

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jody Cofer September 16, 2009

Stevenson Receives Undergraduate Research Grant

Meredith Stevenson was recently awarded a \$315 grant from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA) for her proposal entitled "Using Percentage Change as the Universe of Discourse in Fuzzy Time Series Forecasting."

Stevenson, a senior applied mathematics major from Madisonville, Ky., will be researching a relatively new area of statistics called "fuzzy statistics." Fuzzy statistics combines traditional statistical methods with fuzzy logic, which is a method used to work with subjective or imprecise data. Stevenson will work with car accident data in order to improve fuzzy statistics methodology. Dr. Ted Porter, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, will serve as Stevenson's faculty mentor on the project.

Stevenson plans to present at the Fall and Spring Kentucky Honors Roundtable conferences, the Kentucky Academy of Science, *Posters-at-the-Capitol*, and *Scholars Week*, which will take place on Murray State's campus April 19-23, 2010. In addition, she will seek to publish her results in the *Kentucky Journal of Science*.

More information about the URSA program can be found online at <u>http://campus.murraystate.edu/services/ursa/</u> or by calling (270) 809-3192.