The College of Letters and Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara has selected five outstanding senior students for special recognition upon graduation.

The Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr. Outstanding Senior Award goes to chemistry major Lynn Meri Nisbet of Santa Barbara. The award commemorates Daniel G. Aldrich, Chancellor of the University of California, Irvine and acting chancellor at UCSB in 1986 and 1987 and is given for outstanding scholarship and community involvement.

During her college career, Nisbet maintained a 3.81 (GPA) grade-point average, was team most valuable player and an All American in water polo, and did several kinds of volunteer work at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital.

She also spent 10 to 12 hours a week carrying out an independent research project in chemistry, and has helped coach her alma mater Santa Barbara High School Dons girls' water polo summer program.

Ryan Douglas Ashker of San Diego was named winner of the Frances Colville and Terry Dearborn Memorial Award.
The honor is given annually-- to a student majoring in the sciences and commemorates former UCSB physical education professors Colville and Dearborn.

Ashker carried a 3.94 GPA during his college career, 3.97 in his major, geography.

The college annually gives two William R. Reardon awards, commemorating the former UCSB dramatic arts professor and College of Letters and Science dean.

The honorees this year are religious studies major Jennifer Alicia Gertwagen of Thousand Oaks and dramatic art and philosophy double major Joshua Aaron Kashinsky of Sunnyvale.

Gertwagen was lauded for her 4.0 GPA, which included more than 20 grades of A+.

Kashinsky was highly praised for his work as a budding playwright and director.

Winner of the inaugural Social Sciences Undergraduate Award is mathematics and economics major Eugene Kwok of Burlingame.

Kwok achieved a 3.93 GPA while completing requirements for degrees in two majors and recently scored perfect 800s on the quantitative and logic portions of the Graduate Record Examination.

He will begin graduate work in economics at Stanford University next year.

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.