2006 Scholarship Donors
by Gracia Conn

As we enter into our 15th year as an ARCS Chapter, we are proud to recognize those members, foundations and corporations who generously support our scholars. One of the long time supporters is Georgia Gulf, a leading North American manufacturer and international marketer of chemical products. James Kuse, the late husband of ARCS member Shirley Kuse, was co-founder of the company. In a conversation with John Hager, Corporate Personnel Manager, he said that it is only appropriate that Georgia Gulf support a scholar since they hire so many chemical engineers and other engineers. He also stated that the annual Scholars’ Luncheon is “always inspirational.”

An ARCS family foundation, the Zeist Foundation, established in 1989 by the late Dr. George and Jean Brumley, has been a long time supporter of ARCS. The Brumley’s daughter, Marie Brumley Foster, joined ARCS in 2005. Thank you to the many ARCS members, their foundations and corporations for making significant contributions to the scholarship program. Among the member donors are the MonARCS who have contributed a cumulative gift of $25,000 or more. Our newest MonARCS are Patsy and Jere Drummond, Harriet and Sandy Miller, and Georgia Gulf.

The Funds Development committee, chaired by Sherry Lundeen, is continuing a valuable relationship with ARCS scholarship donors for the benefit of our ARCS Scholars. Serving on this committee are Jan Bennett, Anne Boyd, Debbie Liss, Anne Morgan, and Anne Shearer.

2006-2007 SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

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*indicates MonARCS
A Letter from our President

Dear ARCS members,

As we begin the Fall Season, I am pleased to submit this first column as President – ARCS Atlanta Chapter. There is so much to report and so many exciting plans in the upcoming months as we look forward to the celebration of our chapter’s 15th anniversary in 2007 and to the 50th Anniversary of the ARCS Foundation in 2008.

The University Relations Committee and I have just finished a round of very successful meetings with the Universities. We were able to share with them the good news -- that our Chapter is able to offer 43 fellowships and scholarships – the same number as last year – while at the same time to raise the level of support to $6,000 for all graduate-level fellowships. In addition, this year our Chapter increased its commitment to Morehouse by providing replacement funding for two scholarships previously funded through the ARCS National Board (the Hach Foundation scholarships).

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of Funds Development Chairman Sherry Lundeen, and to the generosity of a record number of ARCS members as well as outside corporations and foundations, we are awarding $249,000 in fellowships and scholarships. And we have been able to accomplish this milestone in time to celebrate our 15th Anniversary. A tip of the hat to all our donors and to those of you who helped nurture them.

We celebrated the beginning of the Fall Season with the recent Cocktail Party at the beautiful home of Lynn Cochran Schroder. Exciting upcoming events include a field trip to the Printpack manufacturing facility on November 1, the annual Scholars Luncheon on November 16 and the General Membership Meeting and Luncheon at the Swan Coach House on January 24, 2007.

Again, kudos to all our donors who have helped make possible another successful year of fund raising and support to our wonderful scholars. And my thanks to Teed Poe, Janie Wilson and others who have made my transition to ARCS President successful and fun, and to all the ARCS members for their suggestions and diligence. I look forward to working with you over the next two years.

Jan K. Bennett
Ms. Laura S. H. Holgate to Address ARCS Scholars Luncheon
by Gracia Conn

The annual Scholars’ Luncheon will be held Thursday, November 16 at the Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta. Chairing the event is Kay Weiss who is assisted by Liz Troy. Ms. Laura S.H. Holgate, Vice President for Russia/New Independent States Programs for the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) will be featured speaker. The topic for her talk is “Nuclear Threats: Linking Science and Security.”

Founded in 2001 by Ted Turner and former Senator Sam Nunn, NTI is a public charity devoted to reducing the risk that nuclear, biological or chemical weapons will ever be used, and to preventing their proliferation.

Before joining NTI in 2001, Ms. Holgate directed the Department of Energy’s Office of Fissile Materials Disposition (1998-01) and was special coordinator for Cooperative Threat Reduction at the Department for Defense (1995-98) where she provided policy oversight of the “Nunn-Lugar” Cooperative Threat Reduction program of U.S. assistance to Russia and other former Soviet states in eliminating the weapons-of-destruction legacy of the Cold War. She has also served under the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security and worked on the Clinton Transition Team as Special Assistant to the Acting Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Ms. Holgate has an AB in politics from Princeton University and an SM from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in political science. She spent two years on the research staff at Harvard University’s Center for Science and International Affairs at the Kennedy School of Government. Among the awards she has received are the Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service, a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship, and a certificate of commendation from the Department of Energy. She is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, serves on the Executive Board of Women in International Security and sits on the advisory panels for the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Laura S. H. Holgate

Atlanta to Host NAM 2007
by Leslie McLeod

The Atlanta Chapter of ARCS will be hosting the National Annual Meeting at the Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta, May 30-June 2, 2007. Mary Snitch, the National coordinator from the DC Chapter has already secured Dr. Sylvia Earle, an internationally renowned marine biologist, to give the Opening Night speech. There are other agenda items that are in the planning stages and we hope that our Atlanta members will join the festivities. We will be calling on everyone to help “show off” our city and to help make NAM a huge success.

Address Changes

Anne Boyd’s new email address: jamboyd@bellsouth.net
Deede Stephenson’s new email: ddsteph@comcast.net

ARCS Members’ News

Condolences to Peg and Keith Cooley on the death of his mother, to Stephanie and Bill Reeves on the death of her mother and to Eileen and Ray Christman on the death of his mother.
Scholar Sighting: Siobhan Craige
by Cécy Jones

An Irish lass from Massachusetts, Siobhan Craige, is in her fifth year of her Ph.D. in nutrition and health sciences in Emory’s graduate department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences. Siobhan (pronounced Shi-van) expects to finish in the Spring of 2007. This is her second year as an ARCS scholar.

Inspired by her paternal grandmother who lived until 104, Siobhan’s research focus is aging and age-related disease. She is dedicated to finding bio-markers to measure oxidative stress in blood and then recommends diet and life-style changes to decrease oxidative stress and prevent age-related disease (cancer, cardiovascular disease, or macular degeneration).

Siobhan met her husband, Branch, when they were both Emory undergraduates. Both elected to remain at Emory for graduate work. After their daughter, Keelin, was born seven months ago, her parents rented out their Massachusetts home and moved to Atlanta to help care for Keelin.

Siobhan plans to remain in academia and pursue post-doctoral studies at the nutrition and aging center at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Scholar Sighting: Anne-Marie Lerner
by Barbara Williams

How lucky ARCS is to have such a talented and dedicated group of scientists working in the labs and the classrooms of our finest research institutions. Our group of Georgia-based scholars has always been an inspiration to all of us—even if we don’t quite grasp what it is that they do or how they do it! Anne-Marie Lerner is one of our very special Georgia Tech ARCS Scholars and she is working toward the completion of her PhD in the field of Mechanical Engineering.

Anne-Marie, a musically-talented high school student in Iowa City, Iowa, saw a school flier calling for women interested in engineering to apply for Summer Internships at Iowa State. At that time, Anne-Marie had her sights set on Chemical Engineering and she was accepted into the Internship Program and worked with a Professor of Mechanical Engineering, which involves the study of things that move. The experience in the Summer Internship provided a great exposure to Mechanical Engineering and the rest is “her-story!”

In this final year of research and study, Anne-Marie is writing her dissertation for her approaching graduation in May of ’07. She is also very dedicated to giving back to the academic arena. Two of her passions involve teaching and mentoring female students at Georgia Tech. She works with a program that supports an All-Female dorm by sponsoring get-togethers in relaxed settings to give guidance to the women as they pursue their professional studies.

The title of Anne-Marie’s dissertation is: “Stability and controllability investigation of MREs in longitudinal vibration absorbers.” She explained that MREs is an “acronym for magnetorheological elastomers.” Ahhh, we all say, of course! Vibrations, a subset of movement, sometimes are trouble and need to be controlled, as in the vibration of an airplane wing or the chassis of a car. Anne-Marie is working with a rubber substance to which she has added iron particles, in order to help give a method of control which will decrease the movement/vibration. Sounds like an end to wear and tear!

After graduation, Anne-Marie hopes to pursue a teaching career in her field and share her special talents with future generations of scientists and engineers. ARCS wishes her every success in all that her future brings. We can’t think of a better reason to continue the work of ARCS than to support people like her.
Scholar Sighting: Janette Villalobos
by Cecy Jones

Janette Villalobos first earned an ARCS scholarship in 2005 and expects to complete her Ph.D. in organo-metallic chemistry under Dr. Lanny Liebeskind at Emory in the spring of 2007. Janette first discovered her thirst for cutting edge research as an undergraduate student at the University of Florida. Her mentor there directed her to Emory and the search to identify new ways to make carbon-carbon bonds.

Currently, she’s applying for post-doctoral work at prestigious universities across the country. Following that, Janette’s dilemma is whether to work in the research and development area of a pharmaceutical company or to continue to teach.

Janette’s father fled Cuba in 1959 after the revolution and came to Miami where he met and married her mother, who was born in the United States of Cuban parents. With two older half sisters and a younger brother in medical school, Janette is only the second woman in her family to obtain a graduate degree.

She credits her grandmother who first set aside money for college when she was born and her mother and aunt who supplemented those funds. Janette’s broad interests include theater, dancing, art museums, travel, and her rescued dog – Spanky.

Yesterday’s Scholars – Today’s Leaders

Bryan Derrickson, PhD
Another ARCS scholar from Morehouse College, Dr. Bryan Derrickson, is Professor of Biology at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Florida. He received his PhD in Cell Biology, with an emphasis on physiology, from Duke University. Dr. Derrickson has served on both the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Academy Committee at Valencia and nationally is a member of the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society and the National Association of Biology Teachers. In college he was inspired by his biology professors and is passing that legacy down to his students, as he has thrice been awarded the “Valencia Professor Who Makes Valencia A Better Place To Start” by his students in the past five years.

Michael L.. Penn Jr., MD, PhD
Michael L. Penn Jr., a native of San Francisco, was an ARCS scholar while a student at Morehouse College. From there he went to the University of California, San Francisco, where he obtained his MD/PhD in 2003. In 2001 he and a UCSF colleague Dr. Frederick Moore co-founded a nonprofit organization, Brothers Building Diversity in the Sciences, whose mission is to utilize science as a platform to empower underrepresented minority students. More recently, they coauthored the book “Finding Your North”, a guide for anyone considering a career in medicine or the sciences. Dr. Penn is currently working as a product manager in BioOncology marketing at Genentech.

Jason K. Sello, PhD
Brown University has announced the addition of Dr. Jason K. Sello as Assistant Professor of Chemistry. An ARCS scholar from Morehouse College, Dr. Sello received his PhD in Biophysics from Harvard University. His past two years as a postdoctoral fellow from Harvard Medical School were spent at the John Innes Institute in Norwich, UK where he studied antibiotic biosynthesis in vivo. At Brown he will continue research on that group of soil bacteria called streptomycetes from which nearly two-thirds of clinical and veterinary antibiotics are derived.
Nearly 100 people attended the annual Fall Cocktail Party at the beautiful home of Lynn Cochran Schroder. Our thanks to Jean Russ and Susan McGonigle, Special Events Co-Chairs, who helped make it a wonderful evening for all.

In order to raise money for the Chapter Endowment, we offered a small Silent Auction, chaired by Cathey Millichap. Thanks to donors Warren and Sally Jobe (St Simon’s home), Paul and Ann Hill (Idaho home) and to AirTran Airways (ten business class tickets) we raised $7,650. Auction winners were Linda Mauldin, Jere and Patsy Drummond, Bill and Lynn Shroder, Tom and Sharon Quaintance, and Ronnie Martin and Rich DeMillo.
ARCS Atlanta Chapter
P.O. Box 52125
Atlanta GA 30355

ARCS Member Special Event

Field Trip Scheduled for Printpack

On Wednesday, November 1, 2006, ARCS Atlanta members will be touring Printpack, Inc., the leader in the flexible packaging industry. Printpack has 20 plants in the U.S. and the United Kingdom and over 4000 associates worldwide. The company was founded in 1956 by J. Erskine Love, Jr., a graduate of Georgia Tech and the husband of ARCS member Gay Love. When Mr. Love passed away, the Love’s son, Dennis McLawhorn Love, was appointed President of Printpack. Dennis is the husband of Betts Love, one of our newest ARCS members.

Watch for further details about the Field Trip to Printpack. Chairing this function is Jane Dolinger, Vice-president for Education, assisted by Cathey Millichap.

Save the Date!
November 16, 2006
Scholars’ Luncheon
Ritz Carlton Downtown