



*R. Pepper Murray Scholars Award*

**Michael Woolley**  
Biology Major, Senior

A few things about me:

I am the youngest of three sons. I come from a family that highly values intellectual pursuits and, as such, I developed an intense curiosity and passion for mathematics and science. As a young child I would constantly demand explanations and clarifications of things I found interesting in the world around me. I've acquired a mastery of verbal fluency at a very young age, and successfully used it to my advantage – I loved to talk. I always enjoyed school very much and set high academic goals for myself. In addition to a rigorous academic schedule, I developed a passion for the performing arts in high school and participated extensively in various choirs and theatrical performances. I have also enjoyed the privilege of working with disadvantaged children, helping them to gain literacy and numeracy skills.

My time at Utah State has been wonderful. From the very beginning of my freshman year I was involved in undergraduate research. I have had the opportunity to work in various labs investigating the diverse functions of the brain. I have also worked extensively with Dr. Andy Anderson as a teaching assistant.

I am in the process now of applying to medical school. In my preparation for this, I have had the opportunity to volunteer with a local hospice company. My time working with families at that important time helped him to realize what is really important in life. I have also worked as a nursing assistant and, as such, have been able to observe various aspects of medicine.

I enjoy cooking, live theater, traveling, and learning anything and everything I can. I also still love to talk and is always up for a good-spirited debate.