

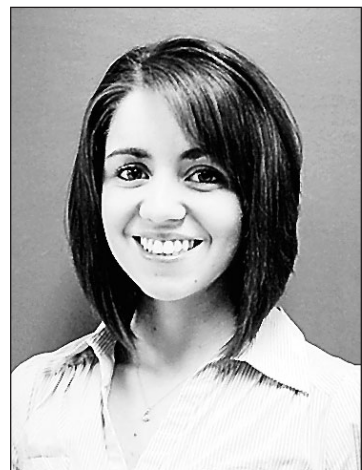
# Badger is 2011 Fulbright Scholar

Brittini Badger didn't let the college experience pass her by.

The University of South Dakota senior has studied in Malaga, Spain. She spent two weeks in China with nine other USD students. She has participated in Greek Life as a member of the Alpha Phi sorority and took part in Dance Marathon, helping to raise thousands of dollars for Children's Miracle Network. She's been a devoted member of Big Pal, Little Pal for two years; a youth soccer coach for the Vermillion and Yankton area; and on football Saturdays for two seasons, she cheered on the Coyotes from the sidelines as a member of the USD Cheerleading Squad. And, in the past year, she was named a member of Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, the premier national honor society recognizing outstanding college seniors.

Badger's commitment to helping others and being involved in campus and community activities is certainly obvious and that hasn't gone unnoticed as the elementary and special education major from western South Dakota was named as USD's 30th recipient of a scholarship from the Fulbright Program – the flagship international education exchange program sponsored by the United States government. In fact, Badger is USD's 13th Fulbright Scholar since 1998.

"Brittini's determination to succeed and gain strong skills in Spanish was evident to me immediately," stated Teresa Piper, an instructor in the Languages, Linguistics and Philosophy Department who served as Badger's Spanish advisor. "She stood out as one of the best among my students because she understood that in order to gain proficiency in the language she needed to put in extra time, and she did, she



BADGER

worked very hard."

Thanks to the grant from the Fulbright Program, Badger will be putting her Spanish language skills to good use next academic year as she will travel to Valencia, Spain to teach English. She's one of only 10 college students applying for the Fulbright to receive a grant to travel to this area of Spain. It will be her second time to Spain but third time studying abroad.

"Studying abroad helps you understand who you are as a person because you learn so much about other cultures," said Badger, daughter of Joni Boub and Brady Badger and stepdaughter of Brenda Badger, all of Pierre. "I recommend studying abroad for everyone."

While she isn't currently studying abroad, she will travel to Spain in the fall, Badger is busy traveling back and forth to Yankton High School where she teaches modified reading courses to freshmen and sophomores. In addition to her busy schedule as a student, Badger is also balancing the life of a student-teacher, wrapping up her academic priorities before graduating from USD on May 7.

She isn't sure what she wants to do career-wise once she graduates but more traveling

isn't out of the question.

"I think global teaching is a possibility," admitted Badger, a 2006 graduate of Lead-Deadwood High School. "When I'm finished (in Spain), I'll have a better picture of what I want to do."

No matter what she wants to do, Badger has the determination to succeed, according to Piper, who said it wasn't uncommon for Badger to push herself – no matter the circumstance – to learn more and more of the foreign language, even when it was the most difficult to pick up.

"She often sought additional guidance outside of class and was a joy to interact with," Piper added. "She was organized and methodical about her questions and enthusiastic about the language. She pushed herself constantly to improve and learn, and I was thrilled when she planned to study abroad, I knew that would take her to the next level of oral proficiency that she was so committed to in class."

Sponsored by the United States Department of State, the Fulbright Program was established in 1946 to increase a mutual understanding between people of the United States and other countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge and skills. The Fulbright Program also provides funding for students, scholars and professionals to undertake graduate study, advanced research, university teaching and teaching in elementary, and secondary schools. Badger will be teaching at a Spanish school for 20 hours per week. The rest of her time will be dedicated to sharing cultural experiences with the Spanish youth.

A member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Badger is eager to share stories of her ancestors, passed down to Badger by her grandmother, as well as share with the Spanish youngsters other tribal rituals, especially

dancing. Her English Teaching Assistantship in Spain will also require Badger to prepare core lessons, tutorials and, most importantly, help others learn English and about life in America. She believes that her recent student-teaching experiences have prepared her for this opportunity outside of an American classroom.

"Student teaching definitely helps you take control of a classroom," she explained. "It gives you more confidence and I'm really looking forward to seeing how others around the world teach."

Traveling is actually what brought Badger to USD. Following her graduation from high school, Badger was determined to "be as far away from home as possible." However, there was one caveat; she was going to stay in the state of South Dakota.

"My goal was to go as far away from home as I could go," she said with a smile, "but I also had a friend from Yankton. We had met at a church camp when we were 12 years old, stayed in touch and remained great friends through high school. We grew up together without growing up together."

The two friends, living together off campus as senior classmates in USD's School of Education program, roomed together as freshmen and although it will be sad to say goodbye, Badger has enjoyed every moment of her college experience.

"I'd have to say I've had the ultimate college experience," noted Badger, who has three brothers, Chris Boub and Drew and Alex Badger. "I tried a lot of new things that I had never done before and I was part of a great program at the School of Education. This (Fulbright) opportunity only enhances what I've already done."

# USD students honored for spring academic success

Students receiving academic honors for the 2011 Spring Semester have been recognized at The University of South Dakota.

More than 1,850 students were honored for academic achievements this spring with 1,445 students named to the Dean's List and 391 part-time students cited with Academic Recognition honors.

Students earn Dean's List distinction by achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 while maintaining a course load of 12 or more credit hours with no incomplete or failing grades. Part-time students are eligible for Academic Recognition by completing at least 12 hours prior to the current semester earning a minimum of three and up to 11 credit hours during the term and achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 with no failing or incomplete grades.

Additionally, 14 students enrolled at the School of Law attained Dean's List recognition. To be named to the School of Law Dean's List, law students must achieve either a GPA of 85.00 or greater for that semester or rate in the top 10 percent of their class for that semester, whichever group is smaller. The list is not based on cumulative grade point average, and first semester, first-year law students are not eligible for the law school's Dean's List.

The South Dakota Board of Regents sets the policy for Dean's List eligibility. For more information on the Board of Regents policy, please see [www.ris.sdbor.edu/policy/2-Academic\\_Affairs/documents/2-10.pdf](http://www.ris.sdbor.edu/policy/2-Academic_Affairs/documents/2-10.pdf).

Students receiving academic honors for the 2011 spring semester from Vermillion and surrounding communities are listed below.

Beresford - Stephanie F Carnes, Nathan D. Glanzer, Hunter Y Glascock, Cassandra D Goeden, Evan S. Hanson, Joanie Hinds (academic recognition), Amy C Jensen (academic recognition), Amy C Jensen (academic recognition), Caleb M Lyle, Zach Orr, Elizabeth Soderborg, Timothy Taylor (academic recognition); Burbank - Jessica R Anderson, Josh Baldwin, Kim R. Miller (academic recognition), Laurie Siegel; Centerville - Courtney a Blake, Rachel A. Blake, Kelsey P Brue, Molly A Hansen, Alicia S Johnson (academic recognition); Dakota Dunes - Ian J Berens, Chandler A. Hunt, Molly E Long, Rich Michaelson, Tony J Teesdale; Elk Point - Darlene M. Bogenpohl (academic recognition), Nick T Bottger, Isaiah N Cloud, Amanda Connelly, Derrick R Debuhr, Molly Donnelly, Rhyannon Gonzalo (academic recognition), Hillary A. Howard, Alisha Limoges (academic recognition), Kayla McInerney, Brandon J. Moore, Kale Nelson, Vanessa L. Nelson, Nicola A. Obeney, Nicola A. Obeney, Adrian P Ries, Adrian P Ries, Emily K. Rosenbaum, Melissa J. Sadler (academic recognition), Ben Staum; Gayville - Zach Blasy, Melissa L Dittberner, Emma O Erickson (academic recognition), Heather Wardle; Hurley - Chris Boyd (academic recognition), Abby Harmon, Jordan L. Hintz (academic recognition), Alex R. Rasmussen, Sharon Wegner (academic recognition); Irene - Brittney Bakke; Jefferson - Luke C Frankl, Steven N. Harding, Lori A. Hixson, Brittany J McKinven, Amber Nearman, Collin P. Viereck; McCook

Lake - Heather M Morales, Blake A Gunderson, Cassie M Long, Darci Youngstrom; Mission Hill - Eric D Aune, Amy M. Braunesreither, Mitch Yaggie; North Sioux City - Andrew J. Finzen, Nicole J. Funck, Alyssa Limke, Ben Verdoorn, Ashley M. White; Vermillion - Marta S. Adamczyk, Rosie R Ahmed, Catherine M Alm (academic recognition), Megan M Amundson, Carrie N. Anderson, Ryan Angelo, Stephanie K. Arkfeld, Jennifer E. Ashley (academic recognition), Ryan C. Austin, Darshan Barbosa (academic recognition), Nick E Beare, Laura L. Bertschinger, Elayne Bilbrey (academic recognition), Peggy S Black, Andre Bolm, Mallory Boor, Katie L Bour (academic recognition), Susann Bretschneider, Alicia A. Brown, Corey Buckland, Clare Bucklin, Jon P. Callahan (academic recognition), Sarah M Cowles, Donica J. Crichton, Douglas J. Dailey, Genevieve K. Dailey, Daniel R. Davies, Frank P DePaula (academic recognition), Kristine S Djerf (academic recognition), Steffani E Donahoe, Holly Doorn (academic recognition), Quinn P. Duffy, Denell M. Dykstra, Timothy K. Evenson (academic recognition), Joe Finn, Mark J. Fogelman, Christopher M Ford, Tuesday N. Frankus, Bryce M. Gades, Emma L. Getzin, Teri J. Gibson (academic recognition), Katarina S Gombocz, Andrew H Graupmann, Katie Graves, Merritt M. Groh (academic recognition), Kie L Haar, Kendra M. Hansen (academic recognition), Sandy R Hart, Taiana Hayes, Taiana Hayes, Amelia Heier, Nadine Herfurth, Sean M. Higgins, Branden R Hoefert, Rudy Hoffman (academic recognition), Rudy Hoffman (academic recognition), Angela V. Holland, Zack Holtquist, Christina A Huckfeldt, Chase Hurltig (academic recognition), Tasia M. Job, Dustin J Kempton, Christopher L. Kenny, Greg Kerkman, Stacie H. Kjelden, Hannah R Korcуска, Kristin A Krietenbrink, Thomas Kurz, Laura A Kuschel, Joshua B. Laden, Brandy L. Lane, Michael D Langley, Tim Larsen (academic recognition), Jenna J Lee, Lacey A. Leitcham, Ji Li, Zhong Yuan Li, Jason D Logan, Travis J Loof, Jessica C. Lussman (academic recognition), Betty G Marshall (academic recognition), Karissa S Martin, Seth R. Martin (academic recognition), Sarah M McCann, Meghan K. McCauley (academic recognition), Erika A. Menning (academic recognition), Natalie Michals, Leah A. Miller, Lindsey A Miller, Leticia Miranda Blanco, Vivian A. Moos, Michelle Moreno, Aaron J Mueller, Annie Mulloy, Philip L Munkvold, Amy L Myron, Mike K Neilson, Nikole M. Nuttall, Molly M O'Connor, Terry J Ohs, Kari A. Owens, Abraham J. Painter, Tynna L. Phillips, Nicole Pribil, Catherine V. Quinones, Erin M. Rasmussen, Todd Rasmussen (academic recognition), Jane M Reasoner, Andrew W. Reed, Stephanie J. Reed, Blaine H Reynolds, Christina Roberts, Anne Roche, Andrea K. Rubendall, Matthew T Sand, Tobi Schantz, Margaret J. Schuneman, Kristen F Schwasinger, Mathew P Sewell, Jacque Smidt, Christen R Smith, Paul W. Squyer, Heather R. Stanton, Aaron R Steele, Tyler A. Stewart, Kenneth J. Stoops (academic recognition), Maxwell F. Swanson (academic recognition), Tyler R. Swanson, Amber D Sween, Erin L. Kunze, Kathryn M. Tracy, Seth W. Tripp, Jamie a Turgeon, Kendra S. Van Nyhuijs, Kendra S. Van Nyhuijs, Jerrod L. Van Sloten (academic recognition), Derek A. Vine (academic recognition), Jennifer VonEhwegen, Alexa R. Walker, Mary S Waller (academic recognition), Jessa R Waters, Caley D. Waysman (academic recognition), Erica P. Wergin, Kara M. Weyvik, Steve P Wiblemo, Tanner Willard, Heather R Zimmerman, Winnie Y. Zou; Viborg - Jennifer J. Anderson, Lucy L. Vannorsdel; Wakonda - Mitch Hesson.

# VanHove is SESDAC, Inc. Employee of the Month

Andrea VanHove, direct support professional, was selected as the SESDAC, Inc. June, 2011 Employee of the Month. Andrea has been employed at SESDAC, Inc. since October, 2009.

Andi was nominated for the award by her fellow co-workers, based on her dedication to her job and the people she supports.

Co-workers had the following compliments written in their nominations for Andi. "Andi is always cheerful. She has done a great job with Special Olympics. It is important to her to be there for people. She is awesome."

Andi currently resides in Vermillion.

SESDAC, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that assists people with disabilities to live, work, and socialize in their community. SESDAC, Inc. began providing services in 1973 and currently serves 75 people with disabilities and has 140 employees.



Pictured above is Andrea VanHove, direct support professional, center, her supervisor, Christine DeBlauw, at right, and Gerry Tracy, executive director.

# USD researches awarded \$250K in state Competitive Research Grants

The University of South Dakota announced recently that three of the five grants from the state's Competitive Research Grant Program have been awarded to USD faculty.

The grant program, managed by the South Dakota Board of Regents, invests in researchers to enhance the research capabilities and capacities of the state universities and benefits the state's economic development. USD grant monies total \$264,350. The recipients include:

- Hongmin Wang – Role of Ubiquitin in Ischemic Stroke - \$93,450 - Stroke is a leading

cause of high mortality and long-term disability in the United States and is associated with excessive production of aberrant proteins. However, the effect of these aberrant proteins on nerve cell repair following strokes remains unclear. Dr. Wang's research project proposes the study of the removal of aberrant proteins on the survival of nerve cells following stroke.

- Gopinath Mani – Polymer-Free Dual Drug-Eluting Coronary Stents - \$87,450 - Atherosclerosis is a condition in which the arteries that supply blood to the heart are blocked

due to build-up of cholesterol plaque. Drug-eluting stents are implanted to treat this condition. However, late stent thrombosis is a serious complication that is associated with the currently available drug-eluting stents. Dr. Mani's research project aims to treat late stent thrombosis using a novel drug-eluting stent.

- Vincente Guiseppe – Development of a Radon Progeny Surface Contamination Study for Deep Underground Experiments - \$83,450 - Neutrinos are one of the most abundant particles in the universe and yet scientists have

only recently begun to fully understand them. Studying dark matter and neutrinos will enable discovery of new types of energy and a better understanding of radiation such as radon. Dr. Guiseppe's research focuses on developing methods to investigate and predict contamination from natural radiation as interference to ultra-sensitive neutrino and dark matter experiments. This will be beneficial in helping to minimize the harmful effect of radon in homes and other occupied spaces.



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