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ARCS® Foundation Atlanta Chapter

Volume No. XIX Issue II

Winter 2018

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists

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.

Upcoming Events

March 7, 2018
Board Meeting

March 21-25, 2018
Retreat to New Orleans

Educational Event date TBD

April 25—28, 2018
National All Members Conference

May 9, 2018
Annual Meeting and Luncheon

June 6
Old Board/New Board Meeting

June 21-23
National Board Meeting in Minneapolis

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2017 Scholar Awards Luncheon

Mary Watson



Moderator Bill Liss with panelists Dr. Manu Platt and Dr. Bolyn Hubby

The 26th Annual Scholar Awards Luncheon, held at the Ritz Carlton downtown on November 16, 2017, was a huge success.

Fifty-three outstanding and deserving scholars were awarded a record \$385,000. The Scholars initially convened in the Plaza Ballroom for brief remarks and photos and then processed into the main ballroom to the theme song from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and thunderous applause. A representative from each university spoke briefly and the scholars followed by introducing themselves and describing their field of study and their research focus. Rabbi Loren Lapidus from the Temple gave a wonderful and appropriate invocation after which members, scholars, donors and guests enjoyed a delicious lunch.

The title for this year's program, "Discourse and Reflections with Two of our Own," featured a dialogue between Bill Liss and two of our chapters ARCS Scholar Alumni, Dr. Bolyn Hubby and Dr. Manu Platt. Dr. Hubby was an ARCS Scholar at the University of Georgia in 2000 and 2001. Currently, she is the Chief Scientific Officer at Agenovir. Dr. Platt was an ARCS Scholar at Morehouse in 2000. He is currently an associate professor in Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory.

Having put a great deal of preparation into researching both Dr. Hubby and Dr. Platt, Bill Liss did an incredible job getting both panelists to describe what being an ARCS scholar had meant to them both personally and professionally. The former scholars expressed their sincere appreciation to ARCS. Their comments were heart-felt and inspiring to everyone in the room: the scholars, donors and prospective donors alike. Funds Development has had many meaningful conversations with individuals regarding sponsoring future scholars.

As in past years, it takes a cast of thousands to put on a successful luncheon, and this year was no exception. Thank you to everyone who participated as a committee chair, an ambassador or a guest!

From the President's Desk



Sara Jean Burke

The highlight of our chapter's year is always the Scholar Awards Luncheon. The 2017 luncheon celebrated twenty-six years of our support to STEM education with our academic partners. Fifty-three Scholars from Georgia Tech, Emory University, University of Georgia, and Morehouse College received \$385,000 in awards. The scholars are selected by their respective schools for academic success in science, engineering, and medical research. Requirements for selection include enrollment in an approved area of study, being a United States citizen, and maintaining a 3.5 GPA. These students are the best and the brightest that our country has to offer and we are so proud to be a small part of their educational journey.

Northside Hospital was once again the presenting sponsor of our event. Their support is most generous and much appreciated for the continued efforts in achieving our mission of scholar support.

Elaine Davis and Linda Kay McGowan, Vice Presidents University Relations, and Sarah Batts, Scholars Chair, prepared and organized the university representatives, professors, and scholars for participation in The Medallion Ceremony and luncheon presentations. Suzy Wasserman and Kelli Keb, Vice Presidents Funds Development, and their team were very successful in their fund raising efforts and for this we thank them. Providing support for our scholars is not possible without all our donors.

A very special thank you to Mary Watson and her luncheon committee for a lovely and enlightening event planned and executed for our chapter, scholars, donors, and guests. "Discourse and Reflections with Two of Our Own" was facilitated by Bill Liss, Financial, Consumer and Legal Editor, WXIA-TV. Dr. Bolyn Hubby, Ph.D, UGA ARCS Scholar 2000-2002 and Dr. Manu O. Platt, Ph.D, Morehouse ARCS Scholar 2000, were our panelist. Dr. Hubby is the Chief Scientific Officer at Agenovir and Dr. Platt is an Associate Professor at Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech. The audience enjoyed the answered questions and animated conversation shared by our guest speakers. This platform gives our current scholars a look into the future of careers in academia or industry.

The structure of our General Membership Meeting and Luncheon was a little different this year. After brief committee reports, the members participated in Round Table Discussions about long term goals and strategies for our chapter. Each of the eight tables was facilitated by two members with discussion of membership, funds development, vision, and social media. The groups were engaged and the comments were constructive and forward thinking. Actives and associates who were unable to attend the meeting were emailed the questions for their review and response. A compiled report will be prepared and shared with the membership. Our guest speaker was Dr. Wally Curran, Executive Director of the Winship Cancer Center. So many of us have been touched by cancer in some way, which made Dr. Curran's presentation on the many advances in research for cancer cures, treatment, and patient care, very meaningful and hopeful. He also shared information on Winship's collaboration with other entities and their findings. After the presentation, Dr. Curran answered questions from the

Winter General Meeting and Luncheon

Carolynn Cooper

The ARCS Atlanta Chapter held their winter meeting and luncheon this year in the Circle Room of the Woodruff Arts Center. Overlooking Peachtree Street on Wednesday, January 10th, members gathered for some conversation before getting down to business. President, Sara Jean Burke, started the meeting and moved quickly through chapter business before asking each table to discuss various topics related to the ARCS strategic plan. The general buzz in the room indicated a lively discussion. A facilitator led each table in discussion so the notes from each group can be incorporated into future planning.

Following our table discussions, lunch was served and Dr. Walter Curran, the director of the Winship Cancer Institute, spoke about Emory's mission with regard to cancer care. He told those gathered about Emory University's recent growth in the Atlanta area including a new facility not far from where we were sitting in midtown. He also addressed the center's work to become more patient focused and their continued need for fund raising.

After our meeting a number of members were able to join Michael Rooks, the Modern and Contemporary Art curator at the High Museum for a tour of the AI Taylor exhibit. Michael curated the exhibit himself which touches on many issues of interest to ARCS members including the artist's interest in the movement of water, light and reuse of materials.

Susan Higley 2018 ARCS LIGHT

At our January Luncheon, Gracia Conn presented Susan Higley as the Atlanta Chapter's ARCS Light. In her remarks, Gracia highlighted Susan's contribution through the years.

Over the past twenty years as a member Susan has willingly served as Education chair, Retreat co-chair, Nominating committee chair, and Funds Development chair. No matter where she is or who she's with she is a true advocate of ARCS Foundation.

A woman of many talents, Susan is a dancer, a floral designer, an appraiser and a dedicated community volunteer. When asked to serve on an ARCS Foundation committee, she will even take time out from golf. Most recently, Susan co-chaired the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of ARCS Foundation Atlanta.



Gracia Conn's Remarks as She Concludes Her Year as Atlanta's ARCS Light 2017

"The ARCS Light award is a distinctive honor presented to a member who has given the highest quality of long-term service to ARCS Foundation. It has been an honor for me to serve as your ARCS Light this past year. You are an outstanding group of women and it is my privilege knowing you and working with you toward one mission. I thank you for this."

attendees. After a delicious lunch, members were invited to tour “What are You Looking At?”, works by Al Taylor at The High Museum, arranged by docent and member,Carolynn Cooper. Many thanks to Carolynn and Caroline Moise for planning this luncheon and meeting in a new venue at The Woodruff Art Center.

The ARCS Foundation National Board Meeting was held in Phoenix January 18-21. Chapter members attending were Sara Jean Burke, Susan McGonigle, Sally McDaniel, Nancy Chambers, and Sherry Lundeen. Over the span of the board meeting, chapter presidents had several discussion sessions concerning topics pertinent to individual chapters. Twelve of the fifteen chapters were represented, therefore, many best practices were shared and issues discussed. The future of Pat’s Portal on the website was an important topic of conversation. The Pat’s committee dissolved and the responsibility of the site was given the Chair of Chapter Engagement. The Council of Presidents felt that the continuation of Pat’s Portal was very important, not only for the presidents, but the membership at large. Roulhac Austin, Chapter Engagement Chair, will appoint a committee to oversee the maintenance of Pat’s Portal. Thursday evening, members of the Phoenix chapter hosted a buffet dinner at The Paradise Valley Country Club for the entire board. It was a delightful evening of work and play. On Friday morning, David Ewald, of Ewald Consulting, recently engaged by the national organization to assist with administrative tasks, facilitated for all in attendance, a workshop on “Effective Leadership,” with small group discussions following the presentation. On Friday afternoon, five members of SEAC (Science Engineering Advisory Council) presented and discussed a white paper entitled “Discussion of Challenges and Opportunities in Science and Technology Education and Possible Responses of ARCS Foundation, Inc. to these Challenges and Opportunities.” Dr. Len Fisk, University of Michigan, was the lead presenter. The business portion of the board meeting was held on Saturday morning. We all left Phoenix with new ideas and points to ponder.

Please Check your Inbox for ARCS Atlanta
Membership Renewal Information!!

Please be on the lookout for Membership Renewal information from our ARCS Atlanta chapter. Information includes easy to follow step-by-step instructions and an opportunity to pay online so you don’t even need a stamp!

Membership Renewal and Dues are due by March 15, 2018, and the earlier our members complete this process, the earlier our chapter can proceed with Board Nominations, New Member Applications and general business of the chapter. Please help us keep on schedule by logging into the website and register today!

Our Retiring Members

Frances Swensson



Jan Bennett



Clare Whitfield

Our Atlanta chapter has been so fortunate to have so many strong women who have given selflessly of their time and energy to making our chapter a leader in the national organization. ARCS Atlanta is deeply respected by our sister chapters, and this reputation is in large part due to the leadership qualities of members like Clare Whitfield and Jan Bennett, long standing members who are moving away from Atlanta and therefore have tendered their resignations.

Clare Whitfield is a Founding Member of ARCS Atlanta and has been a member for twenty-six years! During her active membership, Clare has served as Public Relations Chair, Recording Secretary, Newsletter Editor, as a member of the University Relations committee and was the recipient of the 2001 ARCS Light Award. She most recently volunteered to organize a book club for our chapter providing opportunities for fellowship for our members. Clare moved to Santa Rosa, CA in mid-December.

Jan is a twenty-year member, serving as President of our chapter from 2006-08, as well as Funds Development Chairman, VP of Education/Events and Nominations Chair. Jan and her husband Gus are moving to Naples. FL.

2017 ARCS Scholars



2017 Emory University ARCS Scholars



2017 Georgia Tech ARCS Scholars

2017 ARCS Scholars



2017 Morehouse ARCS Scholars with Dr. Manu Platt



2017 University of Georgia ARCS Scholars with Dr. Bolyyn Hubby



President Sara Jean Burke addresses the guests at the 2017 Scholar Awards Luncheon



Herz Global Impact Award recipients with Iris Scultz of Joachim Herz Stiftung



Susan Higley
ARCS Foundation
Atlanta Chapter
ARCS Light Award
Recipient!



2018 All Members Conference Scientific Innovation for the Next Generation

The 2018 All Members Conference will be held from April 25 – 28 in Washington, D.C.

The four-day program will include:

- A presentation by Deborah L. Wince-Smith, president & CEO of the Council on Competitiveness - a coalition of CEOs, university presidents, labor leaders and national laboratory directors, committed to driving U.S. competitiveness.
- An interdisciplinary discussion on Future Innovations in Biomedical Science with a panel of leading experts in the field.
- Dinner at the United States Supreme Court
- Tours of The American History Museum Innovation Exhibit or The National Geographic Museum
- Tours of The National Gallery of Art, The Air and Space Museum or The Spy Museum

For more information, go to:

<https://www.arcsfoundation.org/civcrm/event/info?id=1022&reset=1>



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2018 Retreat to New Orleans

Lee Doyle
Regina Olchowski

Everyone should have heard by now, the Atlanta ARCS chapter is going to New Orleans in March! It promises to be a great trip to an exciting city! Those of you who are registered have submitted a deposit of \$300, and the balance of \$550 will be due ten days after you receive the invoice, which will be arriving in your inbox very soon.

At this point, everyone who was on our wait list is now a full participant. Since it is typical for members to drop out because of unexpected conflicts, we are currently accepting more to our wait list. You can find information to register for our March, 2018 Retreat on our website.

Hotel Mazarin, a boutique hotel in the heart of the French Quarter, is prepared to take your reservation. The retreat begins on Wednesday, March 21, with an evening reception, and ends on the morning of Sunday, March 25. The hotel has more dates blocked off to accommodate those who would like to extend their stay, either at the front or back end.

We will be sending communications to those who have registered as we get closer to our trip. In particular, we have one day set aside for participants to choose their own activities and we want to help you plan for your choices.

Contact one of us if you have any questions!

Pat Leake and her husband, Nolan, have arranged for an optional tour of LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory), a facility about sixty miles northwest of NOLA. It is at the cutting edge of physics and astronomy, and its collaborators won the 2017 Nobel Prize in physics for LIGO's detection of gravitational waves from merging black holes and neutron stars. The two-hour tour would be at 1:00 on Monday, March 26, so it would require arrangements for lengthening your stay in Louisiana. If participants are interested, please contact Pat. Their website is <https://www.ligo.caltech.edu/LA>



LIGO Livingston Science Education Center

The LIGO Laboratory operates the Science Education Center at LIGO Livingston, a state-of-the-art interactive, exhibit-based science and math learning center. The center provides a fun, interactive environment for exploring science concepts such as light, gravity, waves, and interference, and for learning about LIGO's search for gravitational waves.

Image Credit: Caltech/MIT/LIGO Lab