

# HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

SPRING 2021 SEMESTER NEWSLETTER

## Graduation Statistics

For the Year 2021  
Pg. 2

## HSS Social Media

 Facebook

 Instagram

## Dean's Corner



Jean Boreen | Dean of HSS

What a difference a year makes! Last year at this time, I wrote about how we had gotten through the Spring 2020 semester by switching from face-to-face to on-line courses and the challenges associated with it; I would never have guessed, back then, that we would be looking at two additional COVID-19 semesters and a mix of face-to-face, hybrid and on-line courses to get through the year. However, we did so that we were able to accommodate our students and their varying needs. That said, I am pleased to note that we did survive all of those challenges, and rather well from my perspective. I offer a special thanks to the wonderful faculty and staff in the college who were there for their students and for each other; their dedication never wavered. We managed a wonderful in-person...

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## Jeffrey Goulding: The Power of an SUU Degree

By: Nathan Wiggins

"I want people to understand that going to a smaller school has huge advantages and huge upsides that maybe they're not considering."

For most people, helping to save the life of another person is an experience that comes - if ever - once in a lifetime. For SUU alumnus Jeff Goulding, saving lives is what he does on a daily basis. Even during his newsletter interview over Zoom, Jeff closely monitors a computer screen from his hospital office, diligently watching for alerts that might indicate that someone is in trouble and needs his immediate attention.

"I'm currently working in the emergency room," Jeff informs me as our interview begins, "and I may have to respond to stuff, but I'll let you know as we go."

Despite having to con-

stantly be on-call while he's at work, Jeff is surprisingly calm and relaxed, which he attributes to his professional training. In 2009, Jeff graduated from Southern Utah University's Psychology program.

Now, just 12 years later, Jeff Goulding works on the Crisis Team at the George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City where he puts his training to use every single day.

"Basically, I deal with people who come into the VA Hospital in Salt Lake who are suicidal, homicidal, psychotic, intoxicated or detoxing from substances. We also respond to crises anywhere on the VA campus as it arises," Jeff explains...

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## INTERNSHIP AWARD

### Christian White: Psychology Student

This past semester, Christian White was selected for the Native American Research Internship at the University of Utah this upcoming summer to participate in biomedical and health research alongside some of the most distinguished experts in the field.

## 2021 HSS GRADUATES

### Selected Statistics

#### 885 Total Graduates

157 Master Degrees

477 Bachelor Degrees

251 Associates Degrees

37 Dual-Major Degrees

#### Bachelor Degree Graduates

##### Top-10 Majors:

1. Communication (Tied)
1. Psychology (Tied)
3. General Studies
4. Criminal Justice
5. Political Science
6. History
7. English
8. Interdisciplinary Studies
9. Sociology
10. Spanish



# The Paul Petrek–Duban Memorial Fund

Made possible by the generosity of Mr. Jeffrey Duban.

To view SUU's official interview with Jeffrey Duban, [click here](#).

This past year, Southern Utah University was honored to host Jeffrey Duban to commemorate the Paul Petrek-Duban Memorial Fund. During his time on campus, Mr. Duban reflected on the life and legacy of his son, Paul, who attended SUU and fell in love with the surrounding National Parks. Following the passing of his son, Mr. Duban was inspired to offer a generous donation to the National Parks course at SUU. This course is housed in the Department of History, Sociology, and Anthropology and is taught by Dr. Ryan Paul. It is Mr. Duban's

hope that this National Parks course taught at SUU can, in his words, "be as far-reaching and meaningful for students as can possibly be."

Mr. Duban has worn many prestigious hats during his lifetime including University Professor and Attorney at Law and authoring *The Lesbian Lyre: Reclaiming Sappho for the 21st Century* (2016) and *The Shipwreck Sea: Love Poems and Essays in a Classical Mode* (2019). SUU is grateful to Mr. Duban and his many contributions to higher education.



## Coming in Fall 2022: A Guided Tour of Spain by SUU Professors

By: Grant Corser

Come and experience the adventure of Spain with the SUU College of Humanities and Social Sciences! During the fall of 2022, travelers will be guided by SUU professors, who are experts in Spanish history, literature and psychology, to some of the most spectacular locations in Spain. The program will begin in the vibrant city of Barcelona where participants will see the architectural feats of Antonio Gaudi and explore areas like the Gothic Quarter

and promenade the famous Las Ramblas. After several days in Barcelona our group will travel by rail to Madrid with an overnight stay in Zaragoza. In Zaragoza, we will venture to Spanish Inquisition sites, remnants of the ancient Roman Empire, and the famous pilgrimage site on the Ebro River.

In Madrid, the group will be guided through the world-renowned Prado museum, Plaza Mayor and a host of culturally significant areas. During day trips from

Madrid, explorers will visit Segovia's ancient aqueduct, Gothic Segovia Cathedral and former Royal Palace before exploring medieval Toledo. The program will conclude with a lively, traditional flamenco tablao and dinner. More details are forthcoming, but for immediate information, please contact Dr. Grant Corser, Associate Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences ([corser@suu.edu](mailto:corser@suu.edu)).

# 2021 Faculty and Student Awards



**Liz Olson (HSA)**

Outstanding Scholarship  
Faculty Award



**Danielle Dubrasky (ENG)**

Outstanding Scholarship  
Faculty Award



**Bryan Koenig (PSY)**

Innovative Pedagogy  
Faculty Award



**Michelle Orihel (HSA)**

Innovative Pedagogy  
Faculty Award



**Ryan Paul (HSA)**

Early Career  
Faculty Award



**Bill Kershnik (COMM)**

Early Career  
Faculty Award



**Kyle Thompson (COMM)**

Collaborative Excellence  
Faculty Award



**Hayden Coombs (COMM)**

Outstanding  
Staff Award



**Corey Twitchell (L&P)**

2021 NEH Summer Stipend  
Recipient



**Allison Moore (COMM)**

Outstanding Communication  
Student Award



**Jordan Draper (COMM)**

Outstanding Communication  
Studies Student



**Amanda Walton (COMM/ENG)**

Outstanding Media Studies  
and English Student Awards

# 2021 Faculty and Student Awards



**Cierra Jacobsen (COMM)**

Outstanding Strategic  
Communication Student



**Kolton Pierson (COMM)**

Outstanding MaPC Student  
Award



**Lainey Cartwright (ENG)**

Outstanding Literature  
Student



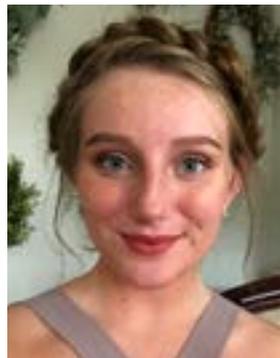
**Malissa Davis (ENG)**

Outstanding English Education  
Student



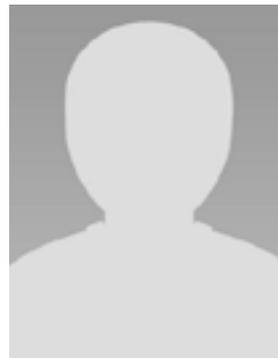
**Tawni Werber (ENG)**

Outstanding English Ed and  
Creative Writing Student



**Cassidy Wallace (ENG)**

Outstanding Creative Writing  
Student



**Danielle Brady (ENG)**

Outstanding Film and Screen  
Studies Student



**Jaidyn Crookston (ENG)**

Outstanding Technical Writing  
Student



**Daniel Delap (ENG)**

Outstanding Rhetoric and  
Writing Student



**Malgorzata Carlson (HSA)**

Outstanding HSA Student  
Award



**Sarah Draper (HSA)**

Outstanding Anthropology  
Student



**Christopher Holdsworth (HSA)**

Outstanding History  
Student

# 2021 Faculty and Student Awards



**Ana Peterson (HSA)**

Outstanding History Education Student



**Brooklyn Blackett (HSA)**

Outstanding Social Science Composite Student



**Randall Huyck (HSA)**

Outstanding Sociology Student



**Ashton Barney (IS)**

Outstanding Interdisciplinary Studies Student Award



**Kiesha Jones (L&P)**

Language and Philosophy Outstanding Student Award



**Brayden Glenn (L&P)**

Outstanding Spanish Student



**Madison Clark (L&P)**

Outstanding German Student



**Carl Anderson (L&P)**

Outstanding Philosophy Student



**Elyssa Branin (L&P)**

Outstanding French Student



**Elizabeth Funk (PSCJ)**

MPA Outstanding Student Award



**Hannah Davila (PSCJ)**

Outstanding PSCJ Student Award



**Royce Gador (PSCJ)**

Outstanding Political Science Student

# 2021 Faculty and Student Awards



**Timber Bailey (PSCJ)**

Outstanding Criminal Justice Student



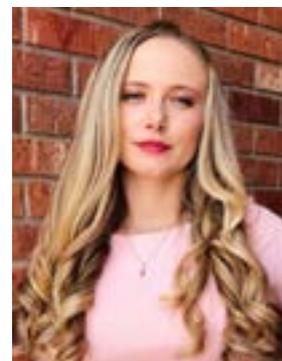
**Ma Camille Briones (PSCJ)**

Outstanding PLGL/Pre-Law Student



**Tyler Tatton (PSY)**

Outstanding Psychology Student Award



**Laresa Coles (PSY)**

Outstanding Psychology Scholar



**Kylie Park (PSY)**

Outstanding Applied Psychology Student



**Aidan Brassfield (PSY)**

Outstanding Psychology Student Contributor



## Quincy Pfeffer - HSS Valedictorian 2021

By: Savannah Byers

Quincy Pfeffer has been named 2021 valedictorian for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). Pfeffer is graduating with a bachelor degree in criminal justice and a minor in psychology. She has plans to begin at Northern Arizona University graduate school this fall to earn a M.S. in applied criminology. "I chose SUU because of the environment," Pfeffer said. "I really liked how it had

a home away from home feel. Especially since I was moving away from home for the first time, that environment was a really big thing I was looking for in a university. I also like the small class sizes, the size of campus, and the inclusive home-y feel."

A 2018 graduate of Chandler High School in Chandler, Arizona, Pfeffer was a big reader growing up and fell easily into the world of academia. She

says, "Reading has given me a more creative and empathetic mind, increased my overall perspective, and given me a pathway to apply my skills in a practical way to help people."

A student with many interests, Pfeffer began at SUU as a chemistry major before switching to psychology, then criminal justice. In the end, her criminal justice major and psychology minor worked well to combine all of her...

[Read More...](#)



## Justin McEwen

By: Aspen Slider

Justin McEwen graduated Magna Cum Laude from SUU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He was involved in the student senate for HSS, the Sigma Chi fraternity, and looks back on his classroom relationships with fondness. "During my time at SUU, I learned how to interact with other people on both a professional and personal level... It is definitely the quality friendships that stand out the most [to me]." Justin stated that he thinks SUU hits the sweet spot between a quality education and the, "intimacy of personal relationships and interactions with professors." Currently stationed in Naples, Italy, Justin serves as a Judge Advocate in the US Navy Marine Corps. He is currently the Marine Corps' Military Judge for Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia. When asked about where he has ended up, Justin said that he did not expect to be where he is now when he started at SUU. "SUU definitely gave me the confidence to do anything."

When interviewed, Justin stated that his time at SUU is something he will never regret. He stands by the fact that SUU prepared him for his life and career, especially when it comes to interacting with people on a daily basis. "I will always have a fond place in my heart for the university, and will always take pride in the fact that I chose SUU to receive my [undergraduate] education."



## Whitney Baum-Bennett

By: Aspen Slider

Whitney Baum-Bennett received her Master degree in Professional Communication from Southern Utah University. When asked about her experience at SUU and how it has impacted her career, Whitney stated, "SUU gave me the skills and real-life work experience that I needed to get where I am today in my career. With the small classes and the projects we did with local community organizations and businesses, I left SUU with a robust resume and I was able to find job opportunities in my field quickly, even before graduating."

Whitney enjoyed the sense of community found at SUU with all of the social gatherings, parties (especially The Scream), clubs, and more. She loved how easy it was to get outdoors, and also the services SUU offered in the way of outdoor recreation. "That is one thing I miss dearly... The red rocks of southern Utah!"

Currently living in the DC Metropolitan area, Whitney works as the communications and marketing manager for the DC Children's Advocacy Center, Safe Shores. She did not expect to be where she is now when she started at SUU, though she says she means that in the best way. "SUU and my professors truly instilled a confidence in me... and helped me to realize I could make a life for myself that was bigger than I'd let myself dream."

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