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Winning Scholarships

University of Dayton

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NEWS



Wednesday May 27, 2015

Winning Scholarships

Six students from the University of Dayton won prestigious national awards and fellowships during the 2014-15 academic year.

"These awards recognize the excellent scholarship, research and potential of University of Dayton undergraduate students," said Paul Benson, interim provost. "Their success demonstrates our curriculum and opportunities for experiential learning are preparing students to compete at the

highest levels of academic awards leading to satisfying careers of leadership and service."

Laura Cotten, associate director for fellowships and graduate school advising in the University Honors program, said the awards represent months of work by the students and the faculty members who support them throughout the application process.

"These students have gone through a rigorous campus interview process and have proven that they are among the top students nationally as well as at the University of Dayton," Cotten said.

Award winners:

Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship

Anamaria Karrels, a senior with a double major in human rights and international studies, won one of 10 undergraduate Pickering fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for the U.S. Department of State. The fellowship identifies and cultivates outstanding students for future careers with the foreign service. The award is valued at \$75,000 and will fund her final undergraduate year and first graduate year. She will participate in domestic and overseas internships, receive mentoring and complete a minimum five-year service commitment as a foreign service officer. She is the first University of Dayton student to win the Pickering award.

Barry Goldwater Scholar

Jonathon Sens, a junior biology and biochemistry major, won a \$7,500 award from the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. The award encourages outstanding students to pursue research careers in mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. Sens hopes to earn a doctorate in neuroscience, conduct research in neuropharmacology and teach at the university level.

Fulbright Study/Research Grant

Jonathon Nelson, a 2014 international studies and Spanish graduate, will study at the Instituto de Empresa Business School in Madrid, Spain, one of the world's leading business schools, to earn a master's in visual and digital media. The grant covers full program tuition and living expenses for 11 months. He spent the past year in Ireland as a Victory Scholar with Sport Changes Life.

Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Awards

Michele McDonald, a 2015 graduate in education with a concentration in integrated social studies, will teach English in Thailand. She said she is eager to engage with her Thai students, teach them about the culture of the United States, and to study Muay Thai kickboxing. After Thailand, McDonald plans to teach social studies in the Dayton-Cincinnati area and continue her study of martial arts.

Jordan Seitz, a 2015 graduate in history and secondary education, will teach English in Malaysia, working with students and in the community as a cultural ambassador. After Malaysia, Seitz plans to teach social studies in a U.S. high school and continue to study the history of the Malaysian region.

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

Mark Hawk, a 2014 biology graduate, won an NSF award that includes tuition and a \$96,000 stipend over three years. Hawk is currently a doctoral student studying cell death at the University of Notre Dame. He was inspired to enter science and study cancer cells by his sixth-grade science teacher who lost her battle with breast cancer.

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