



Graduation, Honors, and Awards Edition

REACH Tutor & Ambassador Award of Excellence



Winner--REACH Tutor of Excellence for 2012: Jake Bell

Jake has been an exceptional tutor in the REACH Mathematics Resource Centers for many semesters and has provided drop-in tutoring for over 15 mathematics and science courses for thousands of students during his employment with REACH. He has received excellent evaluations for his tutoring skills from his student clients and his professional supervisor who says, "Jake's caring nature, communication skills, vast knowledge of Mathematics, and dedication to learning have been an asset to REACH." While working with REACH, Jake earned his International Certification as a Master Tutor from the national College Reading and Learning Association and while at the university, he has won many academic awards and scholarships including a SROP research grant and funding from the Modern Language Fund for Study Abroad in Spain in summer 2010. Jake is president of the Student Undergraduate Chemistry Society, an undergraduate Teaching Assistant for the Chemistry Department, and has served terms as an A&S Student Council representative. Most impressive is Jake's ability to tutor. Jake has created tutor training materials for the MRC and VMC, uses his own examples and problems to clarify concepts, and has mentored and trained new and returning tutors. Jake has instructed students in the ADVANCE in Mathematics Program, assisted students with computer programs used in a variety of math courses, and has tutored disabled students who benefit from his enthusiasm for helping others. Jake also serves as a volunteer Spanish interpreter for the workers' clinic at Churchill Downs associated with the College of Nursing.



Winner--REACH Ambassador of Excellence for 2012: Mason Gatch

The Ambassador Award of Excellence recognizes a REACH Ambassador who has displayed exceptional mentoring, leadership, professionalism and commitment. Mason has displayed extraordinary dedication to mentoring first year students; helping them connect to campus and transition to college at the University of Louisville. His enthusiasm and excellent understanding of the connection between mentoring and leadership has helped Mason engage first- year students and fellow Ambassadors alike this year.



REACH Ambassador Spirit Award Winner for 2012: Trevor Collinsworth

The REACH Ambassador Spirit Award is voted on by fellow Ambassadors and recognizes a REACH Ambassador who embodies the spirit of the Ambassador Program. Trevor, as the recipient of this award, has displayed great spirit and enthusiasm for mentoring as an Ambassador. He has strived for all first- year students to enjoy their time and have a worthwhile experience while at the University of Louisville. Trevor has endeavored to make a positive impact on the Ambassador Program, and the Ambassador Program is a better program because of his work this year. Trevor embodies the phrase, "Once an Ambassador, always an Ambassador."



Honorees for the Tutor Award of Excellence



Honoree for REACH Tutor Award of Excellence 2012: Sean Spille

Sean has been a Scheduled Tutor, Learning Assistant/Supplemental Instruction Leader, and Peer Supervisor for REACH over many semesters. His tutoring has spanned History and Psychology courses including several 300 level courses. He has provided academic assistance for over 2,000 students and assisted ten different faculty members as a REACH student employee. Sean's supervisor describes Sean as "one who takes pride in his own work and accomplishments and instills success in others." He has earned his International Certification as a Master Tutor from the national College Reading and Learning Association and has presented two Master Tutor presentations for fall Tutor Training. Sean has been exceptionally active with student organizations and with academics, working closely with Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences during his college career. He has received many honors and scholarships including winning the 2011 Amber Heurman Award from the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, and authoring and co-authoring abstracts accepted for poster presentations at national and state conferences. He has served as an A&S Peer Advisor, Vice-president for Louisville Hall, a First-Year Guide, a CAPS leader, Finance Director for College Democrats and as a representative on SGA's Diversity Council for commonGround.



Honoree for REACH Tutor Award of Excellence 2012: Jordan Stivers

Jordan has served as an enthusiastic, responsible and reliable tutor since 2010. She has been trained in the Paul and Elder Critical Thinking model and is able to assist her student clients' critical thinking skills. She has tutored History courses making History more enjoyable by helping students create detailed comparative charts, create unique time lines, and determine the how, what, when, where, and why of a History concept. Jordan has earned her International Certification as a Master Tutor from the national College Reading and Learning Association and presented on the use of storytelling in tutoring for her 2011 fall presentation. She has worked with a diverse population of students including non-traditional students and disabled students. She has developed excellent rapport with History faculty even developing online tutoring sessions to support a distance version of History 101. Jordan is active on campus having been in Freshman LEAD, a Health Advocate, and a member of of the national residence honorary and Student Resident Association. She frequently volunteers for tasks in the Learning Resource Center spending much unpaid time to create extra study materials, new practice quizzes, work the front desk, and even clean up the center every Friday before closing.



Honoree for REACH Tutor Award of Excellence 2012: Andrew Golden

Andy has been a valued tutor for the Digital Media Studio since 2010. His supervisor states that Andy "has demonstrated dedication to helping tutees, reliability in job performance and effectiveness and generosity in training fellow tutors." Students have commented on Andy's excellent tutoring. He helps student clients discover methods of working with the software and multi-media tools that help these students find meaning in their content material. Andy guides and coaches students, showing his own enthusiasm for media and inspiring students' interest and creativity. He has been a role model and mentor for new tutors because of his eye for detail, understanding of the purpose of the DMS, and his understanding of the tutor's role in the learning process. Andy has earned his International Certification as a Master Tutor from the national College Reading and Learning Association and has presented to his peers, conducted tutor observations, managed the DMS database of resources, and played an important role in creating a multi-media resource library which will be available to students working in Ekstrom library this summer. He attended Kentucky State University on a full scholarship, winning several awards, and serving as a tutor and Supplemental Instruction Leader before coming to the University of Louisville. He is a member of Golden Key and will graduate Cum Laude this spring.



REACH tutors in the spotlight!



Virginia Alexander, a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences, was awarded a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship in advanced Arabic. Virginia is an Anthropology major (with a concentration in Social Science) and a minor in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies. She has previously studied abroad in Meknes, Morocco during the summer of 2011. Virginia, a Jones Scholar who is currently studying at the Qasid Arabic Institute in Amman, Jordan, is a World Scholars awardee. She has tutored Arabic in REACH. In the future, she hopes to continue studying Arabic culture and language.

Erin Sheehy, a junior in both the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education, will be studying English literature at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom this summer on an English-Speaking Union Scholarship. She is a double-major in English and Exercise Science. Erin is a Union, Kentucky native, graduating from Larry A. Ryle High School. She tutors in anatomy and physiology for REACH. Erin's extracurricular campus involvement includes volunteering for Health Promotions as writer and co-editor of monthly fitness newsletters, co-directing music for U of L's Catholic Campus Ministry, and hosting incoming freshmen and prospective students for the University Honors Program.

The 2011-2012 Ambassador superlatives:

Best Dressed: Morgan Jenny

Most Likely to Succeed: Ram Yakkanti

Best Personality: Chelsey Roy

Most Supportive: Megan Hogan

Best Smile: Grant Ford

Most Talkative: Adam Stewart

Class Clown: Hunter Pittman

Most Talented: Andrew Slugantz

Life of the Party: Elizabeth Delaney

Miss Ambassador: Morgan Blair and
Conner Loew (tie)

Most Athletic: Brian Baxter

Mr. Ambassador: Trevor Collinsworth

Most Creative: Ryan Moran

REACH Graduates

Name: Danielle Abel (MRC/SI)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Engineering

Awards & What's Next: TBD

Name: Deep Aggarwal (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Economics

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be attending the University of Louisville's School of Medicine. He will be giving the student commencement address.

Name: Carrie Benzinger (MRC)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Bioengineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be going to Aachen, Germany to complete research on a Fulbright Scholarship.

REACH Graduates

Name: Yugandhar Chaparala (MRC)

Degree: Master of Science in Electrical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be looking for a job.

Name: Leslie Conner (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Economics

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be working for Teach for American in Nashville, TN teaching 6th grade math. She was on the Dean's List for Fall 2011, a Dean's Scholar for Spring 2012, and voted the Kappa Delta Sorority Most Likely to Succeed.

Name: Andrew Davidson (MRC)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be working in the aerospace industry.

Name: Richard K. Dempster (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will begin working on his PhD in Organic Chemistry at Vanderbilt University where he received full financial support.

Name: Samuel Dukes (CRC/MRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be going to Switzerland in July for an exchange worker program, and will be attending a German language program in Mainz, Germany. He will then start work on his MA in Industrial Engineering at the University of Louisville.

Name: Matthew Forsthoefel (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Bachelor of Science in Physics

Awards & What's Next: will graduate Summa cum Laude and is an Honors Scholar. After graduation he will be attending the University of Louisville's School of Medicine.

Name: Kelly Geiger (SI)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Chemical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be working for ExxonMobil.

Name: Akash Gupta (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Spanish

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be attending the University of Louisville's School of Medicine.

Name: Eric Jones (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Humanities

Awards & What's Next: He is on the Dean's list and will be studying Japanese in Fukuoka City, Japan.

REACH Graduates

Name: Kara Keeton (SI)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, minor in Biology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be attending the University of Louisville's School of Public Health and will be a Research Assistant. She may also attend archaeology field school in Italy this summer.

Name: Courtney Kendall (work study)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Marketing

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be working full-time for Lantech in Louisville, KY.

Name: Jonathan Lamar (MRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be working on a Ph.D. at Colorado University in Boulder, CO. He received the Mary Ruth Brookover Award as best graduating Mathematics major.

Name: Brett McGrath (LA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

Awards & What's Next: He received the Anthropology Award of Merit as a graduating senior. After graduation he will be teaching English abroad and will be a Research Assistant with Dr. Lisa Markowitz.

Name: Wesley Newman (SI/LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Health and Human Performance, minor in Biology

Awards & What's Next: He received the Hallmark Award and after graduation he will be applying to medical school.

Name: Trey Nunn (GSA-LRC)

Degree: Master of Science in Geography

Awards & What's Next: He received the Most Outstanding Graduate Student award in Geography and is looking for full time work after graduation.

Name: Richard Paris (MRC/CRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Computer Science

Awards & What's Next: After graduating he will be attending graduate school and will be a TA for the Speed School for ENGR 100. She was an Imagine Cup National Finalist and received the Arthur Riehl Award.

Name: Jessica Sapp (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Awards & What's Next: She will graduate with Psychology honors and after graduation she will be attending the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law.

Name: Thomas Salter (SI)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Biology

Awards & What's Next: He received a Trustee's Scholarship and after graduation he will be attending Dental School at the University of Louisville.

Name: Nick Short (LA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, minor in Biology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will continue working on a research project as a Research Assistant with Dr. Fabian Crespo and will apply for a graduate program in immunology. He received a scholarship from the Anthropology Department to help fund his research project.

REACH Graduates

Name: Stephanie Sidoti (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Equine Administration

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will be attending graduate school at the University of Missouri-Columbia on scholarship and working on a dual J.D. in Law and M.A. in Journalism. She was also initiated into the Order of Omega Honor Society.

Name: John Simpson (CRC)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: He was a Safety Officer on the University of Louisville USLI Team (River City Rocketry). After graduation he will be working in the mechanical engineering field.

Name: Burt Smith (work study)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Biology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be attending medical school.

Name: Abby Sperry (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Accountancy

Awards & What's Next: She will graduate with honors and will be looking for a career and preparing for the CPA exam.

Name: Lucas Spicer (SI)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Electrical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be working in robotics or embedded systems.

Name: Sean Spille (LA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be attending the University of Michigan's Clinical Health Program.

Name: Will Steiden (SI/MRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

Awards & What's Next: What's Next: After graduation he will be attending graduate school.

Name: Megan Thurmond (SI/LA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Awards & What's Next: After graduation she will travel and will possibly be working in Portugal.

Name: Thomas Wagoner (SI)

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Biology

Awards & What's Next: He applied for the U.S. Air Force Health Professions Scholarship and received the Biology department's N.V. Le Bre Award for 2012. After graduation he will be moving to Lexington, getting married in June, and starting medical school in July at the University of Kentucky.

Name: Cory Williams (MRC)

Degree: Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering

Awards & What's Next: After graduation he will be looking for a job at a structural engineering firm.

Name: Nancy Williams (LRC)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Socio-cultural Anthropology

Awards & What's Next: She will graduate with Cum Laude and complete a Senior Honors Thesis for departmental honors. After graduation she will take a year or two off before starting a graduate program in Anthropology.

Honors & Awards for REACH Tutors

Name: Nawaf Ali

Honors/Awards: Received 'Best Student Paper' award for his paper titled, "Linguistic Profiling and Behavioral Drift in Chat Bots." He presented his paper at the MAICS conference in Cincinnati.

Name: Kelsey Chatham

Honors/Awards: Internship with Deloitte and Touche in Cincinnati, OH, doing audits and checking controls

Name: Derek Childers

Honors/Awards: Summer work in statistical data analysis at the Air Force Research Laboratory in Dayton, OH

Name: Sarah Dunn

Honors/Awards: Trip to London in December to study Victorian crime and literature

Name: Brian Enders

Honors/Awards: Trustee's Scholarship, Rodney Williams Legacy Scholarship

Name: Andrew Golden

Honors/Awards: Received a GTA position through the Humanities PhD department

Name: Jaison John

Honors/Awards: C. Coleman Petty Scholarship

Name: Jonathan Jones

Honors/Awards: Work in Chemical Engineering at Down Corning

Name: Katie Lynch

Honors/Awards: Teaching Assistantship in Biology Department for the 2012-2013 academic year

Name: Joseph Ouellet

Honors/Awards: Dean's List, DRC Note Taker Certificate

Name: Sarah Pagan

Honors/Awards: Work at Zirmed next semester

Name: Ian Phillip

Honors/Awards: Bickel Scholarship

Name: Craig Roaden

Honors/Awards: Summer work in Chemical Engineering at the Solae LLC, Dupont Soy Polymer in Louisville, KY

Name: Rae Rostosky

Honors/Awards: Work at Research and Development of medical devices at Ethicon Endosurgery next semester

Name: Adria Schwarber

Honors/Awards: Practicum in the Chemistry Department at the University of Louisville.

Name: Andrew Survant

Honors/Awards: Work in the fall semester in the G.E. Aviation Prototyping Lab in Cincinnati, OH

Name: Matthew Thomas

Honors/Awards: Summer internship at Yum Brands in programming

Name: Amanda Yee

Honors/Awards: Hershberg Scholarship from the World Affairs Council in Kentucky and Southern Indiana; Frederic N. Hicks Student Travel Award from Department of Anthropology. Summer intensive Arabic courses at the Qasid Institute in Amman, Jordan