Dear Colleagues,

Thank you so much for helping us identify and recognize all these great students! We’re working with Laura Murphy 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

ART

Victoria Gonzalez received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

2010 SENIOR ART EXHIBITORS

The 2010 Dean’s Choice Award went to Julie LaFleur. Runners-up were Mark Sanders and Roman Schoewe.

Other artists included Mark Gilmore, Sara Herrmann, Kayla Kiech, and Nakisa Mirrafie.

BIOLOGY

Heather Dalton received the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Biology.

Jacob Wayman was awarded a Gore Summer Research Grant.

In August, Demetrius Coombs presented his poster presentation, “Protease and Hemolysin Production by Urogenital Isolates of E. faecalis,” at the 24th Symposium of The Protein Society held in San Diego.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR

BIOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Thinh Doan and Nick Cnossen: “Stem Cell Research for more Efficient Creation of Heart Tissue”

Quentin C. Nelson: “Development of a High-Resolution DNA Melting Assay to Distinguish Oak Species and Identify Hybrids”

MOVING ON…..

Heather Dalton (‘10) is headed to Creighton University School of Medicine with a full scholarship with the Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program as a Second Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps.

Alexander Griffin (‘10) volunteered in a hospital in Costa Rica this summer.
CHEMISTRY

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry went to Heath Pascoe.

Zak Burkley, Randall Ferguson, and Matthew Koc were awarded Gore Summer Research Grants.

Amanda Fadling received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

MOVING ON.....

Heath Pascoe (‘10) will start work on his PhD this August at the University of Texas Southwestern (in Dallas).

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Valerie Yoder and Glenn Terry were both recipients of the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Computer Science.

Kris Katsanevas was awarded a Gore Summer Research Grant.

MOVING ON.....

Valerie Yoder (‘10) is going to work full time at Numira Biosciences and is applying for computer science graduate programs in the next 1-2 years.

ENGLISH

This year’s 2010 Outstanding Student Award in English went to Michael Bell.

Graham Beckstead won a $100 gift certificate to The King’s English Bookshop for his first place entry in the English 110 Writing Contest. His paper was entitled “Position Paper on Rio de Janeiro as an Olympic Host City.”

Meghan Hekker’s paper “Self-Made Sorcerer: The Modernization of Merlyn in Jack Whyte’s The Camulod Chronicles” has been accepted for publication in The Honors Review, an undergraduate research journal published by the Augsburg College Honors Program. On April 9th, Meghan also presented her paper “‘Rosted Flesh’ and ‘Wastel-Breed’ Do Not a Prioress Make: The Prioress’s Revealing Relationship with Food and Manners in Chaucer’s The Canterbury Tales” at the Western Regional Honors Conference.

Jordan Loveridge and Erika Rodriguez presented at the joint meeting of the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference and the...
Colorado-Wyoming Tutors Conference, February 13th at the University of Denver.

**Justin Morse** won a $50 gift certificate to The King’s English Bookshop for his runner-up entry in the English 110 Writing Contest. His paper was entitled “Kentucky-Fried Cruelty.”

**Michael Toomey** also won a $50 gift certificate to The King’s English Bookshop for his runner-up entry in the English 110 Writing Contest. His paper was entitled “Position Paper on Spending Caps in European Football.”

**Caroline Hill** was at the University of Glasgow in spring for a study abroad.

**Jordan Jackson** studied abroad at the University of Amsterdam this past spring.

**Shoshana Zohar** was at the University of Haifa this past spring for a study abroad.

**2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Emily Alaniz:** “The Consequences of Human Interference in *Watership Down*: An Ecocritical Reading”

**Amy Firestone:** “A 20th Century Dream Vision: Teacher–Student Relationships in C.S. Lewis’s *The Great Divorce*”

**Jordan Loveridge:** “The Role of Argot in Group Identification”

**Paula Porter:** “Science, Genetics & Cultural Anxiety: A New Historical Criticism of *Jurassic Park*”

**Kelly Shields:** “Dreams and Madness in Lewis Carroll’s *Alice in Wonderland* and the Fear of Growing Up”

**Amanda Theobald:** “*Dandelion Wine*: A Narrative of Nostalgia”

**William Weyher:** “Curious Alice: The History and Influence of Wonderland”

**2010 UTAH CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Meghan Hekker:** “Henry becoming Arthur becoming Henry: Correlations between King Henry II of England and Twelfth-Century Arthurian Literature”

**National Undergraduate Literature Conference 2010**

**Creative Panels:**

**Erika Rodriguez:** “Together,” “Asking,” “We Jumped,” and “Congratulations”

**Ericka Rodriguez:** “Movimento, Miedo, Para El Pasado”

**Research Panels:**

**Lauren Allen:** “Coping With a Grave Reality”

**Jordan Loveridge:** “Hybridity and Trauma in Arundhati Roy’s *The God of Small Things*”

**Lauren McCrady:** “Wet Landscapes and Water Veils: Place-Attachment, Displacement, and Loss in *Dreaming in Cuban* and *The Farming of Bones*”

**Alicia Oberle:** “Water, Talk, and Darkness: The Rise of the Oppressed Female in Anne Carson’s *Glass, Irony, and God*”

**Amanda Theobald:** “The Feminine Household in *Goblin Market***
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The Outstanding Student Award for 2010 in Environmental Studies was shared between Hatley Laughridge and Kelsie DeFrancia.

John Coleman and Eric Nelson both received Environmental Studies Summer Research Awards.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PRESENTATIONS:


Megan Osswald: “Utah’s Wilderness Future”

MOVING ON…..

Kaitlyn Thomas (‘10) will soon be a park ranger at Arches.

FILM

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Film went to Krista Smith.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR FILM PRESENTATIONS:

Harry Cross Jr.: “On The Other Side: A Short Film”

HISTORY

Melanie Hall received the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in History.

Marian Fackrell was a runner-up of the 2010 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award for her research project titled “Loathing, Vanity, Nostalgia, and America’s Royal Family: The Public’s Love-Hate Relationship with the Kennedys.” She also received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR HISTORY PRESENTATIONS:

Kyle Berdge: “D-Day: What Went Wrong”

Jasmine Callister: “Bred Out of Existence, Poor Carlos”

Marian Fackrell: “Loathing, Vanity, Nostalgia, and America’s Royal Family: The Public’s Love-Hate Relationship with the Kennedys”

Meghan Hekker: “Twice Killed for the King: The Necessary Destruction of Saint Thomas Becket”

Morgan Mason: “The Titanic Truth: Confused Witnesses and Lying Historians”

Bree Ann Romero: “Buzz Kill: Temperance and Prohibition in America”


HONORS

Stacy Blaylock and Tracy Hansford led the V-Day 2010 Campaign. Other Honors students on this year’s committee include Jillian Edmonds, Christina Della Iacono, Robin Hill, Cassidy Jones, and Amanda Ruiz.
Robin Hill and Tracy Hansford traveled to the Indian village of Wai this past winter to find a location for the library Westminster will build there.

Cassidy Jones was on a study abroad in Madagascar spring semester.

Ali Monjar was the chair of the 2009–2010 ASWC Film and Lecture Series on sexuality.

David Mursener-Gonzalez spent fall semester studying in China at Nankai University.

Jillian Samels led the Social Science Club this year with Trevor Beal and Jillian Edmonds.

At the end of September, four Honors students, Camber Stoddard, Cooper Henderson, Tess Graham, and Tyler Sutton, had the opportunity to travel to New York to meet with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at the United Nations General Assembly.

2009–2010 Writing Award Recipients

Alex Thomas
Humanities (Badenhausen and More, Humanities I)
“The Play’s the Think: The Impact of Genre on Montaigne’s and Shakespeare’s Views on Pretending and Death”

Sam Webster
Science (Goldsmith and Cline, History and Philosophy of Science)
“Their World or Ours: The Degradation of Nature in Environmental Sciences”

Camber Stoddard
Arts/Social Science (LeCluyse and Wright, Arts in Performance)
“To Sing or Not To Sing: Opera as a Medium for Performing Shakespeare”

2010 Independent Summer Research Grant Recipients ($2,500 each)

Cooper Henderson: “The Institutional Incentive for Corruption within Utah State Government”

Cassidy Jones: “Art and Activism in Escalante Country: An Environmental Literary History”

Tyler Sutton: “The Ethical Evaluation of Newborn Screening as an Opt-out Program vs. Opt-in”

MOVING ON…..

Daniel Perez (’06) received a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Fellowship worth $38,000. He is participating in a research project to test a new chemotherapeutic drug this academic year.

Grant Rotunda (’09) was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy upon graduation from Westminster.

JUSTICE STUDIES

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Justice Studies went to Princess Gutierrez.

The Westminster Mock Trial team, now in their fourth year, competed at the Northern California Regional Tournament in Fresno, CA, February 12-14. They competed in four trials, beating teams from University of Arizona and Arizona State University, and coming up short in close trials against teams from Arizona State and Pomona College. We are particularly proud to let you know that two of the students, John Cook and Teysya Dougherty, each won an Outstanding Attorney award, Westminster’s first such awards. The team consisted of John Cook, Paula Porter, Gus Paras, Shane Chapman, Teysya Dougherty, Sonnee
Osiek, Elizabeth John, James “Chris” Gibbs, Lindsey Clark, Hillary Pierce, Mauricio Aguilera, Katie Merrill, Christopher Worel, and Beau Dixon.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR JUSTICE STUDIES PRESENTATIONS:

Whitney Johnson: “The Effects of a Strong Belief in a Just World on Crime Stereotypes”

Kelsey Onysko: “Treatment Versus Incarceration: Effectiveness of Drug Court Rehabilitation Programs on Prisoner Recidivism Rates”

Jennifer Pirente: “The Legitimacy of Title IX in College Athletics”

Dallin VanLeuven: “Building a Sustainable Counter-Terror Response: Lessons Learned from Abroad”

LANGUAGES

The French 2010 Outstanding Student Award went to Kaitlyn Thomas.

The Spanish 2010 Outstanding Student Award went to Alexander Griffin.

Amanda Ruiz received the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Latin-American Studies.

Patrick Fericks is studying abroad at Alfonso X University near Madrid, Spain.

In the fall, another of our excellent students, Jeremy Reynoso, will leave to study in Mexico for his study abroad program.

MATHEMATICS

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Mathematics went to Jessica Robinson.

Amy Kovac and Adria Palmer each received Gore Summer Research Grants.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR MATHEMATICS PRESENTATIONS:

Lauren Schmitt: “Sudoku and Combinatorics”

MCNAIR SCHOLARS

This past year’s new A&S Westminster McNair Scholars were Duke Cruz, Dailey Haren, Victoria Morales, Eduardo Reyes-Chavez, Jeremy Reynoso, Wendolens Ruano, Takwa Sharif, Kamille Sheikh, and Jared WalkingEagle.

MOVING ON…..

Krystle Cook (’05) received her M.Ed. in educational technology from Utah State University.

Asia Ferrin (’07) completed her master’s in philosophy and continues in the doctoral program at the University Washington.

Kasey Serdar (’06) completed her master’s in counseling psychology and continues in the doctoral program at Virginia Commonwealth University. She especially enjoys her clinical internships, and has recently passed her prelims!

Laura Richey (’05) received her master’s degree in behavioral neuroscience from SUNY Binghamton.

Carla Valencia earned her MBA degree in 2007.
**MUSIC**

*Caitlyn Jones* received the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Music.

*MOVING ON…..*

*Caitlyn Jones* ('10) will be working full time at Goldman Sachs. She'll be in the Salt Lake City office working as an analyst in the Operations Division.

**NEUROSCIENCE**

*Daniel Barber* received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

*Nyssa Landres* received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

**2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR NEUROSCIENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

*Ashley Davis*: “Expression and Purification of Leucine Transporter for Use in Proteoliposomes”

*Christine Garcia*: “Effects of a Neurotoxic Regimen of Methamphetamine on Basal Ganglia-Dependent Instrumental Learning”

*Jordan Henderson*: “The Genetics of Attention and Emotion Modulation”

*T'Lesa Meadowcroft*: “Handedness and Temperament”

*Erika Rodriguez* and *Benson Stevens*: “Dynamics, Perceptions and Attitudes of Fluidity in Female Sexuality”

*Alexandria Southworth*: “The Relationship between the Retention of Newly Learned Material and Exposure to a Rhythmic Auditory Stimulus”

**PALEONTOLOGY**

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Paleontology went to *Kaitlyn Thomas*.

**PHILOSOPHY**

*Amanda Ruiz* received the 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Philosophy.

*Amanda Ruiz* won the personal essay portion of the Common Ground Writing Contest for her paper entitled “Andes.”

*Hans Romo* was accepted to the following law schools: Vanderbilt, Duke, Georgetown and NYU.

**2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHILOSOPHY PRESENTATIONS:**

*Cooper Henderson*: “The Double Edge Sword of Reform: Why Institutional Corruption May Have Enabled International Trade within the State of Utah”

*Amanda Hobbs*: “John Dewey Speaks to Sophocles: Making an Experience from Aporia and Ethical Considerations in Tragedies”

*Gus Paras* and *Camber Stoddard*: “The Puzzling Predicament of Prostitution”


Summer 2010

Chris Warr: “The Obligation to Intervene: A Human Value Ethic”

MOVING ON…..

Amanda Ruiz ('10) will be attending the University of Arizona in the fall, pursuing a J.D. from the James E. Rogers College of Law and a M.A. in Women’s Studies. She accepted a $75,000 scholarship. This summer she’ll be working at Girl Scout Camp in Colorado.

Camber Stoddard ('10) has been accepted to the TRIALS program this year. TRIAL is a full scholarship summer program to train undergraduate students to succeed on the LSAT and later in law school. It is co-sponsored by Advantage Testing Foundation, Harvard Law, and NYU Law.

PHYSICS

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Physics went to Matt Polichette.

Sage Dunham was awarded a Gore Summer Research Grant.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Outstanding Student Award for 2010 in Political Science went to both Katie Filler and Lester Stephens.

PRE-MEDICAL

Medical School Acceptances

Chris Crellin: University of Utah School of Medicine

Heather Dalton: Creighton University School of Medicine and St. Louis University School of Medicine

Lahdan Heidarian: University of Utah School of Medicine

James Johnson: Miami School of Medicine

Paula Porter: Ohio State College of Medicine and University of Utah School of Medicine

Jared Roberts: Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

PSYCHOLOGY

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Psychology was shared between Jillian Samels as the Outstanding Scholar and Jayci Robb for Outstanding Service.

Angela Swensen was the recipient of the 2010 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award for her research project titled “The Impact of Clubhouse Participation on the Utilization of Mental Health Services.”

Ben Walker was a runner-up for the 2010 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award for his research project titled ”The Effects of Premarital Sex on Marriage.”
Emilee Naylor received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:


Courtney Forrest: “The Effects of Massage Therapy on Infants”

Lindsey Padjen: “Psychosocial Development of Refugee Children”

Morgan Richards: “Graphology and the Big Five Personality Test”

Jayci Robb: “Attitudes of Ambivalent Ableism”

Jillian Samels: “Cross Cultural Developmental Issues: Parent–Child Interactions in a Sample of Refugees”

2010 UTAH CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Lindsey Padjen: “Psychosocial Development of Refugee Children”

MOVING ON…..

Jayci Robb (’10) has been accepted into the Master’s Rehabilitation Psychology program at the University of Arizona.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR SOCIAL SCIENCES PRESENTATIONS:


SOCIETY

The 2010 Outstanding Student Award in Sociology went to Madeline Kirkpatrick.

Three sociology students presented the following papers at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) National Conference in St. Louis this past April:

Alena Ivakhnenko: “Art and Attitudes: The Modern Canvas of Fetishes and Philies”

Kylie Kingsbury: “Hollywood Sexual Deviants: Paraphilies and Fetishes in Modern Film”

Eva Tukuafu-Morgan: “Oh No! My Mom Just Joined Facebook: How Social Networking Sites Affect Familial Relationships”

2010 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR SOCIOLGY PRESENTATIONS:

Staci Harris: “Sexual Serial Homicide”


THEATRE

Joan Richardson was a $5,000 recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship.