

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Ribbon Cut on Sea Gull Square Residence-Retail Complex

SU opened its largest building and newest residence hall. The 230,000-square-foot Sea Gull Square (SGS), a mixed-use development with retail businesses on the ground floor servicing the campus and greater community, provides a striking gateway for visitors arriving from the south. The \$45 million complex opened its doors to some 600 students last fall and, as predicted, is a hit with residents, said Dr. Dane Foust, vice president of student affairs. Nearly twice the size of Holloway Hall (SU's oldest building and the first to house students), SGS offers apartments and amenities rarely seen in traditional dormitories. SGS residents live in 156 apartment-style units, most of them four bedroom, two bath, with a kitchen, washer and dryer, and common area. Each student has his or her own room. The main floor has a conference room for meetings and a faculty office

and apartment to foster living learning interactions. Among the facility's popular features is the Rinnier Multipurpose Room, made possible by a \$50,000 gift from Blair Rinnier, the Rinnier family and Rinnier Development Company as part of SU's Campaign 2012. This high-tech SMART room is used for classes, including a Living Learning Community, and for special residence life programs. There is also an engaging black-and-white pictorial history of the University, dating back to its earliest days. From the highway, visitors are welcomed by Sea Gull Square's eye-catching illuminated clock tower that can be seen from as far away as the University's athletic complex, located across Route 13. Currently, several national and local retailers occupy part of the 23,000 square feet of commercial space on the street level.



First Student Fulbright

Charles Overholt (below), a graduate history student, is the first SU student to earn the prestigious Fulbright Student Fellowship, awarded by the U.S. Department of State's Fulbright Exchange Program. Overholt explores "Hessian Mercenaries and the German Reaction to the American Revolution" at the 485-year-old Philipps-Universität in Marburg, Germany. In addition to classes, he is mentored by two leading scholars on the subject who have already taken great interest in his work. Drs. Holger Gräf and Christoph Kampmann have been editing, translating and publishing the letters of Hessian soldiers stationed in America and the diary of well-connected Hessian officer and landowner Baron Gilsa. Overholt will help with the ongoing project and use the primary documents to explore his own questions about the Hessians.



Graduate Student Council

SU master's in conflict analysis and dispute resolution student Julia Glanz (below) spearheaded the creation of the University's newest advisory body: the Graduate Student Council (GSC). Dedicated to aiding the intellectual, professional, personal and social development of graduate students, the GSC began in early fall 2011. The council has already tackled several issues, including taxation rates for graduate assistants (GAs). Shared governance is a hallmark of the leadership of SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach. As she recently told *University Business* magazine, she believes it is a vibrant part of campus life. The approximately 30-member GSC includes at least two representatives from each of SU's 15 graduate programs.





Research Takes Center Stage

With undergraduate research as a hallmark of an SU education, it is no surprise that an overwhelming number of students shared the fruits of their labor in the past year. Some 25 SU students attended the 2012 National Conference on Undergraduate Research at Weber State University in Ogden, UT. Topics ranged from the deforestation of the Brazilian Amazon and smart growth on the Lower Eastern Shore to the breast health of minority women and the integral role of registered school nurses. Back on campus, Dr. Roel Lopez of the Institute of Renewable and Natural Resources at Texas A&M University keynoted SU's 11th annual Student Research Conference (below). Over 230 students from all four of SU's schools gave

research presentations, including some 116 oral talks and 45 poster displays, as well as two roundtables. At the end of the event, John Wesley Wright (above), an enthusiastic teacher and advisor to Music Department voice students, was awarded the 2012 Outstanding Research Mentor Award. A standout among student researchers, environmental studies major Jessica Johnson (below) was a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2011 Greater Research Opportunity Fellowship. Only 30 of the awards, worth \$42,700 each, are given each year. The fellowships provide students with college funding for their junior and senior years, as well as paid internships at EPA facilities during the summer between those years. Johnson is the third SU student in the past two years to receive the honor.

Answering the Call of Africa

James Townsend (below) was one of 50 national finalists in Chegg for Good's "Africa Is Calling" competition, held in connection with ONE, an advocacy organization that helps raise awareness of extreme poverty and preventable disease in Africa. With 49 other finalists, the international studies and communication arts major embarked on a massive campaign, asking SU students and others to vote for his submission. They voted him into the top 20, earning him an interview that helped a committee select him as one of eight students throughout the U.S. to be offered the internship. Townsend originally experienced some of Africa's poverty-stricken areas when he was hospitalized for malaria while studying in Tanzania on a Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship from the U.S. State Department in 2010.

