

2013 Undergraduate Student Member Scholarship awarded to

Catherine Collins

University of British Columbia Okanagan



"Currently in my fourth year at UBC Okanagan, I am an honours chemistry student working towards my B. Sc. Degree. Throughout my degree, I have been involved in developing the chemistry community at UBC Okanagan. I have had the chance to work in two separate research groups. I was priviledged to be awarded an Irving K. Barber Research Award to conduct research on the cardioprotective compounds in North American hawthorn. For my honours research project, I am synthesizing fluorescent probes to study protein interactions in their native environment. Teaching is one of my passions and I have been lucky enough to have many opportunities to teach lower level students in different capacities. In my third year I was selected to be the Supplemental Learning leader for organic chemistry. This year I am working as a teaching assistant, supervising a first year chemistry laboratory. Additionally, I am the Vice-President and Treasurer of the Chemistry Course Union, where we offer tutoring and midterm study sessions for first and second year students to help them succeed academically in chemistry. I am in the process of applying for graduate studies in organic synthesis to start September 2014. My dream is to become a research active chemistry professor at one of Canada's leading research universities.