

## 2017 Department of Biology Awards

RICHARD J. AND MARION A. SHAW SCHOLARSHIP

*Mikell Goldsberry, Biology*



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My name is Mikell Goldsberry. I grew up in Kaysville, Utah where I attended Davis High School. I accomplished many physical and academic goals. I participated in cross country and track was able to run on the varsity team. I took eighth at state, ran at the national cross country meet, and received a varsity letter. I was in the National Honors Society where I helped with many projects. Academically, I received the Academic All-Region Award. I was accepted to Utah State University and accepted two scholarships for academics. Finally, I graduated with high honors in May 2013.

I declared my major as biology with an emphasis in ecology and biodiversity. I have always adored animals, the environment, and finding ways to give the world a brighter future, so to this day, I absolutely love my major. In my first year at Utah State University, I was in an english class and we had to submit an essay to a competition. My essay was chosen and I was published in Utah State's book, *Voices*. It has been used by my professor and other people as a model essay. I completed all my other breadth requirements and received my Associates of Science degree.

After one year of college, I decided to postpone my education to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. I was assigned to serve in Rosario, Argentina for eighteen months. It was an amazing experience. I learned to speak Spanish and gained many leadership opportunities. Towards the end of my mission, there was a massive flood. We helped gather supplies, clothes, bedding, and food for all those affected by the natural disaster. I arrived home in December 2015 and returned to Utah State University ten days later.

I am now a senior at Utah State, planning to graduate in the Spring of 2018. I am recently married and both my husband and I are pursuing our bachelor's degrees. We support each other in everything we do. Once I graduate with my Bachelor's of Science, I plan on going on to receive my Master's degree in marine biology. I enjoy every minute here at Utah State University and I am grateful for all the experiences and goals I have accomplished.