Educational Highlights: In 2012, I was the recipient of the Douglas and Elizabeth Clark Memorial Scholarship for academic excellence in History. I am currently a member of Phi Alpha Theta, Eta Sigma Phi, and Phi Kappa Phi honors societies. In summer 2013, I earned the opportunity to intern at the Low Country Digital Library, on behalf of Drayton Hall Plantation, scanning and transcribing original manuscripts from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Research Focus or Project: I mainly focus on politics during the Age of Reformation, specifically how the Reformation affected Western European politics. My major research project, “Deconstructing the Defenestration: Habsburg Religious Policy in Bohemia 1526-1618,” analyzes the relationship between religion and politics in the Kingdom of Bohemia in the century leading up to the Thirty Years War. I argue that the Habsburg policy of granting religious concessions to Bohemian Protestants only to violate those very concessions themselves led the Bohemian nobles to revolt in 1618. Whereas many historians focus on the causes of the Thirty Years War in the Holy Roman Empire proper, I focused on the causes of the War in Bohemia itself where the war actually began.

Future Plans: Next year I will be going back to high school, but this time as a teacher. I will start out teaching Latin, and I hope to teach history in the next few years.

This award presented by Jerold L. Hale, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Department of History at the College of Charleston on the 9th day of May 2014.