

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists

ARCS® Foundation advances science and technology in the United States by providing financial awards to academically outstanding U.S. citizens studying to complete degrees in science, engineering and medical research.

#### **Upcoming Events**

October 26

Emory's Brain Health Center Education Event

November 19

Scholar Awards Luncheon

January 13

Member Meeting and Luncheon

January 27-30

ARCS Foundation
National Board Meeting,
Phoenix

April 20-24

Charlottesville Retreat

May 11

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

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January Meeting 8 and Luncheon

Education Event 8 at Emory

# **ARChiveS**

# ARCS® Foundation Atlanta Chapter

Volume No. XVII Issue I

Fall 2015

# Interview with Dr. Nael McCarty, Keynote Speaker at the upcoming Scholars Awards Luncheon on November 19, 2015



I met Nael McCarty, PhD., in his bright, cheerful office filled with pictures of sail boats, shelves of shells and porpoise figurines, and a photo of a small boy who has Cystic Fibrosis. Dr. McCarty, the Marcus Professor of Cystic Fibrosis in the Department of Pediatrics at Emory University, is young and vigorous and enthusiastic about his work as Director of the Emory+Children's Cystic Fibrosis Center of Excellence. Also called CF, Cystic Fibrosis is an inherited life-threatening disorder that damages the lungs and digestive system.

**Interviewer**: Dr. McCarty, are you a sailor? I see these pictures of sailboats on your wall.

**McCarty**: No, those are fishing boats they sail in Brazil. You see, I am half Brazilian and that's why my name is spelled Nael, though pronounced like Nile. And the sea shells and tiny porpoises represent my fascination with marine biology which I studied as an undergraduate and graduate student.

Interviewer: How did you happen to get interested in research into Cystic Fibrosis?

**McCarty**: The gene responsible for CF was discovered just before I started doing my postdoc fellowship at Caltech. I was excited to have an opportunity to study this newly discovered gene's effects on epithelial cells, my area of interest.

**Interviewer**: I read that at Emory University you have expanded your scientific CF research into new more translational areas. What does that mean?

**McCarty**: At Emory+Children's we have the second largest Cystic Fibrosis center in the country, in terms of number of patients. Here we integrate research and clinical care. What we learn in the lab we translate into patient care, and what we learn from our patients we apply to our lab research. We are developing and testing the effectiveness of new drugs to deal with the many crippling symptoms of CF, while also identifying new therapeutic targets.

Interviewer: What led you from basic research into patient-focused research?

**McCarty**: At Caltech a friend brought his little sister who had CF to my lab. At the time we were doing very esoteric basic research on this new gene and its immensely complicated protein. After I described my research, she asked me, "What are you doing to save my life?" That question haunted me and drove me to the kind of work I do now.

Interviewer: So what sorts of things does this Cystic Fibrosis Center do?

**McCarty**: Along with clinical care, we do industry sponsored clinical research to test new, more effective drugs for CF, and we also develop drugs that change the function of the CF protein and the white blood cells that attack the lung. We also focus on training the next cadre of outstanding CF scientists.

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By Clare Whitfield

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#### From the President's Desk



**President Jane Dolinger** 

Several members and guests of the Atlanta Chapter attended the 2015 ARCS Foundation All Members Conference (AMC) from September 30 to October 3 held at the Intercontinental Hotel on the Magnificent Mile in Chicago. They included Nancy Chambers, Ronnie Martin, Sara Jean Burke, Debbie Liss, Gracia Conn, Andi Purple, and Jane Dolinger.

Wednesday evening began with an opening reception at the University of Chicago in the Gleacher Center. Members and guests were treated to the tastes of Chicago including Chicago style deep dish pizza, hot dogs, and sliders while listening to a local band playing the unique sounds of Blues and Jazz for which Chicago is noted.

The Thursday morning session started with an outstanding panel discussion from recent ARCS Scholar Alumni, followed by another excellent panel discussion by members of The Science and Engineering Advisory Council. After the informative morning panel discussions, members and guests attended the ARCS Light Luncheon. Our very

own ARCS Light, Ronnie Martin, was honored along with other Chapter ARCS Lights.

Thursday night was a wonderful and informative evening at the Adler Planetarium as we "traveled light years into outer space" then returned to a delicious dinner and heard from keynote speaker, the renowned Dr. Rocky Kolb, Dean of the Physical Science Division of the University of Chicago.

Friday morning, members and guests attended another session where they were treated to an outstanding presentation and tour by world-renowned paleontologist, Dr. Paul Sereno, Professor of Paleontology at the University of Chicago and a National Geographic Explorer in Residence. The afternoon and evening consisted of optional tours, and many of us enjoyed the fantastic Chicago Architecture River Cruise.

It was a full, informative, and fun week for all attendees of the All Members Conference. The Illinois Chapter did an exceptional job organizing all of the educational sessions, receptions, dinners, and tours as well as welcoming us to their beautiful city.

National Board News: In addition to the All Members Conference, the National Board met on September 29, 30 and October 3 in Chicago. Atlanta Chapter members who serve on the 2015-16 Board of Directors are Nancy Chambers, Jane Dolinger, Debbie Liss, Sherry Lundeen, Ronnie Martin, Andi Purple, Mary Snitch, and Janie Wilson. One of the highlights of the meeting was Nancy Chambers, VP of Communications, introducing the first ARCS Foundation Annual Report. It is the first nationwide report of investments and outcomes achieved by 17 regional ARCS Foundation Chapters during the 2014-15 academic year. Check out our national website for a comprehensive look at ARCS Foundation's accomplishments. In addition, I am pleased to announce that Nancy Chambers and Andi Purple were elected to the Nominating Committee, and Ronnie Martin was elected as Chair of the Evaluation Committee.



ARCS members and guests bundle up for the Chicago Architectural River Boat Tour on a—what else - windy day in Chicago!



Our Atlanta Chapter's ARCS Light, Ronnie Martin, is recognized with other ARCS Lights at the AMC meeting in Chicago.



From I - r, Nancy Chambers, Gracia Conn, Sara Jean Burke, Ronnie Martin, Andi Purple, Jane Dolinger, and Debbie Liss at the Adler Planetarium. The beautiful Chicago skyline is in the background.

# ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter Class of 2015

### Marnite Calder - Sponsored by Lisa Bankoff and Laura Hardman

Marnite, a graduate of Duke University, recently retired as Executive Director of the Halle Foundation, an independent grant-making philanthropic organization. She is on the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Rotary Club, the Board of Trustees of the Shepherd Center Foundation, and the National Advisory Board of the CDC Foundation, to name just a few of her current activities. Her vast experience in the non-profit arena will be an invaluable asset to ARCS Foundation Atlanta.

# **Carolynn Cooper** — Sponsored by Elaine Davis and Susan Higley

Carolynn received her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and her MBA from Duke. She worked as the credit card marketing manager for the division of Federated Department stores located in Atlanta. She was responsible for purchasing and coordinating a program involving over 60 store managers. She served as Chair of the Docent Board of the High Museum of Art, and as one of her sponsors wrote, "She gives 100% to any activity in which she is involved."



From left are new members Marie Stafford, Carolynn Cooper, Marnite Calder, and Kelli Keb at the Fall Cocktail Party.

# Kelli Keb – Sponsored by Sherry Lundeen and Frances Swensson

Kelli graduated from Georgia Tech with a BS in Industrial Management. She has been involved in several local organizations, including serving on the boards of Georgia Tech Alumni, the Atlanta Memorial Park Conservancy and Trees Atlanta, in addition to being President of the Junior League of Atlanta. She is a sales rep for Purpose, Inc. and is well thought of for her leadership and organizational skills as well as her knowledge of the Atlanta community.

## Marie Stafford – Sponsored by Lissa Webber and Connie Dotzenrod

Marie received her undergraduate degree from Emory and her law degree from Georgia State. She is on the board of the Atlanta Speech School Guild and the Parent's Association of The Westminster Schools. She has a wealth of experience volunteering, and demonstrates impressive organizational skills. She worked her way through Emory utilizing grants and scholarships. This knowledge will be an asset to ARCS Foundation Atlanta as we seek financial support.

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# Introducing ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter Class of 2015

### Andi Purple - Sponsored by Janie Wilson and Debbie Liss

Andi is no stranger to ARCS Foundation. She is a member of the ARCS Foundation National Board serving as chair of National Board Meetings. She is a member of the Metro Washington ARCS Chapter but her recent move to Hilton Head has put her closer to the Atlanta area. She will maintain membership in both chapters. Andi is a graduate of American University and retired as VP of Human Resources for Bendix/Allied-Signal/Honeywell. Her proven organizational and leadership skills will serve our Chapter well.

### Cathy Wahlen – Sponsored by Sara Jean Burke and Anita Kern

Cathy, a graduate of Converse College and Georgia State, is a longtime Atlanta community volunteer. She has served on the Mt. Paran Northside Citizens Association Board and worked extensively with the Southeastern Flower Show and with the Festival of Trees benefitting Egelston Hospital. She is currently on the executive committee of Atlanta Charity Clays. She and her husband, Spike, are committed to the education of our youth. They provide scholarships at Wofford College, Georgia Tech, and the Scheller College of Business at Georgia Tech where they have also funded a Professorship.

## Suzy Wasserman – Sponsored by Leslie Petter and Yetty Arp



Marilyn Colarossi-Woods, Cathy Wahlen, and Suzy Wasserman are introduced to the membership. (not pictured, Andi Purple)

Suzy attended Loyola University in Chicago and has lived in Atlanta for 38 years. She has served as President of the Atlanta Symphony Associates and wrote bid documents for the Atlanta Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games. She has also served as Executive Director of the Georgia Council for International Visitors and Director of Field Services for the Georgia March of Dimes. As one of her sponsors wrote: "Suzy is extremely well-liked in the community and has an effortless and easy way with donors which encourages them to donate to and work for causes in which she is involved."

## Marilyn Colarossi-Woods – Sponsored by Nancy Chambers and Anne Easterly

Marilyn, a graduate of Penn State University, has been employed by Northside Hospital-Atlanta for 41 years. She began her Northside career on the social services side of the business and will end her career at the executive level in Facilities and Planning as a Project Manager. Marilyn is accountable for budget development, coordinating all deliverables, and meeting deadlines on projects ranging from \$1 million to over \$100 million, while also maintaining a calendar of impromptu, executive level projects for Chief Operating Officers, Vice Presidents, and Directors.

Marilyn is a past member of the Northside Hospital Ethics Committee. She and her husband have a keen interest in supporting STEM education. Marilyn also supports and volunteers for the Dunwoody Nature Center where she has been involved with starting the Milkweed Project, which focuses on protecting the Monarch butterfly which is about to be added to the endangered species list.

## 2015 Scholar Awards Luncheon - Continued from Page 1

Thursday, November 19
Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta –
Downtown
181 Peachtree Street, NE
Seating: 11:15 AM
Carpooling Encouraged

#### **Tickets**

Payment to attend the Scholar Awards Luncheon was included with membership dues: ARCS Foundation Active Members: 2 tickets, Associate members: I ticket. The deadline for registration is November 3, and any ticket not claimed via RSVP by that date will be donated for use of scholars' guests or development. (No actual tickets are issued. Just RSVP online via the ARCS Foundation website!)

Questions? Call or email Pat Leake (404)231-1102 or pleake@bellsouth.net.

#### Parking/MARTA

Valet Parking - \$12 (Ritz-Carlton Hotel entrance, Ellis St.)
Self-Parking — 191 Building Parking Deck
(behind hotel, entrances on Ellis St. and Peachtree Center Ave.)
MARTA — Peachtree Center Station (exit SE end) North/South train Line (Red and Gold Lines)

Interviewer: What is the Molecules-to-Man Pathway that you direct?

**McCarty**: This is a program originally funded by the Burroughs Welcome Fund to stimulate universities to train PhD candidates differently. Each year we select about six especially brilliant students to engage in study across two different disciplines: laboratory science and a population science like epidemiology. The goal is to create a new kind of biomedical scientist, one with a broader perspective that crosses these two disciplines.

**Interviewer**: Tell me about the *Atlanta BEST Program* you direct at both Emory and Georgia Tech.

**McCarty**: In the past, faculty mentors like me have been mainly training our PhD students and postdocs for jobs in academia, jobs that exist for only a small fraction of our trainees. The National Institutes of Health recognized this problem and is funding a program to help students and postdocs explore other career options and learn how to train to qualify for these options. The universities that NIH selected for this program work together to learn from each other how best to change the culture of biomedical training to prepare students and postdocs for jobs outside of academia, such as in public policy, science writing, tech transfer, and industry.

McCarty: In my address at the Scholars Awards Luncheon, I will definitely point out the important role that students play in developing new therapies for diseases such as CF, and how those trainees can take their skills into rewarding careers in either industry or academia.

By Clare Whitfield

### 2016 ARCS Foundation Chapter Retreat April 20-24, 2016 - Charlottesville, Virginia



The ARCS Foundation Atlanta Chapter Retreat in the Spring of 2016 will be to Charlottesville, Virginia. Tucked into the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Charlottesville is one of the most historic and desirable locations in our country. The Charlottesville area was home to three Founding Fathers and U. S. Presidents: Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe. We invite you to travel back in time where science and history intersect through the genius of Jefferson. In no place is Jefferson's vision and legacy more pronounced than at Monticello, his beautiful mountain-top home. Monticello is the only site in America listed in the

World Register of Historic Places. We will be given a special tour of Monticello.

The four days of festivities will start off with a welcome cocktail reception and dinner in the Jefferson Room at the Farmington Country Club. The Monticello Wine Trail remains one of the wine world's best kept secrets. We will travel to the Barboursville Vineyard to experience an evening of wine tasting and dinner at the Palladio Restaurant. Additionally, we will tour the famous Lawn at the University of Virginia, the Special Collections Library and the University Medical Center.

Our group of 55 will be staying at the Boar's Head Inn. There will be an opportunity to play golf at Birdwood Golf Couse which is now owned by the University of Virginia.

We hope to see you next April in beautiful Charlottesville, VA.

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## Pictures from the Fall Cocktail Party



Chapter President, Jane Dolinger, welcomes all to our annual Cocktail Party as Sally Hinkle stands ready to introduce the new members.



National Board members Janie Wilson, Sherry Lundeen, Ronnie Martin, Jane Dolinger, Nancy Chambers and Debbie Liss gather on the lawn.



From left are past chapter presidents Sally Hinkle, Gracia Conn, Janie Wilson, Pat Leake, Sherry Lundeen, Debbie Liss, and Jan Bennett.



Ronnie Martin and her husband, Rich DeMillo (left) join Steve Dolinger at the event.



Thanks go to June Tompkins, Missy McClatchey and Debbie Liss for planning the lovely evening.

## Pictures from the Fall Cocktail Party



Skip and Leslie Petter are the gracious hosts.



Pat Leake, Suzn Stewart, Clare Whitfield, Michelle Wells, Karen Doolittle, Ronnie Martin and Alicia McCabe are our chapter's Communications Team.

Lissa Petter Webber and her husband, Jonathan, enjoy the party with their daughter, Claire.





Suzn and Bob Stewart enjoy cocktails in front of the pool.

Have you taken a look at our website recently? If not, take a look. You will be surprised at its wealth of information and great photographs from our Atlanta Chapter events. Ronnie Martin, VP for Communications and our website guru, adds a new scholar spotlight every month and a "media gallery" of photos of each of our events. Recently added are pictures from the Donor Appreciation Event hosted by Georgia Tech President Bud Peterson and also our 2015 Spring Luncheon at the Piedmont Driving Club. Ronnie has also updated the list of Current Members and Officers and Directors for the new fiscal year and made it easier to find information about our scholars, past and present.

Navigate the public pages of our website (<u>www.arcsfoundation.org/atlanta</u>), by using the vertical aqua colored menu on the left side of the screen. Clicking on the blue horizontal menu at the top of the screen will take you to the ARCS Foundation National website.



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#### Newsletter

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Visit us on the web www.arcsfoundation.org

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someone special or an
occasion may be made to
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Endowment Fund.
Send to:

ARCS Foundation Atlanta Attention: Treasurer PO Box 52124 Atlanta, GA 30355

# General Meeting and Luncheon Wednesday, January 13, 10:00 — 103 West at 103 West Paces Ferry Road



Our speaker will be Richard DeMillo, author of the recently released book, Revolution in Higher Education: How a Small Band of Innovators Will Make College Accessible and Affordable.

Richard DeMillo is the Charlotte B. and Roger C. Warren Professor of Computing and Professor of Management, former John P. Imlay Dean of Computing, and Director of the Center for 21st Century Universities at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The Center is Georgia Tech's living laboratory for fundamental change in higher education. He is responsible for educational innovation at Georgia Tech and is a national leader and spokesman in the online revolution in higher education. Author of over 100 articles,

books, and patents, he has held academic positions at Purdue University, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Padua. He directed the Computer and Computation Research Division of the National Science Foundation and was Hewlett-Packard's first Chief Technology Officer. He is the 2013 Lumina Foundation Inaugural Fellow which recognized his founding of the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Universities as a "unique institution." He is also a Fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Association for Computing Machinery. He is the author of the influential 2011 book "Abelard to Apple: The Fate of American Colleges and Universities" and a 2015 sequel entitled "Revolution in Higher Education: How a Small Band of Innovators will Make College Accessible and Affordable." Both books were published by MIT Press.

Invitations to the event will be emailed with RSVP and payment (\$35) to be completed on the chapter website.

#### **ARCS Atlanta Foundation Fall Education Event**

Monday, October 26, 2015
11:00am - 1:30pm
Emory Brain Health Center
Executive Park
12 Executive Park Drive NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

#### Helen Mayberg, MD

Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology & Radiology
Dorothy C. Fuqua Chair in Psychiatric Neuroimaging & Therapeutics
Emory University, Department of Psychiatry



# "Reflections on a Decade of Using Deep Brain Stimulation in the Treatment of Depression"

It has been 10 years since the first deep brain stimulation (DBS) implant to treat depression. Dr. Helen Mayberg led the Canadian research team that developed this novel intervention for patients with treatment resistant depression. The research has made steady progress with emerging clues as to who is most likely to benefit and refinement of the technique to optimize outcomes.

Dr. Mayberg now heads a multidisciplinary depression research program at Emory's new Brain Health Center dedicated to the study of brain circuits in depression and the effects of various anti-depressant treatments. Dr. Mayberg's interactive and engaging talk will reflect on a decade of using DBS for treatment resistant depression and next steps to maximize the full potential of each patient.

Following the lecture and lunch, ARCS Foundation members will have the opportunity to tour Emory's new Brain Health Center. In an innovative collaboration, the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology have co-located in the Brain Health Center to provide comprehensive, coordinated family-centered care for patients with neurologic and psychiatric disorders. The Center seeks to prevent brain disorders and transform care through continued innovation and learning, research and partnerships.