As is the tradition, ARCS actively fosters learning among our Scholars as well as our members. Education Co-Chairs Anita Kern and Brooke Weinmann have solicited input and feedback from members and are actively planning a stimulating array of on-site programs on a variety of topics. Building on the success of the recently initiated “Book Club,” they will be selecting a program-relevant book for members to read. This will be followed by an interactive session with the author or subject matter expert. The first program entitled: From Mike Wallace to Fantasia Barrino: Understanding Depression, Suicide and Other Mental Illnesses will take place the morning of Thursday, October 7 at Skyland Trail.

Recent research in neuroscience is impacting behavioral health treatments and Skyland Trail is an early user of innovative as well as proven therapies. Skyland Trail, like Emory, Georgia Tech and other outstanding institutions in our community, is well positioned to lead the industry as a national model of care for people with mental illness and to be a center of excellence in treatment, research and education. Come learn more about the illness that touches nearly every American family and community regardless of geography, ethnicity, religion, education or income.

Our first 2010-2011 ARCS Education Program will take place the morning of Thursday, October 7 at Skyland Trail. We will hear from Dr. Ray Kotwicki, Medical Director, and our own member Beth Finnerty, President of Skyland Trail, as well as other leaders in this field.

Continental Breakfast will be served at 8:30 AM. The program is from 9:00 to 11:00. Meet in the Training Center of the Dorothy C. Fuqua Center at 1961 North Druid Hills Road, Atlanta.

The cost is $15 per person. Call Brooke Weinmann to register at 404-862-7884 by Tuesday, October 5. We look forward to seeing you October 7 at 8:30AM.
The President’s Desk is full of notes, correspondence and files to get us underway this fall. It looks like another great year is ahead. We'll be starting with an Educational Program at Skyland Trail on Thursday, October 7.

Dr. Ray Kotwicki, the medical director and our own member Beth Finnerty, President, will speak. Next we’ll celebrate with our annual fall cocktail party at the home of Shearon and Taylor Glover on Sunday, October 17. We'll meet new members Susan Boyd, Libby Jones, Sylvia Dick and returning member Barby Levy. Thanks to Deede Stephenson and Leslie Petter for planning this event.

On November 18, we’ll host the highlight of our year - the annual Scholar Awards Luncheon, recognizing 35 scholars who will receive awards totaling $250,000. Many thanks go to all the members, corporations and foundations that have provided the funds to support our scholars. Special thanks go to Debbie Shelton, who has secured our keynote speaker, NASA Astronaut Nicholas Patrick. Dr. Patrick has had two space flight experiences. His most recent one was this past February on the Endeavour mission.

Dr. Patrick promises to deliver an interesting and exciting presentation.

As always, a wonderful way to get involved with ARCS is to help with the Scholars Luncheon. Susan McGonigle is chairing the event this year. It's a great opportunity to work with this dynamic organization and to get to meet our terrific scholars.

I'm looking forward to the times we'll be spending together. Thanks to all for making this organization so special.

Kay

A Note of Thanks

In May, Sherry told us that it had been a privilege and honor to serve as President of ARCS Atlanta. We, the members, were the privileged and honored! What a great time it has been. Sherry has seen to it that we've had exceptional educational opportunities, wonderful speakers, outstanding get-togethers and an unforgettable retreat. And, she handled it all without even blinking! Sherry, thank you so much for two wonderful years.

Condolences

We extend our sympathy to Anne Easterly and her family on the loss of her mother, Irene Deeley, August 4; to Cheryl Franklin and her family on the passing of her father, Willie H. Goffney, Sr., on August 10; and to Sherry and John Lundeen for the passing of John’s father, John W. Lundeen, Jr., in late August.

Save the Date!

October 17 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM
468 Blackland Road, NW

Shearon and Taylor Glover are hosting the event at their lovely home. Co-Chairs Deede Stephenson and Leslie Petter have enlisted Mary Hataway of Soiree Catering to create a delightful evening for our kick-off event of the year. Look for your invitation via ‘Gracia mail.’
Dr. Patrick was selected by NASA as an astronaut candidate in June 1998 and reported to NASA’s Johnson Space Center for astronaut training in August 1998. His initial training included scientific and technical briefings and intensive instruction in Shuttle and International Space Station systems. He has logged 638 hours in space as a mission specialist on Discovery, December 9-22, 2006, and on Endeavor, February 8-21, 2010. His first space mission was a construction and logistics mission to the International Space Station. Discovery delivered more than two tons of equipment and supplies to the station. The Endeavor mission carried the final permanent modules: Tranquility and Cupola. Tranquility is now the life-support hub of the ISS and Cupola provides windows for a spectacular and panoramic view of our planet and will afford future crews a direct view of ISS robotic operations.

Dr. Patrick was born in North Yorkshire in the United Kingdom. After attending the Harrow School in London, he received B.A. and M.A. degrees in Engineering from the University of Cambridge. After graduation, he moved to Boston where he worked as an engineer for the Aircraft Engines Division of GE. He became a U.S. Citizen in 1994. Dr. Patrick attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he was a research assistant in the Human-Machine Systems Lab in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. His research interests included telerobotics, aviation psychology, decision theory, and optimization. At MIT he received S.M. and Ph.D. degrees in Mechanical Engineering. Upon completion of his doctorate, he joined Boeing’s Commercial Airplane Group in Seattle, where he worked in Flight Deck Engineering. While attending Cambridge University, Dr. Patrick learned to fly as a member of the Royal Air Force’s Volunteer Reserve. After moving to the United States, he continued flying, becoming an instrument and multi-engine flight instructor. He has logged over 2,000 hours as a pilot in more than 20 types of airplanes and helicopters, and over 800 hours as a flight instructor.

Our thanks to Debbie Shelton, Scholars’ Awards Luncheon Chair-Elect, for making arrangements for Dr. Patrick to be with us. Debbie and her husband, Charlie, have known Nicholas since he was a small boy when his father and Charlie were at Wharton together in graduate school.
Disappearing Needles

A new vaccine-delivery patch based on hundreds of microscopic needles that dissolve into the skin could allow persons without medical training to painlessly administer vaccines, while providing improved immunization against diseases such as influenza. Patches containing micron-scale needles that carry vaccine with them as they dissolve into the skin could simplify immunization programs by eliminating the use of hypodermic needles and their "sharps" disposal and re-use concerns. Applied easily to the skin, the microneedle patches could allow self-administration of vaccine during pandemics and simplify large-scale immunization programs in developing nations.

Details of the dissolving microneedle patches and immunization benefits observed in experimental mice were reported July 18 in the advance online publication of the journal Nature Medicine. Conducted by researchers from Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology, the study is believed to be the first to evaluate the immunization benefits of dissolving microneedles. The research was supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Source: Emory News Release: Research, Jul. 19, 2010

Contributed by Linda Kay McGowen, Newsletter Correspondent
ARCS Atlanta 2011 New Members

The Membership Committee, chaired by Cathey Millichap, once again has done a great job of recruiting outstanding new members to support and participate in the Atlanta chapter. Meet our newest members: Susan Miller Boyd, Elizabeth “Libby” Rhett Jones and Sylvia Looney Dick

Susan Miller Boyd
Susan is an Executive Recruiter for Russell Reynolds Associates. She co-leads the firm’s Consumer Financial Services Practice in the Americas. She also recruits financial officers across multiple lines of business.

Prior to joining Russell Reynolds Associates in 1998, Susan spent nine years managing corporate banking relationships for SunTrust Bank, Inc. Her experience includes corporate finance, trust and investment management, and small business banking in the Northeastern and Southeastern United States.

Susan is a member of the Advisory Board of the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. She is also a member of the Advisory Board of Skyland Trail. She serves on the board of the Summer Economic Institute, which provides high school students with the opportunity to gain first-hand business experience through corporate internships. Susan received her B.B.A. in finance from the Honors Program at the University of Georgia.

Elizabeth “Libby” Rhett Jones
Libby is an Agnes Scott alumna and has served as a member of the college’s Board of Trustees since 2004, when she moved to Atlanta from New Jersey. She was recently named Co-Chair of the college’s major campaign (currently in its silent phase) to raise $125 million dollars. In addition, she chairs the Committee on Trustees, which is charged with identifying, recruiting and mentoring new trustees, and serves on the Advancement and Executive committees. Libby is also a board member of the John and Mary Franklin Foundation.

An attorney, Libby served as in-house pro bono attorney with Legal Services of Northwest Jersey. In recognition of her extraordinary work, Libby received the Equal Justice Award of 2004 for her efforts in helping to secure greater justice for disadvantaged people. Earlier she was a teacher, tutor, and a reading specialist for disabled children. An active volunteer, she had served as president of a parent-teacher organization and as a trustee of an education board.

Sylvia Looney Dick
Sylvia has been involved throughout the fabric of the Atlanta community for 52 years. She held leadership positions in Junior League of Atlanta, The Lovett School and many other organizations. Sylvia served as Trustee for the Atlanta Speech School for 20 years and Chair of the Annual Fund. A long time advocate for children, Sylvia was involved with the merger of Egleston Children’s Hospital and Scottish Rite. She served as Trustee for the newly formed Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and was Vice-Chairman of the Foundation Board for Children’s Healthcare. Also, Sylvia served as Trustee for the Children’s Pediatric Research Trust. Currently, Sylvia serves as a Trustee for the Tull Foundation and the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center.
The Washington Retreat held April 29-May 1, 2010 was another success among many retreats ARCS has undertaken over the years. Sixty-two ARCS members, spouses and guests began our retreat with a trip to Capitol Hill, a tour the new Capitol Visitors Center and a visit with Sen. Isakson. This was followed by a rich program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (www.csis.org). CSIS Director Johanna Nesseth-Tuttle discussed Seven Revolutions, an analysis of the most important trends shaping our world. Then Senior Fellow James Lewis shared his perspective on Science, Technology and Public Policy. Both were very interesting and stimulated much thought and discussion.

Our evening included a reception and dinner at the US Botanic Garden, one of the oldest botanical gardens in the country. This venue near Capitol Hill is stunning and all enjoyed exploring the outside and inside spaces of the Garden. We heard about the history of the garden from Washington friend Leone Reeder and Garden Director Holly Shimizu shared insight into the garden collection and ongoing mission.

Day 2 began bright and early with a breakfast featuring Susan Eisenhower. Susan shared her insight into international and national issues ranging from memories of her grandfather to nuclear materials management negotiations with Russia to the current state of politics in DC. Susan is extremely engaging and candid. Interacting with her was a highlight of the trip.

Next, the group visited to the Supreme Court. We spent time in the courtroom learning about how the court operates and then convened for lunch in an historic room, not generally open to the public. Justice Anthony Kennedy, our host and speaker, was gracious and informative, discussing each of the justices whose portraits adorned the walls of the dining room. Dr. Ralph Cicerone, head of the National Academy of Sciences, spoke at lunch about NAS’s role and his thoughts on how to strengthen US Science education.

That evening we visited Newseum, a multi-media museum displaying five centuries of news history and the latest news technology around the world. Thanks go to Kathy and Dennis Berry for making this evening possible.

On Day 3 some toured the White House and then all journeyed to Mt. Vernon on the Potomac. Atlantan Boyce Ansley, head regent for the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association, rolled out the red carpet. We toured the newly constructed visitors center and the house and grounds. A boat ride on the Potomac gave us beautiful river views and was the perfect ending to our day. The final evening event was a reception and dinner at the fascinating National Museum of Air and Space. We enjoyed open access to all the galleries and finished the evening with a preview of a new moving IMAX film called Hubble 3-D. The evening was an incredible treat and we are indebted to Taylor and Shearon Glover for making this possible.

The Retreat co-chairs express our heartfelt thanks to the participants and all who made this trip possible and look forward to being fellow travelers on the next ARCS retreat in 2012.

Contributed by Retreat Co-Chairs: Betty Mori, Shearon Glover and Liz Mori Lauer
Scholars Speak: ARCS Scholar Jackie Griffin Has a Passion for Math and Kids in Need

ARCS scholar Jackie Griffin says she has been on the ‘math path’ since she was young when her father would quiz her on the math problems as a game. Today she has the same enthusiasm for applying mathematical models to the logistical problems associated with supply chain management and distribution of medicines in developing countries.

On a trip to Zambia, Jackie developed a new fervor for using her Industrial Engineering degrees from Lehigh University to address supply chain issues such as inefficient distribution practices and forecasting need for medicine. She worked with a team from World Vision supplying Zambian health centers with mebendazole during national Child Health Week. By administering mebendazole to all children, anyone currently infected is rid of worms. Deworming children improves quality of life, including nutrition and participation in school. Currently Jackie is a fifth year student in Georgia Tech’s School of Industrial and System Engineering, which has about 200 PhD students. Last semester she taught a masters level class in the application of mathematical models to health care issues. This semester she enrolled in an epidemiology course at Georgia State University, knowing that she will benefit from a deeper understanding of how diseases spread. Jackie lives in Ansley Park and enjoys in-town amenities and walking her dog.

According to Jackie, “The ARCS Global Impact Award enables me to pursue research that is not traditionally funded. It’s made a big difference to me and my career.” She embraces the opportunity to apply her academic knowledge to very real world health issues. She aspires to be a professor when she completes her PhD program.

Contributed by Lee Doyle, Newsletter Correspondent

ARCS Making an Impact at Home and Abroad

Each year the Atlanta ARCS Chapter provides one-year $10,000 Global Impact Studies Awards to scholars at Emory, Georgia Tech and UGA. These scholars are undertaking research in areas that will benefit the global community such as safe water, infectious disease, and community health. Our awards enable the scholars to address some of the most pressing problems of the day and they do so across borders from the laboratory to clinic, from city to village. The funding supports travel to visit labs, research on a particular technique and the ability to conduct interviews or acquire samples of raw materials directly at the source. The awards foster our scholars’ ability to further their research and impact our global society. Look for more stories about our Global Impact Scholars in future issues.
National News

ARCS Makes Plans

Our Mission Statement has been updated. At the National Board meeting in June, funding was approved to retain services of a public relations group, led by a former ARCS Scholar, to provide guidance and recommendations for a public relations strategy. A key goal of the National long range plan is to “be a donor of national significance with a major impact on the advancement of U.S. science.”

Over the summer, a “Branding Team”, including Janie Wilson, has been in discussions regarding PR issues. The first task was to update our Mission Statement. The rework does not change the spirit of the statement, but clarifies essential points.

ARCS to Expand Web Presence

Greetings from ARCS National! While many of us vacationed in the summer, the National Board maintained business as usual. In continuing to implement the long range plan, the final touches were placed on the National University Survey which will be going out to all ARCS-supported institutions this fall. The survey results will help us improve the service we deliver to the institutions as well as to the scholars. The survey will look at whether or not we are fulfilling a need and if we are making an impact. It will document the procedures and best practices used by each chapter when dealing with the institutions.

It has become evident to the National organization that in order to sustain and significantly increase our membership and our Chapters’ ability to provide scholar awards, we must invest in our infrastructure and our future. This insight translates into a plan to establish a more robust and powerful web presence. The Board of Directors for National decided the development of the ARCS Foundation National Website should be on a fast track.

A Website Task Force undertook an exhaustive 12-month survey of numerous web development professionals and received multiple technical and cost proposals. The Task Force has narrowed the selection of vendors down to three and is on the brink of selecting one. At the National Board Meeting an initial $50,000 investment (allocated from existing resources) was approved. The Website Task Force now has the challenge of raising additional funds required to complete the project from external partners.

In October, Kay and I will be attending the Fall National Board Meeting in St. Louis, MO. There is much happening at the National level and we will continue to keep you posted.

Contributed by Sherry Lundeen, Member at Large
ARCS National Board of Directors

ARCS Mission Statement

The 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.
ARCS Atlanta Chapter
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