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

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:


Ron Eichberger, Jordon Loveridge, Robert Mehrigan, Meg Osswald, Melissa Smolley and Kathleen Ware: “Living in the Past: How Experimental Archeology Helps Reconstruct the Day-to-Day Lives of Prehistoric Populations”


Colin Crebs, Shauna Ferrell, Jennifer Fowler, Richel Raich, and Kyle Tase: “Not a One Way Street: Multiple Migrations and Routes to the New World”

Kelsie DeFrancia, Matt Hay, Tiffany Ludlow, Ashley Pedersen, and McKay Scadlock: “Let’s Get it On: Dissimilar Displays of Sexual and Aggressive Behaviors Between Chimpanzees and Bonobos and Their Implications for Understanding Human Behavior”

ART

This year’s 2009 Outstanding Student Award in Art went to Jennica Sheets.

2009 SENIOR ART EXHIBITORS

The 2009 Dean’s Choice Award went to Amanda Fuller. Runners up were Lauren Hansen and Kolbie Stonehocker.

Other artists included Jennica Sheets, M’Kenzie Tillotson, Nic Tucker, Calvin Denney, Tim Jones, and Julie Tippets.
MOVING ON…..

Adelaide Ryder (’06) has been accepted into the University of Utah’s MFA Photography program.

BIOLOGY

Tenzin Norgyal and Thomas Paresi were both awarded the 2009 Outstanding Student Award for Biology.

Lindsay Brickell was selected to participate in the 2009 American Society of Microbiology (AMS) Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program.

Elizabeth Duffin, Kristin Gillette, Alex (Alexander) Griffin, Isaac Hall, and Bobby (Robert) Sheen all received summer research grants from the Great Salt Lake Institute (which is supported in part by the WIRED Grant).

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
BIOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Chris Bradley, Courtney Forrest, and Chris Roundy: “Survey of Incidence of Staphylococcus aureus (and MRSA) in Student Populations at Westminster College”

Kenny Davis: “Impact of Logging on Small Mammals in Spruce-Fir Forest”

Holly Glissmeyer and Hayley Kemp: “Rapid Detection on Pasteurella multocida from Buccal Swabs of Feline, Canine, Avian and Swine Origin Using Polymerase Chain Reaction”

Chris Hanson, Paula Porter and Alex Taylor: “Purification and Identification of Nucleosomes in Halorubrum salsolis”

Thomas Paresi: “Regulation of Stress Gene Expression during Brine Shrimp Development and After Treatment with Selenium”

Summer 2009

Benjamin Rackham: “Mercury, Brine Shrimp, and the Ecosystem of Great Salt Lake”

Sara Rees: “Fluorescence in Desiccated Halo Bacteria”

CHEMISTRY

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry went to Colby Duncan.

Chelsea Buma was awarded a summer research position to complete in California.

Amanda Grant was awarded a Gore Summer Research Grant.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
CHEMISTRY PRESENTATIONS:

Lindsay Brickell and Jordan Henderson: “Carotenoids and DNA Damage in a Great Salt Lake Halophilic Archaea”

Colby Duncan: “Expression of the CheY Protein in Pyrococcus abyssi for use in Thermostability Studies”

Danyal Floisand: “Sequence-Dependent Structural Differences in RNA-DNA Hybrids”

Jordan Henderson: “Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy of Lead Content in Grass”

Natasha Khan: “Developing a Strategy to Integrate a Building Energy Monitoring System into the Science Curriculum”

Mary Marchio: “Alkalinity and pH Along Emigration Creek”

Heath Pascoe: “Thermostability of the CheY Protein”

Jared Roberts: “Iodine Content in Seaweed”
**COMMUNICATION**

The 2009 Outstanding Student Awards in Communication went to **Alex Way, Candice White,** and **Sara Lockwood.**

There was a very cool contest between Westminster Communications 307 students and design students at the University of Utah. They had been working with the Community Bike Shop to create a new design package for them. The following Westminster students participated and helped secure victory over the U of U: **Nadia Afridi, Jeffrey Chipian, Jennifer Fowler, Brooke Gecsey, Cami Gerber, Ann Green, Sara Herrmann, Feli Hipol, Kristin Lane, Sara Lotzenhiser, Sarah Lyman, Brittany Marsden, Ernesto Negrete, Sarah Pike, Christie Porter, Kate Reed, Devon Siegler, Stefan Stathopulos, Jennifer Stokes,** and **Mathew Wennergren.**

**2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR COMMUNICATION PRESENTATIONS:**

**Ashley Babbitt:** “Body Image Based Language in Magazine Editorial: Invisible Infiltration and Subconscious Internalization”

**Walter Denison:** “Capitalizing on Human Needs in Advertisements”

**Sarah Pike:** “Using Theory to Decode Persuasion: How Barack Obama Won Over America”

**Kate Reed:** “They Want You: How the KKK Uses Identification”

**Jessica Smith:** “From Cute to Sexy: The Persuasive…Implications of a Teen Icon in an Adult World”

**MOVING ON…..**

**Brooke Niemeyer** (’08) has been accepted into a journalism master’s program at NYU.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**Krikor Makhdoumain** was the recipient of the 2009 Outstanding Student Award in Computer Science.

**Valerie Yoder** was a recipient of the Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship.

**Amy Kovac** received a Gore Summer Research Grant for 2009.

**2009 UCUR PRESENTATIONS:**

**Valerie Yoder:** “Enhancing CT Images with Computer Vision”

**ENGLISH**

This year’s 2009 Outstanding Student Award in English went to **Emily Schmuhl.**

**Jordan Loveridge** and **Kendall Van Horssen** presented papers at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference in March 2009.

**Paula Porter** was awarded an American Heart Association Summer Research Grant.

**2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Amanda Theobald:** “Feminine Household in the ‘Goblin Market’”

**MOVING ON…..**

**Tim Asay** (’05), now a PhD candidate in medieval English studies at the University of Oregon, received the prestigious Margaret McBride Fellowship for 2010.

**Seth Bryant** (’07) completed his Master’s in Religious Studies at the University of Florida.
and will be entering the PhD program in religion at Vanderbilt University.

**Jill Culley** (’05) has been accepted to the Comparative Literature Masters program at Arizona State University Tempe.

**Trisina Dickerson** (’07) received a teaching fellowship at the University of South Florida’s MFA in the poetry program.

**Miles Fuller** (’07) will be entering the MFA Nonfiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

The Outstanding Student Award for 2009 in Environmental Studies was shared between **Ashley Pedersen** and **Colin Crebs**.

**Ashley Pedersen** was presented the Trustees’ Character Award at graduation this year.

**Sarah Carver** received a summer research grant from the Great Salt Lake Institute (which is supported in part by the WIRED Grant).

**Kelsie Defrancia** and **Meg Osswald** both received Gore Summer Research Grants.

**Jordan Loveridge** presented his paper “Connecting the Classroom and the Writing Center through an Oral-Rhetorical Pedagogy” at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

**Johanna Tietze** was photographed for the *Sugar House Journal* handing out pledge cards during Alternative Transportation Day.

**Kendall Van Horssen** presented the results of his research, “Does Westminster’s English 110 Course Accomplish Its Goals?” at the Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research and the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

**2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PRESENTATIONS:**

**Nick Cummings**: “Airborne Particulates Found in Snow”

**Ashley Pedersen**: “Environmental Justice in Utah”

**FILM**

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award for Film went to **Ian Stephens**.

**Krista Smith** and **James Sawaya** were both recipients of Sundance Internships this past summer.

**GENDER STUDIES**

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award for Gender Studies went to **Emma Joseph**.

**HISTORY**

History’s Outstanding Student Award for 2009 went to both **Kaitlin Berndt** and **Melanie Hall**.

**Spencer Woolley** was chosen as the student speaker for the 2009 commencement ceremony.

**2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR HISTORY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Kaitlin Berndt**: “If it’s about integration I don’t want to talk about it’ Brown, Little Rock, and the Failure of Integration”

**Nichole Collins**: “The Seething Sea of Misogyny Behind Anne Boleyn”
Melanie Hall: “The Untold Stories: American Jewish Literature and Historical Remembrance”

Robin Shea: “Mother May I? Permission Slips for the Six Day War”

John Soltis: “Suddenly it was Cool to be the Outsider’ Hollywood’s Representations of Jews”

Gregory Bowen (’08) will be entering the PhD program in linguistics at Purdue University. To support his studies, Greg received a Lynn Fellowship, which will provide a stipend his first year and graduate assistantships for three more years, as well as tuition remission and other benefits.

HONORS

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR HONORS PRESENTATIONS:


Ray Bradford (’07) was recognized as an Arjay Miller Scholar, the highest ten percent of the graduating MBA class from Stanford, and is off to work for Amazon.

JUSTICE STUDIES

Dallin VanLeuven received the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for study in Belgium this summer.

LANGUAGES

The French 2009 Outstanding Student Award went to Melanie Meaders.

The Spanish 2009 Outstanding Student Award went to Heather Dalton.

Mandy Eskelson (’09) is heading to Rwanda in October to serve in the Peace Corps. She has graduated with an English major and French minor, and will be able to use her French in Rwanda. Interestingly, Mandy said she wanted to go to Africa with the Peace Corps when she came to Westminster four years ago!

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics 2009 Outstanding Student Award went to Tyler Sherry.

Jordan Henderson, Heath Pascoe, Cody German, David Bradley, Courtney Forrest, Lauren Schmitt, and Danyal Floisand are all recipients of Gore Summer Research Grants.

2009 UCUR PRESENTATIONS:

Carolyn Tweedy: “Modeling Less of More: A Look Inside Amazon™”

Steve Upwall has been accepted to Westminster’s MAT program.

MCNAIR SCHOLARS

This past year’s new A&S Westminster McNair Scholars were Jayci Robb, Erika Rodriguez, Hans Romo, Dina Sage, and Benson Stevens.

McNair Scholars Symposium Oral Presentations

plays *Dutchman* and *The Slave* and Ishmael Reed’s novel *Yellow Back Radio Broke-Down*”

Natasha Khan: “Investigation of Metal Acetylacetonato Compounds Using the DART Time of Flight Mass Spectrometer”

Lauren McCrady, Erika Rodriguez, and Benson Stevens: “Dynamics, Perceptions, and Attitudes of Fluidity within Female Sexuality”

Jayci Robb: “Attitudes of Ambivalent Ableism”

Hans Romo: “Cost of Death: A Rawlsian Analysis of Utah’s Allocation of Capital Crime Funding”


Jennifer Soto-Allred: “Online Social Support during an Unpleasant Pregnancy”

Carla Suarez: “How Genetically Diverse Are Great Salt Lake Brine Shrimp?”

Angela Swensen: “The Impact of Clubhouse Participation on the Utilization of Mental Health Services”

Daniel Perez (’06, BIOL) received a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Fellowship worth $38,000. He will participate in a research project testing a new chemotherapeutic drug this upcoming academic year. Daniel is a medical student at UCSF.

Laura Richey (’05, NEURO) received her Master’s degree in behavioral neuroscience form SUNY Binghamton.

Kasey Serdar (’06, PSYC) completed her master’s in counseling psychology and continues in the doctoral program at Virginia Commonwealth University.

MUSIC

Jessica McKelvey was recognized as the Outstanding Senior Vocalist for 2009.

Freshman Taylor Wuerth was chosen as the Outstanding Freshman in Music for 2009.

NEUROSCIENCE

Ben Rackham was presented the Trustees’ Character Award at Graduation.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR NEUROSCIENCE PRESENTATIONS:

Lindsey Kolette Roper: “The Effects of the Trace Element Selenium on Mechanisms of Glutamate Induced-Toxicity and Apoptotic Signaling Pathways”

PALEONTOLOGY

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award in Paleontology went to Ivy Abbott.
PHILOSOPHY

The Outstanding Student Award of 2009 for Philosophy was McKay Holland.

Hans Romo has been accepted for Rutgers University’s APA funded undergraduate Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy. He also presented a paper at the East-West Philosophy Conference at the University of Hawaii-Hilo in March.

In March, Tessie (Tucker) Grahman, Cooper Henderson, Hans Romo, Camber Stoddard, and Stefan Vanduyvendijk finished 10th out of 32 teams for the 2009 National Ethics Bowl held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHILOSOPHY PRESENTATIONS:

Hans Romo: “False Friendships: The Use of and Immorality of Networking in Academia”

Marvin Whitaker: “A Despotically ‘Benevolent’ Policy: The Cherokee Indian Genocide”

2009 UCUR PRESENTATIONS:


Hans Romo: “False Friendships: The Use of and Immorality of Networking in Academia”

MOVING ON…..

Cassandra Best (’07) will attend the University of Wisconsin Law School after having been accepted at seven others.

Bryce Huebner (’99) received his PhD from University Chapel Hill in Philosophy. After a two year post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard Law and Tufts University in Psychology and Philosophy, he has accepted a tenure teaching position at Georgetown University in the Department of Philosophy.

Carl Evans (’07) is going to law school this fall at University Las Vegas. Carl also weighed scholarship offers from University of Utah, George Mason University and Chapman University.

Sabrina Martinez (’08), who finally got her Bachelor’s in Philosophy — after a several year hiatus due to having a child — has been accepted into the two year MSW program at Arizona State University.

Conor Walline (’08) will be entering the PhD program in philosophy at the University of Utah, concentrating in applied ethics.

PHYSICS

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award for Physics went to Jennifer-Lynn Demers.

Matt Polichette went to the Lawrence Livermore National Labs on the Scholar Internship Program.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHYSICS PRESENTATIONS:

Matt Polichette: “Does the Mixing of Separately Evolved Artificial Neural Networks Improve Performance?”

2009 UCUR PRESENTATIONS:

Matt Polichette: “Does the Mixing of Separately Evolved Artificial Neural Networks Improve Performance?”
MOVING ON…..

Jennifer-Lynn Demers (09) has received a graduate research fellowship at Dartmouth in Bioengineering.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Outstanding Student Award for 2009 in Political Science went to Heather Hicks.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR

POLITICAL SCIENCE PRESENTATIONS:

Colin Crebs: “Environmental Misogyny: The Global Relationship of Environmental Injustice and Gender”

Heather Hicks: “Transatlantic Glass Ceilings: A Comparison of Women’s Representation in the Highest Political Offices of the United States and Great Britain”

PSYCHOLOGY

For 2009, the Outstanding Student Award was shared between Breanna Glaeser as the Outstanding Scholar, Angie Andrade for Outstanding Senior and Amanda Anderson for Outstanding Service.

Breanna Glaeser presented her paper “Vague Writing Instruction in Psychology Classrooms: What the Writing Center Can Do to Enrich Disciplinary Writing Abilities” at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

Jillian Samels was accepted into the University of Utah’s 2009 Summer Research Institute. It is a very competitive program that only accepted eight students. The institute is designed to prepare students for a PhD career path.

2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR

PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Breanna Glaeser: “Adult Attachment, Emotion Regulation, and Memory of Interpersonal Events: The Mediating Role of Rumination”

Aimee Snedaker: “Pediatric Pain and Coping Strategies”

Stacey Thompson: “Comprehensive Sex Education: Why and How it is to be Taught in the Public School System”


2009 UCUR PRESENTATIONS:

Amanda Anderson and Ben Rackham: “Service-Learning, Diversity Education and the Benefits of Integration”
**SOCIOLGY**

The 2009 Outstanding Student Award went to **Rebecca Richard** in the category of Sociology. **Rebecca** was also honored with the Neisen R. Bank Memorial Award at graduation this year.

The Popular Culture Association National Meeting in New Orleans included papers presented by the following:

**Alexander Langshall:** “No Justice in Blade Runner”

**Whitney Strong:** “When Romance is Not So Romantic: Gender Construction, Domination, and Violence in Popular Literature Intended for Young Adults”

*MOVING ON…..*

**Angela Andrade** (’09) will be attending Oklahoma State this fall to pursue a PhD in developmental psychology.

**Alison Marrelli** (’06) is finishing up her first year in the PhD Program in Sociology at the University of Utah.

**James Singer** (’08) has been accepted into the University of Utah’s PhD Program in Sociology.

**THEATRE**

**Genieve Trieu** was the recipient of a Sundance Internships this past summer.

*MOVING ON…..*

**Laekin Rogers** (’08) debuted her first play entitled *Hands of Sodom* at the Black Box Theatre.