Angela Swensen ('10) earned her MSW from Washington University.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
SOCIAL SCIENCES PRESENTATIONS:

Jacob Jackson: “Within-Group Variability in Criminal Behavior: Why Similarly Situated Individuals Diverge”

Neva Wagner: “Women Without Choice: Sex Trafficking in Eastern Europe”

Jeffrey Zuckerman: “Is the Supreme Court Stepping on America’s Toes?: A Study of the Meaning, Uses, and Reasons Behind Judicial Activism”

SOCIOLOGY

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award in Sociology went to both Amy Arburn and Will Attwood-Charles.

Amy Arburn, Nicole Bedera, and Taylor Francy presented research papers at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference in Boston in April.

MOVING ON…..

Amy Arburn was accepted into the Master’s of Community Leadership Program at Westminster College.

Robert Scott was accepted into the Master’s of Cultural, Social, and Political Thought Program at the University of Victoria.

Will Attwood-Charles was accepted into the Ph.D. Program in Sociology at Boston College.

SPANISH

The 2012 Outstanding Student Award went to Richard Leeflang.

The Latin American Studies 2012 Outstanding Student Award went to Dailey Haren.

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
SPANISH PRESENTATIONS:


THEATRE

2012 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
THEATRE PRESENTATIONS:

Marya Smith: “Socio-Political Factors Surrounding Instigation, Use, and After-Effects of Augusto Boal’s ‘Theater of the Oppressed’”