Mentored Student Research Conference

Political Science students proudly displayed their research projects at the Ninth Annual Mentored Student Research Conference funded by the Mary Lou Fulton Chair.

Katherine Westmoreland and Ben Ader mentored by Professor Kelly Patterson and Professor David Magleby won best poster for their research, *Early Utah Voters: Who Votes Early and How They Vote.*

Kalifa L. Smith mentored by Professor Jessica Preece won 2nd best poster for their research, *Reducing the Political Gender Gap through Religious Socialization.*

Other students who presented mentored research:
- **The 1964 Civil Rights Act and the Southern Evangelical Realignment**
  - Brian Christopher Reed
  - Professor Quin Monson

- **A Framework for Re-Building Nations: The Historical cycle for Transitional Governments and It’s Modern Application**
  - Cameron Scott Harris

- **Can Quoting James Madison Affect Support for Corporate Regulation?**
  - Zachary David Smith
  - Professor Quin Monson

- **Discovering Inhibitors to the Political Interest and Ambition of Women**
  - Cindy West
  - Rachel Fisher
  - Ryan Bennion
  - Professor Jessica Preece
  - Professor Daniel L. Nielson
  - Professor Josh Gubler

- **The Power of the Israeli Lobby During US Presidential Election Years**
  - Jesse Thomas
  - Professor Josh Gubler

- **Racial Resentment and Campaign Messaging in Utah’s 4th Congressional District Election 2012**
  - Kyrene Gibb
  - Professor Christ Karpowitz

- **Republican Primary Donor Retention in the 2012 General Election: Do Divisive Primaries Affect Campaign Donors?**
  - Robert Miles Richards
  - Professor Jay Goodliffe

- **Welfare to Votes: Does TANF Depress Voter Participation?**
  - Taylor Janeen Rosecrans
  - Professor Chris Karpowitz

- **Which Traits Affect Gun Control Attitudes?**
  - Ian M. Hansen
  - Professor Quin Monson
  - Professor Kelly Patterson

- **Who Donates to Both Sides?**
  - Ethan Craig Busby
  - Professor Jay Goodliffe
  - Professor David Magleby
The Roberts family continues to generously support students wishing to complete a politically oriented internship. This is a competitive award based on merit.

David Favreau “I have recently returned from an internship working for The United States Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia, Brazil. Working for the Department of State has always been a dream of mine and it was a phenomenal experience to get a taste of the foreign service work and lifestyle.”

Taylor Jacoby, “I interned in the East Asia Office at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Through this position, I was given many opportunities to contribute to research and briefing memos that informed current U.S. economic policy. This type of work dramatically increased my understanding of financial macroeconomics and the inner workings of our government...Now, that I know I enjoy policy work, I have applied to the program for young professionals at the Federal Reserve.”

Jonathan Hart, “I worked for the Siena Provincial Agency for Energy and the Environment where I was able to help translate documents from Italian to English and write reports and speeches for the president of the agency...Siena had begun a project to eliminate excess carbon in the air by using more renewable energy, making businesses more efficient and less pollutant, and giving citizens the opportunity to take care of their city.”

A.J. Huntington “[M]y wife and I spent this Fall Semester in Scotland interning with the Scottish Parliament. On a daily basis, I was given the opportunity to use the research and writing skills I developed at BYU, work in a team of professionals, participate in meetings, see and put theories into practices, and positively contribute to the work of my Member of Scottish Parliament (MSP). It has been a unique, hands-on experience in politics.”

William Snider, “I was fortunate enough not only to be accepted to an internship in the House of Representatives, but to be with the Committee on Foreign Affairs...My duties centered on worldwide issues, foreign policy, and committee hearings. While I was there, I assisted with preparation for hearings on China and the South China Sea, after the attack on our embassy in Benghazi, and the Gaza conflict.”
David Sturgess, “I interned at a small international government relations firm called International Business-Government Counsellors, Inc. where I was able to learn more about the intersection between government and the private sector. This internship helped me to apply the knowledge and skills that I have learned at BYU over the past four years and to develop relationships that I hope will culminate in future employment opportunities.”

Fulton Scholarship

The Fulton Scholarship funded several students to attend a national political science conference in Chicago, sponsored by the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA). Students who attended this conference received the opportunity to share their research with other students and academics.

Ethan Busby, “This was a great experience for me to attend a large conference in political science. At this conference, I met with several faculty members and students at a graduate school I will be attending in the fall, and I was able to attend presentations by some of these same individuals. As a result, I was able to develop some professional relationships that will continue as I leave BYU.

Madeleine Gleave, “Last year at the MPSA conference, I presented a poster of some prior research, the usual forum for undergraduates. However this year, my co-authors and I were accepted to a panel presentation, a rare and impressive opportunity. Our paper was titled “Status on the Street: A Field Experiment on the Effect of Signaling Socio-Economic Status on Pro-social Behavior,” and was focused on testing the motivations for helping behavior among Ugandan citizens. I was able to present a section of the paper to the audience, which was a challenging but a great learning experience. We received great feedback from our discussant and other panel members and attendees, and will use the comments as we prepare our paper for publication.”

Robert Richards, “My research project was entitled “Republican Primary Donor Retention in the 2012 General Election.” The project explored whether donors to the various 2012 Republican presidential primary candidates ended up contributing to the Romney campaign in the general election. I presented my findings in poster format at one of the undergraduate poster sessions at the conference. The conference was also a good opportunity for me to build a network with university professors and other professionals. I will be attending Duke University in the fall to begin a PhD program in public policy.”

Cindy West, “I benefited by going to this conference. It was a wonderful experience to attend panels and discussions and learn from leading scholars in the area of gender and politics. One of the panels discussed research about gender and the courts. This panel was interesting to me because it showed that there could be a merging of political science research, law and gender. I plan on attending law school and am interested in focusing on gender and its relation with the law.”

Stephanie Dowdle, Kimia Khatami, and Liz McGuire