Briton Bennett Named 2012 “Co-op/Intern Student of the Year”
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Each year, Career Services presents the Co-op/Intern Student of the Year Award to a deserving student. This award was established in 1984 through a local CPA firm looking to recognize excellent student performance in an internship or a co-op. The purpose of an internship/co-op is to gain experience in one’s major before graduating and hopefully find a career path to pursue. This year, eight students were nominated by their internship employers, and six made it to the final round. Each student was judged on the following four items:

- Exemplary work performance
- Contributions to the employer
- Student's professional development
- Student's personal growth

The 2012 winner is senior professional writing major Briton Bennett, who interned in the fall semester 2011 with the WCU Office for Public Relations. Writer and editor Jill Ingram supervised Bennett and had good things to say about the experience. “Briton is an example of student employment gone right,” said Ingram. “His work habits were efficient, organized, diligent, and industrious. Briton effectively and professionally communicated with other public relations staff members … and was professional in his communications with others from the campus community. Our office members not only benefited from Briton’s productivity, energy, and fresh insights, but we also truly enjoyed getting to know Briton and watching him develop as a student and young man.”

Briton also was very positive about his experience. Not knowing what he wanted to do with his major, he recognized this as an opportunity to “hone my skills and prepare for a career.” Through dedication, hard work, determination, and several contributions to various publications, Briton had found a source of passion through journalism. The Co-op/Intern Student of the Year Award winner receives an engraved WCU wall plaque and $500. Congratulations to the 2012 winner, Briton Bennett!