



# WCHA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

The WCHA's Postgraduate Scholarship program dates to April of 2003, when the original announcement was made by P.J. Hill, then the Chair of the Association and Faculty Representative from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and WCHA commissioners Bruce McLeod (men's) and Sara Martin (women's).

"This represents another positive step forward for the Western Collegiate Hockey Association in the area and recognition of academic achievement," said Hill, McLeod and Martin in a joint statement. "We are extremely proud of the excellent reputation our member institutions have in both athletics and academics, and this new postgraduate scholarship program will only enhance that."

Postgraduate Scholarship Eligibility Guidelines are: 1) The nominee must graduate by the end of the current academic year (or by the end of the summer) and must have earned at least a 3.0 grade-point average. 2) The nominee must have competed in the WCHA for at least three years. 3) Following notification, the award winners have until July 1 to accept, in writing, the scholarship. 4) The winners must enroll in graduate school within five years of graduation. 5) Designated full-time enrollment (postgraduate degree hours) shall be required and verification from the program director must be presented to the WCHA Conference office before the award shall be presented. 6) All scholarship money will be sent directly to the Postgraduate institution. 7) All member FARs will vote on determining the scholarship winners.

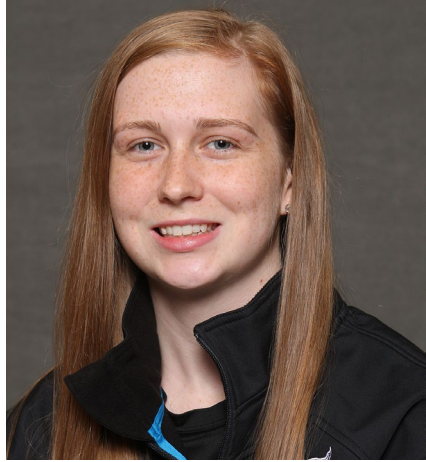
## MSU'S ROGAN AND MTU'S KERO NAMED WCHA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2015

A pair of Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) student-athletes who have excelled both on and off the ice – Tanner Kero of Michigan Technological University and Kathleen Rogan of Minnesota State University – are the men's and women's WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship recipients for 2015.

Now in its 12th year, the WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship Program awards grants of \$7,500 each for postgraduate studies.

"On behalf of the entire Western Collegiate Hockey Association family, we are thrilled to recognize Tanner Kero and Kathleen Rogan as this season's Postgraduate Scholarship recipients," said men's Commissioner Bill Robertson and women's Commissioner Aaron Kemp in a joint statement. "Tanner and Kathleen are both exemplary student-athletes who embody the true mission of the WCHA and its member institutions.

"During their time on campus, Tanner and Kathleen competed at the highest level of college hockey, maintained a standard of academic excellence and made invaluable contributions within their communities. We are inspired by their commitment, effort and dedication; we thank them for being tremendous ambassadors for the WCHA; and we wish them all the best in their future academic and personal endeavors."



**KATHLEEN ROGAN • MINNESOTA STATE**

### 2015 WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship Recipient (Women)

**Kathleen Rogan, Minnesota State University (Vancouver, British Columbia)**

Rogan has been a model of perseverance, leadership and all-around excellence during her time at Minnesota State. On the ice, she finished her Mavericks career ranked third in program history with 39 collegiate goals and fourth with 82 points (in 135 games). The prolific scorer also owns the school record with three career hat tricks and owns a share of the team standard with a four-goal game. Stellar numbers indeed; however, they are even more impressive when considering the amount of games Rogan missed due to injury throughout her career.

Yet, it was the specific injury – a concussion suffered during her sophomore year and the subsequent setbacks throughout her time on campus – that helped shape Rogan's academic track and future plans. After graduating this May with a cumulative 3.65 GPA and a degree in community health education, Rogan plans to attend an accelerated graduate nursing program to earn a Master of Nursing degree. With a nursing license, she then hopes to pursue her passion for medicine and helping others, while ultimately obtaining her nurse practitioner's license.

"I feel extremely fortunate to have been chosen for this scholarship," said Rogan. "This honor will allow me to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse. After going through my concussion issues, I felt that nursing would be something that I could do in helping others, the way nurses and other medical professionals helped me overcome my injuries. Nursing will give me the capability to be involved in a patient's treatment and recovery process.

"This is undoubtedly a big honor, with a lot of deserving people. I think the WCHA has a lot of tremendous student-athletes. This means a great deal in that I can continue my future without having to worry about the financial side."

A four-time WCHA All-Academic Team honoree, Rogan is just the ninth player in league history to earn four Scholar-Athlete Awards. Her numerous volunteer activities include work with local youth hockey programs and community health-related initiatives.

Nominating Rogan for the WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship was Jeff Pribly, Faculty Athletic Representative at Minnesota State.

**2015 WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship Recipient (Men)**

**Tanner Kero, Michigan Technological University (Hancock, Mich.)**  
Kero helped return Michigan Tech to national prominence with his stellar play on the ice, while maintaining a cumulative 3.72 GPA in mathematics with a concentration in actuarial sciences. In recognition of a stellar senior campaign in which he led the WCHA in conference scoring (13-21 – 34 in 28 games) and tied for 12th nationally with 46 points in 41 games (20 goals and 26 assists), Kero was a Hobey Baker Award top-10 finalist, was named the 2014-15 WCHA Player of the Year, the WCHA Outstanding Student-Athlete of the Year and to the All-WCHA First Team, and also earned Senior CLASS First Team All-America status.

After signing a contract with the NHL's Chicago Blackhawks in April and recording eight points in 12 games (including playoffs) with the AHL's Rockford IceHogs, Kero will pursue his dreams of playing professional hockey – while anticipating the opportunity to someday move toward his goal of obtaining a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

"I am very happy and honored to receive this scholarship," said Kero. "I am fortunate to have the chance to continue playing hockey; however, this is never a certainty. Coming out of Michigan Tech, I have learned how important education is. The opportunity to pursue a MBA will allow me to further apply what I learned during my undergraduate studies, enhance my knowledge in various business-related areas and expand my future employment and personal options. The college hockey experience has been second-to-none; what I learned in the classroom and overall as a person will help me so much in the future."

The Huskies' assistant captain as a junior and co-captain as a senior, Kero tallied 111 points in 153 games in a Michigan Tech uniform (55 goals and 56 assists). He was also a three-time WCHA All-Academic Team honoree and was thrice recognized with the WCHA Scholar-Athlete Award. Kero's volunteer work includes efforts with the Coaches Kids reading program for elementary schools, local youth hockey programs, and numerous community service projects and service days.

Nominating Kero for the WCHA Postgraduate Scholarship was Bill Sproule, Faculty Athletic Representative at Michigan Tech.

**WCHA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS****2004**

Men: Mike Colgan, CC. Women: Michelle McAteer, UMD.

**2005**

Men: Reid Goolsby, CC. Women: Emma Laaksonen, OSU.

**2006**

Men: Jake Brandt, UND. Women: Kelsey Bills, UM.

**2007**

Men: Ted O'Leary, DU. Women: Meghan Mutrie, UND.

**2008**

Men: Nate Raduns, SCSU. Women: Denelle Maguet, SCSU.

**2009**

Men: Andrew Thomas, DU. Women: Laura Fast, SCSU.

**2010**

Men: Jake Gannon, CC. Women: Myriam Trepanier, UMD.

**2011**

Men: Eli Vlaisavljevich, MTU. Women: Caitlin Hogan, SCSU.

**2012**

Men: Kyle Schmidt, UMD. Women (co): Kelli Blankenship, UM & Courtney Josefson, SCSU.

**2013**

Men: Brad Eidsness, UND. Women (co): Brittany Toor, SCSU & Montana Vichorek, BSU.

**2014**

Men: Brad Stebner, MTU. Women: Becky Allis, OSU.

**2015**

Men: Tanner Kero, MTU. Women: Kathleen Rogan, MSU.