

## 2020 Department of Biology Awards

### JAY R. WEST AND LORRAINE M. WEST ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

*Alexander McRae, Human Biology*



I have considered myself a Utah State Aggie long before I ever enrolled in my first class. As a native of Cache Valley, I bleed Aggie Blue. After high school, I went on a two-year service mission in San Bernardino, California. I learned so many valuable life lessons about diversity, sacrifice,

diligence, and the powerful positive impact one person can have on those around them. It was a life changing experience for me. My time in San Bernardino cemented in me my desire to help people. Returning home, I knew two things, I wanted to officially become a member of the HURD and second, I wanted to become a physician, so that my job could literally be to help people. During my time at Utah State I have strived for excellence in all of my classes. I have maintained a 4.0 GPA and have been awarded the Aggie A Pin award. I have also made the Dean's List every semester. To continue serving, I volunteer at our local Intermountain Hospital Operating Rooms two days a week. It is so much fun for me to be able to help out there. When I am not studying for a class, I love to hike and be in the outdoors. My ultimate goal is to become an Ophthalmologist and raise a happy family.