The Students' Union Award for Excellence is the most prestigious of more than sixty Students' Union awards, and is presented to a student in their graduating year exhibiting an overall level of excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities.

This year's recipient of the Students' Union Award for Excellence is Cian Hackett, a Biological Sciences Major with a Business Minor.

"I take a look at the people around me that I interact with the most. They have so many qualities that I'm inspired by and aspire toward," Cian said. He said he was motivated to do all of the things he did simply because he liked it.

"I like to keep busy when I don't have things to do. Then I find things to improve the projects I'm working on. There's always too much to do and not enough time, I like that." Cian's drive to work harder also applies academically, but he said his biggest challenge is balance. "If I had all the time in the world, I could devote all to academics. I don't do really well, it's balancing your personal goals in academics that actually conflicts with everything else you want to do."

Academically, Cian said he liked science and did not see himself doing anything else. The process of discovery drew him in, and he liked knowing that things were based on facts, that there would be a correct answer. "Science describes the natural environment, whereas business describes how people work within it."

In addition to his academic pursuits, Cian joined a series of student groups to get involved in his community, and he found himself surrounded by like-minded people who were passionate about their work. "A lot of the things I take on are flexible. I can manage my time because I take on different projects I can control," Cian revealed as his secret to his success. He noted that he has control over most of his responsibilities to push and complete on flexible timelines depending on the more inflexible deadlines. "Also, dual monitors. And a smart phone!"

Cian also mentioned that he is still learning. "My biggest challenge is being open to personal criticism, especially the older I get. You've been there and are set in your ways, you don't see other ways to do things. And you're used to success. The challenges is to take the personal criticisms, take failures and learn from it."

"Find things about which you're passionate. Figure out why you do the things you do. And be really open to learning and your personal development. I think that's what really defines excellence," Cian said. He believes that everyone can achieve excellence by working on personal growth.

Immediately after graduation, Cian plans on taking off and relaxing. He is looking forward to a break after four busy years, and will lump right back into it if he receives offers from medical schools.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

ALBERT TREASURY BRANCHES VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD
  • Idil Bazler
  • Mariia Niran
BILL SMITH STUDENT MENTORSHIP AWARD
  • Leonie Flicker
  • Alana Volter

CIBC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

Pickapee in Motion

CRYSTAL MAR MEMORIAL AWARD
  • Yocana LaRocque
  • Michelle Croy

DEAN MORTENSON AWARD

Tim O'Neal

Dr. RANDY GREGG ATHLETICS AWARD
  • John Blais
  • Ezequiel Hubert

EDO JAPAN GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
  • Stephen Zhang
  • Stephanie Cen
  • Andrew Uzow
  • Jennifer Kim
  • Lina Richard

EUCENE L. BRIDG AWARD
  • Madison McDougall
  • Tara Whitehead
  • Benjamin Prieur

GATEWAY STUDENT JOURNALISM SOCIETY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF EXCELLENCE
  • Kyle Flay
  • Alana Wilkens

HILDA WILSON MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD
  • Evan Sturrock
  • Karim Ten
  • Alina Blacker

HOOPER-MONROE ACADEMIC AWARD
  • Holley Hamer
  • Lecsi Tovar
  • Chris Hargrave

JAY JIFE MERCHANTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
  • Ashok Kumar
  • Ritu Lodha
  • Alana Mikolajczyk

JOHN CALDERA MEMORIAL AWARD
  • Mary Capo
  • Hadleigh Round
  • Darin Hoag
  • Mandy Greg

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT AWARD
  • Stephen Cun
  • Karissa Horne

ROYAL BANK FINANCIAL GROUP INNOVATION AWARD
  • Alex Staples

ROYAL BANK STUDENT FACULTY INNOVATION AWARD
  • Joanna Nguyen

SPECIAL JUSTICE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
  • Linna Du
  • Jennifer Long
  • Schara Tung

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR GLOBAL CONNECTION
  • Fred Arzik Mokhtar
  • Naia Saeidi
  • Natasha Koltu

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTIONS
  • Saul Mestel
  • Nancy Tron

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING INNOVATION
  • Yael Shragga
  • Malo Knowl

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR PERSISTENCE
  • Nathan Moore
  • Michael Swift

STUDENTS' UNION CONTRIBUTION TO FINE ARTS AWARD
  • Nicholas Carew
  • Amanda McGowan

SHIRTA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
  • Caleb Lefevre

TACO TIME OUTSTANDING INITIATIVE AWARD
  • Matthew Shonk
  • Caleb Baker
  • Robb Tuma

TESS MILLER INVOLVEMENT AWARD
  • Jessica McNeil
  • Joel Lee

TOM LANCaster MEMORIAL AWARD
  • Chen Holstein
  • Matthi Pils

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING
  • Alana Shad
  • Marco Asht

ACADEMIC SERVICES EXCELLENCE AWARD

UNDERSATURATE Linguistics Club

STUDENT GROUP WINTER AWARD
  • Health & Wellness Movement

BEST EVENT OF THE YEAR
  • Palomar Student/Associates Cultural Diversity Night

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
  • House of the City Peace Program Education

STUDENT GROUP OF THE YEAR
  • Engagio Without Borders

EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR
  • Jill Logan

COCA-COLA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECEPIENTS
  • Matthew Li
  • Sharad Gopinath
  • Roshan Kajum
  • Cemil Ruff
  • Edward Singler
  • Aedan Poon
  • Chris Kim
  • Zachary Feenstra
  • Emily Beco Cheal
  • Elizabeth Clark

THE MADISI E. SIMPSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
  • Daniel Sheltan

THE HONOURABLE DR. LEO J. HOLE STUDENT SPIRIT AWARD
  • Newton Pena

THE ALUMNI ADVANCEMENT AWARDS
  • Samuel G., University of Alberta,
  • Nicole Perdreault

THE TD INSURANCE McLACHEN FAMILY LEADERSHIP AWARD

FERO HALLING

STUDENTS' UNION CENTENARY AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
  • Stephen Parcell

STUDENT UNION CENTENARY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS
  • Ryan Farquhar

STUDENTS' UNION CENTENARY AWARD FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP
  • Jerry Oost

STUDENTS' UNION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
  • Cian Hackett

THE REGINALD CHARLES LISTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
  • Rabah Mollai
  • Katharine
  • Caelan Lee