



DEGREES OF ACHIEVEMENT

More than 400 students have graduated from colleges in the South West at a special University of Plymouth ceremony held in Plymouth Guildhall. The graduates have all passed a range of higher education courses including honours degrees, foundation degrees, higher national diplomas and higher national certificates.

They studied at Plymouth College of Further Education, Plymouth College of Art and Design, Weymouth College, Estover Community College in Plymouth and Exeter College through the University of Plymouth Colleges network.

The university works with the colleges to allow them to offer higher education degrees.

Four students won special University of Plymouth Colleges (UPC) prizes for outstanding achievement.

They were Amanda Clements from Weymouth College, Jay Auburn from Estover Community College, Heidi Sharland from PCFE and Sara Sheridan from Exeter College.

Jay, 23, from Bere Ferrers, received his award for being an excellent student on the foundation degree course in arts, sound and music technology. He shadowed staff at the Deep Blue Sound commercial recording studio in Plymouth and took part in a songwriting session with Joss Stone and Madonna's producer Rick Knowles.

Heidi Sharland, 20, from Lipson in Plymouth, was given her award for overcoming serious illness while studying for her foundation degree in sports therapy.

She said: "I feel very honoured to have been nominated by staff and students.



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“It has made me even more determined to do even better in the future.”

Amanda Clements, 20, who comes from Maiden Newton in Dorset, received her award for being an inspiration to all the students and staff involved with the foundation degree in performance practice.

Sara Sheridan, 26, of Abingdon in Oxfordshire, was awarded the Revell Research Systems Prize for being the top final year student in the Internet Technology in Business foundation degree programme at Exeter College.

The Herald
Plymouth
7th December 2006

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Plymouth, PL6 5AA
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