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

ANTHROPOLOGY

2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:

Lena Bain: “Wilderness Experience Facilitation: A Qualitative Look at Whitewater Guiding on the San Juan River of Southern Utah”

ART

The Deseret News wrote a story, “Woman’s tragedy becomes catalyst for service,” on Shonti Breisch, who turned her adversity into service.

2011 SENIOR ART EXHIBITORS

The 2011 Dean’s Choice Award went to Shonti Breisch. Runners-up were MacKenzie Donovan and LeAnn Peterson.


BIOLOGY

Robert Sheen received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Biology.

Katie Bonebrake received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

Demetri Coombs was accepted into a postgraduate summer study program at the University of Cambridge.

Julie Kilpatrick received a summer research grant from the office of the Provost.

Joi Logan was the recipient of the Trustees’ Character Award at commencement this year.
Rita Okumu received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

**CHEMISTRY**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry went to both Chelsea Buma and Danyal Floisand.

Victor Boss, Merima Beganovic and Dorian Rosen received Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grants.

Sarah Martin and Randall Ferguson received Gore Summer Research Grants.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR CHEMISTRY PRESENTATIONS:**

Zak Burkley: “Second Harmonic Generation Using a Lithium Niobate Crystal”


Kathy Ho: “The Development of an Energy Dashboard for the Meldrum Science Center”

Angela Marler-Boyd: “Quantitative Analysis of Caffeine Content in Popular Drinks”

Sarah Martin: “Quantification and Analysis of Nicotine in Popular Products”

**COMMUNICATION**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Communication went to Sarah Pettit.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR COMMUNICATION PRESENTATIONS:**


MOVING ON…..

Sarah Pettit (‘11), who received a degree in Communication in May, is a fellow at the Georgetown Institute on Political Journalism and interning at the World Wildlife Fund.

Joshua Stasinos (‘04) was quoted in Utah this Week regarding the pub quizzes he creates at The Republican.

**ENGLISH**

This year’s 2011 Outstanding Student Award in English went to both Amy Firestone and Jordan Jackson.

Lauren Allen, Tavish Bell, and Emily Nelson, presented at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference.

In May, Meghan Hekker presented her paper entitled “Visualizing England’s Savior Saint: Medieval Church Politics and the Becket Miracle Windows” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI.

Cassidy Jones was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. She will be teaching English for a year in Turkey as well as continuing her research on oral traditions about environmental stewardship. Cassidy was also selected as the student commencement speaker for the class of 2011.

Melanie Long and professor Peter Goldman received a Gore Student-Faculty Undergraduate Research I Travel Grant to attend the 5th Annual Generative Anthropology Summer Conference held at High Point University. Melanie did an interdisciplinary research project that combined perspectives from her Economics Major and English Minor. She gave a paper at the conference entitled “Merchantry, Usury, Villainy: Capitalism’s
Threat to Community and Spiritual Integrity in *The Merchant of Venice.*” Her presentation was well-received by the conference participants.

**Erika Rodriguez** won the 2011 Giovale Library Undergraduate Research Award for her essay, “Probando el Latino Identity in the Translation of Como Agua para Chocolate.” **Erika** was also chosen by poet Henri Cole as a co-winner of the Academy of American Poets student prize and was published in the *Ellipsis: Literature and Art.*

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR ENGLISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Christian Felt:** “Haunted Cities and Social Control through Visibility: A Phenomenological and de Certeauvian Reading of Poe’s “The Man of the Crowd”

**Amy Firestone:** “Call me but Love, and I’ll be New Baptized’: A Protestant Reading of Romeo and Juliet”

**Caroline Hill:** “The Gender of Madness: Examining the Hysteria of Women in Late 19th to Mid-20th Century American Women’s Literature”

**Devon Hoffman:** “Arnold Saves the Day’ Excerpt”

**Cassidy Jones:** “Voices of Grand Staircase - Escalante: A Question of Ecocritical Literary License”

**Melanie Long:** “Merchantry, Usury, Villainy: Capitalism’s Threat to Community and Spiritual Integrity in *The Merchant of Venice*”

**Michael D. Whitworth:** “Process of Pantoum”

**Rob Vorwald:** “[F*ck]”

**Susannah Zohar:** “Notes Toward an Understanding of Friendship”

**NATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE LITERATURE CONFERENCE 2011**

**Melanie Long:** “Merchantry, Usury, and Villainy: Capitalism’s Threat to Community and Spiritual Integrity in *The Merchant of Venice*”

**Alicia Oberle:** “Return to the Maiden,” “The Ungrateful Undead,” “Thisbe’s Love,” “The Resurrection of Nature: Ecofeminism and the Rise Against Domination in Djuna Barnes’s *Nightwood*”

**Guilherme Santos:** “Together Forever: A Literature Review of Mormon Doctrine in *Twilight*”

**MOVING ON…..**

**Fran Craigle** (’71) was quoted in the *Park Record* about her keeping alive the family tradition of teaching.

**Lauren McCrady** (’11) will attend the University of Nevada – Reno for her masters in English where she will pursue her interest in eco-criticism.

**Erika Rodriguez** (’11) will start work on her master’s program in Romance Languages at the University of Oregon.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

The Outstanding Student Award for 2011 in Environmental Studies was shared between **Casey Lewis** and **Stephanie Tomlin.**

**Morgan Anderson** studied coastal conservation and sea turtle populations in Mexico this summer.

**Emilio Casillas** was quoted in *La Mesa Patch* on being a youth representative for the
Environmental Sustainability Committee for the city of La Mesa, CA.

Carson Chambers and Samuel Webster received summer research grants from the office of the Provost.

Meghan Johnston received the President’s Leadership Award at commencement.

Alizabeth Potucek and Shelby Shaw both received summer research grants from Environmental Studies.

2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
PRESENTATIONS:

Marisa Buchanan, Ronald Eichelberger, Rachel Hatch, Heather Herde, Jennifer Hitt, Meghan Johnston, Robert Mehregan, Eric Nielsen, Nichole Rose, Shelby Shaw, Suradee Thongkiattikul, Stephanie Tomlin, and Joshua Wennergren: “GROW: Garden Rehabilitation of Westminster”

Nick Burnett, Katie Felt, Matt Jimenez, and Bry Osmonson: “Evaluation of Transportation Criteria within STARS”


Emilio Casillas and Adair Kovac: “STARS - Public Engagement”


Jeff Collins, Alex Daino, and Kevin Lucey: “Assessment of Dining Services within the Criteria of STARS”


Eric Nielsen: “A Geothermal Inventory of Utah”

Sam Webster: “Negotiating the Space Between Urban and Rural: Simmel’s Blasé Attitude Visits the Suburbs”

FRENCH

The French 2011 Outstanding Student Award went to Jay McConagha.

GENDER STUDIES

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Gender Studies went to Johnathan Ford.

HISTORY

Marian Fackrell received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in History.

Tyler Seldomridge received a summer research grant from the office of the Provost.

2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR
HISTORY PRESENTATIONS:

Audrey Jensen: “Good War, Bad War: WWII Films as a Mirror of Their Times”
Sara Lowden Thompson: “Tug-of-War: Myth-Busting the Hatfield McCoy Feud”

Samantha Nelson: “Bitten: American Popular Culture and Vampire Fiction”

Spencer Roddan: “The Temporary Triumph of the Spanish People: 1808 – 1823”

2011 Independent Summer Research Grant Recipients ($2,500 each)

Tess Graham: “Pigou versus Minsky: Recounching Demand Theories through Historical Analysis”

Allie Roach: “Characterization of a Novel Haloarchaeon Genus: Halophiles as a Source of Biomeditation”

HONORS

2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR HONORS PRESENTATIONS:

Jeff Pedersen: “Privatizing the Public Realm: The Purchase of Main Street, Disciplinary Surveillance, and the Loss of Basic Rights”

2010–2011 Writing Award Recipients

Melanie Long
Humanities (Badenhausen & More)
“Locking Up Memory: The Wanderer, Seneca, and the Question of Memory’s Autonomy”

Christina Della Iacono
Sciences (Goldsmith & Wellman)
“Ego Bust: Blurring the Line between Human and Non-Human Animals through Animal Modeling, Evolution and the Physicality of Consciousness”

Kellie Carrigan
Social Sciences (Tripp & Watkins)
“The Subjective Nature of Objectivism”

Tracy Hansford
Special Topics and Crosslisted (Goldman & More)
“Accelerated Decrepitude: An Exploration of Human Nature through an Examination of J.F. Sebastian”

JUSTICE STUDIES

2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR JUSTICE STUDIES PRESENTATIONS:


MOVING ON…..

David Sondrup (‘11) was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.


MATHEMATICS

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Mathematics went to Adria Palmer.

Emilee Naylor won the STAT Prize at the Undergraduate Research Fair for the best use of statistics.

Ian Becker, Andy Larsen, Taylor Sibbett, and Kali Wickens received Gore Summer Research Grants.
2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR MATHMATICS PRESENTATIONS:

Cole Griesemer: “Nonlinear Support Vector Regression on Matrix Factors”

Adria Palmer: “Kernel Ridge Regression for Prediction Models”

MCNAIR SCHOLARS

This coming year’s A&S McNair Scholars are Leslie Brown, Yvonne Clark, Christina Della Iacono, Sheena Nyann and Dexter Thomas.

Both Dailey Haren and Kamille Sheikh attended the 18th annual UC Berkeley McNair Conference last August.

MSPC

In April, Carrie Merino had her paper accepted at the annual Rocky Mountain Psychological Association meeting. She presented “The Relationship Between Attachment Theory as Manifested in Current Close Relationships and Strategies of Coping with Weight-Related Guilt and Shame in the Clinically Obese.”

Clare Rakowski was quoted in the Intermountain Catholic on the “40 Days of Life Campaign.”

MUSIC

Kimberly Tosti received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Music.

John Armstrong organized the ASWC-supported “Concert on the Commons,” featuring several student musicians from Westminster.

Wyatt King and Kim Tosti sang the Westminster Alma Mater at the commencement ceremony in May.

Morgan Richards performed in Centerpoint Legacy Theatre’s “Civil War” June 13th–July 11th.

Lauren Robinson will teach English in France in the fall.

Kimberly Tosti presented a Senior Vocal Recital on May 21st. She also sang the National Anthem at commencement.

Taylor Wuerth performed with Park City’s Egyptian Theatre in “Gypsy” July 8th–31st. He was offered the lead role of Tarzan on the Disney Cruise Lines, but chose to finish out his senior year at Westminster before pursuing a career in musical theater. Taylor also studied abroad in Northern Ireland in fall 2010.

Josh Garrison will study in China during the fall.

MOVING ON…..

Kim Tosti (‘11) will study opera with La Musica Lirica in Novafeltria, Italy, in June and July. Kim will also sing with the Utah Opera Chorus in the 2011-12 season.

NEUROSCIENCE

Benson Stevens received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Neuroscience.

MOVING ON…..

In the fall, Benson Stevens (‘11) will attend Georgetown University’s Interdisciplinary Program in Neuroscience. After conducting a year of research in their labs, he will enter the PhD program in summer 2012.
**PALEONTOLOGY**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Paleontology went to **Caralee Starling**.

**Samantha Hartford** received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

**PHILOSOPHY**

**Stuart Vineyard** received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Philosophy.

**Jillian Edmonds, Cooper Henderson, O’Ryan Moore, Camber Stoddard, and Tyler Sutton** competed in the National Ethics Bowl Tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio, in February 2011.

**Jillian Edmonds** and **Steven Paul Wiseman** received summer research grants from the office of the Provost.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHILOSOPHY PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Laura Bellew**: “The Use of Demarcation in the Modern Vaccine Debate”
- **Kayla Conover**: “The Thin Body as a Medium for Patriarchal Control as Opposed to a Corporeal Display of Health and Fertility”
- **David Pagels**: “Imminence, Prevention and the Clandestine Threat”
- **Lillian Rivard**: “Psychedelics and Religious Limitations”
- **Stuart Vineyard**: “Capitalism’s Influence on Creating and Perpetuating Racism”

**MOVING ON…..**

**Gus Paras** (’11) will attend law school at USC in the fall.

**PHYSICS**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Physics went to **Danyal Floisand**.

**Zak Burkely** conducted summer research in physics at Hampton/MIT.

**Amanda Fadling** received a Gore Summer Research Grant.

This summer **Fehmi Yasin** conducted physics research at the University of Oregon.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PHYSICS PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Zak Burkely**: “Second Harmonic Generation Using a Lithium Niobate Crystal”

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

The Outstanding Student Award for 2011 in Political Science went to **Blake Bassett**.

**Brendan Davis** received a summer research grant from the office of the Provost.

**MOVING ON…..**

**Blake Bassett** (’11) was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

**Sean Rush** (’11) was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.
**PRE-MEDICAL**

*Medical School Acceptances*

Alexander Griffin: University of Wisconsin  
Nicholas Cnossen: Miami School of Medicine  
Shannon Corbett: Wayne State  
Robin Tillery: University of Utah School of Medicine

**PSYCHOLOGY**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Psychology was shared between Kamille Sheikh and Tara Sharifan.

Jordan Kamm was quoted in the *Deseret News* about living on two dollars a day as part of an awareness campaign focusing on the homeless.

Carolina Silva received a Westminster Scholars Summer Research Grant.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR PSYCHOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:**

Karen Calderon, Kortni Coats, Dana Etherington, Elisabeth Givens, Hailey Hall, Haley Harris, Samuel Hill, Jacob Jackson, Weston Jenson, Cordell Johnston, Alexa Leifson, Caitlin Light, Joshua Lindstrom, Katrina Maurer, Katherine Moreno, Tyler Reese, Anthony Umpierre, and Matthew Westover: “Factors Influencing Undergraduate Academic Performance at Westminster College”

Emilee Naylor: “Correlates Among Neuroticism, Conscientiousness, Temperamental Negative Affectivity, Effortful Control, and Factor-Level Underpinnings in Middle Childhood”

Casey O'Donnell and Marya Smith: “Stereotyping Threat and Reflexes”

Meghan Paravi: “Death: ‘Get Over it!’ Bereaved Children Need Support Moving Through the Grief Journey”

Tara Sharifan: “Identifying Psychological Resilience Factors in Refugee Children”

Kamille Sheikh: “The Relationships Among Shyness, Fear, and Effortful Control in Middle Childhood”

MOVING ON.....

Michael Hafen ('11) was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S Army.

Kamille Sheikh ('11) will attend the master's program in Human Development and Social Policy at the University of Utah.

**SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Sociology went to Darien Hickey, Jaimee Allred, and Dulce Hernandez.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR SOCIAL SCIENCES PRESENTATIONS:**

Lena Bain: “Wilderness Experience Facilitation: A Qualitative Look at Whitewater Guiding on the San Juan River of Southern Utah”

**SOCIOLOGY**

The 2011 Outstanding Student Awards in Sociology went to Darien Hickey, Jaimee Allred, and Dulce Hernandez.

Jaimee Allred was awarded the prestigious Neisen R. Bank Memorial Award at
commencement. She was also quoted in the *Salt Lake Tribune* about overcoming many daunting challenges in order to receive her degree.

**Cara Cerise** received the 2011 Utah Young Humanitarian award by a panel of community leaders. Recipients receive a $5,000 college scholarship. In June, she was in a featured story in the *Salt Lake Tribune* about her working to end bias in the gay community.

Three sociology students presented at the Western Social Science Association’s annual conference, held this past April in Salt Lake City:

**Jaimee Allred:** “The Policies on Fostering our Children: Building the Foundations of Success”

**Peter Schramm:** “The Revolution Will Not be Televised: Looking at the Impact of the Media on Social Movements”


Sociology seniors **Jaimee Allred, Amy Arburn, Will Charles,** and **Darien Hickey** presented their capstone theses at the Popular Culture and American Culture Association’s annual conference in San Antonio. **Amy’s** paper, entitled “Popular Culture and an Unpopular Ideology: How a San Francisco Girl ‘Finds Herself’ in Draper, Utah,” explores how young people in Utah who are not members of the dominant Utah religious community use popular culture to create subcultures that are more accepting of and relevant to their own cultural belief systems and practices. **Will’s** paper, entitled “University of Life: A Critical Examination of Inequality in Higher Education and Vocational Job Training,” examines the ways in which vocational job training reproduces rather than challenges the class structure. **Darien’s** paper, entitled “Fist Pumping and GTL as a Way of Life: The Portrayal of Gender, Race, and Sexuality on MTV’s Jersey Shore,” examines the extent to which this popular reality show reinforces or challenges stereotypes surrounding gender, race, and sexuality. **Jaimee’s** paper, entitled “The Policies on Fostering Our Children: Building the Foundations of Success,” explores the foster care system and the resources and support that children need as they age out of the system.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR SOCIOLOGY PRESENTATIONS:**

**Jason Archuleta:** “Straight to the Bank or Doctor: Heteronormativity in Medical and Financial Brochures”

**SPANISH**

The Spanish 2011 Outstanding Student Award went to **Lena Bain.**

**Jeremy Reynoso** received the 2011 Outstanding Student Award in Latin-American Studies.

**Richard Leeflang** studied in Bucaramanga, Colombia, this summer in a cardiology unit of a hospital there.

**2011 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR SPANISH PRESENTATIONS:**

**Jeremy Reynoso:** “The Mentor and Minificación: Messages in Very Brief Literature for Minority Readers in the United States”

**MOVING ON…..**

This fall, **Jeremy Reynoso** (‘11) will begin doctoral studies in education at Washington State University. His specialization will be Culture Studies and Social Thought in Education.
THEATRE

Brady Arnold and Melissa Jenkins performed in Westminster’s spring production of “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.”

Ashley Carlson, Melissa Jenkins, Nicolas Johnston, Ali Lente, Anna Morris, and Fehmi Yasin performed in Westminster’s fall production of “The Spitfire Grill.”

Ashley Carlson performed in Hale Center Theatre’s “Dirty Rotten Scoundrels”, June 7th–July 23rd. Ashley is performing in Centerpoint Legacy Theatre’s “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” as Milly July 25th–August 20th. She will sing in the Utah Symphony’s 2011 Deer Valley Music Festival on August 4th in the concert “Of Thee I Sing: The Jewish American Songbook.”

Kelly Davis, Hailey Henderson, Wyatt McNeil, Conner Montgomery, and Jared Thomson performed in the spring production of “Equus.”

Tracy Hansford was selected as the Westminster College Student Employee of the Year.