



Office of Student Affairs

April 29, 2020

Sierra Hall

Dear Sierra,

It is with great pleasure we award to you the Commuter Student Award. It's not easy being a commuter student and maintaining a very active role on campus. You exhibit outstanding leadership and professional responsibility, and truly make the world a better place by being a conscientious, effective leader.

As a junior soon to enter the Occupational Therapy Master's program at Utica College, you have been an outstanding student with superior academic ability with a 3.84 GPA. You have been an active member of the Health Studies Student Society since 2017 and president of the Society since fall 2018 to present. In those roles, you have facilitated the Health Studies Student Society Conference for the last two years in efforts to showcase our student's research interests. The event serves both the Utica College community as well as our Utica community at large. The event has been a significant success and was positively perceived by all that attended.

Sierra, along with your academic accomplishments, you have also taken on other leadership roles within the Health Studies Student Society requiring that you work effectively with members of the broader community. In particular, you served as Student Leader for the Presbyterian Nursing Home experience where you organized and facilitated a gym rehab group at a local nursing home. You also led a group of Utica College students to work with the elderly in sensory and motor activities. In addition, you served as Student Leader for the Upstate Cerebral Palsy Early Intervention Play Group where you organized and interacted directly with preschool children with special needs, observed play, snack, and sensory gym activities.

Clearly you are an individual who is driven to meet your academic and professional goals, and have excelled in all of your academic, co-curricular and leadership endeavors. For all that you've done to encourage others to 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