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UMM Honors and Awards Ceremony

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Student Honors and Awards Program 2012

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2012 --- --- UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS HONORS AND AWARDS

IN RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS WHO DEMONSTRATE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ENRICH CAMPUS LIFE



EDSON AUDITORIUM, STUDENT CENTER
FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012, 7 P.M.

2012 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS STUDENT HONORS AND AWARDS

Welcome Bart Finzel, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean

University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award presented by Tony Schuster '02, president
Jennifer Deane, associate professor of history

Thanks to the generosity of the alumni association, the campus recognizes outstanding professors and their contributions to undergraduate education through the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award.

Address Jennifer Deane, associate professor of history

Chancellor's Award presented by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Cristina Montanez, El Paso, Texas

Presented annually to outstanding seniors on the basis of academic excellence and contribution to campus life, the chancellor of the University of Minnesota, Morris makes the Chancellor's Award selection after consulting with various campus groups.

Curtis H. Larson Award presented by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Manjari Govada, Shakopee

The Curtis H. Larson Award is conferred upon the graduate chosen as senior class speaker. The selection is made by faculty and graduating seniors. The award was established in memory of the late Curtis Larson, the University of Minnesota, Morris's first class speaker in 1964, who lost his life in an accident while serving with the Peace Corps in Ecuador following his graduation.

Katherine E. Sullivan Scholarship recognized by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Sara Butterfass, Howard Lake

Awarded by the University of Minnesota Office of International Programs, the all-University Katherine E. Sullivan Scholarship honors high-achieving University seniors with financial support for a fifth year of undergraduate study in another country.

Udall Scholarship recognized by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Naomi Wente, Dodge Center

The nationally competitive scholarship awarded by the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation honors scholars on the basis of a commitment to careers in the environment, health care, or tribal public policy, leadership potential, and academic achievement. The scholarship honors Congressman Udall who served in the House of Representatives for three decades, a career distinguished by civility, integrity, and consensus.

Killam Undergraduate Fellowship for Americans.....recognized by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Joshua Smith, Apple Valley

The Killam Fellowships Program provides an opportunity for exceptional undergraduate students from universities in the United States to spend either one semester or a full academic year as an exchange student in Canada.

Allen W. Edson Award.....presented by Sandra Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs
Manjari Govada, Shakopee

Presented annually in recognition of contribution to campus life, the Allen W. Edson Award recipient is chosen by the executive board of the Morris Campus Student Association, student members of the Campus Assembly, and the faculty. The award honors Allen Edson, superintendent of the University of Minnesota West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station on the Morris campus from 1947 to 1958. He joined the WCSA staff in 1921.

Mary Martelle Memorial Award.....presented by Sandra Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs
Manjari Govada, Shakopee, student recipient
Nancy Helsper, director of institutional research, staff recipient

Presented annually to a student and to a staff member deemed to have made outstanding contributions to the quality of Morris campus life, the Mary Martelle Memorial Award perpetuates the memory of Mary Martelle, senior secretary in the Office of Student Activities from 1965 until her death in 1976.

Scholar of the College Award.....presented by Engin Sungar, professor of statistics
Functions and Awards Committee, chair

Stephen Adams, International Falls	Spencer Garden, Bloomington	Colin Scheck, Brooklyn Park
Allison Amdon, Falcon Heights	Manjari Govada, Shakopee	Dan Seidenkranz, Woodbury
Lauren Bailey, Lakeville	Lucas Granholm, Arden Hills	Jessie Sherman, Bozeman, Montana
Elizabeth Biniczik, Coon Rapids	Kristina Grundmanis, Minneapolis	Sonja Smith, Apple Valley
Lynn Bixler, Brooklyn Park	Jeffrey Lindblom, Zimmerman	Joshua Smith, Apple Valley
Rachel Busko, Fergus Falls	Jessica Orth, Sleepy Eye	Christopher Thompson, Litchfield
Denise Casemore, White Bear Lake	Ian Patterson, Eden Prairie	Meaghan Young-Stephens, Lino Lakes
Clara Costello, Afton	Ruth Potter, Long Prairie	
Lucas Ellgren, Maple Grove	Michael Rislow, Lewiston	

Scholar of the College Awards are presented annually to students who demonstrate distinguished contributions to scholarship in one or more of the academic disciplines.

Edith Rodgers Farrell Memorial Award for Undergraduate Research..... presented by Janet Schrrunk Ericksen,
chair, Division of the Humanities
Karl Schliep, Howard Lake
Ellis Valentiner, Plymouth

Established by the family, students, and friends of Edith Rodgers Farrell, late professor of French and undergraduate research advocate, the annual award is granted to a graduating senior whose research is judged by a jury of faculty to be excellent.

Sustainability Award presented by Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor
Joseph Hartmann, Roseville
Alissa Jacobsen, Stillwater
Kayla Pridmore, Minneapolis
Jodie Roy, Brooks

This award recognizes students that have displayed exemplary service on our campus to advance our sustainability initiatives and campus sustainability conversation. The efforts of these students have been sustained over the course of their tenure at Morris and have helped to create positive change with leadership that has been a model to others. Sustainability is a big idea that connects with our liberal arts leadership. These students have asked “big questions” and have worked to find solutions.

American Indian Salt Springs Cultural Awards presented by Becca Gercken, associate professor of English
Melissa Carnicle, Garretson, South Dakota
Irene Churchill, Sandstone
Alexandra Myhal, Parma Heights, Ohio
Sasha Suarez, Bloomington

American Indian Salt Springs Teacher Scholarship presented by Becca Gercken, associate professor of English
Kayla Bilotta
Kaitlin Danielson, Lakeville

The American Indian Salt Springs Awards are presented on the basis of academic excellence and contribution to the Indian and campus community to outstanding American Indian students who will return to the Morris campus next year.

Honors Program Recognition presented by Tammy Berberi, associate professor of French,
Honors Program adviser
Julianna Drennen, Toledo, Ohio
Brittany Ottum, Eden Prairie
Nadine Frassetto, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Morgan Turner, Ashby
Alissa Hawks, Osseo
Meaghan Young-Stephens, Lino Lakes

Honors Program graduates receive “with honors” on their transcripts for having completed a unique interdisciplinary curriculum that is team-taught by faculty from different academic divisions and disciplines. They have earned at least a 3.5 grade point average and have defended an interdisciplinary senior honors project before a panel of faculty.

Matthew Ian Helgesen Memorial Award..... presented by David Swenson, director of student activities
Matthew Wilts, Alexandria

Established by Tim and Jean Helgesen in memory of their son, Matthew '06, this award is given to the Captain of the Bad Movie Club. Matt was one of the first students to start the club during his freshman year at UMM. The award honors the values of UMM and reflects student initiative and creativity in leadership, and serves to encourage the Captain to keep the club going by doing “all the extras that always need to be done.”

EDUCATION AWARDS

presented by Gwen Rudney, chair, Division of Education

William R. Scarborough Memorial Award Casey Stott, Onamia

Presented annually to a senior in elementary or secondary education, the William R. Scarborough Memorial Award recognizes demonstrated competence and potential for becoming an outstanding member of the teaching profession. The award honors the memory of William Scarborough, former Division of Education chair, who joined the faculty in 1966 and made many contributions to the Morris campus and to public education in Minnesota.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

presented by Mark V. Fohl, director, Athletics Program

Arnold Henjum Scholar-Athlete Award Zach Smith, Watertown
Presented to a senior male athlete on the basis of academic and athletic excellence and integrity, the award honors Arnold Henjum, professor of education from September 1964 to June 1992, who made innumerable contributions to Minnesota public education.

Willis Kelly Award Leah Parker, Minnetonka
Presented to a senior woman athlete who exemplifies the spirit of competition at Morris in women's athletics, the award is in memory of Willis Kelly, physical education coach and athletic director at Morris for more than 20 years. She was the first director of women's athletics in 1975 and served as director of men's and women's athletics from 1982 until her retirement in 1987.

Women's Honor Athlete Award Leah Parker, Minnetonka
Selected by a committee of coaches on the basis of academic and athletic achievement, recipients of the Honor Athlete Awards have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Men's Honor Athlete Award Greg Borchers, Westminster, Colorado
Selected by a committee of coaches on the basis of academic and athletic achievement, recipients of the Honor Athlete Awards have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

MUSICAL SELECTION

The Lukas Skrove Quintet performing "Billie's Bounce" by Charlie Parker
Lukas Skrove, trumpet Nate Anderson, bass
Parker Wahlquist, tenor saxophone Andrew Sletten, drums
Alex Rensch, guitar

HUMANITIES AWARDS

presented by Janet Schrunk Ericksen, chair, Division of the Humanities

Art History Book Award Joshua Smith, Apple Valley
Awarded to a graduating art history major, this award recognizes academic excellence and potential for further achievement in the arts.

Alumni Award for Outstanding English Major Jessie Sherman, Bozeman, Montana
This award is presented to graduating English majors whose performance in English classes has been consistently superior and who have made positive contributions to the discipline or major in and beyond the classroom.

Keith Carlson Memorial Jazz Award Eric Gorecki, Foley
Presented annually to the most outstanding jazz musician at Morris, this award is given in memory of Keith Carlson by Jack and Ethel Carlson.

Brion Dalager Memorial Award Jessica Belcher, Champlin
Rachel Busko, Fergus Falls
Caitlin Drayna, Milaca
Luciana Ranelli, Duluth
Established by the family and friends of the late Brion Dalager, University of Minnesota, Morris music student from 1969 to 1972, this scholarship is awarded annually to students who have demonstrated outstanding ability on a band instrument.

Natalie Benoit Memorial Award Sander Moberg, Minneapolis
Presented to a junior or senior who demonstrates ability and shows promise as a serious art student. Given by George and Joan Benoit, former Morris residents, in memory of their daughter who was an art major studying at Penn State when an accident took her life.

Dik Munson Art Award Luci Riffel, Eveleth
Presented to outstanding first- and second-year studio art students demonstrating creative potential in future discipline course work. This award is intended for purchase of materials and supplies for the recipient's artwork and experimentation with new media.

Lois P. Hodgell Printmaking AwardLeanne Larson, Oxley Island, New South Wales, Australia
This award honors the late Lois P. Hodgell, professor of art from 1962 until her retirement in 1993. The recipient must show outstanding achievement in printmaking. Presented annually to a student who demonstrates creative potential in the field and technical understanding of a variety of print processes.

Raymond J. Lammers Award in the Language Arts.....Lynn Bixler, Brooklyn Park
Jessie Sherman, Bozeman, Montana
Established in memory of Raymond J. Lammers, professor emeritus of theatre, this award is presented to seniors majoring in and demonstrating an outstanding undergraduate career in one of the following disciplines: theatre, English, foreign language, or communication, media, and rhetoric. Professor Lammers was one of the first Morris faculty members and figured prominently in the creation of the theatre major and theatre program.

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS AWARDS

presented by Peh Ng, chair, Division of Science and Mathematics

Jay Y. Roshal AwardDrew Schield, Independence
Presented to a senior student majoring in biology who demonstrates the most promise and interest in a career in the biological sciences, the award is in honor of the late Jay Roshal, professor of biology from 1960-1983 and the first University of Minnesota, Morris Division of Science and Mathematics chair.

spdf Chemistry Award..... Karl Schliep, Howard Lake
The annual spdf Award is given to a senior chemistry major demonstrating outstanding scholarship, potential, and service in chemistry.

Freshman Chemistry Award..... Allison Christiansen, Lakeville
This award, honoring a first-year student's outstanding performance in a chemistry class, is given by the Chemical Rubber Company.

Clemens "Johnny" Brauer Memorial Award Latysha Pankratz, Alexandria
William Reely, Forest Lake
Established by former colleagues and students to honor the memory of Clemens Brauer, associate professor of geology from 1966 to 1981 who passed away in May 2003, this award supports geology majors in their educational pursuits at the University of Minnesota, Morris by providing financial assistance to cover field camp expenses. Recipients must exhibit academic excellence and plan a professional or academic career in the geological sciences.

Abbott Award in Physics Matthew Kroonblawd, Lino Lakes
Presented to a graduating senior physics major, with the greatest potential of achieving a professional career in physics or a physics-related field, the award was established by Robinson Abbott, professor of biology from 1961-1991, and his wife Rose Marie, who taught Morris biology courses, to recognize the importance Morris has played in their lives. All four Abbott children graduated from Morris, three with physics majors.

SOCIAL SCIENCES AWARDS

presented by Leslie Meek, chair, Division of the Social Sciences

Chris Berg Memorial Award Manjari Govada, Shakopee
Presented annually to an outstanding senior economics major demonstrating academic excellence in that field, this award is presented by the University of Minnesota, Morris economics/management faculty in memory of their late colleague, Chris Berg.

Schneider National Award..... Tim Gmader, Apple Valley
Presented to an economics or management student who has demonstrated outstanding research abilities and maintained academic excellence, the award is funded by Schneider National, Incorporated.

UMM Management/Economics Alumni Award Xueyang Jiao
This award is presented to a graduating discipline senior who has achieved academic excellence and has provided service to the discipline and the Morris campus. It is funded through collective alumni gifts to the management/economics discipline.

Mimi Frenier Award in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies Atina Earl, Ashland, Montana
This award was established by colleagues, students, alumni, friends, and the University of Minnesota, Morris Commission on Women in recognition of Professor Emeritus of History Mariam Frenier's dedication to Morris and in appreciation for her contributions to the development of the gender, women, and sexuality studies major. It is annually granted to a junior or senior gender, women, and sexuality studies major in recognition of high academic achievement, and social, political, and civic activism.

Dimitra Gianni Memorial Award..... Conner Boler
This annual award is based on the excellence of a paper written for any of the history courses offered at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The award was established by colleagues, friends, family, and alumni in memory of Dimitra Gianni, associate professor of history.

Ted Underwood Award in History..... Ben Schield, Two Harbors
Presented to a graduating senior with a major or minor in history or a history concentration in the social science major who has demonstrated distinguished academic performance in history, the award is named for Dr. Ted L. Underwood, who served the University of Minnesota. Morris as an outstanding scholar, teacher, and administrator from 1967 until his retirement in 1999.

Gieske Academic Award Meaghan Young-Stephens, Lino Lakes
Katherine Wutchiett, Bloomington
Offered annually to outstanding political science majors in their senior year, this award is given to students who have an exceptional record of accomplishment at the University of Minnesota, Morris as well as strong prospects for success after graduation. The award is in memory of Millard Gieske who was a professor in the political science department for more than 15 years. He served as acting chair of the Division of the Social Sciences, was a respected leader in many professional organizations, and the author of many political works.

Outstanding Graduate in Psychology Award..... Hannah Schublloom, Minneapolis
The Outstanding Graduate in Psychology Award is given annually to a senior graduating with a psychology major. Recipients who receive this award have excelled in the following areas: scholarship, research experience, and participation in the psychology discipline.

Sociology/Anthropology Book Award Atina Earl, Ashland, Montana
Awarded to an outstanding sociology and/or anthropology student, this honor recognizes academic excellence and active engagement in the fields of sociology and anthropology.

Announcements and Closing Remarks Bart Finzel, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean

With appreciation, we acknowledge the contribution of American Sign Language interpreter
Tafen Colbaugh, NIC Master, to the Honors and Awards Ceremony.

ADDITIONAL HONORS DURING THE 2011-12 ACADEMIC YEAR

Bos Undergraduate Research Awards

The Bos Research Fund was established in honor of Angela Bos '01 to enhance the successful undergraduate research experiences of Morris students. Funds are made available to cover expenses for travel, conference registration, and other costs associated with the pursuit of undergraduate research opportunities. All students are eligible to participate.

Elizabeth Binczik, Coon Rapids

Spencer Gardeen, Bloomington

Amanda Granaas, Vermillion, South Dakota

Alissa Hawks, Osseo

Alicia Johnson, Eagan

Matthew Lovander, Willmar

Ian Patterson, Eden Prairie

Ruth Potter, Long Prairie

Anthony Rooney, Belgrade

Colin Scheck, Brooklyn Park

Daniel Seidenkranz, Woodbury

Evan Vogel, St. Paul

Meaghan Young-Stephens, Lino Lakes

Gretchen Ziegler, North Branch

Gieske Internship Award

The Gieske Internship Award honors the memory of Millard Gieske, University of Minnesota, Morris professor of political science. The award supports political science students who pursue legislative internships in Washington, D.C. or the Minnesota State Capitol.

Elizabeth Catlin, Stillwater

Owen W. and Frances A. Tate Memorial Award for Student Learning

Established by the Tate family to honor the memories of Owen and Frances Tate, lifelong residents of Big Stone County, and to support student learning activities that do not have other funding sources available. The award provides matching dollars to cover travel expenses for students presenting scholarly work at symposia and professional meetings, engaging in artistic activities, conducting research projects, or performing outside of the campus community, all of which are activities that showcase the University of Minnesota, Morris to a broader learning community.

Amanda Granaas, Vermillion, South Dakota

Ruth Potter, Long Prairie

David Minge Internship Award

The Minge Internship Award supports students seeking Washington, D. C., internships, educational opportunities that former Congressman David Minge values as important and insightful components in learning about public policy process at the federal level. Preference is given to internship participants who integrate the study of peace, justice, conservation, the environment, rural affairs, or similar issues.

Stephen Harper, Hastings

Pi Sigma Alpha Best Paper Award

The Pi Sigma Alpha Best Paper Award is awarded to political science students whose papers, submitted for courses during the previous calendar year, were judged the best based on degree of original research, level of critical thinking, and quality of writing. Pi Sigma Alpha is the national political science honor society for college students of political science and government.

Julianna Drennen, Toledo, Ohio

Rodney A. Briggs Library Student Art Award

The Rodney A. Briggs Library Student Art Award recognizes talented University of Minnesota, Morris students and creates a permanent quality library art collection. A committee of two library staff, three library student assistants, and an Academic Services Support Committee member select pieces from each of the art shows.

Wangyingzhi Ji, Shanghai, China

Chelsea Bell, Northfield

Wawokiya Award

The Wawokiya (Lakota for "one who helps") Award is awarded annually to an outstanding senior psychology major. Recipients who receive this award have strong records of accomplishment at Morris and sincere interest in helping others.

Alissa Hawks, Osseo

Horizon Award

The Horizon Award is awarded annually to an outstanding sophomore psychology major. Recipients who receive this award have exceptional records of accomplishments at Morris and strong ambitions for their academic careers.

Chelsae Walsh, Hastings

John Brian Becker '97 Memorial Student Activist Award

Established by friends of the late John Becker '97, this award is meant to honor and to thank a student identified as being a progressive thinking individual whose activism has made an impact on campus or beyond by raising public awareness and promoting social change. John majored in English and theater arts while at UMM, and was actively involved in the Student DFL, KUMM, and Women's Resource Center. Kaija Benson, Excelsior

Chemistry Undergraduate Research Award

The Chemistry Undergraduate Research Fund (CURF) provides support for students who are majoring in chemistry/biochemistry and have an interest in carrying out research in chemistry/biochemistry or a closely related field. The awardee has demonstrated outstanding aptitude for research in the chemistry discipline's Introduction to Research course and the potential for continued success.

Jonathan Yasosky, Maple Grove
Gretchen Ziegler, North Branch

Honors Recital Selected Performers

Chosen by competitive audition, honors recitalists are recognized for outstanding performances during the academic year.

Lynn Bixler, Brooklyn Park	Alissa Jacobsen, Stillwater	Jennifer Riestenberg, Perham
Rachel Busko, Fergus Falls	Anika Kildegaard, Morris	Luke Skrove, Northfield
Caitlin Drayna, Milaca	Tanya Marthaler, Osakis	
Philip Golde, Alexandria	Jessica Orth, Sleepy Eye	

Chi Alpha Sigma

Chi Alpha Sigma, the National College Athlete Honor Society, recognizes high academic achievements of student athletes at the collegiate level. Student athletes who contribute significantly to at least one intercollegiate sport while maintaining a 3.4 or higher cumulative GPA throughout their junior and senior years are eligible for membership in Chi Alpha Sigma. The University of Minnesota, Morris chapter, established in 2006, is the only chapter in Minnesota.

Kristina Grundmanis, swimming and diving	Bria Humphrey, volleyball
Rebecca Hanson, tennis	Niall McCormick, tennis
Annie Hawkinson, soccer	Emily Mehr, basketball
Christine Hoffman, track	Logan Orazem, basketball and baseball
Allie Humphrey, volleyball	Zac VanCleve, soccer

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program

The UROP program affords students an opportunity to perform independent research with University of Minnesota, Morris faculty members. Students gain research skills, similar to those needed for graduate and post-graduate studies; faculty receive valuable assistance in their own research interests. Students who participated in the program are listed first, followed by the faculty they assisted.

Stephen Adams/Elena Machkasova	Anna Hawkinson/Heather Waye
Lauren Bailey/Nancy Carpenter	Brandon Hoffman/Gordon McIntosh
Darren Baun/Heather Waye	Nic Johnson/Engin Sungur
John Bliss/Charles Hancher	Jeffrey Lindblom/Elena Machkasova
Lucas Ellgren/Nic McPhee	Latysha Pankratiz/Keith Brugger
Eric Gorecki/Joseph Carucci	Elizabeth Munson/Jeff Ratliff-Crain
Tara Greiman/Dennis Stewart	Casey Robinson/Nic McPhee
Kristina Grundmanis/Jeff Ratliff-Crain	Robert Smith/Gordon McIntosh

Multicultural Mentorship Program

Participants in the mentorship program are paired one-on-one with a faculty mentor based on similarities between the mentor's data profile and the scholar's intended academic major, career, or personal interests with the ultimate goal of fostering maximum achievement of personal, academic, and professional potential for the scholar. Students and their faculty/staff mentors are as follows:

Abdala Bashir/Sheri Breen
Kali Dale/Timothy Soderberg
Seth Eisen/Kent Blansett
Melissa Hernandez/Farah Cilanshah

Morris Academic Partner Program

In recognition of the value of academic employment to the intellectual development of students and for the opportunity to assist faculty members in their work, this program awards yearlong stipends to academically talented third-year students. These students will undertake assignments which will enhance their intellectual competence and increase their interest in graduate or professional study. Students were paired with the following faculty/staff members:

Anastasia Buscher/Heather Waye	Luciana Ranelli/Margaret Kuchenreuther
Nicholas Cornhill/Nic McPhee	Chad Reverman/Gordon McIntosh
Caitlin Drayna/Simon Tillier	Jennifer Riestenberg/Julia Dabbs
Martha Enderby/Tisha Turk	Colin Scheck/James A. Wojtaszek
Alex Faber/Bart Finzel	Rose Schwietz/Stephen Martin
Zachary Kayser/Stacey P. Aronson	Robert Smith/Gordon McIntosh
Anika Owen Kildegaard/Ken Hodgson	Michael Sorensen/Tracey M. Anderson
William Hanson/Stephen Gross	Seth Sorensen/Elena Machkasova
Alissa Melberg/Harold E. Hinds, Jr.	Scott Steffes/Kristin Lamberty

Morris Student Administrative Fellows

This program offers students of high ability and motivation the opportunity to play an important role in the daily management of campus programs and offices. Students worked with the individuals listed following their name.

Allison Amidon/Rose Murphy	Kristofor Gieske/Mike Cihak	Denver Rogalla/Matt Senger
Taylor Robert Barker/Mike Cihak	Samuel Gockel/Stephen Gross	David Ruprecht/Nic McPhee
Rikki Beaver/Chad Braegelmann	Gabriel Grimley/Roger Boleman	David Ruprecht/Cindy Poppe
Rachael Berns/Andrew Sharpe	Holly Gruntner/Leslie Meek	Collin Sandoe/Argie Manolis
Lynn Bixler/Liz Spohr	Alissa Hawks/Argie Manolis	Drew Schield/Heather Waye
Megan Botner/Jayne Blodgett	Nicholas Jansen/Argie Manolis	Jessie Sherman/Brook Miller
Kyle Bruns/Chad Braegelmann	Matt Lauer/Matt Senger	Nikolas Simmons/Nic McPhee
Clara Costello/Liz Spohr	Matthew Linder/Pamela Gades	Lukas Skrove/Denise Odello
Attina Earl/Jennifer Rothchild	Elizabeth Marcus/Liz Spohr	Caitlin Smith/Becca Gercken
Heidi Eger/Troy J. Goodnough	Jenny Morris/Janell Kolden	Joshua Smith/Michael Eble and Kevin Flicker
Maria Fleck/Argie Manolis	Madeline Moyer/Chad Braegelmann	Anne Meyers-Welsch/Argie Manolis
Anna Fontanetta/Timna Wyckoff	Kayla Pridmore/Troy J. Goodnough	Katherine M. Wutchiett/Leslie Meek
Matt Fredericks/Richard Reimers	Evan Reller/Pat McCabe	Gretchen Ziegler/Nancy Carpenter

Pi Sigma Alpha

Founded in 2010, Morris's Zeta Eta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the first in the University of Minnesota system, is a national political science honor society. Its goal is to stimulate scholarship and intelligent interest in political science. Morris's chapter aims to encourage development and dissemination of independent research; initiate and participate in community and service activities; and expose members and the University community to the study of government and issues of public concern. Members are juniors or seniors who have completed at least 10 semester credits in political science including at least one upper division course and earning an average grade of B or higher in those courses. Overall, members have achieved a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

Nicolas Bergantine, Forest Lake	Elizabeth Catlin, Stillwater
Connor Boler, Plymouth	Samuel Fettig, Excelsior
Alicia Beattie, Hastings	

Student Center Art Award

The Student Center Art Award recognizes talented University of Minnesota, Morris students and creates a permanent quality art collection that is on display throughout the Student Center. A committee of staff and students work together to select pieces from art shows.

Leanne Larson, Oxley Island, New South Wales, Australia

2011–12 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS SCHOLAR OF THE COLLEGE BIOGRAPHIES

Stephen Adams

Stephen Adams '12, International Falls, computer science, contributed substantially to research work on human factors in computing systems at Morris for two years, first through a Morris Academic Partnership (MAP), and then through the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). He helped collect and analyze data from field work, and co-authored and co-presented two refereed publications with Kristin K. Lamberty, assistant professor of computer science, Katherine Froiland '10, and Jason Biatek '10. "Using a large display in the periphery to support children learning through design" was selected for inclusion in the proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Interaction Design and Children, and "Encouraging Awareness of Peers' Learning Activities Using Large Displays in the Periphery" was accepted for inclusion in the Extended Abstracts of the Special Interest Group on Computer Human Interaction (SIGCHI) conference on human factors in computing systems, both of which are international conferences sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). His work on these projects involved the development of software tools to support collaborative and individual learning activities, including software to support people working on multiple computers who wish to share their work on a large display. Adams then received a second UROP to work with Elena Machkasova, associate professor of computer science, to improve the interoperability between the Java and Clojure programming languages. He presented his research from the second UROP at the 2012 Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium and at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium. Adams was also an officer of the ACM club for two years and participated in several programming competitions.

Allison Amidon

Allison Amidon '12, Falcon Heights, English and theatre arts, designed costumes for the theatre discipline show *Art* in fall 2010. Prior to *Art*, she was on the design team for *As You Like It*, using an environmental approach resulting in very complex design choices. Her next project was designing a world premier environmental children's show, *Sophie and the Adventures of Ice Island*. Amidon created the costumes using as much recycled material as possible, including design elements that had an environmental effect on the animals in question. Her final costume design at Morris was for the musical, *Anything Goes*. As *Anything Goes* is set in the 1930's, Amidon was required to research period clothing and create costumes according to the characters' societal status.

A Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) respondent evaluated her costume designs and selected her work from *Anything Goes* to be presented at the ACTF Region 5 Festival in January 2012. Only 12 costume designs, including faculty designs, were selected out of 77 schools. In addition, Amidon had many articles published on the Morris website and in the *Morris Sun Tribune* through her work at the Center for Small Towns. She was a recipient of the John Q. Imholte Scholarship, was on the Dean's List each semester, and has a GPA of 3.72.

Lauren Bailey

Lauren Bailey '12, Lakeville, chemistry: biochemistry, devoted extraordinary time and energy to the development of a convenient HPLC method for analysis of oilseeds as possible biodiesel candidates. This work was a collaboration between Morris and the USDA-ARS North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory and promises to be a valuable contribution for oilseed analysis by researchers in this field. She independently proposed and developed her Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program proposal for spring semester 2012 to work with Nancy Carpenter, professor of chemistry. She also received a Chemistry Undergraduate Research Fellowship (CURF) in summer 2011 to carry out research in chemistry. Bailey will present the results of her research, "Method Development of Preparing Fatty Acids as Naphthacyl Ester Derivatives for HPLC Analysis of Oilseed Crops," at the 2012 meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Diego, California and shared her research at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Elizabeth Binczik

Elizabeth Binczik '12, Coon Rapids, political science and psychology, researched how congress members' sense of threat as members of their parties influences their voting behavior. Her work resulted in a paper, "Party Identification and Congressional Polarization" which she presented at the Midwest Undergraduate Political Science Conference at Creighton University in Nebraska on March 30–31, 2012. Acceptance into the conference is refereed and very competitive. It generally features 15–20 schools nationwide. It is the largest undergraduate-only political science conference in the country.

Lynn Bixler

Lynn Bixler '12, Brooklyn Park, English and theatre arts, excelled at acting in roles such as the title role in *Antigone* in 2009, Margaux in *Art* in 2010, and Reno in *Anything Goes* in 2011. She was able to present her acting work at the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) Region V Irene Ryan Scholarship Competition in 2011 and 2012 in Ames, Iowa, where she received positive feedback from the competition judges. Bixler is active in the Meiningens Student Theatre Organization, in which she has served as co-chair and secretary on the executive committee. During her time with the Meiningens, she produced staged readings, the group's annual Play in a Day series, and was the executive producer of last year's 9/11 drama, *Recent Tragic Events*. She is currently directing the Meiningens spring production, the Greek tragedy *Medea*. Theatre education is also of interest to Bixler. In 2011, she competed for and won an internship in theatre arts youth training with the nationally renowned Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis. She served as the Outreach Coordinator for the Morris children's theatre productions of *Sophie and the Adventures of Ice Island* and *The Emperor's New Clothes*. She also developed educational packets that feature lesson plans and related activities to enhance the children's theatre productions. She traveled to area classrooms and implemented the lessons. Bixler is a volunteer coordinator and tutor for Tutoring, Reading, and Enabling Children (TREC) story time at the Morris Public Library. She received the Alice Mills McCree Theatre Scholarship, and is a Morris Student Academic Fellow in the theatre discipline publicity office for 2011–12.

Rachel Busko

Rachel Busko '12, Fergus Falls, biology and music, brings passion and drive to both her science and her music studies. In her biology research, she studied with athletic trainer and teaching specialist Richard Hardy and produced the work, "The Constant Scale is the dominant outcome measure following rotator cuff repair surgery," which was submitted for the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium and the 2012 Minnesota Orthopedic Society annual meeting. As a musician, she performs in voice, French horn, and violin. She performed and was critiqued at the Elmhurst Jazz Festival in 2012. She performed for the National Association of Teachers of Singing 2009–11, and was recognized as a finalist in 2009. Busko has multiple performances with the Morris Symphonic Winds as a section leader and was recently selected as a featured soloist for a performance this March. She also performed with the Morris Concert Choir, including national and international performances, the Orchestra, Chamber Winds, Chamber Choir, Brass Ensemble, Jazz Combo, and Brass Quintet. Busko is a member of the Tri-Beta Biology Honor's Society, Morris Blood Drive coordinator, campus Relay for Life co-coordinator, student representative for the music theory tenure track search, and a tutor in music theory. Recently,

combining both biology and music, she is researching Beethoven's physiological condition, beyond his deafness, and examining how these conditions may have affected his creative process.

Denise Casemore

Denise Casemore '13, White Bear Lake, chemistry, worked with Ted Pappenfus, associate professor of chemistry, as a research assistant in summer 2011. She and her project partner, Spencer Gardeen '13, Bloomington, developed several experiments for the undergraduate laboratories at Morris. These experiments focused on incorporating renewable energy and green/sustainable chemistry across the undergraduate chemistry curriculum. Many of the experiments have already been implemented in a number of laboratory courses. Specific examples include the construction of solar cells in the general chemistry laboratory and the use of microwaves as tools for green chemistry in advanced laboratories. She co-authored a reviewed paper with Pappenfus and Gardeen, "Conventional microwave one-pot solventless microscale reactions for the undergraduate laboratory," which was accepted for presentation at the 243rd National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Diego, California in spring 2012.

Clara Costello

Clara Costello '12, Afton, German and theatre arts, translated a full length German play into English. She presented her translation at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium. A public staged reading was also presented. She studied German in Gottingen, Germany, and gave a presentation, "The Process of Producing a Play" at the Goethe Institute in Germany. As a theatre arts student, Costello is very involved in the theatre discipline at Morris. She received the costume shop fellowship for the 2011–12 academic year and serves as the theatre discipline student representative. She served as dramaturg and assistant stage manager for the musical, *Anything Goes*, and was stage manager for *The Emperor's New Clothes* and *Adventures in Mating*. She played the role of the whale in *Sophie and the Adventures of Ice Island*, which will air on Pioneer Public Television in the spring. For three years Costello was on the executive board of the student run theatre club, Meiningens, including the positions of treasurer and co-chair. She is an active member of the Improv Club, Floating World, and German Club.

Lucas Ellgren

Lucas Ellgren '12, Maple Grove, computer science, worked for two years on incorporating notions of locality and geography to evolutionary computation (EC) systems. In traditional EC systems there is no sense of space or geography, and all individuals are capable of interacting with each other. Ellgren's work explores the impact of

adding notions of locality, in which individuals can only interact with their neighbors, and geography. To which of the conditions individuals are subjected varies depending upon location. His work was funded by the Morris Academic Partners (MAP) program and the all-university Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROPE). Ellgren did the bulk of the experimental design, implementation, and analysis for the project. He co-authored the paper, "Landscape EC: Adding geographical structure to cellular evolutionary algorithms" and presented it at the Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium in 2011.

Spencer Gardeen

Spencer Gardeen '13, Bloomington, chemistry, worked with Ted Pappentus, associate professor of chemistry, as a research assistant in summer 2011. He and his project partner, Denise Casemore '13, White Bear Lake, developed several experiments for the undergraduate laboratories on campus. These experiments focused on incorporating renewable energy and green/sustainable chemistry across the undergraduate chemistry curriculum. Many of the experiments have already been implemented in a number of laboratory courses. Specific examples include the construction of solar cells in the general chemistry laboratory and the use of microwaves as tools for green chemistry in advanced laboratories. He co-authored a reviewed paper with Pappentus and Casemore, "Conventional microwave one-pot solventless microscale reactions for the undergraduate laboratory," which was accepted for presentation at the 243rd National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Diego, California in spring 2012.

Manjari Govada

Manjari Govada '12, Shakopee, economics, management, and mathematics, was involved from fall 2008–spring 2011 in the work of the Truckers & Turnover Project, an ongoing Morris-based research effort. Sponsored by two foundations in cooperation with a large motor carrier, the project involves ten faculty co-investigators from around the world, along with multiple generations of Morris students. Govada was the lead research assistant on the project for the 2010–11 academic year as a Morris Academic Partner (MAP). She is the co-author of two forthcoming papers—one about obesity and accident risk among truckers in accident analysis and prevention and a second comparing Morris students and Morris-area adults to truckers, which is under review at the journal, *Experimental Economics*. Govada's work also helped enable the ongoing extension of the project to health economics. Govada presented her third Undergraduate Research Symposium poster on the analysis of accident risk among truckers in 2011. She has twice presented project results to senior executives at the headquarters of the cooperating trucking firm, an essential contribution to the

private/public research partnership on which the project is based. Additionally, Govada collaborated with Pareena Lawrence, former professor of economics and management, on a project titled "Can Reservation in Political Participation Empower Women and Influence Social and Economic Development at the Local Level? A Case Study of Northern India" that is intended for refereed journal submission.

Lucas Granholm

Lucas Granholm '12, Arden Hills, theatre arts, created and submitted his lighting designs for *Anything Goes* to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). He presented these designs to the public, judges, and fellow designers from surrounding regional colleges. His designs were chosen for display at the Design Technologies Expo in Ames, Iowa at the KCACTF Region 5 Festival in January 2012. As well as designing for *Anything Goes*, Granholm participated in seven theatre discipline shows and several Meiningens shows. He played Marc in *Art*, Jaques in *As You Like It*, and the Giant in *Jack and the Beanstalk*. In addition, Granholm served as assistant lighting designer, sound designer, electrician, and set worker for the theatre program. He is a recipient of the Fosgate Theatre Scholarship. This past year, he served as a teaching assistant to Tap Payne, professor of theatre arts, which included guest lecturing in class about various forms of lighting design. He is active in local theatre groups Minniewaska Show Stoppers, Morris Area Play Rights, and Lakes Area Theatre.

Kristina Grundmanis

Kristina Grundmanis '13, Minneapolis, liberal arts for the human services and psychology, developed her research skills through multiple projects during her time at Morris. The first project, completed as part of a research team made up of both faculty and fellow undergraduate psychology students, investigated students' perceptions of the relevance and importance of research articles that vary in publication date, and whether date serves as a peripheral cue in evaluating research abstracts. Her efforts helped result in a poster presentation for the publication date task that will be presented at the Association for Psychological Science (APS) research convention in Chicago, IL in May 2012. The APS meeting is a national research convention spanning all subfields of psychology. In addition, Grundmanis secured Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program funding, with research partner Elizabeth Munson, to investigate academic stress in first-generation college students. As a research team, they hope to investigate whether expressive writing will reduce academic stress in first-generation college students. Grundmanis is the student representative to the psychology discipline for the 2011–12 academic year, was inducted into the academic honor society for psychology majors and minors, Psi Chi, in fall 2011, and was elected as secretary of Psi Chi for the 2011–12 academic year.

Jeffrey Lindblom

Jeffrey Lindblom '12, Zimmerman, computer science, worked with Elena Machkasova, associate professor of computer science, on an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) project about optimization of programs in the Java programming language in 2011–12. Lindblom made significant contributions to the methodology and data interpretation, including the discovery of a key factor that explains trends in empirical data. He is the first author on the paper “The Role of Method Call Optimizations in the Efficiency of Java Generics,” which he presented at Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium (MICS) 2012 in Cedar Falls, Iowa. He also presented a poster at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium with Seth Sorenson entitled “Methodology for Detecting Optimizations of Function Calls.” Lindblom’s team earned first place at the Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition in 2011 out of 26 teams from Midwest colleges and universities.

Jessica Orth

Jessica Orth '12, Sleepy Eye, statistics, co-authored two papers, “On modeling directional dependence by using copulas,” and “Understanding directional dependence through angular correlation,” with professor of statistics, Engin Sungur, that are currently under review by international journals. The latter was also presented at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium. She will present her work, “Measuring Directional Dependence through Angular Copula Correlation Function,” at the 2012 International Student Research Conference in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Siberian Education Foundation. Orth’s community based research, reports, and presentations address various issues in rural Minnesota including health, economics, demographics, and social structure. She developed supplemental statistical computing materials and a manuscript on using GoogleVis package that are heavily used in related statistics courses. Orth completed projects for the Central Minnesota Area Health Education Center, the Minnesota Newspaper Association, and the Morris Data Services Center. She was awarded the 2009 Clyde Johnson Music Scholarship, the 2009 Randall J. Kopitzke Scholarship, and the Chancellor’s Scholarship from 2009–12. She was on the Dean’s List from 2009–11, has been a member of the American Statistical Association since 2010, and became a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society in 2012.

Ian Patterson

Ian Patterson '12, Eden Prairie, chemistry and political science, examined how video games shape political opinions. He then considered the implications of playing these games for foreign policy attitudes and how they interact with pre-existing levels of threat. He compiled his research in a

paper, “Aggressive Political Opinions and Video Games,” which was presented at the Midwest Undergraduate Political Science Conference at Creighton University in Nebraska on March 30–31, 2012. Acceptance into the conference is refereed and highly competitive. It generally features students from only 15–20 schools nationwide and is the largest undergraduate-only political science conference in the country.

Ruth Potter

Ruth Potter '13, Long Prairie, biology, was involved from spring 2010–spring 2011 in the work of the Truckers & Turnover Project, an ongoing Morris-based research effort focused in part on economic psychology, which is sponsored by two foundations in cooperation with a large motor carrier. The project involves ten faculty co-investigators in economics, statistics, psychology, medicine, and accident analysis from around the world, along with multiple generations of Morris students. Potter served as project co-investigator with statistics professor, Jon Anderson, and was Anderson’s Morris Academic Partner for summer 2010 and the academic year 2010–11. She made contributions ranging from data set construction and validation, to exploratory data analysis, to work with more advanced statistical techniques. She presented a poster on the new extension of the project to health economics topics at the 2011 Undergraduate Research Symposium. While she was new to the project, Potter presented early results to senior executives at the headquarters of the cooperating trucking firm. The continuation of this effort, working together with a post-doctoral scholar from the University of Nottingham, UK, led to her co-authorship, with several project faculty and other research students, of a paper, “Self-Selection Does Not Increase Other-Regarding Preferences among Adult Laboratory Subjects, but Student Subjects May Be More Self-Regarding than Adults,” comparing the “other-regarding” behavior in a laboratory experiment of trucker subjects to that of Morris students and Morris-area adults; the paper is under review at the journal *Experimental Economics*.

Michael Rislow

Michael Rislow '12, Lewiston, mathematics, made significant contributions in the areas of applied mathematics and computer science by way of two research projects. In his first project, “Structures and Decomposition Patterns of 3-Directed Hypergraphs,” he was able to describe efficient methods to represent directed hypergraphs with a countably finite number of components. Rislow presented his research at the 2011 Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS). In his second project, “Structural Properties for Bases of 3-Directed Hypergraphs,” Rislow was able to describe what maximal linearly independent subgraphs look like. One of his research projects was supported by a Morris Academic Partnership with Peh Ng, professor of mathematics, as his

faculty advisor. Rislow presented computational results from his current research at the 2012 Pi Mu Epsilon, a National Mathematics Honorary Society, in April, 2012 and the 2012 URS.

Colin Scheck

Colin Scheck '13, Brooklyn Park, history and political science, created many research papers on topics in the political science field. In 2011, he presented his paper "Between Two Giants: Defending Sovereignty in Mongolian Foreign Policy" at the Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS). Scheck submitted his paper, "The Decline of European Neutrality: A Neoliberal and Neofunctionalist Perspective," for the 2012 URS. He also presented this paper at the 2012 Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Annual Conference at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska in March. He is currently working on a Morris Academic Partnership with James Wojtaszek, associate professor of Spanish, on nationalism in 19th century Galician literature.

Dan Seidenkranz

Dan Seidenkranz '13, Woodbury, chemistry, worked with Ted Pappenfus, associate professor of chemistry, as a research assistant in summer 2011. He was involved in two separate projects in the field of organic materials. His overall research objective was to synthesize and characterize organic materials as candidates for organic solar cells. Seidenkranz's first project, "One-Pot Synthesis of 4,8-Dialkylbenzo[1,2-b:4,5-b']dithiophenes" was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Heterocycles*. A paper describing his second project, "[Electronic properties of benzodithiophene derivatives]" has been accepted for presentation at the spring 2012 national meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Diego, California.

Jessie Sherman

Jessie Sherman '12, Bozeman, Montana, English and theatre arts, presented her acting work at the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) Irene Ryan Scholarship Competition in 2011 and 2012. In addition to her acting work, she presented a paper, "Tricksters and Conjurers in American Indian and African American Literature," at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium. Rather than completing a traditional literary analysis, Sherman created a work that is both analytical and performative. Sherman directed at the Morris Area High School an original play, *Lily Soaplands and the Absconded Adults*, written by another Morris student. Sherman wrote her own play (outside of regular coursework) based on Salman Rushdie's story *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, and she was a central member of the committee working on the Prairie Gate Literary Festival in its first two years. She is an editor of the student literary magazine, *Floating World*; she leads the student theatre group, Meiningens, and is

a member and leader of the improv club. She was one of two online discussion leaders for the Morris Alumni Book Club's reading of Michael Perry's *Coop: A Year of Poultry, Pigs, and Parenting* in spring 2012. In addition, she is the English discipline Sonnet Contest winner for 2010–11.

Sonja Smidt

Sonja Smidt '12, Apple Valley, biology and Spanish, worked with Peter Wyckoff, associate professor of biology, on a National Science Foundation funded project exploring the impacts of climate change on forests in western Minnesota. Smidt's particular focus in the larger project was the recent growth history of sugar maple trees across a climate gradient. She was part of the crew that collected tree-ring samples in the field, and during the 2011–12 academic year she worked with fellow student, Ruth Potter '13, Long Prairie, to process the samples in the lab and to develop the complicated statistical models needed to pull a climate signal out of a series of measured tree rings. Smidt and three co-authors submitted an abstract to present their results at the August 2012 annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America, in Portland, Oregon. The title of their abstract is "Impact of Climate on Growth of *Acer saccharum* (Sugar Maple) at the Prairie-Forest Border in Western Minnesota." Smidt will not be presenting at an undergraduate session—95% of her co-presenters will be graduate students, professors, and government scientists. Smidt and Potter also submitted their work to be presented at the 2012 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Joshua Smith

Joshua Smith '12, Apple Valley, art history, studio art, and French minor, produced exhibits for the annual juried student art exhibitions each year from 2009 to 2011. In 2010 he participated in the Art for Children Exhibition service learning project at the Morris Public Library. As a gallery intern and co-curator at the HFA Gallery, Smith assisted Michael Eble, associate professor of studio art, in rewriting gallery protocol for student exhibitions, creating promotional materials for upcoming exhibitions, managing exhibition security, and installation and deinstallation of several major exhibitions. For the past two years he curated and directed the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibit. As an art history major, Smith gave a paper at the 2011 Undergraduate Research Symposium, "Petah Coyne: A Catholic Interpretation" and submitted another paper for the 2012 URS. In 2010, he was awarded a summer internship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington D. C. in a nationally competitive process. He was a teaching assistant for art history and French courses and served two years as president and guiding organizer of the campus Art History Association, as art history representative to the Humanities Division, and as a student representative to the Humanities Division Advisory Committee. In addition, Smith was selected to serve as program

assistant for the July in Paris program in summer, 2012—a role awarded to one student of French every other year. Other awards given to Smith are the 2010 Dik Munson Studio Art Award, the 2011 John Q. Imholte Scholarship, and Dean's List from 2008–present.

Christopher Thompson

Christopher Thompson '12, Litchfield, psychology, researched with Dennis Stewart, associate professor of psychology, and Cheryl Stewart, assistant professor of psychology, regarding students' perceptions of the relevance of research articles that vary in publication date. He served as an undergraduate research assistant for the study and did the background research as well as helped create the stimulus materials for the project. Furthermore, he helped create the questionnaire and code the results. The results of the study, "Publication Year as a Peripheral Clue in Judging Journal Abstracts," will be presented summer 2012 at the Association for Psychological Science (APS) national research convention in Chicago. The APS meeting is a national convention for all subfields of psychology. As part of a project completed at the same time, Thompson helped to plan and collect data regarding students' perceptions of introductory psychology classes. Additionally, Thompson was elected into Psi Chi in fall 2011. Psi Chi is an academic honor society for psychology majors and minors.

Meaghan Young-Stephens

Meaghan Young-Stephens '12, Lino Lakes, English and political science, researched the political thought of Sayyid Jamal ad-Din al-Afghani (1839–97) and Mahatma Gandhi (1869–1948), and in turn earned the Pi Sigma Alpha Award for the best paper produced in a political science course during 2010. In her research project, titled "The Gift of Knowledge: Epistemology in the Political Writings of al-Afghani and Gandhi," Young-Stephens compared al-Afghani and Gandhi's understandings of the ownership of knowledge and the influence of their political thought. She expanded and deepened this project for her political science senior thesis and presented her research at the Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference at Creighton University in March, 2012.



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