

## 2020 Department of Biology Awards

### SEDLEY AND PEARL STANFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Bryan Daines, Public Health*



Having the opportunity to study at Utah State University has been an incredible experience in my life, I grew up in Cache Valley and attended school at Mountain Crest Highschool. Which is where I had my first exposure to USU classes. I enrolled in a variety of concurrent enrollment classes, which are USU courses offered through the High Schools. I knew after graduating that I would attend Utah State University to further my education. Before enrolling and attending I served as a Missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Brazil. Those two years did wonders for me in helping me mature and prepare for the rest of my life while also being able to serve and help others. After returning I quickly enrolled and was attending classes within two months. A month after classes began, I met my future wife and we started dating. We were married seven months later. We currently have one daughter who we welcomed into the world in October of 2019. It has always been my dream to become a medical doctor and USU has provided me with many resources to come closer to that goal. Through USU I have been involved in over a full year of research. Most of that research was done through the virology department and under the supervision of Dr. Tarbet. The remainder of the research was done with Applied Behavior Analysis therapy for autism. I have been able to participate in many pre-medical school programs at USU, including; being a member of the Pre-med club, participating in MCAT preparation courses, and having access to counselors that have helped me in planning and finding direction in my extracurricular activities. These opportunities were provided to me by being a USU student and by looking for places to apply myself. My degree is Public Health with an emphasis in Industrial Hygiene. This program allowed me to have access to an internship opportunity with a large corporation, it has also given me leadership opportunities as I currently am a member of the presidency in the program's Student Club. I am preparing to take the MCAT this upcoming summer and will be looking to apply for medical school shortly after. Another goal I have is to help support my wife in her academic goals as well. She currently is in her Master's Program to become a school counselor

and wants to complete a PhD in the future as well. My wife and I want to continue to expand our family and look forward to providing a loving home to our children. My time at Utah State University has been invaluable and I know it has served as an amazing steppingstone into becoming a better person and reaching my goals. I am grateful for those who have supported me as counselors, professors, and especially those who have provided financial assistance. Without these great people I know I would not have been able to come as far as I have. I look forward towards the future and try and keep the values that I have learned as I complete my final year at USU.