Amber J. Landers, doctoral candidate in the Clinical Psychology Program, Department of Psychological Sciences, received the 2011-2012 H. H. Remmers Award from Purdue’s African American Studies and Research Center, on April 4, 2012. The Award recognizes excellence in academic performance, professional and scholarly accomplishments, and leadership among African American graduate students in the social sciences at Purdue.

The Award was established in 1969 to honor H.H. Remmers, head of the Division of Educational Reference and a member of the Department of Psychology (as they were known at the time). One recipient at the doctoral level and one at the Master’s level are selected each year from nominations solicited from department heads; each recipient receives an engraved plaque and a cash prize.

Amber’s Master’s work concerned the psychological impact of “race”-related police contact on African American young adults, while her dissertation analyzes the impact of parent-teacher communication on the mental health and adjustment of African American and Latino elementary school children. In addition to journal publications and national presentations based on her research, Amber’s training has included extensive clinical consultation and direct interventions with children, adults, teachers, and families in clinic, hospital, and school settings. Importantly, Amber has “given back” to future generations of prospective graduate students of color at Purdue through years of work as Graduate Coordinator for Purdue’s Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), as well as through work with the Black Graduate Association. She will complete her Ph.D. studies with a predoctoral clinical internship at Harvard University during 2012-13.