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Newsletter of ARCS® Foundation

Atlanta Chapter

Fall 2020

ARCS Foundation advances science and technology in the United States by providing financial awards to academically outstanding U.S. citizens studying to complete degrees in science, engineering and medical research. Founded by Mary O'Connor, our Atlanta Chapter was incorporated in 1992.



From the President's Desk: Leslie Petter

Dear ARCS Atlanta Members,

The beginning of the ARCS year is one of the busiest and most exciting times. Like all beginnings, it is full of the hopes and dreams of scholars, members, committee chairs and certainly the ARCS Atlanta President!

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A Tribute to Susan McGonigle, by Leslie Petter

Upon receiving the gavel from outgoing ARCS president Susan McGonigle, incoming president Leslie Petter presented Susan with a gift from the membership with the following tribute.

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ARCS Atlanta Welcomes its Newest Corporate Partner

When ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter celebrates its 2020-21 ARCS Scholars this November, six of its 44 ARCS Atlanta scholars will not only celebrate their ARCS Scholar Award but also the generosity of ARCS newest corporate partner that sponsored their funding – BlackRock, Inc.

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**November 19th Scholar Awards Celebration,
Virtually!**

Despite Covid-19, this year's celebration of our scholars will go on! Prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, the strategic planning session took place, led by Janie Wilson, Lee Doyle and Susan McGonigle, and facilitated by Debra Semans. One of the many initiatives that came out of this effort was the formation of a Scholar Awards Luncheon Task Force, which formed in June 2020 and met via Zoom to deliberate the new direction for this event. Sadly, there will not be an in-person luncheon, as we have had for the past 26 years. The event, re-named the "Scholar Awards Celebration," or SAC, will be a virtual fundraiser and "friend-raiser". Our SAC chair Farideh Azadi has secured a wonderful guest speaker and moderator. We will also hear from our event sponsor, BlackRock, and the president of Morehouse, Dr. David Thomas.

The live event will begin at 2:00pm EST on Thursday, November 19, 2020. Be on the look out for e-mails with complete registration and viewing instructions. A special thanks goes to Farideh Azadi and Kristen Gibbs, our event chair and chair elect respectively, for their vision, creativity and patience in orchestrating our first virtual Scholar Awards Celebration!

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Scholar Spotlight: Nathan Brown

Curiosity Engaged: ARCS Scholar's Plasma Research Propels Him into International Conference

Even from an early age, ARCS Scholar Nathan Brown had a strong desire to understand the world around him. Now as a PhD student studying aerospace engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology, Nathan is more curious about what lies beyond Earth, or rather, how we can get there more efficiently.

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Greg Fenves - Getting to Know Emory University's New President

On August 1st, Greg Fenves became Emory University's 21st president. Fenves is known for exceptional strength in problem solving, leveraging his skills in structural engineering and computer science, and his ability to calmly lead through challenging environments. He is described by colleagues as humble, and approachable, while methodically diving into data to analyze a path forward with a strong resolve. Perhaps explained partially by his upbringing, born to Steven Fenves a professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Norma Fenves, a clinical social worker.



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Four New Members Introduced at Space Race Soirée

As in past years, the focus of the ARCS Atlanta Fall Party was to introduce our new members to our existing membership and for our members to enjoy catching up and socializing over a favorite beverage. What was NOT like past years, is the fact that this year's fall party was a virtual event conducted over Zoom, which presented both challenges and opportunities.

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Tell our Story: I am ARCS Atlanta

We all know that ARCS Atlanta does important work and the results of our efforts speak for themselves. Over our 28-year history, ARCS Atlanta has donated approximately \$6 million for almost 1,000 individual awards to students at Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College and University of Georgia. These students have gone on to literally change the world.

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Having Trouble Finding the Board Meeting Minutes?

Just a reminder that the Board Meeting Minutes are available for review on the Atlanta Member's Website. To access just login to the website, then go to 'Operations' and then 'Meeting Minutes' (using the left-hand side menu).

DATES TO REMEMBER

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|--------|----------------------------|
| Oct 14 | Board Meeting |
| Nov 19 | Scholar Awards Celebration |
| Dec 2 | Board Meeting |
| Jan 13 | General Membership Meeting |

Address:

ARCS Foundation Inc.
Atlanta Chapter
P.O. Box 52124
Atlanta, GA 30355



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