



# ARChiveS

Newsletter of ARCS® Foundation

Atlanta Chapter

Winter 2021

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

2020 Hindsight and the Miracle of 2021

As with most hard times, when we look at them in the rearview mirror, we realize that they were full of lessons. In 2020, we learned things we never realized we needed to know, and now they seem indispensable. Technology and science saved the day.

[... Read more](#)



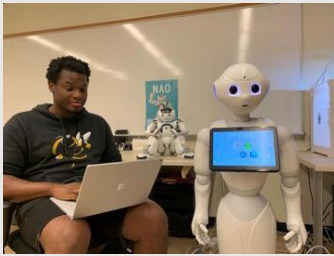
## The 29th ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter Scholar Awards Celebration - Entering a New Era!

The 29th ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter Scholar Awards Celebration on November 19th was a milestone. It was decided in February that the yearly face to face gathering should become a virtual one. With a leap of faith, the committee hit the ground and started running. It took nine months of weekly zoom meetings, but the results were well worth it. Immense thanks go to Farideh Azadi our Scholar Awards Celebration Chair, Kristen Gibbs - event Co-Chair, Becky Riley - Ambassadors Chair, Ellen Adair Wyche, Erin Dasher, Leslie Petter, and many, many more!

[...Read more](#)



Mariela Romero, Moderator



### **Kantwon Rogers, BlackRock Scholar and Speaker at January General Membership Meeting**

The January General Membership Meeting was held via Zoom on January 13, 2021 following the Board Meeting. We were thrilled to have one of our current scholars as our speaker. Kantwon Rogers, a BlackRock Scholar, working on his PhD in Computer Science at Georgia Tech, shared a very interesting and engaging presentation with approximately sixty of our members. After discussing his background and the fact that he views himself as a professional student, he noted that he has been at Georgia Tech for 10 years and his PhD will be his 4th degree from Tech.

[...Read more](#)



Frances Swensson

### **Frances Swensson Named 2021 Atlanta ARCS Light**

Congratulations to our 2021 Atlanta ARCS Light, Frances Swensson! Frances has been a member of ARCS since 2007 and, among many other responsibilities, has served as Chair and Chair-Elect of the Scholar Awards Luncheon, Internal Communications Chair, VP Administration, and VP Membership. In addition, she has served on, or is serving on, numerous committees on the local level including the Strategic Planning Committee.

[...Read more](#)

### **Scholar Spotlight: Elizabeth Sajewski's Research on Infectious Diseases**

Growing up exploring the outdoors, catching frogs, identifying plants and insects, ARCS Scholar Elizabeth Sajewski was fascinated by the world around her, and even more by how it all worked and fit together – solving puzzles in her own backyard. As a PhD candidate studying environmental health science at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health, she is still solving puzzles, now related to the environment, people, a different kind of bugs -- disease-causing pathogens -- and the key puzzle pieces needed to improve health for human populations across the globe.

[...Read more](#)



Elizabeth Sajewski



Deborah Kilpatrick

### **Deborah Kilpatrick - an Update from one of ARCS Atlanta's First Scholars**

Deborah Kilpatrick, PhD, a member of the inaugural class of Atlanta ARCS Scholars (1992-1993), continues to use her skills, interests, and talents to address the pressing needs of our times. Dr. Kilpatrick was last highlighted in the December 2014 Scholar Spotlight when she became CEO of Evidation Health. She is now the Co-Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chair of Evidation Health, a Silicon Valley digital health firm that, as stated on its webpage, "captures and analyzes passive, continuous behavior data to quantify health outcomes that more accurately reflect an individual's day-to-day experience."

[...Read more](#)

---

### **ARCS Atlanta Strategic Plan Update, by Susan McGonigle**

After months of work with a professional consultant and the input from our membership, donors, and academic partners, our chapter developed a comprehensive 3-year strategic plan, and last January, that plan was approved by our membership. Nearly a year into the plan, we have made substantial in-roads on all four strategic priorities. In the time of COVID-19, our chapter's activities had to change dramatically and that meant reimagining the Scholar Awards Luncheon, switching to remote meetings, and changing how we raise money; much of what was done, said, and printed was all informed by our strategic plan.



Susan McGonigle

[...Read more](#)



Patty Reid

### **Membership Reminders from Patty Reid**

As the new year begins, I write to not only wish you all a happy and healthy 2021 but to ask you to think of how we can continue to support ARCS. Two areas come immediately to mind.

First, Membership Renewal. You can easily renew your membership online and pay either online or by check. ([www.atlanta.arcsfoundation.org](http://www.atlanta.arcsfoundation.org)) The deadline for membership renewal is February 15th.

[...Read more](#)

---

### **Interested in Planned Giving?**

Leave a legacy for future scientists. Ask your lawyer to include a bequest to ARCS Atlanta in your estate plan. Questions? Email Caroline Hardin, VP-Funds Development at [ejhcph@gmail.com](mailto:ejhcph@gmail.com).

### **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**

February 15	Dues Renewals Deadline
March 10	ARCS Atlanta Board Meeting
May 5	Annual Membership Meeting
May 15	New Membership Applications Due
June 2	Old Board/New Board Meeting

<https://atlanta.arcsfoundation.org>

---

Address:

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



ARCS® and its logo are registered with the  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

Copyright © 2020 ARCS Foundation Atlanta,  
All rights reserved. A 501(c)3 non-profit  
organization, Tax ID 58-2004368  
You are receiving this email because you  
are a member, scholar, or friend of ARCS  
Atlanta Chapter.