

**SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE
PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT**

Stephanie N. Berberick

Stephanie Berberick will earn a bachelor of arts degree in communication studies and attained an overall GPA of 4.0 while supporting herself and publishing an impressive list of articles in a variety of periodicals.

Ms. Berberick completed her associate's degree at Mohawk Valley Community College before transferring to Buffalo State. In recognition of her academic excellence, she received a scholarship from the Clark Foundation throughout her college career. At Buffalo State, she was inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, the honor society for communication majors. She also presented original research, "The Objectification of Women in Mass Media: The Impact of Misogynist Culture on Society and Female Self-Image," at the 2010 New York State Sociological Association conference. She was also named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for 2011.

Her academic achievements are equaled by her journalistic accomplishments and her community service. *Buffalo Spree* published several articles written by Ms. Berberick, including a feature article about the Black Rock neighborhood. *Artvoice* also published a number of articles by Ms. Berberick, including two cover stories. She was also active in the community, serving as a volunteer media consultant to Frack Action Buffalo Chapter, a public relations mentor to a refugee group, and a volunteer with Jericho Road Ministries.

Ms. Berberick, the first college graduate in her family, expressed deep gratitude to her father, who, she wrote, "gave me everything I need to achieve my dreams." She plans to attend graduate school. Her ultimate goal is to pursue research and writing that will inspire marginalized individuals to persevere and pursue their own dreams.

**SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE
PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT**

Watoii T. Rabii

Watoii Rabii will earn a bachelor of arts in sociology and a minor in psychology while maintaining a GPA of 3.9 in his major. He has earned the enthusiastic praise of his professors and mentors, who see in him not a promising student but an accomplished scholar.

During his first year, Mr. Rabii distinguished himself by the scope and depth of his reading, his passionate intellectual engagement, and the quality of his presentations, earning the Outstanding First-Year Student Award for Scholarly or Creative Achievement. At the end of his first year, he traveled to Dublin, Ireland, to present at the 21st International Conference on the First-Year Experience.

After coming to Buffalo State, Mr. Rabii's innate intelligence, motivation, and self-discipline quickly won him several prestigious scholarships. He was accepted to the Ross B. Kenzie Scholars program, which fosters leadership as well as academic achievement. He also was accepted to the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement program, which provides research opportunities to students interested in pursuing a doctoral degree, and to the Dr. Anna P. Burrell Diversity Scholars program, which seeks to enhance student diversity by supporting academically talented students. He was named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* in 2010 and 2011.

His presentations include “The Role of ADHD Symptomatology, Parenting, and Peer Functioning in Predicting the Social Adjustment of College Students” at the McNair Research Symposium in June 2010, and “Geometry and Fetishization of Dreamworlds” at the Ethnographic Dreamworlds conference held at Buffalo State in March 2009.

Mr. Rabii has been of service to both the college and the community, as a tutor and mentor to students in one of the university’s learning communities, a tutor for students in the Educational Opportunity Program and a volunteer at the Asarese-Matters Youth Center.

**SUNY CHANCELLOR’S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE
PRESIDENT’S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT**

Justin L. Wojcik

Justin Wojcik will earn a master of science degree in student personnel administration with an overall GPA of 4.0. His academic career was marked by outstanding effort and success in academic and volunteer pursuits, as well as remarkable leadership skills.

His academic achievements are especially noteworthy because he attained them while availing himself of a wide variety of experiential opportunities. As a member of the Graduate Association of Student Personnel Administration, Mr. Wojcik served as chair of the advertising and technology committee in 2009–2010. The next year, he was elected president of the association. He also was named to *Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* in 2011.

His professors recognized him as a student with exceptional communication skills, the ability to adapt technology to academic pursuits, and the leadership skills to work successfully with diverse constituencies across Buffalo State. As a graduate assistant, he served as operations manager of the Campbell Student Union, overseeing a staff of 17 students and coordinating tasks related to 23 student organization offices. As a graduate assistant with the Orientation and New Student Programs Office, he trained and supervised students; collaborated with the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center for its annual Day of Service project; and supported several events for first-time students, transfer students, and their families. He also volunteered with various campus efforts, including the Health Promotions Office and the Residence Hall Judicial Board, as well as with many community groups, including Journey’s End Refugee Services and the Olmsted Parks Conservancy.

His excellent interpersonal skills are matched by his scholarship. He conducted research comparing student activism from different eras, and presented “Using Technology to Understand the Students of Yesterday and Today” at Buffalo State’s 12th annual Student Research and Creativity Celebration in 2010. He also completed the comprehensive examination for his degree a semester early.

SUNY CHANCELLOR’S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Kathryn S. Boughton

Kathryn Boughton will earn a bachelor of science degree with a major in applied mathematics and a minor in athletic coaching. She maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA while playing on the women’s soccer team for three years, representing the ideal scholar-athlete.

Ms. Boughton helped lead the team to its most successful three-year win-loss record in the history of the women’s soccer program. She was named a three-time member of the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) All-Academic team, an honor reserved for students whose GPA is above 3.30. She also was a two-time member of the SUNYAC Commissioner’s List, which is an honor reserved for students who have maintained a 3.30 GPA for three semesters. She was selected for the

CoSIDA/ESPN Academic All-District Team. She was also named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for 2011.

During her junior year, Ms. Boughton took advantage of Buffalo State's participation in the National Student Exchange program by attending Texas State University-San Marcos, demonstrating her willingness to move beyond her comfort zone to attain new levels of accomplishment. Ms. Boughton also participated in several service activities, including Earth Day clean-up programs, the TOPSoccer program for children with disabilities, and volunteer work with the Wyoming County SPCA.

Professors who have worked with Ms. Boughton commend her not only for her academic achievement but also for her poise, maturity, and willingness to participate in all class activities. The Mathematics Department considers her to be one of its best students. She intends to pursue a graduate degree in actuarial sciences.

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Christopher R. Guidarelli

Christopher Guidarelli will earn a bachelor of science in education degree with a major in exceptional education and a concentration in English. His GPA is 3.68 overall, with a 4.0 GPA in his major.

Mr. Guidarelli has demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, creativity, and citizenship throughout his undergraduate career. His honors include the Paul Thoms Council for Exceptional Children Membership Scholarship, the Gustave and Geraldine Werner Foundation Exceptional Education Scholarship, and the Brigitte V. Kallen Scholarship. He is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, an education honor society, and the National Council for Exceptional Children. He was also named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for 2011.

Mr. Guidarelli has demonstrated a deep commitment to his chosen profession, both academically and personally. Among his outstanding creative and academic efforts is a children's book, *Marcus and Nick's Trip to Our Solar System*, which Mr. Guidarelli wrote. He was invited to speak at the National Science Teachers Association conference on the power of using literature to teach science. He also presented at Buffalo State's 12th annual Student Research and Creativity Celebration.

Mr. Guidarelli has served as a camp counselor and volunteer with the winter adaptive ski program at the Double H Ranch in the Adirondacks. Double H Ranch, an affiliate of the Hole in the Wall Camps association, provides recreational experiences for children with serious illnesses. He also has served as a volunteer counselor at Cindy's Comfort Camp, which serves children who have lost a parent through death or incarceration. He continued his volunteer work during the academic year by tutoring at the Westminster Community Charter School's after-school program, where he presented lessons on physical fitness, career goals and opportunities, and self-management skills, as well as traditional academic subjects.