

## **2010-2011 Statistics & Actuarial Science Endowment Award**

These awards are presented to students in the major/honor program with high academic standing.

### **Jeffrey Ting**

Growing up in Canada, I have always had a passion for sports. Though unsure of when I became aware of how statistics are tracked in sports, I have for a long time appreciated their purpose. Unlike other professions where performance cannot be tracked to such detail, statistics are kept with the purpose of being able to differentiate one player/team to the next. It simply sounds odd for someone to say, for example, that one university professor is without a doubt a better teacher than another. This simply is not the case in sports where judgments are made regularly to “rank” players/teams.

In high school, I began tracking basketball statistics, trying to get them to reveal a story that eyes simply cannot tell. This continues to this day as I pursue my second degree at SFU in Statistics where hopefully I will continue with my Masters, also in Statistics.

Outside of school, I have always tried to stay involved in sports. Right after high school, I spent a couple of summers interning for a sports agent in Edmonton while, during the year at the University of Toronto, I spent time working for the local Ontario Hockey League team. After graduating, I moved back to Vancouver where I spent a year coaching basketball before deciding to go back to school, this time with a focus on statistics. I am currently working part time with the Athletics Department at SFU tracking statistics for the varsity basketball and football teams while spending the rest of my time learning of new ways to analyze and interpret statistics.