



Office of Student Affairs

April 20, 2020

Dear David:

Congratulations on being selected as a recipient for the Dean Robert Woods Student Life Award for 2020! We are pleased to recognize your hard work, diligence and commitment to campus life at Utica College.

David, your accomplishments at Utica College tell us much about the type of person you are. You have been described as a caring leader, compassionate, energetic, a hard worker and a well-rounded individual. It takes an exceptional individual to fulfill so many different roles to such a high standard and maintain a grade point average that has kept you on the Dean's Honors List every semester. Your membership in Phi Alpha Theta and Alpha Lambda Delta honors speak to your academic achievement and work ethic, and you share what you have learned by serving as a mentor to students both inside and outside of the History Major.

In addition to your academic achievement, you have participated in a large array of initiatives and organizations on and off campus. Through your involvements with WPNR, you have been actively engaged with a diverse student staff and been key in redeveloping the Production Department. As the Sports Director, you have broadcast a record number of games and redeveloped the Pioneer Weekly, where you use your skills to acknowledge the success and contribution of UC athletics on our campus and in the community. You have made a significant impact through your involvement in an exceptional amount of Utica College organizations such as UCTV, UC Student Veterans of America, and Herodotus. The local community also benefits from the time and energy you devote to Give Day, announcing the Lady Clinton Warriors, and your work around preserving the heritage of Central New York, including writing for the Rome Sentinel and Utica Observe-Dispatch newspapers.

Your guiding principle to serve in whatever way you can is reflected in your contributions to your country through your service in the U.S. Army Reserve. Your passion for making the college as welcoming and inclusive as possible, and your belief in the value of diversity, led to your involvement with the President's Student Task Force on Race and Equity and is evident in the video you provided for a virtual Admissions resource fair. Clearly you plan to be continue to be involved after you graduate, given your participation in the Alumni Leaders of Tomorrow program, and we count ourselves fortunate that you will continue to have an impact on future generations of UC Pioneers.

For all that you've done to encourage others to fulfill their potential and step up to support others, and for contributing in so many ways across campus, we thank you. Congratulations on your award!

Sincerely,

Timothy Ecklund, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President of
Student Affairs and Dean of
Students and Campus Life

Alane Varga, M.A.
Dean of Diversity and
Inclusion

Scott Nonemaker, M.S.
Executive Director for Student
Living & College Engagement