



ARCS

ADVANCING  
SCIENCE  
IN AMERICA®

ARCS  
FOUNDATION  
ATLANTA  
SCHOLAR  
YEARBOOK

ADVANCING GEORGIA'S  
SCIENTIFIC SCHOLARS  
SINCE 1992

2020





## **ACHIEVEMENT REWARDS FOR COLLEGE SCIENTISTS FOUNDATION, INC.**

*"Funding STEM Scholars who will change the world"*

### **Scholar Awards Celebration**

November 19, 2020

#IamARCSAtlanta

A collective story, in pictures and videos, of an organization run by altruistic, dedicated, women supporting the next generation of America's most brilliant scientists with the help of visionary donors – and the unique connection that exists between all of us.

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### **ARCS® FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT**

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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.

**[www.atlanta.arcsfoundation.org](http://www.atlanta.arcsfoundation.org)**

ARCS Foundation Atlanta

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## ARCS® FOUNDATION ATLANTA CHAPTER

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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. Since its founding in 1958, ARCS Foundation has provided more than 10,000 scholar awards totaling over \$100 million. We have more than 1,300 members in 15 chapters across the United States.

ARCS Foundation's principles and practices have remained consistent since our founding in 1958:

- 100% of award contributions go directly to fund scholars.
- Recipient schools are qualified through rigorous eligibility requirements.
- Schools select scholars based on academic achievement without regard for race, creed, or gender.
- Scholars are U.S. citizens and students of high achievement in the basic sciences.
- ARCS Foundation scholar awards funds are raised and distributed locally.
- ARCS Foundation is an all-women volunteer organization.

ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter was founded in 1992. During our 29 year history, we have provided over \$6 million for nearly 1,000 individual scholar awards. The 2020 ARCS Atlanta Scholar Awards total \$344,500 and will go to 44 scholars at Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College and University of Georgia. These scholars are amongst our country's best and brightest in the fields of science, engineering, and medical research.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our donors and our volunteers. Thank you to our donors and all those who have made this possible.

**Leslie Z. Petter**

*President, ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter*

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Special thanks to BlackRock for its generous contribution as the Event Sponsor of the 2020 Scholar Awards Celebration.

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## ENDOWMENT DONORS

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## IN APPRECIATION

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Thank you to the following whose time and talents contributed to the success of our annual celebration:

Dr. Ann Chahroudi, *Scholar Awards Celebration Keynote Speaker*  
Mariela Romero of Univision, *Scholar Awards Celebration Moderator*  
Emory University, Gregory Fenves, *President*  
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GREGORY L. FENVES, PRESIDENT

"Emory attracts some of the best and most promising doctoral students in the nation. These students are already making significant contributions to research and discovery and are rising leaders in their fields. Our academic community is enriched with them at Emory. My sincerest thanks to the ARCS Foundation for another year of this important partnership."

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Gregory L. Fenves  
*President, Emory University*



### **Aaron Bosse**

#### **Glenn Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Organic Chemistry*

*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Aaron originates from Bozrah, Connecticut and pursued a B.A. in chemistry at The College of the Holy Cross. At Holy Cross, he completed two years of research in the lab of Prof. Andre Isaacs developing novel methodologies using click chemistry, culminating in a first author publication in *Synlett*. He moved to Emory University to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry, now researching C–H functionalization applied to total synthesis and method development in Prof. Davies' lab. Currently he is acting as lead researcher on C–H functionalization methodology applied to total synthesis in the Davies lab, collaborating with multiple groups in the CCHF. He has received numerous awards including the ACS DOC Outstanding Undergraduate award, Quayle New student award, Quayle Student Achievement award, and NSF GRFP Honorable mention. Outside of lab, Aaron loves spending time in nature, visiting craft breweries, and relaxing with his dog and cat.



### **Ana Enriquez**

#### **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics*

*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Ana is a 4th year doctoral student in the Microbiology and Molecular Genetics program at Emory University. While pursuing her B.S. in Microbiology and Cell Science at the University of Florida, she worked in the lab of Dr. Cohn, a developmental biologist. In graduate school, Ana pursued her interest in host-pathogen interactions in the lab of Dr. Rengarajan in the Emory Vaccine Center. Her current research focuses on elucidating the interactions between *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and dendritic cells and its effect on T cells responses during infection. Her experience in research has resulted in 2 peer-reviewed publications so far. Apart from research, Ana enjoys mentoring and increasing the diversity of graduate students in STEM.



### **Amanda Gill**

#### **Donnell Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis  
Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Amanda is currently a third-year M.D./Ph.D. student at Emory University School of Medicine. She aims to pursue a career as an infectious disease physician-scientist, undertaking research in vaccine and immunotherapy development, with a particular focus on HIV. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bryn Mawr College in 2015, majoring in Biology and minoring in Chinese. During this time, she completed a senior thesis in HIV vaccine development at the Wistar Institute and volunteered at a mobile HIV-testing clinic. Following this, she undertook a one year post-baccalaureate fellowship at NIH and she is now investigating the molecular mechanisms of T cell exhaustion and reinvigoration at Emory. Out of the lab, she also serves as Vice President of the M.D./Ph.D. Women's Association.



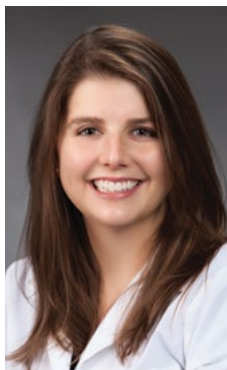
### **Jessica Hoffman**

#### **Northside Hospital Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Molecular and Systems Pharmacology  
First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Jessica is a 2nd year Molecular and Systems Pharmacology doctoral student and Woodruff Fellow at Emory University. Jessica grew up in Indian Trail, North Carolina and received her B.S. in Applied Mathematics and Environmental Sciences from UNC Chapel Hill in 2018. As an undergraduate, Jessica spent three academic years researching the health effects of ambient air pollutants and two summers researching the development of drug targeting lipid nanoparticles. Now, a graduate student in Dr. Michael Davis' lab, her work focuses on building computational models to predict stem cell therapy outcomes for pediatric heart disease patients. In addition to her research, Jessica enjoys volunteering with her lab through SmartHeart/ HeRO: hosting elementary school groups for lab tours, holding research events for the families of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and bringing fun science activities to the cardiac step down unit.



### **Kate Holmes, DVM**

#### **Klamon/Reid Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Kate is a Microbiology doctoral student who graduated with a B.S. in Biology with Honors from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in 2009. She went on to earn her D.V.M. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine in 2014, where she performed research in veterinary oncology and epidemiology. After graduation, Kate practiced as an emergency veterinarian for four years before joining the Microbiology and Molecular Genetics program at Emory University in 2018. She is interested in emerging and re-emerging zoonotic viral pathogens, and her graduate work focuses on influenza virus diversity and evolution. Kate is an avid reader of both fiction and non-fiction, and she enjoys hiking, camping, and traveling.



### **Steve Knutson**

#### **Carroll/ARCS Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Chemistry  
Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Steve Knutson graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in Molecular and Cellular Biology and a M.S. in Medical Biotechnology. He is now pursuing a Chemistry Ph.D. from Emory University, focusing his research on RNA editing and synthetic biology. Steve received an overall achievement award in research for his M.S. thesis, and published this work in the journal PLoS One. He has also published a paper on his current research in the journal Bioconjugate Chemistry. Steve's career goal is to become a research professor and astronaut. Outside of lab, Steve enjoys golf, hiking, and is learning piano.



### **Katie Labgold** **Hawkins/Liss Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Epidemiology*  
*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Katie Labgold is a second-year Epidemiology doctoral student at Emory University. She received a B.A. in Chemistry and Archeology and a M.P.H. from the University of Virginia, where she was recognized for outstanding teaching and community service. Katie is passionate about applying her epidemiology training to interdisciplinary research questions that aim to address maternal and child health disparities. She is particularly interested in how novel epidemiological methods can improve applied public health research. Her current research focuses on reproductive health in the southeast US. In her free time, Katie enjoys exploring Atlanta and volunteering at a transitional housing shelter.



### **Kari Mattison** **Gillin/Ritz-Carlton Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Genetics and Molecular Biology*  
*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Kari majored in Animal Science at Iowa State University and is currently a 5th year Ph.D. candidate in the Genetics and Molecular Biology graduate program. In undergrad, Kari gained research experience at the Mayo Clinic, University of Minnesota, and Iowa State. Kari's doctoral research involves the discovery of new epilepsy genes and elucidation of disease mechanisms. Her primary research is on the role of a novel gene, ATP6V0C, in epilepsy. Previously, she described novel functional effects of epilepsy variants in SLC6A1. Outside of the lab, Kari is involved with student government and coaching golf through the First Tee of Metro Atlanta.



### **Zerleen Quader**

#### **BlackRock Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Epidemiology*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Zerleen is an Epidemiology doctoral student and a recipient of Emory's T32 Multidisciplinary Research Training to Reduce Inequalities in Cardiovascular Health Training Grant. She received her B.S. in Psychology from the University of Georgia, and her MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota. After completing her MPH, she worked as a research fellow at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. Her research has resulted in seven peer-reviewed publications thus far. Her long-term research goals are to understand how social determinants of health and structural factors play a role in childhood cardio-metabolic health.



### **Elizabeth Sajewski**

#### **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Environmental Health Sciences*

*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Elizabeth is an Environmental Health Science doctoral student and a Laney Graduate School fellow. Her research centers on the intersection of water infrastructure and infectious disease, with particular interest in using mathematical models to simulate enteric disease dynamics. After obtaining a B.S.E. in Environmental Engineering from Princeton University, Elizabeth worked for four years as an environmental consultant with Ramboll Environ, conducting human health risk assessments, before starting her Ph.D. in 2017. Elizabeth is a rugby enthusiast, an avid hiker, and an active member of student organizations where she promotes research, awareness, and action on climate and environmental justice in Atlanta.



### **Sarah Strassler**

#### **Petter Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biochemistry*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Sarah is a Biochemistry doctoral student and National Science Foundation predoctoral fellow studying the structural basis of RNA-protein interactions. After receiving her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Florida, she spent two years teaching high school science as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ghana where she was named Education Volunteer of the Year by Ghana's Ministry of Education. Sarah is pursuing a career in science education to continue making science accessible to diverse audiences. She works as a Volunteer Scientist for Atlanta Science Festival, tutors Tibetan monks at Emory University, and served as a teaching assistant for an introductory graduate course. Sarah also became co-author on a paper which focused on bacterial enzymes that confer antibiotic resistance.





## ÁNGEL CABRERA, PRESIDENT

"Success in life is seldom a one-person effort. Thanks to the vision and generosity of the ARCS Foundation thousands of our country's top undergraduate and graduate students have the resources they need to excel academically and then work in their sponsored fields launching startup companies, devising new technologies, and expanding our knowledge. Since 1992, Georgia Tech's ARCS Scholars have been the recipients of more than \$2 million from the ARCS Atlanta Chapter. Along with the student scholars, we offer our gratitude to the ARCS Foundation-Atlanta Chapter, whose transformative philanthropy continues to enable our very best graduate students to realize their great potential."

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Ángel Cabrera

*President, Georgia Institute of Technology*



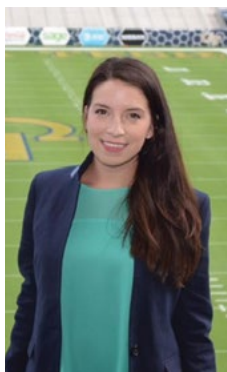
## **Nathan Brown**

### **Siemens Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Aerospace Engineering  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Nathan experimentally investigates plasma-material interactions and is developing a novel plasma diagnostic for electric spacecraft propulsion and fusion energy production. He previously worked on the James Webb Space Telescope as a multi-term intern for ATA Engineering and the XIPS ion thruster program as an intern with L-3 Electron Technologies. Nathan holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and, in addition to the ARCS award, is funded by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Georgia Tech President's Fellowship, and Georgia Tech Institute for Materials Graduate Student Fellowship.



## **Asheley Chapman**

### **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biochemistry  
Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Asheley earned her B.A. in Religious Studies from Agnes Scott College in 2006. In 2014, she began post-baccalaureate studies in biology and chemistry at Georgia Southern University where she researched molecular markers of water contamination in Ghana, West Africa and in the Southeast U.S. Her time in Ghana inspired her to pursue vaccine development in order to prevent infectious disease. At Georgia Tech, Asheley's doctoral work focuses on the development on nanoparticle-based vaccines and immunotherapies against cancer, infectious disease and public health targets. Her projects include a multiyear collaboration with Centers for Disease Control, with whom she develops diagnostic antibodies to detect illicit small molecules and to target immunotherapeutics. In March 2020, Asheley's work with CDC pivoted to tackle COVID-19, against which she has developed a panel of neutralizing and diagnostic antibodies in circulation as valuable reagents at CDC today. She is the recipient of the Cherry Emerson Fellowship, the School of Chemistry Service Award, the Sepcic Pfeil PhD Fellowship Award, serves on the Executive Board of Women in Chemistry, and as a Justice on the Graduate Senate Judiciary.



## **Carmen Chen**

### **Burke Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Carmen earned her B.S. in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering from New York University in New York City, New York. During her time as an undergraduate, Carmen conducted research at the University of Kentucky, and also taught Chinese to pre-kindergarten students on Sundays. After graduation, she decided to pursue a Ph.D. in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Carmen has worked as a K-12 STEM instructor for the Georgia Tech CEISMC K.I.D.S. Club, and has been awarded the Georgia Tech President's Fellowship. Her doctoral work is on developing nanoporous materials to collect water vapor in the atmosphere. She loves to read mystery novels, watch baseball, and travel to new places.



## **Kenton Blane Fillingim**

### **Graves Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Engineering Design  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Kenton, who is from Mobile, Alabama, received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of South Alabama in 2016 and his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2018. He is currently a Ph.D. Student in the Engineering Design Research Lab at Georgia Tech. His research focuses on understanding the development and implementation of heuristics and biases in design, and his studies with NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab have resulted in two journal publications. Kenton spent two years in the Georgia Tech Grand Challenges program, where he facilitated the progress of first and second-year undergraduate design teams. Kenton enjoys reading and all major sports.



## **Alli Gombolay** **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Bioinformatics  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Alli earned a B.S. in Biology from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2013 and an M.P.H. in Epidemiology from the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University in 2015. As a Bioinformatics Ph.D. student in Dr. Francesca Storici's molecular genetics laboratory at Georgia Tech, Alli is responsible for developing and applying computational tools to study DNA repair and genome stability. One of Alli's main accomplishments thus far is developing Ribose-Map, the first user-friendly computational toolkit that can be used to analyze any type of next-generation ribonucleotide sequencing data. Her work on Ribose-Map has led to two first author publications, one published in *Nucleic Acids Research* and another published in *Nature Communications*.



## **Hannah Holmes** **John and Mary Franklin Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  
First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Hannah is a Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Ph.D. student at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2019. While at UIUC, she performed research on the electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to fuels and chemicals. Hannah also worked as an intern in the process engineering department at Scholle IPN, a flexible packaging manufacturer. Her current research focuses on improving the efficiency of CO<sub>2</sub> capture technologies using hollow fiber sorbents, and she is co-advised by Dr. Ryan Lively and Dr. Matthew Realff. In her free time, Hannah enjoys serving as secretary for the Association of Chemical Engineering Graduate Students, mentoring new students, and exploring Atlanta.

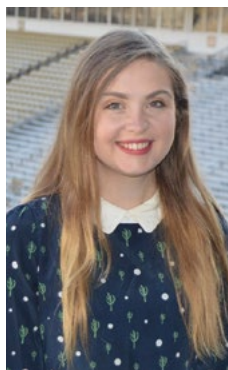


## **Amy Lynnae Luettich** **Dodson/Plummer/ARCS Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Civil Engineering*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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A. Lynnae is a Civil Engineering Ph.D. student at Georgia Tech researching urban stormwater management through the focus of Geo-Environmental Engineering. After receiving her B.S. in Civil Engineering at The University of Maine, she immediately wanted to do research that could help with the environmental impacts that our world faces today. In her future she wishes to teach similar concepts to young engineers and focus research toward bettering engineering education. Lynnae has won two awards at the ASCE Annual Geotechnical Student Poster Symposium in 2017 for Best Undergraduate Research Poster and in 2019 for Most Applied Research Poster. In Lynnae's free time she enjoys traveling, kayaking, playing with her dog, and going hiking.

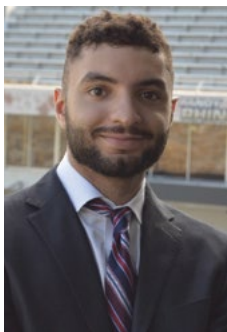


## **Sydney Popsuj** **Doyle/Easterly/ARCS Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biology*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Sydney earned her B.S. in Biology from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia. As an undergraduate, Sydney worked in labs researching the evolution and development of marine invertebrates and became interested in the intersection between the two fields. She researched at her home institution, Duke Kunshan University, and the Roatan Institute for Marine Science before her REU with University of Florida's Whitney Lab for Marine Bioscience. She was Agnes Scott's nominee for the Rhodes Scholarship in 2018. She is pursuing her Ph.D. in biology at Georgia Institute of Technology where she was awarded the President's Fellowship. Sydney is researching the evolution and loss of photosensory systems in the development of certain species of tunicates. She also enjoys baking, cooking, and playing her cello.



## **Ziad Rashed** **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Ziad, hailing from northern Virginia, earned his B.S. in 2018 studying Engineering Science and Mechanics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Virginia. At VT, Ziad joined a nature-inspired fluids and interfaces lab where he worked for 3 years employing biomimicry for the fabrication of novel slippery surface and developing passive energy generation systems. He has co-authored two publications detailing his work throughout his undergraduate career and was awarded honors for best senior design project and a scholarship from the national adhesion society. Ziad joined the Georgia Tech EAS department in 2018 where he is researching how to use tools from nonlinear/chaotic dynamics to gain a greater understanding of the complex interactions between glacier and ocean systems.



## **Kantwon Rogers** **BlackRock Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Computer Science  
First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Kantwon is a Computer Science doctoral student at the Georgia Institute of Technology where he has also previously earned a B.S. in Computer Engineering, M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering, and a M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction. His research interests are in artificial intelligence and robotics with a focus on investigating the influences that prosocial deception has on human-robot interaction. His work has led to six research publications. Throughout his educational career, he has been a research intern at Intel Corporation and Google. For fun, Kantwon enjoys singing, playing video games, and idolizing the professional tennis player Serena Williams.



## **Sarah Sundius**

### **Lundeen/Chambers/ARCS Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Quantitative Biosciences*

*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Sarah earned her B.S. in Mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. At RPI, her studies concentrated on operations research, applied mathematics, and biology, including research and internship experiences utilizing applications of data science. Sarah also competed on RPI's NCAA Division III Swim Team, receiving multiple All-Conference academic accolades. She began her graduate studies in the Quantitative Biosciences Ph.D. program at Georgia Institute of Technology in 2018 and was awarded the Herbert P. Haley Fellowship. Her current research is focused on developing novel mathematical models for dynamic microbial species interactions using both deterministic and stochastic approaches. Outside of research, Sarah continues to swim competitively as a member of the Georgia Tech Swim Club.



## **Tony Wang**

### **Drummond Award**

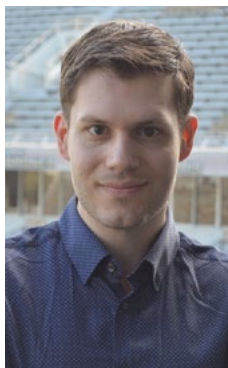
*Ph.D. Student, Electrical and Computer Engineering*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Tony is an Electrical and Computer Engineering doctoral student at Georgia Institute of Technology. Previously, he obtained his B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering with a minor in Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at UC Berkeley. He has interned at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he was awarded the LLNL Research Poster Award for his contributions towards laser optics. He is currently working under Dr. Azadeh Ansari and Dr. Kimberly Hoang to develop micro-robots to perform neurosurgery. Outside of research, Tony also volunteers as a Graduate Student Coordinator for the Mental Health Student Coalition to improve awareness about mental health on campus. His hobbies include hiking, table tennis, and swimming.





## **Erik Wijmans** **BlackRock Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Computer Science*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Erik earned a B.S. in Engineering Physics from Juniata College and a B.S. in Computer Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis. He is currently a PhD candidate at the Georgia Institute of Technology and advised by Dhruv Batra and Irfan Essa. He has been an intern at Facebook Reality Labs, Facebook AI Research, and Intel AI. His long-term research goal is to develop fundamental techniques, algorithms, and large-scale systems for robotic assistants (i.e. Alexa with eyes and limbs). His work focuses on training virtual robots (embodied agents) in simulation and transferring the skills learned to reality to overcome the challenges of real-world training (it's slow, and expensive). His research has been featured in top venues such as Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), the International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), and the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR).



## **Katherine Young** **Northside Hospital Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biomedical Engineering*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Katie, a native Austinite, earned her B.S. in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently a BME Ph.D. candidate at the Georgia Institute of Technology studying the correlation between single cell mechanics and gene expression to better understand cancer metastasis. She has helped with publishing several articles in Cell Stem Cell, iScience, Small, Leukemia and PLoS One with work in review at e-Life and a first-author publication under review at Genome Biology. Katie is a Neal Kocurek St. David's Scholar and a recipient of an NIH F31 Fellowship. Outside of her time in lab, Katie volunteers with Young Life, mentoring high school students. She also loves biking and is a big musical aficionado.





MOREHOUSE  
COLLEGE

DAVID A. THOMAS, PRESIDENT

“ARCS scholar awards have supported the scholarly efforts of over 130 high achieving science and mathematics majors at Morehouse for over 27 years. It is an honor that each year one student will receive the prestigious *Glenn Leadership Award* at Morehouse, recognizing both outstanding scholarship and demonstrated leadership skills. Building future leaders of the country is an important goal of the college. Through its support for both undergraduate and graduate students who aspire to careers in science or mathematics, ARCS Foundation is making a major contribution to increasing the number of American citizens who pursue careers in STEM. And, for that we are truly grateful.”

---

David A. Thomas  
*President, Morehouse College*



### **Caleb Baines** **Georgia-Pacific Award**

*Computer Engineering Major  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Caleb is a senior computer engineering major currently attending the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. His research interests are in the various fields of technology, with a particular interest in machine learning. Caleb enjoys participating in competitive engineering competitions and also completing personal projects on the side. Outside of school, Caleb likes running, volunteering, and reading. Caleb has completed two internships at Google, where he developed testing mechanisms for the Google Flights search engine and designed a full-stack web application.



### **Lewis Campbell** **Goodhew/McGonigle Award**

*Physics Major  
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Lewis is a senior Physics major at Morehouse College. His research interest has shifted from the prior year now dealing with fabrics, textiles, and their topology, specifically looking at the effects of nonlinear elasticity on the structural and mechanical properties in complex systems. As a part of the Geometry of Materials lab at Georgia Institute of Technology, he is currently exploring both knot motifs and algorithms for patternmaking. Besides his research, Lewis enjoys several other activities such as; designing for his clothing brand, working on personal projects in the Morehouse Exploration Center, and enjoying film and media. Previous work includes research in collective dynamics of task-oriented robots striving to both improve efficiency and observe their pattern formation. He also has worked at NCR building machine learning models to predict wait times for restaurants.



### **Storm Chin** **BlackRock Award**

*Computer Science and Mathematics Major*  
*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Storm is a Junior Computer Science and Mathematics major at Morehouse College. This Caribbean student spends most of his free time developing applications or staying active outside. He loves all water sports including scuba diving and wakeboarding and seizes every chance he can to snowboard or hike. He has conducted research in many fields including neuroscience, data analytics, and machine learning. He has worked for big-name companies like Google and Microsoft and even the C.I.A. He plans to graduate early and pursue either a Master of Business Administration degree or a Master's degree in Computer Science.



### **Charles Coleman** **Genuine Parts Award**

*Applied Physics Major*  
*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Charles is a Junior, Applied Physics Major with a concentration in Biomedical Engineering at Morehouse College. His research interests are in biomedical applications and biomaterials. He is also interested in nanoscience and its applications. Aside from a passion for learning, he enjoys several other hobbies such as watching sports, listening to music and relaxing with friends. He has worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory for one summer doing research in thermal degradation of biopolymers. He already has an authorized presentation available to the public. He will also be an author on an upcoming paper from his work at Los Alamos National Laboratory.



### **Dimitri Johnson** **Glenn Leadership Award**

*Biology Major*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Dimitri is a Biology major at Morehouse College. His research interests are in genetics and neuroscience. He did a summer research experience at UCONN in 2018, at UT Southwestern in 2019, and a virtual research experience through Vanderbilt University in 2020. Dimitri plans to get his B.S. in Biology and attend medical school. He has been involved in research in Dr. Markham's lab at Morehouse since 2018. He is unsure of what type of doctor he wants to be at this time. He would like to continue his endeavors in basic research and possibly pursue an M.S. in research sciences. He currently volunteers in the neurology nursing unit at Grady hospital and is in a leadership position of a mental health organization on campus.



### **Christian Lubin** **BlackRock Award**

*Chemistry Major*  
*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Christian is a junior, chemistry major at Morehouse College. His interests are in pharmaceutical research, specifically, designing and synthesizing new drugs for the industry. Outside of his passion for research and the sciences, Christian enjoys socializing, exercise, gaming, and immersing himself in new experiences. He has most recently completed an internship at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Institute with the Weill Cornell Medicine Graduate School, in which he aided in researching variants of the H1 linker histone. Following this, he was named a Pinkerton Scholar and inducted into U.N.C.F.'s fourth cohort of S.T.E.M. Scholars.



### **Jabari McGinnis**

#### **Davis Award**

*Biology Major*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Jabari is a 4th year undergraduate student pursuing a B.S. in Biology with a minor in Neuroscience at Morehouse College. His research interests are in Alzheimer's and Aging research. He anticipates pursuing either a PhD or MD/PhD following completion of his undergraduate degree. He has worked in an Immunology lab at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine where he studied host-pathogen interactions. The following summer, he participated remotely with Columbia University as part of the STAR U Program where he was exposed to interesting research in the field of Alzheimer's and Aging. He enjoys reading and hopes to become a great mentor one day to encourage more underrepresented groups to pursue careers in STEM.



### **Jeffrey White**

#### **BlackRock Award**

*Biology Major*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Jeffrey is a junior Biology major at Morehouse College. His research interests are in neglected tropical diseases that are endemic within low-income subpopulations of developing regions; particularly with regards to visceral leishmaniasis and the biochemical modalities that underpin its pathogenesis. Concomitant with a vehement passion for scientific inquiry, Jeffrey is involved in a host of other activities such as through-hiking along the Pacific Crest Trail, participating in blitz chess tournaments, as well as volunteering for environmental justice initiatives as a member of the NAACP Youth & College Division. Last summer he worked at the Davenport Laboratory of Pathogenic Protozoa as a Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Scholar studying the kinetoplastid *L. donovani*.



**UNIVERSITY OF  
GEORGIA**

JERE W. MOREHEAD, PRESIDENT

“The University of Georgia remains deeply grateful to ARCS Foundation for their support of our outstanding graduate students in the sciences. The generous funding and valuable professional opportunities provided to ARCS Scholars are helping to amplify the positive impact our students are making on their respective fields and the world around us.”

---

**Jere W. Morehead**  
*President, University of Georgia*



### **Christian Andersen** **Northside Hospital Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Toxicology*  
*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Christian graduated from the University of Georgia in 2015 with a B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, earning credit as an independent researcher. Christian applied to UGA's Interdisciplinary Toxicology Program to pursue a Ph.D. Before enrolling, Christian was admitted to the inaugural GSLEAD program at UGA to learn about community engagement techniques. Currently, Christian is a fourth year Ph.D. candidate with 4 first author or co-first author papers in peer-reviewed journals and mentors masters, undergraduate and even high-school students. Christian was accepted into the selective Frontiers in Reproduction training course, which accepts only 20 participants from a competitive pool of graduate students, post-docs, and clinical fellows each year. Christian continues to investigate molecular mechanisms contributing to effects of chemotherapeutics on the female reproductive tract.



### **Alyssa Baugh** **Sartain Lanier Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Microbiology*  
*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Alyssa is a Microbiology Ph.D. candidate and Presidential Graduate Fellow at the University of Georgia, where she is genetically engineering bacteria to make biofuels. She earned a full-ride National Merit scholarship and obtained three B.S. degrees from the University of Idaho, where she wrote grants to fund independent research and worked at the Center for Volunteerism and Social Action. As an incoming graduate student, Alyssa participated in the NSF-Funded GS LEAD program. In valuing scientific outreach, she has presented her work at six conferences, TA'ed three courses, and volunteered with the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair. Alyssa has interned at DOE national labs in Oak Ridge and Los Alamos. She hopes to do research on microbially-mediated bioremediation and bioproduction.



### **Amy Briggs** **Olchowski/Potter Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Ecology*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Amy earned a B.S. in Biology from Stanford University. After graduating, she worked on research projects at Stanford, the Smithsonian, and the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, before getting her M.S. at California State University, Northridge, where she received a fellowship for outstanding research promise. Amy researches how humans and changing environmental conditions affect ecosystems, working in coral reefs in the tropical Pacific. For her Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of Georgia, she is investigating drivers of reef microbial communities and how microbes affect the broader reef ecosystem. Her work focuses on 1) toxic microalgae that cause a widespread human illness, ciguatera poisoning, which affects people who consume seafood from reefs, and 2) bacteria that affect coral health.



### **Megan Douglass** **Broscher/Hinkle Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biomedical Engineering*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Megan earned her B.S. in Biological Engineering with a Biomedical Emphasis from the University of Georgia. Megan is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the field of Biomedical Engineering, where she is focused on the development of antimicrobial and blood-compatible surface modifications for biomedical devices. During her first year as a Ph.D. student, Megan was the only engineering student selected for the NSF-funded GS LEAD program, where she engaged with local community members on addressing poverty in the local Athens area. Recently, she has co-authored several publications in ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces, ACS Biomaterials Science and Engineering, and ACS Applied Bio Materials. She serves as the Student Representative for the Surface Characterization & Modification SIG under the Society for Biomaterials. She was recently awarded the 2020 Brahm Verma Award from the College of Engineering at the University of Georgia for her academic and research efforts.





### **Katie Duval** **Leake/Boyd Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Genetics*  
*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Katie is a Genetics PhD Candidate and NIH Training Grant Fellow at the University of Georgia where she researches chromatin. She first became interested in the field of epigenetics as an undergraduate researcher at Emory University, where she earned a B.S. in Biology and a B.A. in English. After graduating in 2018, Katie was awarded the NSF Graduate Scholars Leadership, Engagement, and Development Fellowship, a program that enables incoming doctoral students to hone their leadership and communication skills. Now in her third year at UGA, Katie's doctoral research focuses on the establishment and regulation of chromatin states in vertebrate development. In addition to research, Katie is passionate about science policy and enjoys training her two dogs in agility.

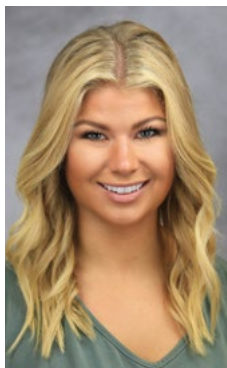


### **Nicholas Haynes** **Burtchaell Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Industrial-Organizational Psychology*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Nick graduated *summa cum laude* from Taylor University, with a B.S. in Psychology/Systems. After graduating, he worked as a Research Associate Intern at American Institutes for Research. Nick joined the Industrial-Organizational Psychology Ph.D. program at the University of Georgia in 2017, where he primarily researches the psycho-physiological pathways and outcomes of workaholism along with workplace health interventions. Since his time at UGA, Nick has authored several conference posters and symposia, a book chapter, and articles in top journals in his field, including *American Psychologist* and *Journal of Applied Psychology*. He has won travel awards to present his research and a research grant from the Graduate School. When not working, Nick enjoys playing basketball, board games, and the guitar, and going on walks with his wife, dog, and son.



### **Emily Krach**

#### **UPS Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Genetics*

*Third Year ARCS Scholar*

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Emily earned her B.S. in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics from the University of Maryland. During that time, she conducted research at the Johns Hopkins Stanley Division of Neurovirology to identify epigenetic mechanisms associated with Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder. Additionally, she conducted population genetic analyses on monkey flowers through a collaboration between the University of Maryland and Smithsonian Institution. This diversity of research experience not only provided Emily with a love for genetics, but also a key appreciation for interdisciplinary work. Emily is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Genetics, working to integrate microfluidic technologies to better understand genetic pathways involved in fungal growth dynamics. In her spare time, Emily enjoys dancing, painting, and hiking with her rescue dog, Bailey.



### **Liju Mathew**

#### **Dick Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*

*First Year ARCS Scholar*

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Liju is a doctoral student in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Georgia. He also received his B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Georgia, conducting research on cysteine protease inhibition and plant cell wall characterization during his undergraduate studies. His graduate research focuses on characterizing the molecular mechanism of a reaction pathway in pathogenic *E. coli*, with broader interests in enzyme structure-function relationships and natural products discovery. He has presented his research at multiple national conferences and published a peer-reviewed article since beginning his graduate studies.



### **Michael Mills** **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Microbiology*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Michael, who grew up in Ghana, West Africa, earned his B.S. in Pharmaceutical Science from the University of Georgia. During his undergraduate years, Michael worked for Synageva BioPharma Corp, a company that invented therapies to devastating rare diseases, and cultivated an interest in translating research into medicines to target diseases. He now pursues his Ph.D. in Microbiology at the University of Georgia where he hopes to understand and develop medicines against the organisms involved in the neglected tropical disease, Lymphatic filariasis. An author on three publications and a former PREP@UGA scholar, Michael also loves soccer, drawing, and teaching, and hopes to use his experiences in science to encourage more minority students to participate in the STEM fields.



### **Mariel Pfeifer** **Henry/Wahlen Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Plant Biology*  
*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Mariel Pfeifer obtained her B.S. in Microbiology, B.A. in Biology, and B.A. in Biology Education from the University of Wyoming. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Georgia. Mariel is pursuing a traditional bench science and a biology education research project as part of her dissertation. Her bench project involves discovering the details of nuclear migration during rice plant infection by the fungus, *Magnaporthe oryzae*. Her biology education project focuses on the self-advocacy experiences of students with specific learning disabilities and/or ADHD in undergraduate STEM courses.



### **Kate Sabey**

#### **Herz Global Impact Award**

*Ph.D. Student, Infectious Diseases*

*Second Year ARCS Scholar*

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Kate received her B.S. in Biology from Juniata College. There, she performed research exploring the role of the gut microbiome in human gastrointestinal disease, co-authoring multiple publications. After graduation, she completed an internship at Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park before returning to Juniata College, where she served as an adjunct laboratory instructor and helped develop undergraduate bioinformatics curricula. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Infectious Diseases as part the dual DVM-Ph.D. program at UGA, combining her interests in genomics and veterinary medicine to investigate how the microbiome shapes infection processes in African wildlife. Throughout her Ph.D., she has presented her work at both local and national conferences. Apart from research, she enjoys science communication, singing in choir, and photography.

# ARCS FOUNDATION ATLANTA

## 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<b>Special Events Chair Elect</b>	Betsy Kazazian*
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<b>Assistant to the President</b>	Jane Dolinger
<b>Nominating Chair</b>	Elaine Davis*
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Sally Hinkle*

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### APPOINTED BY THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

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<b>Endowment Fund Chair</b>	Lisa Bankoff*
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*\*Indicates new to the position*

# ARCS FOUNDATION

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Sarah Batts	Sally Jobe	Patty Reid
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Martha Lee Doyle	Sally McDaniel	Ellen Adair Wyche
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Elizabeth Finnerty	Tracy McMillan	
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Anne Gieryn*	Joanne Michaels	
Martha Gillin	Vikki Millender-Morrow	
Kathryn Graves	Susan Missbach	
Joanne Chesler Gross	Caroline Moise	
Angelle Hamilton	Regina Olchowski	
Caroline Hardin	Laura Pease	
Laura Hardman	Mary Jo Peed	

*\*New Members*

**ARCS FOUNDATION**  
**ATLANTA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**

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Ann Cousins	Trina Johns	Kristen Whatley
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Patsy Drummond	Leslie McLeod	
Marie Edwards	Catherine Millichap	
Carla Fackler	Betty Mori	
Betty Feezor	Michelle Nordin	

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Mary B. O'Connor  
Pamela Whitten

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<b>Chairman-Elect</b>	Kristen Gibbs	
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<b>Public Relations Chair</b>	Ellen Adair Wyche	
<b>Scholars Chair</b>	Pat Leake	
<b>University Relations Co-Chairs</b>	Carolynn Cooper and Caroline Moise	

*\*New Members*



**ARCS® FOUNDATION, INC.**  
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*Founder, Atlanta Chapter*  
Patsy Drummond, 1994-1995  
Trudy Huger, 1995-1996  
Frannie Graves, 1996-1997  
Pat Leake, 1997-1998  
Betsy Hansen, 1998-1999  
Deborah Liss, 1999-2000  
Sally Hinkle, 2000-2002  
Janie Wilson, 2002-2004  
Teed M. Poe, 2004-2006  
Jan K. Bennett, 2006-2008  
Sherry Lundeen, 2008-2010  
Kay Weiss, 2010-2012  
Gracia Conn, 2012-2014  
Jane Dolinger, 2014-2016  
Sara Jean Burke, 2016-2018  
Susan McGonigle, 2018-2020

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ARCS FOUNDATION NATIONAL BOARD OR  
COUNCIL OF ADVISORS 2020-2021**

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Nancy Chambers	Secretary
Jane Dolinger	Chair, Council of Advisors
Susan McGonigle	Chair, Council of Presidents
Sara Jean Burke	Chair, Chapter Engagement
Sally McDaniel	Endowment Committee
Janie Wilson	Member, Council of Advisors

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