

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Prestigious NSF Graduate Scholarship Earned

Student Mallory Hagadorn was the recipient of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, an award that provides three years of support for outstanding graduate students who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees. The fellowship is valued at \$126,000.



Working with Dr. Dana Price, a faculty member in SU's Biological Science Department, and Dr. Anne Estes of the University of Maryland Medical School's Institute of Genome Sciences, Hagadorn identified and compared populations of dung beetles on organic and conventionally managed pastures. She expects farms using natural methods will have more diverse and abundant beetle populations, and hopes to educate farmers and create a system so they can monitor the "highly beneficial" insects.

The NSF fellowship program is the oldest in the country to offer direct support to graduate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. Hagadorn earned her B.S. in biology from SU in December 2012. Her three-year grant will cover tuition for her M.S. in applied biology. Hagadorn also received the 2013 Biology Department Faculty Award and the 2012 Dhimitra S. Davenport-Hopkins Scholarship.



Students Honored by Congressional Leaders, EPA

Two SU juniors earned the Environmental Protection Agency's 2012 Greater Research Opportunity fellowship, while a sophomore was selected for "Posters on the Hill."

Keyyana Blount (below right), an environmental studies major, and Amanda Stone (below left), an environmental studies and conflict analysis and dispute resolution double major, MD, were two of only 40 students to receive the EPA award nationally. The honor offers students the chance to work side-by-side with EPA officials, provides students with college funding for their junior and senior years, and includes paid internships at EPA facilities during the summer. Blount and Stone are the fourth and fifth SU students in the past three years to receive the honor.



Stone would like to continue her studies in graduate school and hopes her experiences with the EPA will help narrow her focus. Blount said she would like her EPA internship to allow her to study areas outside the Maryland-Washington, D.C. area. After graduation, she plans to continue working with the EPA on environmental policy issues and community outreach efforts.

Samim Manizade (above) presented his impressive research on robotic arms at "Posters on the Hill"—a national event attended by U.S. Congressional leaders. Selected by the Council on Undergraduate Research from among some 800 applicants nationwide, Manizade was one of only 60 student participants and the sole representative of a Maryland campus.

A physics/pre-engineering major who is serving as the student regent representative to the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, Manizade explored the complexities of "Computational Modeling of Robotic Arm Kinematics." His project modeled a variety of arms with a computer-algebra system and used mathematical techniques to show their uses and applications in the field of electrical engineering. He was funded by SU's Bridges to Success program, made possible by a nearly \$1 million National Science Foundation grant dedicated to supporting the recruitment and retention of students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines. He hopes to continue exploring robotics at SU.

Student Interns Travel to National Political Conventions

Senior communication arts majors Jessica Cahill and Chelsea Brown were selected to intern at the Republican and Democratic National Conventions thanks to a partnership with the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars.

Cahill, selected for the 2012 Republican National Convention, previously interned with the Republican National Committee for U.S. Representative Michele Bachmann in 2011. Brown, who interned at the 2012 Democratic National Convention, previously earned a B.A. in political science and English from the University of Idaho, and she recently began a job with the U.S. Protective Services Division at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Wallops Island, VA.



Hollywood Calls on SU Students

A pair of University students were chosen to intern with major television and film productions.

Junior communication arts major Kristen Wolfe was selected to intern on the film *Ping Pong Summer*, starring Academy Award winner Susan Sarandon. Production began in October 2012 in Ocean City, MD.

Senior communication arts major Kelsey Hovermale was tapped to intern for Ryan Seacrest Productions. Hovermale hoped her experience with Seacrest Productions would give her an advantage in pursuing a career in entertainment journalism following her graduation. She plans to return to Los Angeles to pursue a career in journalism or public relations.



SU Centers Hit Milestones

SU's Counseling and Writing centers both marked major milestones this year.

In November 2012, a literature assignment that sophomore business student Nick Giambra brought into the University Writing Center became the 10,000th review.

The center opened in 2005. After a few weeks of training, the initial staff of six student consultants reviewed 678 papers. Today, consultants enroll in for-credit courses and review 2,500 papers annually. Located in the Guerrieri University Center, the Writing Center is scheduled to move into SU's new Academic Commons in 2016, where it will expand its services to serve SU's growing graduate programs.

In January 2013, the University's Counseling Center earned a three-year \$302,883 grant to launch a suicide prevention effort. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college age students nationwide.

Funded by the federal Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, the nation's first youth suicide prevention bill, the grant was used to establish SU's STAND4YOU Suicide Prevention Program. The multi-pronged campaign established discussion groups and held e-training sessions. Program goals include fostering early detection of mental health issues, reducing the stigma surrounding those issues and increasing openness for those seeking help. The 2004 Smith Act is named in memory of Oregon Senator Gordon Smith's son Garrett, a 21-year-old college student who committed suicide in 2003. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and the Mental Health Services Administration awarded the grant.

