



ARCS

ADVANCING
SCIENCE
IN AMERICA™



THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

LUNCHEON

2009



ATLANTA CHAPTER FALL 2009 LUNCHEON PROGRAM

Welcome

Sherry Lundeen, President
Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation,
Atlanta Chapter

Presentation of 2009 ARCS Atlanta Scholars

Invocation

Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus
The Temple

Lunch

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Bill Liss
Business, Financial & Consumer Editor, WXIA-TV, Atlanta

David Spencer

Professor of Practice
Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology

Moderator

Bill Liss

Closing Remarks

Sherry Lundeen

The History of ARCS[®] Foundation

In 1957, in the aftermath of the Soviet launching of Sputnik, a group of women in Los Angeles came together with the commitment to re-establish U.S. technological superiority. ARCS Foundation was founded with idealism and patriotism in mind, its goal to financially assist students of high achievement in the natural sciences, medicine and engineering.

On Sept. 5, 1958, Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation, Inc. was formally incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in California, the culmination of ten months of intensive effort by its founders, Florence Malouf, Irene Slagel, Alice Tyler and Helena Wooldridge. They were ably advised in this ambitious endeavor by Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, president of the California Institute of Technology.

A national board of 53 philanthropic leaders was established and a Los Angeles chapter of 69 members was organized. The first brochure contained a letter from President Dwight D. Eisenhower congratulating them and offering wishes for continued success. From inception in Los Angeles, the organization has grown to 16 chapters in 13 states. As opportunities arise, further chapters will be chartered.

The National Board of ARCS must approve the colleges and universities that chapters select for funding, as well as the departments and programs at those institutions. A scholar receiving an award must be a citizen of the United States and have a high scholastic record and demonstrated ability. Institutions receiving the funds administer them and select students without regard to race, creed or gender.

The ARCS Foundation is one of the largest contributors to basic science education of any private membership organization in the United States. The ARCS Foundation works differently than many organizations in that 100 percent of all contributions go directly to the scholars. In addition, resources from corporations, foundations and individuals combine to support American scholars, helping to insure a better future for all. As an all-volunteer organization, members take a personal interest in supporting the scholars and keep in touch with scholars throughout their academic careers, and often beyond.

ARCS® At A Glance

Chapters

Atlanta, Georgia
Chicago, Illinois
Denver, Colorado
Honolulu, Hawaii
Los Angeles, California
Lubbock, Texas
Metro Washington, D.C.
Minnesota
Northern California
Orange County, California
Phoenix, Arizona
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Portland, Oregon
San Diego, California
Seattle, Washington
Utah

Mission

The ARCS Foundation provides scholar awards to academically outstanding United States citizens studying to complete degrees in science, medicine and engineering, thereby contributing to the advancement of science and technology.

Achievements

In the academic year 2008-2009, over 1,500 ARCS Foundation members awarded \$4,482,023 to 46 schools for a cumulative total of \$70,824,985 and 12,638 scholar awards since its founding. Chapter endowments now total \$13,748,763 for scholar awards.

Web site

arcsfoundation.org

MONARCS®

We are proud to recognize the following donors who have contributed to the Atlanta Chapter of Achievement Rewards for College Scientists throughout our brief history.

Donors who have given cumulative gifts of \$50,000 or more:

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Kay and Buddy Weiss

From the President

The Atlanta Chapter of the ARCS® Foundation, Inc. welcomes you to our 18th annual Scholars Luncheon. Advancing Science in America™ is the mission of the ARCS Foundation, one of the largest private contributors of science education in the United States. Organized and operated throughout the country by more than 1500 women volunteers, the ARCS Foundation gives 100 percent of all contributions to direct support of academically outstanding U.S. scholars pursuing degrees in science and engineering. In 2009, the ARCS Foundation, was recognized nationally for its scholar award programs promoting science and engineering education by the **Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)** with its highest award – the James L. Fisher Award for Distinguished Service to Education.

Today we will recognize and honor 35 academically outstanding science and engineering students from Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College and the University of Georgia. These gifted students are the “best and the brightest” in their fields of study. We are proud to be playing a part in their achievements.

We would like to say thanks a million to all of our donors! This year ARCS Atlanta will have awarded a cumulative total of over \$2.1 million to 462 scholars pursuing studies in scientific and technological innovation. The scholar support comes from three sources. A portion of the dues paid by 141 ARCS members helps fund several awards; then there are those ARCS members who have chosen to provide additional financial support for the scholars; and, finally, corporations, foundations and families who believe in ARCS and the ARCS mission have joined to create more scholar awards. We hope some of you today who hear our message and are impressed by our phenomenal scholars will be inspired to become our newest ARCS Scholar Award Donors.

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to chair Cathey Millichap and her entire Scholars Luncheon Committee, all of whom have worked to make this a memorable day for our scholars, members and guests.



President, ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter

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David Spencer

*Professor of Practice
Guggenheim School of
Aerospace Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology*

David Spencer is a Professor of the Practice within the School of Aerospace Engineering and Director for the Georgia Tech Center for Space Systems, a multi-disciplinary education and research center dedicated to excellence in space system engineering.

David joined the Georgia Tech faculty in 2008 after seventeen years with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. While at the JPL, he was the Deputy Project Manager for the Phoenix Mars Lander, Mission Manager for the Deep Impact and Mars Odyssey projects, and mission designer for Mars Pathfinder. As a high school student, he was interested in creative writing and journalism, but also excelled at math and science. He became interested in aerospace engineering through attending a summer engineering camp at Purdue University. He enrolled at Purdue and worked as an engineering co-op at Lockheed-Georgia during his undergraduate years. David received his Bachelor and Master's degrees in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue, with an emphasis on orbital mechanics. He now teaches the capstone space systems engineering courses at Georgia Tech, and conducts research on collaborative systems for observing the coastal oceans using earth orbiters, unmanned aerial vehicles and underwater vehicles.

He is the author or co-author of numerous technical publications in the fields of planetary mission design, flight operations, and system engineering.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Kathryn Anderson

Jobe Award

*M.D./Ph.D. Candidate, Epidemiology
Third Year ARCS Scholar*



Katie is an M.D./Ph.D. candidate at Emory University, presently conducting her Ph.D. research in the department of epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health. She is originally from Bloomington, Minnesota and received her Bachelors degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1997 and her Masters of Science in Public Health from Emory University in 2002. Her Ph.D. research focuses on the associations of pre-existing dengue virus immunity with the risks of dengue transmission, infection, and disease. Two abstracts were accepted for poster presentations and were presented at the International Dengue Conference in Phuket, Thailand, and at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Conference in New Orleans.

William Seth Childers

Correll/ARCS Century Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Chemistry
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



As an undergraduate Seth studied chemical engineering at Georgia Tech then worked as a chemical engineer at Merck for five years. Graduate research in the past four years focused on understanding how amyloid peptides self-assembly into an array of functional and toxic architectures. Future plans are aimed at applying engineering principles to understand the interface of biological and nanomaterials assembly.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Krista Yorita Christensen

Donnell Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Epidemiology
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Krista is from Honolulu, Hawaii. She earned a B.A. in Anthropology at Northwestern University. In 2006, Krista entered the Ph.D. program in Epidemiology at Emory University. She has since passed her qualifying examination and proposed her dissertation research, which focuses on pubertal development of girls, and the effects of exposure to persistent organic pollutants on age at menarche.

Morna A. Ikeda

Zeist Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Genetics & Molecular Biology
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Morna graduated from Northwestern University in 2000 with a B.A. in Molecular and Cell Biology. From 2000-2005, her work studying the genetics of complex disease at Johns Hopkins resulted in five co-authored publications. Joining Emory University in 2005, Morna began her doctoral degree identifying genetic mutations in autism. Morna hopes her findings will result in new diagnostic tests and therapies.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Sheri Lense

Rice Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Inorganic Chemistry
First year ARCS Scholar*



Sheri is from New York. As an undergraduate, she majored in chemistry at Princeton University. She then received a M.S. degree in chemistry at the University of California at Berkeley. She is currently working on her Ph.D. at Emory University, where her research involves inorganic coordination chemistry, and where she also works in the x-ray crystallography laboratory. After receiving her Ph.D., she would like to work as either a crystallographer or as a scientist in an industrial or government lab.

Heather A. Mitchell

ARCS Century Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Pharmacology
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



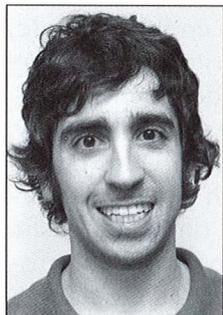
Heather received her B.A. in Behavioral Neuroscience from Connecticut College. She then worked as a research technician at the CBR Institute for Biomedical Research in Harvard Medical School before beginning her Ph.D. studies at Emory University in the laboratory of David Weinshenker. Her dissertation research deals with learning the mechanism of action of modafinil, a commonly-used wake-promoting medication.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Joseph Sabatino, Jr.

Turner Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Immunology
Second Year ARCS Scholar*

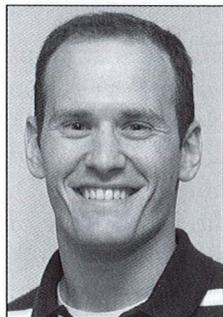


Joe graduated magna cum laude from Colgate University in 2002 with a B.A. in Neuroscience and a minor in German. In 2002, he received a Fulbright Fellowship to Germany. He entered the M.D./Ph.D. program at Emory University in 2004 and joined the Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis program in 2006. His dissertation work involves investigating T cell tolerance in an animal model of multiple sclerosis.

Aaron Thornton

Betsy Hansen Memorial Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Chemistry
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Aaron Thornton is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska. He received a B.A. with Honors in Chemistry from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. Aaron is currently in his 4th year as a graduate student in the Chemistry Department at Emory University, working in the lab of Dr. Simon Blakey. His research project is focused on organometallic reaction methodologies and more specifically with the development of a new metallonitrene/alkyne cascade reaction.

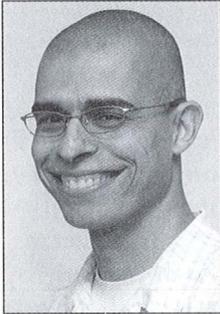
When not in the lab he enjoys relaxing at home and playing/watching football and baseball.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Terrence Michael Wright, Jr.

Amos Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Neuroscience
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



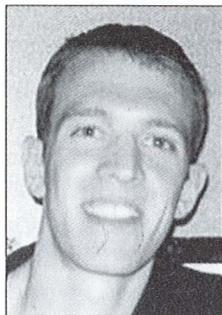
Michael matriculated to the Graduate Program in Neuroscience at Emory University in 2004, where he currently works in the lab of Dr. Ronald Calabrese. Michael's thesis research is investigating mechanisms that underlie how we perform rhythmic motor movements, such as locomotion. Michael has presented his research at multiple scientific conferences and has received multiple fellowships that fund his research.

GEORGIA TECH

Ryan Austin

Hansen Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Mechanical Engineering
First Year ARCS Scholar*



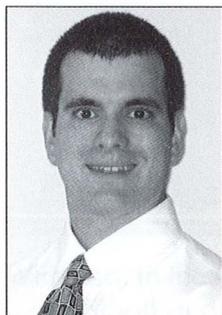
Ryan is originally from Stroudsburg, PA. He received his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University in 2003, and is currently working toward his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. His research focuses on modeling the behavior of metals at very high rates of deformation; specifically, the mechano-chemical responses of Ni-Al powder mixtures in compressive shock waves.

This research has been supported, in part, by an NDSEG Fellowship. After finishing at Georgia Tech, he plans to pursue a research-oriented career in theoretical and applied mechanics. He enjoys a number of athletic activities, including basketball, swimming, and running, as well as trying new foods, cooking, taking photographs, and traveling abroad.

Jonathan Clausen

Imlay Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Mechanical Engineering
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Jonathan is from Spartanburg, South Carolina. He received his undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from Clemson University and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Georgia Tech. His dissertation research involves computational simulations of deformable particle suspensions, with application areas in paper making and biological flows. Postgraduate, Jonathan plans to continue in academia with research interests in the lattice-Boltzmann method, non-Newtonian suspension rheology, and biological flows.

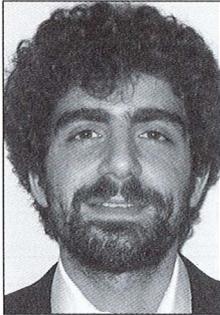
Jonathan is also an avid ultimate player, and frequently plays in the Atlanta Flying Disc Club (AFDC) leagues.

GEORGIA TECH

Daniel Dadush

Miller Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Industrial and Systems Engineering
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Daniel completed a B.S. in Mathematics at Brown University in 2006. He began his Ph.D. in Algorithms, Combinatorics and Optimization in August 2007. His primary interests are in optimization and convex geometry. His current research focuses on understanding the volume distributions of high dimensional convex bodies and applying new tools from geometry toward the development of novel optimization algorithms. Outside of school, Daniel is an avid traveler who greatly enjoys learning about different languages and cultures.

Aaron Enes

Chaddick Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Mechanical Engineering
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Aaron is a Ph.D. Candidate and Woodruff Fellow from the School of Mechanical Engineering at Georgia Tech where he researches techniques to improve the energy efficiency of human-controlled hydraulic construction robots. Previously he earned a B.S. in Engineering Physics from Northwest Nazarene University in his hometown of Nampa, Idaho. Post graduation, Aaron plans to pursue a career in management or technical consulting.

GEORGIA TECH

Dan Steffy

Cooley Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Industrial & Systems Engineering
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Dan was born and raised in Royal Oak, Michigan. Now a Georgia Tech Ph.D. student in Algorithms, Combinatorics and Optimization, his research focus is the development of exact precision techniques for optimization. He served as president of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee and has captained several intramural sports teams. He also plays bass with Atlanta jazz ensemble Style Points.

Alejandro Toriello

Siemens Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Industrial & Systems Engineering
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Alejandro was born in Guatemala City, Guatemala. He holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in IE with a focus on optimization. In addition to the ARCS Scholar Award, his academic awards include an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, a Goizueta Foundation Fellowship and a Georgia Tech President's Fellowship. His research interests are in supply chain optimization and logistics, and his current applied research involves maritime transportation and inventory management. Alejandro lives in Pine Lake, Georgia with his wife Catherine.

GEORGIA TECH

Tracy Westeyn

Joachim Herz Memorial Award

Ph.D. Candidate, Computer Science

Third Year ARCS Scholar



Tracy's primary research areas are on-body sensing, wearable computing and machine learning. Currently, she is researching its use on children with autism and other developmental delays. She is a Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholar for the year 2006-07. Tracy is also an instructor for Kennesaw State University's CyberTech II program, an introductory computer science course aimed at involving underrepresented students in technology oriented fields.

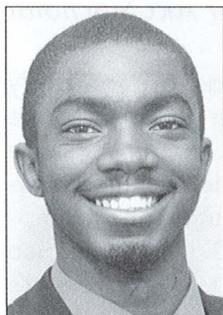
Outside of the lab, she is an active member of the Women @ CC organization which helps support women in computer science at Georgia Tech and served as its co-president for the 2006-07 academic year. She has a black belt in Shaolin Kung Fu and was both president and goalie for the GaTech Women's Lacrosse Club.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Osemelu Aburime

Meier Award

Senior, Biology Major - Second Year ARCS Scholar



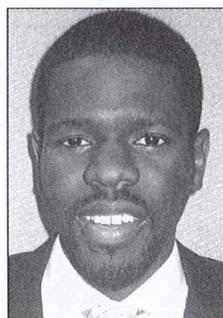
Ose Aburime is a Senior biology major from Port Harcourt, Nigeria. He has been an MBRS-RISE scholar since his freshman year and is also a member of the Health Careers Society. While at Morehouse, he researches the regulated pathway of dynein inner arm assembly in the axoneme by using *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* as a model system. He has also investigated redox-sensitive signaling pathways in vascular smooth muscle cells. Ose is particularly interested in studying the role of NADPH oxidase 4-dependent reactive oxygen

species generation and p38 activation in the redifferentiation of vascular smooth muscle cells. In his Junior year, Ose became the founding Vice-President of the Morehouse College chapter of the Foundation for the International Medical Relief for Children (FIMRC). His postgraduate plans include pursuing an M.D./Ph.D in the innovative field of cell or molecular biology.

Warren Chancellor

Jeanne Berry ARCS Light Award

Senior, Mathematics Major - First Year ARCS Scholar



Warren Chancellor is currently from Charlotte, North Carolina, yet was raised in Irian Jaya, Indonesia from kindergarten to seventh grade. It is here, with his parents' support, that he established a strong respect for education. Warren has been engaged in active research during his summer breaks in various Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) programs at the Georgia Institute of Technology and University of California at Berkeley. During these REUs he had the opportunity to study and research a wide variety

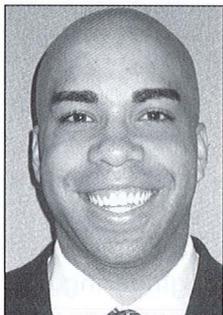
of subjects including Graph Theory, Gaming Theory, Biomedical Engineering, and Coding Theory. As a member of the Dr. John H. Hopps Research Scholars Program at Morehouse, he is currently researching wavelets and fingerprint recognition via compression and wavelet transposition. Post-graduation, he hopes to continue his education and attend graduate school.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Frank Conyers

ARCS Century Award

*Junior, Biology Major
First Year ARCS Scholar*

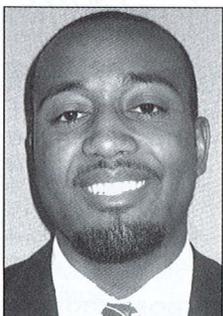


Frank Conyers is from Lansing, Michigan. He is a Junior biology major where he is a John H. Hopps Research Scholar and a MARS Scholar. He is also an active member of the Health Careers Society and Alpha Epsilon Delta. While at Morehouse, he researches the ability of mesenchymal and amniotic fluid stem cells to differentiate into osteogenic cells. He has also spent two summers at Harvard Medical School researching a select group of cardiac cells and their ability to endogenously regenerate damaged myocardium. His postgraduate plans include pursuing an M.D./Ph.D. in the field of molecular biology.

David Hill

Berry/ARCS Century Award

*Senior, Physics Major
First Year ARCS Scholar*



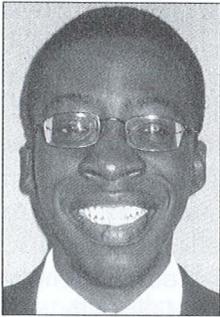
David is from Memphis, Tennessee. He is currently pursuing a B.S. in Physics from Morehouse College. His primary research interests focus on the fabrication of optical elements for extreme ultraviolet light sources. He has also conducted research on nanocomposite materials with automotive applications. Upon graduation, he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and later begin a career as a college professor.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Kenneth Lyons, Jr.

Gilham/ARCS Century Award

*Junior, Chemistry Major
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Originally from Oakland, California, Kenneth is a member of the Dr. John H. Hopps, Jr. Research Scholars Program at Morehouse College. During the academic year he works with Dr. Brian Lawrence in the Morehouse Chemistry Department. Kenneth has also done research during the summer, the most recent experience being at Princeton University in its Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. He has given presentations of his research as well as presenting a poster of his Princeton work at the 2009 Leadership Alliance Conference. Kenneth is also a member of the Morehouse College Glee Club. Kenneth plans to earn a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and begin a career in research.

David Roberts

Sartain Lanier Award

*Senior, Biology Major
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



David is a Senior Biology major, raised in Barbados. He is a Hopps Scholar and a winner of the 2008 Frederick Mapps Symposium in the category of oral presentation. Over the past two summers David has conducted research in the fields of kinesiology and genetics, but his primary passion lies in the ecological study of seed beetle toxicity. David's postgraduate plans include obtaining a Ph.D. in ecology and working in academia.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

William D. Shipman III

Glenn Award

Senior, Biology Major - Second Year ARCS Scholar

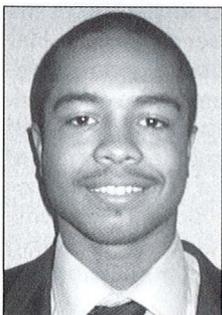


William is a candidate for a B.S. in Biology with a minor in Spanish. Originally from Whiteville, NC, he also attended the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, NC. Currently, William conducts research in the Morehouse College Behavioral Ecology Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Lawrence Blumer. His research studies focus on the behavioral and physiological applications of ultraviolet vision in Bruchid bean beetles. William has also assisted in coordinating chemistry research at the University of Buenos Aires in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and toxicogenomics research with the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Clinical Research Branch. Shipman is also a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Careers Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, and the MBRS-RISE Program. He has received numerous awards EPA Research Fellowship, a Poster Award at the 2007 Annual Biomedical Conference for Minority Students in Developmental Biology, and an Oral Presentation Award at the 8th Annual Role Models Conference sponsored by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. After Morehouse College, William plans to enter an M.D./Ph.D. program and pursue a career as a physician scientist.

Bobby Wilson

Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta Award

Senior, Mathematics Major - First Year ARCS Scholar



Bobby is from Phoenix, Arizona and participates in the John H. Hopps Jr. Defense Research Scholarship Program as a member of the first group of students inducted into the program. For the past three summers, he has studied singular integrals, dynamical systems and computational number theory at various universities around the country. His postgraduate plans include pursuing a Ph.D. in mathematics.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Benjamin Austin

Liss/ARCS Century Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Psychology
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Ben received his Bachelor of Engineering degree with Honors in Mechanical Engineering from Vanderbilt University in 2003. After an internship at NASA, he joined the Cognitive/Experimental Psychology Ph.D. program at the University of Georgia. Under the direction of Dr. Jennifer McDowell, Ben earned his M.S. in Psychology in 2007 and is currently working on his doctoral dissertation. His research uses functional MRI brain-imaging and eye movements to investigate neural plasticity in schizophrenia, i.e., the ability of neural circuits in the brain to change over time in response to practice. Ben's work was recently awarded two of the highest honors from the UGA Graduate School – The Dean's Award and The Dissertation Completion Award. He plans to graduate in August 2010 and is pursuing a postdoctoral fellowship in cognitive neuroscience. In his spare time, Ben enjoys playing electric violin and running.

Caryn Hale

Burtchaell Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Caryn received a B.A. in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Scientific Inquiry from the Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern State University in 2004 and is presently pursuing a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Biomedical and Health Sciences Institute at the University of Georgia under the direction of Drs. Michael and Rebecca Terns. Her research focuses on a novel RNA-based genome defense system in prokaryotic organisms. Caryn's work has yielded publications in the journals *Nucleic Acid Research* and *RNA*, and she has another in press at *Cell*. She has presented her work at several international conferences, including the RNA 2008 meeting in Berlin, Germany. Upon graduation, Caryn intends to continue her research on non-coding RNAs by pursuing a post-doctoral fellowship. In her free time, Caryn enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Carly Jordan

ARCS Century Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Cellular Biology
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



Carly was born in Houston, Texas. She completed both a B.S. and M.S. in biology at Virginia Tech. Her research focuses on organelle division in the human parasite, *Toxoplasma gondii*. She is passionate about teaching, and is a member of the UGA Future Faculty Program. After graduation, Carly hopes to find a position teaching biology and mentoring undergraduate researchers.

Megan L. McCormick

Adams Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Clinical Psychology
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Megan received her B.A. in Psychology from Mercer University in 2005. She entered the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program at the Biomedical and Health Sciences Institute at the University of Georgia in 2006. Under the supervision of Dr. Ronald Blount, she has co-authored five published journal articles and one book chapter in the area of pediatric psychology and has presented research at two national conferences. She earned her M.S. in Psychology at UGA in 2009

for her work in reducing pain and physical symptoms in adolescents with Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Her current research examines risk factors for barriers to medication non-adherence in adolescent solid organ transplant recipients. Her postgraduate plans include pursuing a postdoctoral fellowship in pediatric psychology and continuing research efforts in these areas. In her spare time, Megan enjoys fishing, running, biking, and spending time with friends and family.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Meghan McManus

ARCS Century Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences
Second Year ARCS Scholar*



After receiving her B.S. degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Georgia, Meagan joined the Ph.D. program in the Department of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences (PBS). Under the guidance of Dr. James Franklin, Meagan is studying the molecular mechanisms that dictate neurodegenerative disease development. She is currently investigating the role of mitochondrial oxidative stress and dysfunction in the progression of Alzheimer's

Disease. She has presented her research findings at several national neuroscience conferences. During her graduate career, Meagan has been president of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UGA, and has served as the PBS Graduate Student Association Representative, in addition to several other departmental committees. Besides research, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, gardening, and playing tennis.

Elizabeth Rahn

Mauldin Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Neuroscience
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Elizabeth is originally from Muscle Shoals, AL. She is a 5th year graduate student at the University of Georgia enrolled in the interdisciplinary Neuroscience Ph.D. program. She is currently studying the therapeutics of cannabinoids, synthetic cannabis-like compounds, on neurotoxicity and pathological pain induced by chemotherapeutic agents. She has received several University, regional and national accolades for her research.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Michael Stramiello

Weiss Award

*Ph.D. Candidate, Neuroscience
First Year ARCS Scholar*



Michael received a B.S. in Biology from the University of Georgia, where he is now finishing a Ph.D. in Neuroscience. His research is focused on disorders of learning and memory, including addiction and Alzheimer's disease. Michael is also an active volunteer in several organizations that seek to alleviate the negative impacts of these disorders upon the Athens community.

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