

LEONARD ANNOUNCED AS NEXT RHODES SCHOLAR

Catherine Leonard (who goes by the name Danielle) has been selected as the next Rhodes Scholar, from Newfoundland and Labrador, to study at the University of Oxford in England. Ms. Leonard, a 20-year-old from Portugal Cove-St. Philips, is completing a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Applied Mathematics from Memorial University.

While at Oxford, Ms. Leonard will complete a DPhil degree (Oxford's equivalent of a PhD) in Mathematics.

Ms. Leonard is excited about the awe-inspiring beauty of the natural world, and is dedicated to understanding and explaining the intricacies of nature through the equally beautiful constructs of mathematical physics. Her passion in this area has thus far led her to conduct research at two different Canadian universities, and to one published paper in this field as well as many academic presentations. Ms. Leonard has won several awards related to her field, including the 2011 Canadian Association of Physics Best Student Presentation award in the Division of Theoretical Physics and the 2010 Dean's Book Award for Physics.

As well as her scholarly interests, Ms. Leonard has helped to move her university toward becoming a Fair Trade campus. She has also participated in several campaigns of the campus Oxfam group. Ms. Leonard enjoys Ballroom and Latin dance with the university club, running mid-to long-distance races, writing poetry, and playing the clarinet.

Ms. Leonard exhibits the qualities of a Rhodes Scholar, including academic excellence, an ability to rise to challenges successfully, and a high level of energy and enthusiasm in pursuing extra-curricular activities.

The Rhodes Scholarship is an international postgraduate award for study at the UK's University of Oxford and widely considered the world's most prestigious scholarship. The qualities that the founder of the Scholarship, Cecil Rhodes, expressly said that a scholar must exhibit are: proven intellectual and academic attainment of a high standard, integrity of character, sympathy for and protection of the weak, the ability to lead and the energy to use their talent to the full.

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