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Undergraduate Awards and Honors

UK Office of Undergraduate Research

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Undergraduate Awards and Honors

Astronaut Scholarship for Research
Philip “Donnie” Keathley
Philip “Donnie” Keathley, an Electrical Engineering student, was awarded a $10,000 scholarship by the Astronaut Scholarship foundation (ASF). The scholarship is presented to dynamic undergraduates or graduate students who exhibit motivation, imagination, and exceptional performance in the fields of science and engineering. ASF honors students whose talent foreshadows a career leading to advancement of scientific knowledge and technology. Established by the original astronauts in 1984, the foundation has grown to include more than 50 astronauts from the Gemini, Apollo, and Shuttle programs. The foundation is dedicated to helping the U.S. retain its world leadership in science and technology by providing scholarships to students pursuing careers in those fields.

Beckman Scholarship Recipients for 2007-2008
Lesley Mann
Ashby Clay Turner
Mann, a sophomore from Calhoun, Ky. majoring in agricultural biotechnology, has titled her research project “Gene Expression of Endophytic Fungi during Benign Plant Colonization and Stromata Development.” She is conducting her project under the mentorship of Christopher L. Scharl, professor in the department of plant pathology. Mann’s activities outside of her project include the Society for the Promotion of Undergraduate Research (SPUR), the Honors Program, and the Chellgren Fellows Program.

Turner, a sophomore majoring in biology from Lexington, Ky., will perform his research, titled “The Effects of an Altered Dopaminergic System on Behavior, Development and Physiology in Drosophilia Melanogaster,” under the mentorship of professor Robin Cooper in the department of biology. Turner, who is also majoring in music, has been conducting research in Cooper’s lab for the past four years, beginning in high school.

Established in 1987, The Beckman Scholars Program is an invited program for accredited universities and four-year colleges in the US. It provides scholarships that contribute significantly to advancing the education, research training, and personal development of selected students in chemistry, biochemistry, and the biological and medical sciences. The sustained, in-depth undergraduate research experiences and comprehensive faculty mentoring are unique in terms of program scope, content, and level of scholarship awards. ($19,300 for two summers and one academic year. (See pages 100-110 for reports from this year’s Beckman Scholars)

Cambridge Scholarship
Andrew L. Lynch
Andrew Lynch received the prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarship to study chemical engineering for the next three years at the University of Cambridge, starting in October. Lynch was selected from among 600 applicants and has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout high school and college. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation awards about 100 Gates Cambridge Scholarships worldwide each year and students can pursue studies in any discipline offered. Lynch is among about 45 U.S. students who received the scholarship, which provides full tuition and living expenses for study at Cambridge, England.

Truman Scholarship
Corinne Keel
The Truman Scholarship was established to find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education, or elsewhere in the public service; and to provide them with financial support for graduate study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service. Keel is a political science junior from UK and received $30,000 to conduct graduate work in areas of public service. She is the 13th UK student to receive the honor from the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. She is the only Truman recipient this year from Kentucky.

Goldwater Scholarship
Sam Nicaise
Nicaise, a UK junior, majoring in chemical engineering has won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship worth $7,500. The recipients were selected on the basis of academic merit nationwide. The scholarship covers expenses for tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of $7,500. Nicaise plans to pursue a master’s degree in electrical engineering and a doctorate in engineering. He plans to focus his work in renewable energies in the field of nanotechnology.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering
Michael Hagan
Frank Woeste Award
Monetary award given to the highest achieving Biosystems & AG Engineering Student

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Julie Kretzer
American Physiological Society Undergraduate Summer Research Fellow recipient
Julie Kretzer is an AMSTEMM student majoring in biology in the College of Arts and Sciences. She has been named an American Physiological Society Undergraduate Summer Research Fellow in 2008 and will be competing for the David S. Bruce Undergraduate Research Award in April at the 2009 Experimental Biology Conference in New Orleans.

Susan Matsubara
Honorable George Rogers Clark Outstanding Young Officer Award
Susan Matsubara received the George Rogers Clark Outstanding Young Officer Award for her performance as a military intelligence officer in the Kentucky National Guard. Matsubara is a member of the 63rd Theater Aviation Brigade.

Jordann Sullivan
National Security Education Program David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship
Sullivan is a senior studying political science and Middle Eastern studies. She received a $20,000 award to cover her expenses as she spends a year studying Arabic at Birzeit University in Palestine’s West Bank. David L. Boren Scholarships offer a unique opportunity for U.S. undergraduates to study abroad. NSEP awards scholarships to American students for study of world
regions critical to U.S. interests (including Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin American & the Caribbean, and the Middle East).

**Department of Psychology**

Samantha Farthing  Adelstein Award
The Adelstein Award is named for the late Carole S. Adelstein, wife of retired UK English professor Michael Adelstein. Carol, who used a wheelchair because of polio, was an inspiration to persons with disabilities by leading a meaningful, successful life at a time when individuals with disabilities were not encouraged to be independent and contributing members of society. The Adelstein Award is given by the UK Disability Resource Center to students with disabilities who are inspirations to others. Samantha, who is visually impaired, is majoring in Psychology. She is an honor student and a Robinson Scholar.

**Department of Sociology**

Craig Eric Locke  2008-2009 Coleman Award
The Coleman Award is presented at the end of each spring semester to a graduating senior and carries a certificate and cash prize. Professor Coleman (1913-1995) was a long-time faculty member in the Sociology Department at UK and remained active in instructional activities. He conducted groundbreaking research on the diffusion of agricultural technology and promoted the cause of civil rights in Kentucky and the south. The selection process is based on scholarship, leadership and involvement in sociological activities in research. Eligibility requires nomination by a faculty member or student, a GPA of at least 3.50, and the submission of an application and an example of an independent research project or course paper from a sociology course.

Melissa Pettit  Doris Wilkinson Award
Pettit is a Sociology major. She received the Doris Wilkinson Award for the outstanding undergraduate paper in Medical Sociology.

**COLLEGE OF DESIGN**

Danny Ruberg  AIAS Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation Center Design Competition
Danny Ruberg is a senior architecture student. He received the first place design award in the 2007 American Institute of Architecture Students’ (AIAS) Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation Center Design Competition. The 2nd-annual national student design competition challenged students to design a pediatric outpatient rehabilitation center and family support facility using architectural aluminum building products and systems.

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**

John-Morgan Bush  2nd prize at the International Horn Society Annual Symposium

UK Symphony Orchestra principal horn player, John-Morgan Bush, was awarded second prize in the international solo competition of the 40th International Horn Society Annual Symposium. Bush is a senior from Madisonville, KY, and a French horn student at the UK School of Music. The award was the top honor in his category, because the panel decided not to award the first prize.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

Anne Olukemi Ogundele  Harry Jerome Award
Ogundele, a physical therapy student, was honored by Canada’s Black Business and Professional Association (BBPA) with the Harry Jerome Award for outstanding achievement in athletics.

Amanda Culp-Roche,  CLARION 2008
Tyler Whisman,  Interprofessional Team Case Competition
Paul Koshgerian,  and Luke Murray

Amanda Culp-Roche is from the College of Nursing, Tyler Whisman is from the College of Pharmacy, Paul Koshgerian is from the College of Dentistry, and Luke Murray is from the College of Medicine. The team placed third and demonstrated knowledge and expertise working as a team in the national competition focused on patient safety.

**Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement (Student Volunteer Center)**

Jennifer Alonso, Kristina Buchler,  Maurice A. Clay Award Recipients
Michael Hagan, Anne Hickman,  Joseph P. Kennedy Student Development Council
Joanna Howerton, Troy Johnson,  Gift Awards
Marie Nartowitz, Megan Tolley,  2008-2009 Coleman Award
Jason Wattier, Brittany Wilkinson,  Recipients
Jennifer Alonso, Kristina Buchler,  Maurice A. Clay Leadership Development Initiative

The Student Development Council has the opportunity to award ten $1,000 scholarships each year thanks to generous gifts made by Kennedy Book Store. The selection process for the Joseph P. Kennedy Student Development Council Scholarships is highly competitive. The criteria for this award include a strong history of academic achievement as well as a demonstrated dedication to leadership and service both on campus and off.

Nathan Belt,  Charles T. Wethington, Jr.
Rachel Dunnagan,  Fellowship and Nathan Simon

In honor of Charles T. Wethington Jr., the president of the University of Kentucky from 1989 to 2001, the University annually provides funding for fellowships up to $20,000 to be awarded to UK graduating seniors who plan to continue their post-baccalaureate education in one of the University’s graduate or professional programs. The fellowships are awarded for a first year of graduate or professional study at UK and are not renewable for subsequent years. Preference is given to Kentucky residents who are first-generation college students.
Undergraduate Awards and Honors

Zachary Brake                  Robert G. Zumwinkle Student Rights Award
The award is given to one student and one staff member or other person who is dedicated to the preservation of student rights. The award is based on what the nominee has done to further student rights at UK. In the nomination it is important to describe exactly what the nominee has done to protect, enforce and further student rights. Each recipient will receive a $300 gift.

Kathryn Braun,                Otis A. Singletary Outstanding Senior Award
Brittany Langdon,            Scott McIntosh,
Nick Phelps,                 Megan Tolley
Langdon and McIntosh were named Outstanding Seniors. Braun and Tolley were the Female Finalists for this award. Phelps was the Male Finalist for the award.

Cristyn Cannon               Darrell VanMeter Award
A selfless spirit award. For fourteen consecutive years, UK has recognized a student for The Darrell VanMeter Award in honor of Darrell A. VanMeter. Darrell, (a sophomore at the time of his death in 1991), was recognized by the University community and his home community for his positive contributions dedicated to serving others. The impact of his “good Samaritan” approach to helping others was apparent to faculty, staff and students alike. He touched the campus community with his selfless heart and continual acts of service.

Whitney Gore                  Student Government Academic Scholarship
At least three thousand dollars ($3000) will be allocated toward University of Kentucky Student Government Association Student Scholarships. The Senate shall elect a committee of five to establish criteria and applications for the scholarships.

Lesley Mann                   Raymond Bett Crystal Award of Service
This prize was first awarded in 1986 and is for outstanding service to the Honors Program and the University community at large.

Benjamin Osborne             Student Government Constitutional Scholarship
At least three thousand dollars ($3000) will be allocated toward University of Kentucky Student Government Association Student Scholarships. The Senate shall elect a committee of five to establish criteria and applications for the scholarships.

Nirmal Ravi                  Viji Jenganathan Award for Cross-Cultural Understanding
The Viji Jeganathan Scholarship for Cross-Cultural Understanding is an endowed scholarship in memory of an outstanding international student who died of leukemia while studying at UK. The $1,000 award is presented to an individual who demonstrates leadership and ability in bridging cultural differences and who promotes communication among students of diverse nationalities at UK or in the Lexington community.

Melissa Riddle               Diachun Award for Research
The Stephen Diachun Award, named after the first director of the Honors Program, has been presented since 1982 to a graduating senior who has “demonstrated outstanding research talent in the form of his/her Independent Project and who holds high promise for further professional development in graduate school.” The Diachun Award comes in the form of a check for $1000 to be used for expenses in graduate or professional school.

David Ritchie                Lyman T. Johnson Odyssey Award
This award is bestowed each academic year on a student who has, by his or her actions, exemplified a high degree of personal integrity and a commitment to the betterment of the community or campus. The recipient is awarded a fifteen hundred dollar ($1500) academic stipend in both the fall and spring semesters of the following academic year. The award is in honor of Lyman T. Johnson, the first African-American student to be admitted to the University of Kentucky.

Andrea Russow             W. L. Matthews, Jr. Fellowship
The Board of Directors of the University of Kentucky Athletics Association established quasi-endowment funds in memory of Otis A. Singletary and W. L. Matthews, Jr. The funds provide fellowships of $12,000 to be awarded annually to UK graduating seniors who plan to continue their education in one of the University’s graduate or professional programs. The fellowships are awarded for a first year of graduate or professional study at UK and are not renewable for subsequent years.

Katherine Thompson,         Rosemary Pond Leadership Award
Brittany Zwicker
This award is given to residence hall staff and/or government hall leaders. In particular, the award is based upon exceptional leadership contributions to Residence Life.

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Suzanne Emmert         UK-University of Caen Scholarship
Suzanne Emmert is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences with a double major in French and education. She is spending the 2008-2009 academic year in France. The UK-Caen Scholarship is awarded to a UK student with the equivalent of three years of college-level French. It covers tuition, housing, and fees at the Centre d’Enseignement Universitaire pour Etrangers at the University of Caen near Deauville, France.

Undergraduate Education
Megan K Tolley                  Recipients of the
Joseph David Ritchie            Sullivan Community
Service Award
Two seniors, Megan Tolley and Joseph David Ritchie, received the 2008 Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallions. The Sullivan Medallion recognizes students whose commitment to community service shows characteristics of heart, mind, and conduct that evince a spirit of love for and helpfulness to other men and women. Tolley was recognized for her efforts in the DanceBlue event to benefit the UK Pediatric Oncology Clinic fundraising. Ritchie was recognized as overall chair of the event and ongoing time serving in DanceBlue and as a volunteer for the Clinic.

The Sullivan Awards were established by the New York Southern Society in 1925 in memory of Mr. Algernon Sydney Sullivan, a southerner who became a prominent lawyer, businessman, and philanthropist in New York in the late nineteenth century. The award seeks to perpetuate the excellence of character and humanitarian service of Mr. Sullivan by recognizing and honoring such qualities in others and demonstrating the spirit of love for helpfulness to other men and women through their heart, mind, and conduct. The first medallion was presented in June, 1925, at the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee, now a part of Vanderbilt University. The University of Kentucky is one of several southern universities that present the Algernon Sydney Sullivan award — sponsored by the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation.

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