ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES CELEBRATES OUR STUDENTS AND DONORS
Dear Distinguished Guests,

On behalf of our faculty and staff, I would like to thank you for attending the Department of Allied Health Sciences ninth annual celebration of our student scholarship and award recipients and our generous scholarship donors.

We depend on private financial support to advance our mission to improve the quality and accessibility of health care for the people of North Carolina and the world. At the heart of the Department’s success in producing the nation’s leading allied health professionals for over 40 years is a set of key program values that guide faculty, students, and alumni:

Exemplary Teaching: To produce excellent health care practitioners and researchers who are prepared to provide leadership to their disciplines and their future work settings

Innovative Research: To conduct research and generate new knowledge that will inform future practice and policy in allied health disciplines

Patient-Centered Clinical Practice: To advance the art and science of clinical practice with a focus on patient outcomes and quality of life

The financial support of our donors continues to help us meet the increasing needs of our students who are not fully state supported and to address our key program values with vigor, integrity, and an outstanding level of quality on the part of our students, faculty, and staff. We greatly appreciate the ongoing generosity of our donors in advancing the overall mission of the Department of Allied Health Sciences at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine.

Respectfully,

Stephen R. Hooper, PhD
Professor, Associate Dean and Chair

Department of Allied Health Sciences Divisions

Clinical Laboratory Science
Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Speech and Hearing Sciences

Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Physician Assistant
Radiologic Science

Baccalaureate Degree Programs
Clinical Laboratory Science
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science
Radiologic Science

Masters Programs
Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Molecular Diagnostic Science
Occupational Therapy
Physician Assistant
Radiologic Science
Speech-Language Pathology

Enrollment
430 students for 2015-16 from North Carolina

Centers
Center for Literacy and Disability Studies
Center for Human Movement Science

Doctoral Programs
Audiology (AuD)
Human Movement Science (PhD)
Speech and Hearing Science (PhD)
Occupational Science (PhD)
Physical Therapy (DPT)

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UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

The Allied Health Sciences Student Fellowships are supported through a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association. The fellowships are awarded to deserving allied health students who, in addition to having financial need and scholastic ability, exhibit characteristics of emerging professional excellence.

**Caroline Elizabeth Cleveland**  
*Division of Physical Therapy*  
*Hometown:* East Greenbush, New York  
**Personal Statement:** As one of the first 20 women selected to serve with the U.S. Army Rangers in Afghanistan, I safeguarded and cared for the wounds of local women and children. While doing the same, my humble and heroic teammate, Ashley, was wounded by an improvised explosive device. She fought hard to survive through the last moments of her life, and, had she lived, I know she would have triumphed through physical therapy. Thus, as a future PT, I am driven to honor her legacy of inspiring strength and courage. My ultimate aspiration is to work with our wounded veterans, particularly in the areas of traumatic brain injury and limb amputation rehabilitation. Likewise, I intend to annually volunteer my PT services in developing countries, predominantly in Africa and Asia, to provide cost-free care to victims of war. I am incredibly grateful for this fellowship because it enables me to continue my volunteer work with the No Veteran Dies Alone program and with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. It also provides me this venue, to share my experiences with elderly veterans and children of service members who were killed in combat, further promoting these causes of which I am so passionate.

**Clarissa Santos Hull**  
*Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy*  
*Hometown:* Richmond, Virginia  
**Personal Statement:** While working as a counselor at Camp Holiday Trails, a camp for children with special medical needs, I discovered my passion for helping kids be kids. I loved to see campers trying new activities, helping one another succeed, and gaining independence over the course of just a week or two. The beauty of camp incorporates every individual’s unique capabilities and inspired me to pursue a degree in occupational therapy. When looking into schools, I loved UNC’s program because of its holistic nature and focus on the past, present, and future of occupational therapy. As an OT I hope to increase community awareness concerning the importance of diversity and tolerance within all facets of a person’s life. I would ideally like to work in the field of pediatrics, though I am equally interested in mental health and the potential effects of OT within low-income communities and underprivileged areas. I aspire to be client-centered and mindful of different lifestyles, and I look forward to exploring new areas of practice. I am so humbled and grateful to receive this scholarship, and I hope to give back to my department in the future!

**Katherine Lemoine**  
*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*  
*Hometown:* Charlotte, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** I was drawn to Clinical Laboratory Science because I love how labs are incorporated to complement the lectures, I appreciate the intimacy of having a small class, and I love the idea of being taught by experienced instructors to prepare me for a specific career with an excellent outlook! Having rotations my senior year has also really helped to get a better understanding of profession. I have always wanted a career in health care, and now I will be able to realize my dream of helping people while using my laboratory knowledge and technical skills to do so. As a future CLS, I hope to contribute to my society by working locally, here in North Carolina, and to specialize in my field so that, as a highly skilled scientist, I would be able to contribute to personalized medicine. I am very grateful to be presented with the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship, which will not only aid me in fulfilling my aspirations, but will honor me in representing diversity in Allied Health Sciences.

**Rae Jodrey**  
*Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling*  
*Hometown:* Graham, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** As someone who is personally acquainted with the challenges associated with having an Autism Spectrum Disorder, I was drawn to the field of rehabilitation counseling because of a desire to give back to those in the Autism community. I have found that I am especially drawn toward working with individuals facing times of transition. I often think back on past times of transition or routine change and how challenging and daunting those times were. Although I do not know what the future holds for my career, I hope to work with those who are struggling with transition periods and would love to work with the transition caseload at a vocational rehabilitation office. I strive to be for others what I needed most when changes were difficult: a relatable source of knowledge, support, and encouragement. The world can be a daunting place for those with ASD or other disabilities. I aim to make it less so, one transition at a time. I am so thankful to the funders of the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship for helping to make my aspirations possible.
**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships**

**Priya Patel**  
*Division of Radiologic Science*  
**Hometown:** Cary, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** Throughout the past few years, I have had the opportunity to work in a variety of clinical health care settings that have allowed me to recognize an undying desire to make an impact on people’s well-being. As someone who loved nearly every specialty experience, radiologic sciences became an obvious choice for its cross-cutting nature. I hope to become an integral part of a field that remains in the forefront of diagnostic and therapeutic medicine by working in different specialties then progressing onward to a specific modality such as radiation therapy. I am so grateful for everyone involved in this fellowship as it will allow me to pursue my passion and will reinforce the rest of my education. In addition, I greatly appreciate the support and assistance I received from our program advisors.

**Kathryn McRae Rangel**  
*Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy*  
**Hometown:** Greensboro, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** After recently experiencing a loved one’s diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease, I began to seriously question my purpose in life. As Hamlet asks in one of his soliloquies, “What is a man if the chief good and market of his time be but to sleep and feed?” Similar to Hamlet’s query, the weight of the diagnosis led me to ask how I was using my life to benefit others because, surely, I had been created for something more significant. This is, in part, what led to my decision to enter into the field of occupational therapy. As an occupational therapist, I hope to help patients regain independence, build relationships that empower my patients, and continue on my journey of being a lifelong learner and advocate for the profession. It is an honor to have received this fellowship. Thank you to the donors whose kindness made it possible!

**Nicole Amanda Steyl**  
*Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences*  
**Hometown:** Charlotte, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** I plan to become a Speech-Language Pathologist and work with adults with neurological disorders, specifically developmental disorders. My main academic and research passion has been neuroanatomy. I am fascinated while learning about the causes and symptoms of various disorders. Throughout my college career, I volunteered with the Scholars with Diverse Abilities Program (SDAP). SDAP has allowed me play a therapeutic role for adults with disabilities in school work, social lives, and self-confidence. I have seen firsthand the frustration some of these students face when trying to communicate. This frustration and negative stigma drive my passion for becoming an SLP for adults with neurological disorders. This scholarship will allow me to attend graduate school and continue my learning base, allowing me to pursue my passion further of becoming an SLP.

**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Community Service Fellowship**

**Jamie Lynn Stiller**  
*Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy*  
**Hometown:** West Terre Haute, Indiana  
**Personal Statement:** Leaving a career in public health and social/behavioral research, I chose to pursue my dream of helping people in a more personalized way as an occupational therapist. My experience thus far in UNC’s Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program has been incredible. Now in my second year, I continue to gain valuable knowledge, skills, and clinical experience that will help facilitate successful entry into the profession in North Carolina upon graduation. The coursework has been engaging, and the fieldwork experiences so far have provided exposure to various interesting settings and populations. I look forward to a career based in North Carolina, cultivating collaborative therapeutic relationships with the clients I serve in order to work towards therapy goals and participation in valued occupations. I am deeply appreciative of both the donors who contributed to the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association Allied Health Sciences Community Service Fellowship and to Drs. Marlys and Mitch Mitchell who are responsible for the Mitchell Scholarship. Thank you for supporting my educational goals here at Carolina.

**Lindsay Vorhees**  
*Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy*  
**Hometown:** South Pasadena, California  
**Personal Statement:** As an occupational therapist, I will have the honor of witnessing the resilience of the human body and spirit as I support individuals and families in navigating transitions and challenges in their everyday lives. Through my graduate studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I am developing the practical and analytical skills required to maximize a person’s ability to participate in their life in meaningful ways. I hope to promote growth in the field towards community-based and community-built practices, which empower clients by recognizing their expertise and enlist them as partners in change. Due to many factors including physical and social barriers in our society, children and adults with disabilities face significant social isolation, which further compromises physical and mental health. Thus, I envision social participation being a foundational aspect of my future practice with nearly any population. I am especially passionate about developing and nurturing inclusive dance communities for those with disabilities. I am very grateful to receive the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Community Service Fellowship, which will enable me to continue leading a local Dance for Parkinson’s program.
Emily Davis Robinson  
**Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling**  
**Hometown:** Circleville, Ohio  
**Personal Statement:** My goals for my professional life include working with veterans and helping them live independently, which is why I want to receive my master’s degree in Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling. I plan to work at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to gain experience at first. My goal is to specialize in veterans with traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder. Veterans in combat are prone to traumatic brain injuries and this can develop into post-traumatic stress disorder, which motivates me to help veterans with TBIs and PTSD. I hope as a counselor I can help veterans in their transition from a war environment back to their hometown. I plan to also do research in both these areas to help veterans. I am honored to receive the June Allcott Fellowship for my public service. As I move to North Carolina from Ohio, I plan to serve the community as much as possible. I believe my responsibility in life is to help those around me and participating in community service is one way I am able to help others. It is small acts of kindness that will change the world one day, and I hope I can continue my previous community service at the University of North Carolina. Thank you for blessing me with this opportunity to help others.

Lindsay Taylor Saunders  
**Division of Physical Therapy**  
**Hometown:** Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** My passion lies in working with children who, much like myself, have been given unique physical challenges and are tasked with overcoming adversity. Although I dream of eventually opening a multidisciplinary pediatric clinic serving children with a wide range of needs, my primary career goal is to be for others what my therapist was for me. I am driven by the compassion and dedication that I was shown all those years ago. My therapist taught me to believe in myself and to know no obstacle. She was a source of strength and encouragement and was also someone I could rely on when I needed a friend. She believed in my potential when my confidence wavered and never hesitated to push me to achieve more than I thought possible. I am where I am today because she taught me to be my own superhero. This scholarship has afforded me the opportunity to expand my academic and clinical knowledge so that I can help others as I was helped all those years ago. With this scholarship, I will be able to teach others to be their own superhero.
The Medical Alumni Association Loyalty Fund Scholarships

Through the generosity of our donors and the UNC Medical Alumni Association, the Department of Allied Health Sciences is pleased to offer three scholarships for Allied Health Science students for the 2015-16 academic year. Students are selected based on a variety of factors, including academic merit, financial need, and exemplary volunteerism and community service. Based on a history of service, it is hoped that these students will continue to give back to the Department and University after graduation.

Allene W. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Annual Scholarship

Kay Alphin Johnson ('68) and her husband, Marvin, made a generous gift to establish the Allene W. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Scholarship in honor of Kay's mother to assist and reward a student at UNC studying to become a clinical laboratory scientist.

Christina Natasya Sofian
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Jakarta, Indonesia/Dallas, Texas
Personal Statement: Having lived most of my life in countries where quality of medical service isn’t always consistent, or at times not available, is one of the biggest reason for my interest in medicine. While medical school was an option, for my baccalaureate degree, I wanted a major also directly related to the medical field, and clinical laboratory science program seemed fitting. Having been in the program for a year and experienced the workings of the laboratory, I realized that this program indeed is a match. Being a clinical laboratory scientist combines the satisfaction of both problem solving and the knowledge that my work contributes in helping patients. After graduating, I plan to continue working in this field, or perhaps furthering my education in medical field, all in hope to contribute to providing quality care for all patients. I am truly honored and grateful; receiving this scholarship has brought me one step closer to the finish line and has given me more motivation to do my best and finish strong in my last year of college career.

Matthew Daren Lillis
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: New Bern, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Clinical Laboratory Science called to me since my first semester at UNC. I was on the pre-med track with blinders to anything that could possibly be a better fit. It took one information session to make me realize that CLS was perfect for me. Here was a major that allowed me to aid other people through research and tests, allowing me to do so while working collaboratively with colleagues. Currently, I plan to do so by continuing to a graduate program following undergraduate, eventually finding myself in a research lab to hopefully improve the lives and health of as many people as possible. I am incredibly grateful to the Johnson family and the CLS division for awarding me this scholarship. I wish I could have recorded the phone call during which I told my mother about receiving this scholarship; she was just as ecstatic as I was. I’m still ecstatic to receive some much-needed assistance with my tuition bill. I am indescribably excited about the next two years of my undergraduate experience, and this scholarship only adds to that excitement.

Jerry Lambiente Loyalty Fund Radiologic Science Annual Scholarship

Established through the generosity of Dr. Ernest and Mrs. Jean Spangler

Jeffrey Toulmin Gaines
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Clinton, South Carolina
(Jeffrey's personal statement is on page 23)

Lanning-Taylor Loyalty Fund Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Scholarship

Established through the generosity of Robert and Lauren Noble ('89)

Naveen Iqbal
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina
(Naveen's personal statement is on page 14)

Buddy Clark Radiologic Science Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship

Established through the generosity of Steve Taylor and Susan Lanning-Taylor ('85)

Kristen Sloan Riley
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Carrboro, North Carolina
(Kristen's personal statement is on page 14)

Jesse C. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Annual Scholarship

Kay Alphin Johnson ('68) and her husband, Marvin, made a generous gift to establish the Jesse C. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Annual Scholarship in honor of Kay's father to assist and reward a student at UNC studying to become a clinical laboratory scientist.
Susan Lanning-Taylor Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship

A gift from Susan Lanning-Taylor (’85) and her husband, Steve, has provided funds to assist and reward a second-year student at UNC studying to become a clinical laboratory scientist. Lanning-Taylor scholars are chosen by the CLS faculty based on their potential for contributing to the CLS profession, academic excellence, personal characteristics, and financial need.

Naveen Iqbal
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I was initially drawn to the Clinical Laboratory Science program because the ability to analyze samples in lab and to work to figure out diseases or other issues require a level of problem solving and critical thinking that I really enjoy. Also, the direct implementation of any material learned in class to the lab setting was appealing since this method allows me to ingrain the material and apply it in real-life situations effectively. A degree in CLS has helped me and will continue to foster my understanding of the laboratory’s function in the hospital and will also give me an insight into the complexities of lab research. I aspire to go to graduate school for pathology or immunology. This year has been difficult for my family, and this scholarship will help me continue my education without breaking the bank. I’m grateful that these scholarship opportunities exist and act as a safety net for those struggling to pay for school, including myself. Here’s to another amazing year as a CLS student!

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Katherine Lemoine
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
(Katherine’s personal statement is on page 7)

Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards

Adrienne Skye Dorsett
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
(Adrienne’s personal statement is on page 11)

RPLA Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Scholarship

The Raleigh Pathology Lab Associates (RPLA) Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Scholarship seeks to increase the number of highly qualified laboratory practitioners in the future by helping current CLS students with the financial burden of higher education.

Amanda Brooke Vergnetti
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Waxhaw, North Carolina
Personal Statement: The field of science has been a passion of mine for a long time. This passion began in seventh grade science class when I took on a role as a lab tech assisting my teacher with performing experiments and has progressed throughout my life, especially during my time at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I have always been fascinated by the worlds of biology and chemistry and I am thrilled that I will be able to spend the remainder of my undergraduate career exploring these topics and getting hands-on experience in the field of clinical laboratory science. After completing my time as an undergraduate student, I plan to attend pharmacy school. I know that my clinical laboratory experience will be invaluable during this stage of my education and I am extremely grateful to all those who are working together to prepare me for my future endeavors, especially those at Wake Med/Raleigh Pathology Associates who are generously contributing to financing my education.

WakeMed Health and Hospitals Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Scholarship

The WakeMed Health and Hospitals Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Scholarship seeks to increase the number of highly qualified laboratory practitioners in the future by helping current CLS students with the financial burden of higher education.

Sophia Chen
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I was drawn to Clinical Laboratory Science as a way help people, while combining and utilizing my previous studies in biology and anthropology. CLS has shown me how vital the laboratory is to patient health, and how it is a field that is constantly growing and looking for more precise, sensitive, and accurate testing. With the education and experiences that CLS offers, I hope to work in either a lab setting or fieldwork setting to benefit patients and gain more experience. Ultimately, I would like to join a lab that either designs and validates new methods of testing or tracks the emergence and patterns of diseases to further improve patient care. To me, the Wake Med/Raleigh Pathology Laboratory Associates Scholarship has helped me further my goals, and I am very grateful to the donors for their generosity. Thank you for this opportunity, and I hope to prove myself worthy of this award.
Louise M. Ward Scholarships

A bequest from the estate of Louise M. Ward, a former director of the UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Clinical Laboratory Science, has provided funds to assist and reward students at UNC studying to become clinical laboratory scientists. Louise M. Ward scholars are chosen by the CLS faculty each year based on their potential for contributing to the CLS profession, academic excellence, and personal characteristics.

Daria Lynn Guinn
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania
Personal Statement: When considering health care, patients are the most important piece. I hope to provide accurate information and timely results to all patients by working beside others in the laboratory. The idea to pursue a career in the laboratory profession was presented to me during my first year in high school after I completed a research project about forensic science. A career as a medical examiner was my first intention but when I arrived at UNC I discovered the CLS program. Becoming a student in this program has been the best decision of my life. The clinical laboratory profession is my first step toward accomplishing my aspiration in becoming a pathologist assistant later in life. Overall, I just want to bring closure to patients seeking answers. I hope to contribute another kind heart, caring soul and smart mind to the clinical laboratory profession and beyond. I am highly thankful to be a recipient of the Louise M. Ward Scholarship. This scholarship is allowing me to continue my journey as an undergraduate in the CLS program at the best university in the nation.

Min Jeong Kim
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I’ve always known that I was interested in pursuing health-related careers, and the Clinical Laboratory Science program at UNC confirmed it. All the medical knowledge that was thrown at us during our first year of CLS felt daunting at first, but soon I found myself wanting to learn more and more. As a clinical laboratory scientist, I would hold crucial roles in detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease in patients, and I will apply the analytical and technical knowledge I learned in this program to serve the needs of the patient. Working within a hospital laboratory would be ideal because I want to serve patients, even if it is indirect care. I definitely want to continue my education further and also get involved in clinical research. Being awarded this scholarship enabled me to worry less about my financial burden in the upcoming year and put more time into my studies. I am very thankful for the opportunities this scholarship has brought for me and also thankful for the support system present for this career as evident with the scholarships awarded.

Stephanie Breanne Lane
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Forest City, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am pursuing a degree in Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) because it will provide me with the opportunity to pursue laboratory work as a career. It offers a curriculum that suits my ambitions while allowing me to help others. Learning that the CLS program deals with performing and analyzing diagnostic tests in a variety of fields, I knew it was a suitable path for me. I am eager to see where my current experiences and accomplishments in laboratory work will lead me in the future. Within the next few years, I aspire to expand my knowledge of healthcare and apply to a Physician Assistant program. I plan to specialize in pediatrics, as I have always wanted to work with children. My overall goal is that I will be able to use my knowledge and skills of science to help others, and in doing so, put a smile on someone’s face every day! I am extremely thankful to the scholarship committee to have been chosen as a recipient of the Louise M. Ward scholarship. I look forward to keeping them updated on my educational journey. Again, thank you for supporting my college endeavors; it means the world to me.

Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partner Program Scholarships

We are pleased to offer three Molecular Diagnostic Science (MDS) Corporate Partner Program Scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year thanks to the generosity of our founding Platinum and Gold partners in the MDS Corporate Partners Program: Abbott Molecular, Hologic / Gen-Probe, Laboratory Corporation of America, Roche Diagnostics Corporation, and ZeptoMetrix Corporation.

Stephanie Lynn Bickford
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Chandler, Arizona
Personal Statement: My biochemistry II professor and lab director at the University of Texas, Andrew Ellington’s, suggestion to view science and molecular biology as a movie, transformed the way I viewed the things I couldn’t see. I have always been fascinated by the molecular reactions that occur to make the simplest and most complex organisms thrive. Also, I have always loved medicine and if I could have one wish it would be to find a cure for all diseases. That’s just it; the world of science is young and there are still many opportunities to blaze a new trail. I have discovered a love for research through my undergraduate years; whether it is drug development, test development, or on the forefront of patient care in clinical research. To me, research is a necessity for the world of science and medicine to move forward. I have grown very fond of oncology while working at Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center doing clinical research. I plan to continue to pursue my career in the direction of molecular oncology and clinical research. I am grateful to be awarded the Molecular Diagnostic Sciences Corporate Partner Scholarship as it will help me to pursue my career at the interface of patient care and the laboratory.
Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partner Program Scholarships

Sarah Marie Grove
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Fayetteville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Molecular diagnostic science is a splendid intersection of science and medicine. As an undergraduate, my studies and experience were primarily in biotechnology, but I always had a lingering interest in medicine and public health. Once I stumbled upon molecular diagnostic science, I was captivated. I feel that working in molecular diagnostics will allow me to help people in the behind-the-scenes manner that I have always desired. I am hoping that my clinical rotation at the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health will help me determine the type of work setting I prefer. My current goal is to work in a molecular laboratory, but I have also contemplated pursuing research-based work to get more hands on with the fascinating developments in the field. I suspect that as the field expands, my ambitions may also evolve. As an MDS student, I have a sense of purpose and feel like I’m still able to make an impact while following my passions thanks in part to the MDS Corporate Partner Program Scholarship. I am grateful for this scholarship particularly because it has reinforced that I am making progress in the right direction for my future.

Stephanie Guinn
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Personal Statement: From my experience working as a cytogenetic technologist in the clinical laboratory at UNC Health Care, I have been fortunate enough to be part of the evolution of higher-resolution technologies, from chromosome analysis to both fluorescence in situ hybridization and chromosomal microarray technology.

Bradley Robert Johnson
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Eagan, Minnesota
Personal Statement: My interest in molecular diagnostics stems from my curiosity about the integration of molecular biology and medicine, and its potential to diagnose and streamline treatment for a growing number of diseases and conditions. I wish to work in a laboratory whose goals are to advance early diagnosis and treatment of deadly diseases such as cancer and HIV. I would specifically like to be a part of the development and validation of the molecular assays use for the diagnosis. In the long term I would like to be a part of establishing more molecular assays as the primary method used in diagnostic algorithms along with being the reference method for validation studies. This scholarship shows me that there is an effort to grow the field of molecular diagnostics.

Lauren Elizabeth Jones
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: Madison Heights, Virginia
Personal Statement: Prior to attending graduate school, I worked with many people with a wide range of health conditions and disabilities. After sharing these clients’ feelings of joy and accomplishment as they achieved their therapeutic goals and seeing the work of the skilled OTs who helped them get there, I knew I wanted to spend my life helping people move past their perceived limitations to live life to its fullest. Ultimately, I decided I could best achieve this goal by becoming an occupational therapist.

I am truly honored to be a Mitchell Award recipient. This award is given to students who exemplify the pioneering spirit, innovative thinking, and passion for practice of the OS/OT Division’s founder, and it is amazing to think that faculty and professional leaders here saw these characteristics in me. I hope to continue on as a student and practitioner who thinks creatively, keeps occupation at the heart of my practice, and remains actively committed to advancing the profession of occupational therapy.

Jamie Lynn Stiller
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: West Terre Haute, Indiana
(Jamie’s personal statement is on page 9)
The Carolinas Healthcare System/Carolinas Rehabilitation Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship was created to reward and recognize a deserving student who has an interest in a career working in acute physical rehabilitation. Funding for the scholarship has been provided by Carolinas Healthcare System/Carolinas Rehabilitation in recognition of the excellent clinicians now working who graduated from the UNC program.

**Tyler Patrick Dunn**  
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy  
**Hometown:** Charlotte, NC  
**Personal Statement:** Growing up, I always knew that I wanted to enter a profession that would allow me to make a difference in the lives of others. However, until I learned about occupational therapy, I struggled to find the right profession that would guarantee this sense of fulfillment. Through UNC’s OT program, I have learned to provide individualized and holistic plans of care that address the unique problems an individual may face. In doing so, I am certain that each day spent in my future career will be challenging, yet satisfying. As a soon-to-be occupational therapist, I hope to specialize in adult rehabilitation as this specific concentration has always felt the most personally rewarding. Specifically, I hope to one day specialize in working with patients that have suffered from spinal cord injuries or patients requiring adaptive wheelchairs. With this scholarship, I will be able to experience a perfect example of an adult rehab unit similar to where I hope to practice upon graduation. As someone who was born and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina, I am proud and honored to join the staff of Carolinas Healthcare System and return to my hometown to complete my final fieldwork of my program.

**Increasing Diversity in Occupational Therapy Scholarship**

Pursuing a passion to increase diversity in the occupational therapy profession, Stacy Wilson (’10) created an annual scholarship in 2012 that seeks to spread awareness of the OT profession to under-represented groups. The goal of the scholarship is to increase the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the OT program and profession. This scholarship is now funded through contributions from Mr. Wilson and other alumni.

**Caitlin Quinn Hoffman**  
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy  
**Hometown:** Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania  
**Personal Statement:** My first exposure to the field of occupational therapy was in the woods of Oregon doing service work with adolescents in a wilderness therapy program. In that setting, the occupational therapist acted as a counselor, educator, and sweat-lodge facilitator. His unique ability to defy convention immensely benefited the teenagers’ therapeutic experiences and growth. By including practitioners with unique perspectives, experiences and worldviews, occupational therapy will continue to evolve in its ability to treat individuals in various settings utilizing ever more creative and effective treatments. The sky is the limit regarding the clientele we serve, the interventions possible, and the settings used to help clients live life to the fullest. Increased diversity stimulates the evolution of the profession, and therefore improves quality of care, accessibility of services to individuals, and even the resilience of OT in the worldwide professional community. Thanks to the financial support and vision of Mr. Stacy Wilson and other generous donors, I plan to reach out to an underrepresented demographic of potential future professionals—individuals who, like myself, have a hearing impairment. I am honored to have the opportunity to bring a less conventional perspective to the field of occupational therapy.

**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships**

**Jamie Stiller**  
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy  
**Hometown:** West Terre Haute, Indiana  
(Jamie’s personal statement is on page 9)

**Lindsay Vorhees**  
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy  
**Hometown:** South Pasadena, California  
(Lindsay’s personal statement is on page 9)
**Buddy Clark Loyalty Fund Radiologic Science Annual Scholarship**

Dr. Ernest Spangler and his wife, Jean, have endowed the Buddy Clark Scholarship through The Medical Foundation’s Loyalty Fund. Dr. Spangler decided to create the scholarship to honor the important role that Mr. Buddy Clark and other radiologic technologists played in his career and in improved patient care.

**Kristen Sloan Riley**  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Carrboro, North Carolina

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**Chi Adabel Lee**  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: As far back as I can remember I have always accompanied my family members to the doctor to help them translate in Hmong. Witnessing the interaction between medicine and family inspired me to become part of a field that impacts people’s lives. Because of this, I was the first in my family of six kids to go to college to make something of myself. After graduating, I started working for a light industrial company, which helped me hone my interests, but I still craved that hands-on experience. After being accepted in the UNC Radiologic Science and working in the clinic, I have grown to love the idiosyncrasies of my work: the smile that I can put on a patients’ face, or the laugh I can get out of them even when they are hurting has shown me that medical imaging is not just about taking images, but being the patient’s advocate. After graduating, I hope to work as a technologist and furthering my knowledge of the radiologic field. Being awarded the Tina D. Robbins Memorial Award is such an honor; this award encourages me to strive for better and reminds me of my perpetual role as an interpreter, guide, and helper.

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**Tina D. Robbins Memorial Award**

The Tina D. Robbins Award is given to a graduating student who has demonstrated high ethical standards and a genuine concern for his/her patients and fellow man.

**Jeffrey Toulmin Gaines**  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Clinton, South Carolina  
Personal Statement: When I first went through college way back in the late 90’s, health care was not something I had even considered as a career. I ended up in packaging science, and worked for a plastics manufacturer that supplied big tobacco. It didn’t take long for me to decide that wasn’t for me. I started working as a receptionist at an animal hospital in Raleigh, and within a couple of months, I was cross-training to work in exam rooms, the lab, and even in the operating room. While working as a vet assistant for eight years, I became particularly good at radiographing pets. After learning about and visiting this department, making the jump to UNC’s Division of Radiologic Science was an easy decision. I am so grateful for the hands-on experience and opportunities that I’ve been privileged to receive. I cannot imagine a career that is a better fit for me, and I am ready to get out there and make it my own. Receiving the Dr. Jerry Lambiente Radiologic Science Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship is a massive honor and will relieve the financial strain on our budget.

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**Dr. Jerry Lambiente Radiologic Science Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship**

The Lambiente Annual Scholarship was established through the generosity of Robert and Lauren Noble ('89). Dr. Jerry Lambiente (Retired Colonel, United States Army) was born in Brooklyn on September 27, 1912, and died on February 12, 1999. He was married to the late Jean Reavis Lambiente. Dr. Lambiente attended New York Military Academy in Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY, and then went on to attend the University of Notre Dame. After completion of his undergraduate degree, he attended Creighton University Dental School in Omaha, Nebraska, and shortly thereafter enlisted in the United States Army. Dr. Lambiente served in World War II and the Korean War and retired in 1971 after 31 years of distinguished military service. Dr. Lambiente possessed an appreciation for education and a desire to share with others. As a result, his philanthropic activities included numerous monetary and historical artifact contributions to the University of Notre Dame and the University of Nebraska.

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**Chi Adabel Lee**  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: As far back as I can remember I have always accompanied my family members to the doctor to help them translate in Hmong. Witnessing the interaction between medicine and family inspired me to become part of a field that impacts people’s lives. Because of this, I was the first in my family of six kids to go to college to make something of myself. After graduating, I started working for a light industrial company, which helped me hone my interests, but I still craved that hands-on experience. After being accepted in the UNC Radiologic Science and working in the clinic, I have grown to love the idiosyncrasies of my work: the smile that I can put on a patients’ face, or the laugh I can get out of them even when they are hurting has shown me that medical imaging is not just about taking images, but being the patient’s advocate. After graduating, I hope to work as a technologist and furthering my knowledge of the radiologic field. Being awarded the Tina D. Robbins Memorial Award is such an honor; this award encourages me to strive for better and reminds me of my perpetual role as an interpreter, guide, and helper.

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**Chi Adabel Lee**  
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The Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Radiologic Science Memorial Fund Scholarships

This fund was established as a tribute to Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper’s lifetime and career in radiologic technology. She was born in Cabarrus County, a daughter of Blanche Bebber Canup and John Lewis Canup. Following graduation from A. L. Brown High School, she became one of the earliest radiologic technologists to graduate from UNC-Chapel Hill, completing her training in 1955. She joined the Department of Radiology at the University of North Carolina Hospitals after graduation and later served as chief technologist until 1962. She then went to Charlotte to become the chief technologist at Presbyterian Hospital. She remained at Presbyterian Hospital until her marriage in 1969. This fund was established by her husband, Francis D. Pepper, Jr., MD, a 1956 graduate of the UNC School of Medicine. Funds earned by this endowment are distributed into equal parts. The fund provides support for students through the scholarships and for the Radiologic Science program through the Advancement Fund.

Brittany Dare Farrell  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Durham, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I became interested in radiology when my grandparents underwent radiation therapies after they were diagnosed with different cancers a few years after I graduated high school. My family and I greatly appreciated the medical professionals charged with my grandparents’ care while they were sick—they gave us hope, provided comfort, and enabled us to have more time with our loved ones. I knew that I wanted to pay these precious gifts forward; I wanted to make a meaningful impact in the lives of patients and their families, as others had done for us when it was needed most. While my grandparents were still fighting their cancer battles, I found the Division of Radiologic Science. I never thought about joining any other program, and I registered at a community college to begin my prerequisites. Both of them passed away before I made it to Carolina. This scholarship gives me hope for my future in medicine, and I am very honored to receive it.

Anna Christine Hudson  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Elon, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in the spring of 2011 with a BA in International Studies: Global Health. I worked for a few years as a health unit coordinator, trying to find my niche in the health care field. To further my experience in patient care, I became a Certified Nursing Assistant. It was during this time that I discovered the Radiologic Science program at UNC and applied to go back for a second degree. I have truly enjoyed the opportunities I have been given through this program. My MRI clinical rotations start in September, and I hope to begin my imaging career as a MRI technologist after graduation. As a second degree student supporting myself, I am extremely grateful for the Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Radiologic Science Memorial Fund Scholarship. I would like to offer a special thank you to the Radiologic Science program and to Dr. Francis Pepper for the establishment of this scholarship.

Taylor Brooke Koonts  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Lexington, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: Upon graduating from the Medical Imaging program through the UNC Division of Radiologic Science, I plan to begin working in computed tomography and eventually hope to enter into the Radiation Therapy program through UNC Hospitals. This program will prepare me to become a radiation therapist, which is the profession that I truly aspire to achieve. Throughout my life, I have lost many loved ones to cancer, and have seen firsthand how important quality health care is to the patient experience. I will use this knowledge to comfort patients and provide the best care possible. While I was never able to treat my family members and loved ones who lost their battles with cancer, I plan to one day become a radiation therapist in order to help others who are currently fighting this disease. I am extremely grateful to have been chosen to receive the Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Radiologic Science Memorial Fund Scholarship. This scholarship will allow me to finish my senior year at UNC without having to worry about the many financial responsibilities that are associated with a demanding healthcare education program.
motivated me to continue working toward my educational goals. Dr. Brown-Puryear is a native of Whiteville, North Carolina, and graduated from Whiteville High School in 1989. As a UNC undergraduate, she earned her BS in Radiologic Science and was the recipient of the 1993 Faculty Award for Excellence in the division. Dr. Brown-Puryear worked in the Radiology Department at UNC Hospitals from 1993-1995 before entering medical school at UNC. She completed her MD in 1999 and accepted a residency in internal medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While there, she met her husband who was a radiology resident. After finishing their residencies, they relocated to Miami, Florida, where she completed a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and he completed fellowships in Neuroradiology and Vascular and Interventional Radiology. Longing to be closer to family, they relocated with their children to Ohio where they both joined private practices. Prior to establishing the Drs. Jerome Puryear and Latonya Brown-Puryear Endowed Scholarship at UNC, the Puryears endowed minority candidates, is intended to serve as an expression of gratitude to all those who have supported the Puryears in their academic pursuits and enabled them to make their dreams come true. Dr. Brown-Puryear is a native of Whiteville, North Carolina, and graduated from Whiteville High School in 1989. As a UNC undergraduate, she earned her BS in Radiologic Science and was the recipient of the 1993 Faculty Award for Excellence in the division. Dr. Brown-Puryear worked in the Radiology Department at UNC Hospitals from 1993-1995 before entering medical school at UNC. She completed her MD in 1999 and accepted a residency in internal medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While there, she met her husband who was a radiology resident. After finishing their residencies, they relocated to Miami, Florida, where she completed a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and he completed fellowships in Neuroradiology and Vascular and Interventional Radiology. Longing to be closer to family, they relocated with their children to Ohio where they both joined private practices. Prior to establishing the Drs. Jerome Puryear and Latonya Brown-Puryear Endowed Scholarship at UNC, the Puryears endowed minority medical school scholarships in honor and in memory of their loved ones.

**Brenda Lisett Salas**
*Division of Radiologic Science*

**Hometown:** Burlington, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** At a very young age my parents stressed to me the importance of having an education. My parents did not have the opportunity or resources to finish high school but their determination for a better life has motivated me to pursue my dreams of obtaining a college degree. Growing up, I remember having the responsibility of interpreting for my family during their doctor visits because they only spoke Spanish. This is how I was introduced to the medical world, but I discovered the field of radiology when I had an ultrasound performed. As I saw the gray image of my son’s beating heart appear on the monitor, I knew then that medical imaging was what I wanted to learn. I am very excited to continue expanding my knowledge in radiography and in magnetic resonance imaging this year. I am grateful to the Radiologic Science program for giving me the education and clinical skills to contribute positively in the care of my patients. I am also very honored and thankful to receive the Drs. Jerome Puryear and Latonya Brown-Puryear Endowed Scholarship. This award has not only given me financial relief but it has motivated me to continue working toward my educational goals.

**Joseph Taylor Radiology Student Assistance Fund**

Joseph Taylor’s professional career spanned more than 50 years in radiology and centered on promoting and advancing the profession. The Joseph Taylor Radiology Student Assistance Fund financially assists students, specifically those in the university-based radiologic technology certificate program. The Taylor Award will be given each year to a student who displays a passion for the field of radiology and a commitment to helping patients in need. The fund will help students who may not otherwise have the means to afford required educational materials.

**Kistner Yvonne Javorski**
*Division of Radiologic Science*

**Hometown:** Chapel Hill, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** My time in the Radiologic Science program has been very fulfilling thus far. When the opportunity for this program came along I did not hesitate to apply and was thrilled to learn I had been accepted. Since this was a complete career change for me I was nervous in the beginning, but the instructors have been awesome and have made the transition far less stressful than I anticipated. While most professions in the health care industry involve helping others, few provide the opportunity to also interact with high tech imaging equipment to diagnose trauma and disease otherwise invisible to the naked eye. I find this opportunity both fascinating and challenging and can appreciate each unique situation encountered on a day-to-day basis. I look forward to working with patients and hopefully can make sure the care they receive is as physically and mentally stress free as possible. I strive to make imaging seem as quick and easy as the technologist I have shadowed and worked with.

**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships**

**Priya Patel**
*Division of Radiologic Science*

**Hometown:** Cary, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** Throughout the past few years, I have had the opportunity to work in a variety of clinical healthcare settings that have allowed me to recognize an undying desire to make an impact on people’s well-being. As someone who loved nearly every specialty experience, radiologic sciences became an obvious choice for its cross-cutting nature. I hope to become an integral part of a field that remains in the forefront of diagnostic and therapeutic medicine by working in different specialties then progressing onwards to a specific modality such as radiation therapy. I am so grateful for everyone involved in this fellowship as it will allow me to pursue my passion and will reinforce the rest of my education. In addition, I greatly appreciate the support and assistance I received from our program advisors.
Dr. Mark C. Fleming Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship

Mark Fleming (UNC RCP Class of 1998) has made a generous gift and commitment to the UNC Chapel Hill Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology to fund the Dr. Mark C. Fleming Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship. The Fleming Scholarship is awarded annually to a deserving student with financial need and promise for future clinical excellence. Dr. Fleming currently serves as Regional Vice President for Behavioral Health with Corizon, the largest health care company of its kind providing medical, mental health, and pharmacy services to state level department of corrections and county jail programs across the nation. Dr. Fleming is also a Captain in the United States Army National Guard serving as a psychologist. Dr. Fleming’s areas of research interest and clinical expertise include trauma, severe mental illness, multicultural counseling, co-morbidity, the mental health needs of incarcerated individuals, the psychology of men, and an integrative approach to the mental health needs of his clients. Previously, Dr. Fleming served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Individual and Family Studies and as Assistant Director for the Center for Counseling and Student Development at the University of Delaware. Upon leaving the University of Delaware, he served as the Director for the Center for Counseling and Student Development at Coppin State University. Dr. Fleming received his B.A. in Psychology with a minor in African American Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and holds a M.S. in Rehabilitation Psychology and Counseling from UNC-Chapel Hill. He received his Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology from the Pennsylvania State University.

Rae Jodrey
Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Graham, North Carolina
Personal Statement: As someone who is personally acquainted with the challenges associated with having an Autism Spectrum Disorder, I was drawn to the field of rehabilitation counseling because of a desire to give back to those in the Autism community. I have found that I am especially drawn toward working with individuals facing times of transition. I often think back on past times of transition or routine change and how challenging and daunting those times were. Although I do not know what the future holds for my career, I hope to work with those who are struggling with transition periods and would love to work with the transition caseload at a vocational rehabilitation office. I strive to be for others what I needed most when changes were difficult: a relatable source of knowledge, support, and encouragement. The world can be a daunting place for those with ASD or other disabilities. I aim to make it less so, one transition at a time. I am so thankful to Dr. Fleming for funding the Dr. Mark C. Fleming Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship and for helping to make my aspirations possible.

Margaret Rachel Garehan
Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Clayton, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I became interested in going into the field of counseling many years ago after seeing the poor services a family member with mental illness received. Though he lived in Michigan, his poor services and care resulted in his deterioration and inhibited his ability to recover from schizophrenia. Upon graduation, I hope to use my degree in rehabilitation counseling to serve individuals with severe and persistent mental illness in rural areas of North Carolina. I am currently living in Johnston County and am appalled at the lack of treatment options available in not only my area, but also the surrounding counties. I hope to be more available for individuals living in remote areas of North Carolina. This scholarship is critical to my dreams of being a rural provider for individuals with mental illness. It will make traveling to new places and meeting new people in need a more realistic goal. I am deeply grateful for the donors that are helping to support my journey through graduate school and the beginning of my career as a rehabilitation counselor.

Ashley Randall
Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Graham, North Carolina
Personal Statement: NOT RECEIVED YET - WAITING FOR EMAIL

Educational Planning Symposium Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarships

A generous gift from the Educational Planning Symposium funded three scholarships for students attending the UNC-Chapel Hill Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology program for the 2013-14 academic year, two scholarships for 2014-15 academic year, and two scholarships for 2015-16 academic year.
Richard H. Peters Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship

The Richard H. Peters Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship was established by Jay Peters in memory of his father. Richard H. Peters was born in 1920, in Toledo, Ohio. He attended Scott High School and transferred to Hill School to complete his high school education. This prepared him for the challenges of Yale University, where he majored in political science. Mr. Peters attended graduate school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and earned his law degree. After passing his boards, he moved to Cincinnati and began work as a public defender. He eventually moved back to Toledo and practiced law until the time of his death in 2001. His son, Jay, attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed his education as a Rehabilitation Counselor and Psychologist in 2000.

Chloe Fulcher

Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: William, Virginia

Working with individuals with disabilities became a passion of mine after an encounter I had the summer I was 12. I visited Camp Baker of the Greater Richmond ARC, a camp for individuals diagnosed with intellectual disabilities, and I met several of the campers and recognized my future would revolve around helping individuals in this population. I have worked for that camp nearly every summer since then, and the experiences I have had have simply warmed my heart and deepened my passion to work in the rehabilitation and mental health counseling field. I believe that my degree will open many doors for me after graduation, but I am unsure which door I will walk through. I feel that no matter where I end up, I will be devoted to working with the parents and family members of individuals diagnosed with a disability. I would like to thank Mr. Jay Peters for his continued generous contributions to our program to support students like myself. I found this program and learned about the specialty tracks and decided to move to North Carolina solely for this program. Being an out-of-state student, this scholarship helps me financially and allows me to spend more time focusing on my studies. and less time focusing on paying tuition.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Rae Jodrey

Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Graham, North Carolina
(Rae’s personal statement is on page 28)

Peters-Reives Rehabilitation Counseling Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship

The Peters-Reives Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship is generously funded by Cynthia Taylor Reives and Jay Lytton Peters who share a commitment to the UNC Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology (RCP) program and to meeting the growing financial needs of students. Cynthia Taylor Reives, a 2005 graduate of the RCP program, is the clinical director of a private behavioral health care provider and the proud owner of an independent counseling agency in Sanford, North Carolina, serving a wide range of clients with mental health and developmental disabilities. Jay Lytton Peters, a 2000 graduate of the RCP program, is a professor at Durham Technical Community College.

Amber Peel

Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Circleville, Ohio

Studying mental health has always been a passion of mine. In the 8th grade I took an intro to psychology class, and ever since then I fell in love with psychology. It amazes me how the mind works, and how people who are mentally sick have a different stigma on their health compared to people who are physically sick. I have always wanted to help people, and knew that the Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program at UNC-Chapel-Hill would be perfect for me. One day soon I see myself owning my own counseling practice, where my team and I can help those with psychiatric and developmental disabilities conquer their diagnosis, and help keep them mentally healthy and stable. Being the recipient of this scholarship has truly opened my eyes on how close I am to accomplishing my dreams. It is a true blessing that I was picked for this scholarship because it has eased my concerns of tuition and has given me a sense of accomplishment that will continue to motivate me to do my best and learn as much as I can in the program here at UNC. I want to thank the Peters and Reives Family for their generosity, and choosing me for this outstanding scholarship.

Emily Davis Robinson

Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Circleville, Ohio
(Emily’s personal statement is on page 6)

The June C. Allcott Fellowship
Audiology Alumni Annual Scholarship

More than 30 Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences alumni and faculty members responded to the call to create the Division’s first AuD Annual Scholarship in 2011. The audiology scholarship helps to ensure that the AuD program (which has risen to #3 in the most recent U.S. News and World Report ranking) has the resources it needs to maintain its record of excellence, attract the best applicants, and provide students with the best educational opportunities.

Marisa Isabella Marsteller
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Tucson, Arizona
Personal Statement: I was initially drawn to clinical audiology after assisting with free hearing screenings at the Tucson Hope Festival, a health fair serving those in need. At the Hope Festival, I translated for Spanish-speaking patients, interpreted hearing questionnaires, explained the hearing exam, and provided additional support throughout the testing procedure. This experience, coupled with my background attending a deaf-and-hearing integrated elementary and middle school, sparked my passion for audiology. My goal is to become a pediatric audiologist and to educate my community on the importance of early hearing detection and intervention. Additionally, I am interested in pursuing research in audiology to help advance the field. I am honored to have received this scholarship and appreciate the alumni who made this possible. With this scholarship, I will be able to further achieve my goals.

Lucy Edna Hardy
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Mesa, Arizona
Personal Statement: Due to a genetic syndrome that runs in my family, my sister developed a profound sensorineural hearing loss at a very young age. Throughout my life, my sister’s journey to auditory and verbal competency seemed to be just as much mine as it was hers. I was at her side during speech therapy sessions, audiology appointments, cochlear implant conferences, and neighborhood sign language classes in our living room every Tuesday. I learned firsthand how much the ability to communicate can mean to a person, and how deficits in that ability can be devastating. Throughout my academic career, I have worked under the mentorship of many researchers who are seeking answers for people like my sister. Many of my mentors have dedicated decades of their lives to helping children and adults to learn or regain the ability to communicate. For me, they are heroes. I hope to follow in their footsteps, and be an active researcher both in clinical practice and academia. I am very thankful to have received the Robert W. Peters Award, and look forward to dedicating my work and research to helping clients, care partners, and fellow clinicians to reach their goals for successful communication.

Robert W. Peters Award

The Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences established the Robert W. Peters Award Fund to annually recognize a student who has demonstrated excellence in research. The award is named in honor of the late Professor Robert W. Peters, who joined the faculty of the University of North Carolina in 1969 and founded the Institute of Speech and Hearing Sciences, which later became a division in the Department of Allied Health Sciences. Dr. Peters chaired the academic program in speech and hearing until 1981 and taught coursework in psychoacoustics, fluency disorders, and research design. His research focused on auditory and speech perception, sensation and perception, and stuttering. He later became a professor at the University of Southern Mississippi where he served as Departmental Chair of Speech and Hearing Sciences and as research administrator for the University. In 1981 and 1982 he was a visiting research scholar in the Department of Experimental Psychology at the University of Cambridge in England.

Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Award

Nicole Amanda Steyl
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
(Nicole’s personal statement is on page 6)

Adrienne Skye Dorsett
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
(Adrienne’s personal statement is on page 11)
Millicent Blair Arnett Memorial Speech-Language Pathology Annual Scholarship

The Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences created the Millicent Blair Arnett Memorial Speech-Language Pathology Annual Scholarship Fund at The Medical Foundation of North Carolina in the summer of 2013 to accept contributions in memory of Millicent. Contributions will be used to fund a scholarship that will be awarded annually to a deserving UNC MS-SLP student. Millicent Lavon Blair Arnett was born October 12, 1972, in Charlotte, North Carolina. She earned her BS in elementary education from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1994 and her MS-SLP from UNC in 2002. A warm and caring person, Millicent dedicated her life to serving children. She was also an ambassador for her profession, encouraging many others to pursue careers as pediatric speech-language pathologists. Millicent died May 22, 2013, leaving two beloved sons and an extensive legacy of inspiration and care.

Claudia Lemus  
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences  
Personal Statement: I am honored and feel incredibly blessed to have been chosen to receive the Millicent Blair-Arnett Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will help me toward my hopes of working in the adult acute care setting in my future career. I am particularly drawn toward working with patients who have suffered a stroke, a traumatic brain injury, or are suffering from dysphagia. I am also constantly drawn towards working with multicultural patients, particularly the Latino/a population, since that population is near and dear to my heart. I want to help Spanish and other bilingual/multilingual patients and families feel welcomed and confident that they are being heard in the hospitals. I hope that my interests, personality, and varied clinical experiences while in this program will allow me to help families during difficult times by helping them with their communication, cognition, swallowing, etc., and by providing culturally competent services. With this generous scholarship and the wonderful faculty, resources, and experiences available at UNC I am highly confident and hopeful that I have a great and fulfilling career ahead of me that will allow me to continue serving others when they need it most.

Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology

The UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology seeks to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups pursuing a master’s degree in SLP. The goal is to enhance the racial, ethnic, linguistic, and gender diversity of our program and of the profession. The purpose of this fund is two-fold: 1) to increase the racial, ethnic, linguistic, and gender diversity of the SLP program by providing scholarships to students from under-represented groups; and 2) to support recruitment activities aimed at attracting individuals from under-represented groups to academic programs offered within the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences.

Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship

The Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship was established through the generosity of Amy Chaney Heffern (’86) and John Heffern (’83) for a student interested in any aspect of adult communication disorders. Amy received her BA in 1984 and MS in speech and hearing sciences in 1986, and John received a BA in economics in 1983 and an MBA from the Kenan-Flagler Business School in 1988. Amy has a private practice serving adult clients in the Princeton, New Jersey, area, primarily contracting with University Medical Center at Princeton. She is also in the process of founding the Central New Jersey Laryngectomee Support Group in conjunction with the local American Cancer Society to provide support, education, and community outreach to individuals with laryngectomies and their families. John is a managing partner and senior portfolio manager at Chartwell Investment Partners in Philadelphia.

Mandie Kate Oslund  
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences  
Personal Statement: It is an honor to be awarded the Adult Communication Disorders Scholarship. I discovered an immense passion for speech-language pathology after my grandma suffered a stroke and lost the ability to effectively communicate. While the sudden loss of my grandma’s communication ability was a daunting obstacle for our family to overcome, the experience fostered in me the steadfast commitment to improving communication supports for adults across the health care continuum. My primary interests include increasing life participation and quality of care for individuals with cognitive-linguistic and swallowing disorders through the delivery of functional assessment and intervention methods. The tremendous research, clinical, and academic experiences offered at UNC and the unwavering support of the SPHS faculty have been fundamental to my success as a student. I am also incredibly grateful to Mr. and Mrs. John Heffern for their generosity in funding this scholarship, which has assisted me in achieving my career goal of improving the health care experience for adult patients in the acute care setting through better service delivery.

Amy Munekata  
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences  
Hometown: Matthews, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: Speech language pathology is the perfect blend of both medicine and linguistics. I have always been interested in medicine and was set on being a physician assistant until the day I discovered linguistics. I quickly fell in love with how linguistics brings the subconscious mind to light and exposes the complexities of language. This scholarship is helping me to fulfill both my personal and career goals. I was a first generation college student and am now looking forward to being the first person in my family to complete graduate school. In my career, I hope to facilitate the Spanish-speaking community’s access to speech language pathology services by creating tailored therapy treatments for both monolingual and bilingual patients within the United States and possibly abroad in Latin or South America. I truly appreciate this scholarship opportunity and will continue to work hard during my time in UNC’s speech language pathology program so I may better serve the Spanish-speaking population.
Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

This scholarship was established through the generosity of Gary Campbell in honor of his wife, Dr. Sylvia Campbell, PhD/CCC-SLP, as a surprise for her birthday. Dr. Sylvia Campbell earned a MS in speech and hearing sciences and a MS in audiology from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1974 and 1977, respectively, and a PhD in speech and hearing sciences in 1993 from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is an active member of ASHA and was awarded the Certificate of Clinical Competence in 1974. Dr. Campbell helped organize and staff the Southeastern Speech and Hearing Center in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and then served as the resident speech-language pathologist at the North Carolina Developmental Evaluation Clinics in Fayetteville, Rocky Mount, and Raleigh. In 2006, she joined the faculty of Kuwait University as an assistant professor in the newly established Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the College for Women in Kuwait. Currently, Dr. Campbell is an assistant professor at the George Washington University Department of Speech and Hearing Science.

Valeriya Yavich
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Denver, Colorado
Personal Statement: After I graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder, I moved to Israel for a year-long volunteer program teaching English in an under-served elementary school where the children came from diverse backgrounds. In many ways, teaching English in this school was similar to being a speech language pathologist. Although challenging, I found this year to be the most rewarding, during which I encountered children with a variety of special needs, both physical and mental, a wide array of behavioral and learning challenges, as well as their families who sometimes did not know how to contribute to the success of their child both in and out of the school environment. I watched my brother, who has Down syndrome, receive speech therapy throughout his life. I have seen the benefits of a therapist that truly cares and aspire to become a compassionate, educated, and well-rounded therapist. My experiences abroad, as well as those from my own family, have brought me to pursue a career in Speech Language Pathology. I plan to work with children with special needs, especially those who come from multiculturally diverse backgrounds. This scholarship is bringing me closer to that dream by supporting me financially, and I truly appreciate it.

Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

The Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship was established through the generosity of Lauren Graves Madden (‘05) in memory of her aunt, Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles. Born in 1956, Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles graduated from Martinsville High School in Martinsville, Virginia, and attended Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond before transferring to Averett College (now Averett University) in Danville, Virginia. There, she received her BS in education with endorsements in several core areas, such as mathematics and reading, and her MS in curriculum and instruction. She also earned an endorsement in administration and supervision from the University of Virginia. She worked in many capacities for the Martinsville City School System for 26 years, teaching special education and mathematics, serving as an educational diagnostician, and coordinating community outreach. She further demonstrated her love for teaching the youth in her community by frequently delivering the children’s sermon at her church. Janice’s journey in educating children ended with her passing in 2005. The creation of the Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship in Janice’s honor and memory will continue her legacy of dedication and love for teaching children.

Sarah Marie Plascyk
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Waxhaw, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My journey towards a career in Speech-Language Pathology began when I was 10 years old and my younger sister, Shannon, was born with Down syndrome. Shannon has enriched our lives in so many ways and made my entire family come to appreciate the meaning of unconditional love in ways we never expected. However, I owe another debt to Shannon: She has enriched our lives in so many ways and made my entire family come to appreciate the meaning of unconditional love in ways we never expected. However, I owe another debt to Shannon: She allowed me to realize my passion for working with children with disabilities. Through my personal experiences I have come to truly appreciate the importance of speech and communication skills in children with disabilities and its ability to allow them to form more meaningful relationships with their loved ones. As a future speech-language pathologist, I plan to work with a wide range of children with varying speech and language needs in order to improve their communication abilities and quality of life. I am extremely grateful to have received this scholarship and would like to thank those who have made it possible. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to further my passion to improve the lives of children with disabilities as well as their families.
Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

The Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship was established through the generosity of George Womble ('68) in honor of his wife, Rebecca Rule Womble, who graduated with a MS in Speech-Language Pathology in 1972 from the UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Speech Hearing Sciences. “I was so very glad George established the scholarship in my name, and I am glad to share this honor with my cousin Sally Rule Taylor in whose name we previously funded a scholarship,” said Rebecca. “It is wonderful to be able to 'pay it forward’ since I myself was the recipient of a scholarship when I had the privilege of enrolling in the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology program at UNC, and subsequently graduated with the inaugural class. I have also greatly enjoyed serving on the Advisory Board to the Division and celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2010. Getting to know Dr. Peters and now Dr. Roush has been an honor and no doubt explains in part why this program has become one of the best in the country/world! My experience in the field was limited as other opportunities opened up for me including motherhood, women's ministry, and mission work. But I know the incredible impact that the field of speech and hearing sciences can have and we delight in helping some deserving students pursue their calling.”

Jillian Eileen Kowalski
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Baltic, Connecticut
Personal Statement: I am honored and incredibly grateful to have been selected to receive the Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship. I was attracted to the speech-language pathology field in the first semester of my undergraduate career at the University of Connecticut, where I took an introductory course as an elective, and immediately knew that I had found my calling. I aspire to become a successful medical speech-language pathologist who specializes in neonatal intensive care and inpatient pediatric feeding and swallowing evaluation and intervention. I hope to work in a well-respected hospital, contributing to the profession through my research efforts, and through collaboration with medical professionals across the health care spectrum. I strive to improve the quality of life of my patients while providing caregiver education and a positive evaluation and treatment experience. The financial support provided by this scholarship will help me continue to fund my graduate education at the University of North Carolina and brings me one step closer to my career as a medical speech-language pathologist. I would like to sincerely thank all those who have made this scholarship possible.

The Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship in Physical Therapy

The Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship in Physical Therapy was created thanks to the generous commitments of her husband, Dr. Ted Anderson, and their daughters, Megan Anderson Phillips and Lauren Anderson Bean, as well as Sara’s family, friends, and colleagues. The fund honors the life and career of Sara Fowler Anderson, a 1981 graduate of the UNC Chapel Hill Physical Therapy program. Sara’s physical therapy career spanned three decades prior to her death in 2012. She enjoyed providing services to a wide spectrum of those in need of physical therapy, from infants and children in early intervention programs to seniors in retirement facilities, from those requiring home health care to those receiving inpatient care. She frequently expressed her appreciation for the education she received at UNC and the association she maintained with her professors.

Robert Edward Sykes III
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Hobgood, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Physical therapy is an incredible profession, abundant with opportunity, and driven by professionals who are ever seeking to improve upon the status quo. I began my physical therapy education, like many of those desirous of health care careers, with a vague notion of wanting to help people. This proved a strong foundation upon which my education has since been constructed. But as I near the end of my schooling and the start of my career, I now have a much keener understanding of my responsibility as both a physical therapist and a health care professional. The summation of this responsibility and my ultimate goal as a health care professional is to see patients less. I want to be part of a health care system that places more emphasis on preventative medicine, and I want to empower patients to become better managers of their own health and wellness. I see this as the overarching responsibility of the health care field at large, and I am excited to play my part. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to all of the donors of the Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship, and I hope my career can honor the memory of those who set such an exemplary example.
Charlotte Money Beatty Memorial Scholarship

The family, friends, and colleagues of Charlotte Money Beatty created this scholarship in her loving memory after her passing in 1993. The scholarship is open to all students with particular attention being given first to minority students and second to students expressing a desire to pursue a career in pediatric physical therapy.

Brennan Janice Ehlinger
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I have known for many years now that physical therapy is my passion and something I can see myself happily doing for the rest of my life. A year in the classroom and my first clinical rotation have shown me the versatility therapists have and that the settings and types of people I could work with are endless. School-based PT quickly sparked my interest, as I think it is essential that every student receives educational services that are necessary, individualized and of great quality. The thought of increasing a child’s functional ability and thereby increasing his ability to learn and keep up with his peers thrills me. The implications for this type of therapy are huge and I feel I could make an impact not only on the students and their families, but also on society as a whole. I am honored to have been chosen for the Charlotte Money Beatty Memorial Scholarship and Judy A. White Professional Development Award. I cannot thank these families enough for their contributions. Your generosity is not only helping me reach my full potential as a student, but will help the children that I hope to serve as a physical therapist.

The Class of 1964 Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship

The Class of 1964 Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship is awarded to a deserving Carolina Physical Therapy student through the generosity of Miriam Danzey and other members of the Class of 1964.

Nicole Fraye Davis
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Jacksonville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am extremely fortunate to complete my physical therapy studies at Carolina where I am surrounded by the field’s most respected and driven professionals; professors and classmates alike. The past two years in this program have reinforced my excitement to become a physical therapist. Though I am uncertain of my niche in the field, I welcome the diversity and creative opportunities that the profession offers. Most importantly, I appreciate the opportunities to help facilitate positive change in our patient’s lives. I am truly honored and thankful to be awarded the Class of 1964 Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year. This generous support will enable me to continue to pursue my educational and professional goals.

The Vanessa Louise Hall Memorial Scholarship in Physical Therapy at UNC Chapel Hill

The Division of Physical Therapy received a very generous gift and commitment from Louise and Paul Hall of Durham to create an endowed scholarship for physical therapy students in memory of their daughter Vanessa who died tragically in 1998 after being accepted into Carolina as a high school senior. Vanessa’s career goal at the time was to become either a physical therapist or a pediatrician. The first Hall Scholarship was awarded in 2009. More than 400 UNC-Chapel Hill Physical Therapy alumni and friends made generous gifts to reach the $100,000 UNC PT Class Challenge Campaign goal in 2013, matching the $100,000 gift from Paul and Louise Hall to build the scholarship endowment to more than $200,000.

Elizabeth Lindley Lynch
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Burlington, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Even before knowing that I wanted to become a physical therapist, my heart was set on spending my life surrounded by children. Combining this passion with a love of human anatomy and a personal experience of the positive impact that a PT can have on a patient, I know without hesitation that I am meant to pursue a career in pediatric physical therapy. From a professional development standpoint, I aspire to become certified as a pediatric specialist and work to serve my kiddos and their families with excellence. I also desire to partner with parents and caregivers to provide education and resources for meeting the needs of their children. I have found that children are often undervalued in today’s society, particularly those with disabilities, and I hope to use my physical therapy career as a platform to exude the message that all children are resilient and inspiring human beings who bring incredible worth to this world. I am extremely honored to have received the Vanessa Louise Hall Memorial Scholarship, and I am grateful to the Hall family for their generosity and support in helping me to earn an endowment to more than $200,000.

Chelsea Jo Parker
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I stumbled upon my future profession by accident. As a freshman undergrad I was positive medical school was the right path for me. A need for volunteer and shadowing hours landed me on the inpatient rehab floor. Before I knew it, volunteering with and shadowing the physical therapists was my favorite part of the week! By the end of my junior year I was working as a physical therapist aide, volunteering at Haynes Inman Education Center in the PT department, and volunteering in the pediatric PT department at UNC Hospitals. I am now looking forward to working in a school setting with special needs pediatric patients post graduation. The scholarships I have received mean more to me than a reduction in student loans. As a first-generation college graduate who is now taking on graduate school, I had no idea how expensive my education was going to be. The Hall and Sade Scholarships mean I can spend more time studying for my future career and less time worrying about bills and my ever-increasing debt. I’m beyond excited about my future career and could not possibly thank the donors of my scholarships enough for helping me reach my goals in the medical community.
Max Asher Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Student Scholar Award
The Max Asher Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Student Scholar Award was established by Amy and Daniel Gitterman in honor of their resilient son Max Asher. The Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Award will be presented annually to a student who has expressed an interest and commitment to pediatrics in the UNC PT program.

Krissy Ann Ayers
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Summerfield, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am honored to be a graduate student in UNC’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program, and I am looking forward to graduating in 2016 as a DPT! As a group fitness instructor, I have always been passionate about motivating others to live healthier and happier lives, and I look forward to using my knowledge to not only encourage, but also treat individuals to restore their optimal mobility and quality of life. I am in the process of deciding between pediatric and pilates-based physical therapy, but regardless of my focus, I know that with my knowledge and dedication to the profession of PT, I will make a positive impact on the lives of my patients. I am extremely grateful to have been the recipient of the Max Asher Gitterman Pediatric Physical Therapy Student Scholar Award, as this scholarship allows me to focus less on the financial burden of higher education and more on becoming an excellent physical therapist. Thank you so much!

The Karen St. John Scholarship in Physical Therapy
A perpetual, annual gift from the St. John Charitable Education Trust, established by the late Karen K. St. John (UNC PT Class of 1979) and her late husband, is providing generous support for student scholarships, as well the Division of Physical Therapy’s facility, equipment, and faculty research needs.

Lauren Ashley Kozar
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Virginia Beach, Virginia
Personal Statement: My journey towards becoming a health care professional began at The Ohio State University, where I earned a degree in Athletic Training (AT). I love the nature of the AT profession; however, throughout my clinical rotations, I realized I couldn’t provide complete attention to each patient’s plan of care. The number of athletes always significantly outweighed the number of clinicians. Thus, I decided to focus on a PT career. During spring semester, I worked at a local clinic with a variety of patients. Under the supervision of my preceptor, I operated my own rehabilitative sessions. Never in my life have I experienced the exhilaration and satisfaction that I felt in helping patients throughout their rehabilitation process. I live to see that smile at the end of a rough road when your patient can say “I am back!” As an aspiring orthopedic PT, I hunger to discover new techniques, methods and tests to improve my clinical skills in the treatment of injuries. I am truly honored and eternally grateful to have been awarded the Karen St. John Scholarship. Your generous support will aid me on my academic and professional endeavors. Thank you!

The Karen St. John Scholarship in Physical Therapy
Melody Tuong Chau Tran
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Carrboro, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I chose physical therapy as a career because I have seen the impact that clinicians make on individual lives, and I chose to come to UNC knowing that I would have the opportunity to learn from and train among the profession’s best. After completing my first year in the program, my passion for this field has been reinforced, and I am even more motivated to continue my studies and contribute to the profession. I am deeply grateful for the generous support offered to me through the Karen St. John Scholarship and Judy A. White Professional Development Award. This support helps mitigate the financial burden and time that I would have spent focusing on financing my education. Most importantly, it allows me to align my multiple interests in physical therapy, academia, and research. I am able to redirect my initiative more towards volunteer work and giving back to my community in North Carolina.

Kaitlyn Elaine Sly
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Lafayette, Indiana
Personal Statement: I am extremely grateful to be a part of the Carolina family and be surrounded by a wonderful group of faculty, professors, and students. I have always been drawn to a career in the health care field; after shadowing several physical therapists and experiencing a few injuries myself, I decided physical therapy was the career path I wanted to pursue. With my Doctorate of Physical Therapy, I hope to enhance the lives of people by promoting pain-free movement, optimizing performance, and encouraging activity. I plan to begin my career in an orthopedic setting, but I am excited by the variability that the profession of physical therapy has to offer. I am truly thankful to be receiving the Karen St. John Scholarship; I will use this gift to complete my education at UNC, and hopefully enter into the world as a clinician that promotes positive outcomes in the people and community I serve.
The Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Annual Scholarship is awarded each year to a deserving student who is enrolled in UNC-Chapel Hill's Doctoral Program in Human Movement Science. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Colonel Thomas L. Duquette, a 1991 graduate of the HMSC program, in honor of his parents, Louis and Eleanor Duquette of Connecticut, native New Englanders who instilled the virtues of hard work and the value of education in their children. Eleanor passed away in April of 2013 but through this scholarship her legacy lives on.

**Robert Charles Lynall**
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Peoria, Illinois

**Personal Statement:** It is truly an honor to receive the 2015 Louis and Eleanor Duquette Scholarship. Mr. and Mrs. Duquette’s dedication to education and hard work, and values Colonel Duquette continues to demonstrate in his current work, inspire all of us PhD students in the Human Movement Science curriculum. As an athletic trainer, I have worked with many athletes suffering from concussion, leading to an interest in further understanding the injury. Studying sport- and military-related head injury at UNC has been an incredible experience. As a scholar, my goal is to make sport and military service safer through preventing both brain and musculoskeletal injuries. My current work focuses on understanding the increased risk of lower extremity musculoskeletal injuries following concussion, a novel and highly impactful area of head injury research yet to be studied. My dissertation aims to help understand acute biomechanical deficits following concussion and their recovery time course. I hope to translate this work into a future line of research investigating intervention strategies for the observed deficits along with developing improved clinical testing standards for safe return to play following concussion.

**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship**

**Abbie Shea Marrale**
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Homer, Alaska

(Abbie’s personal statement is on page 8)

The Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Annual Scholarship is awarded each year to a deserving student who is enrolled in UNC-Chapel Hill's Doctoral Program in Human Movement Science. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Colonel Thomas L. Duquette, a 1991 graduate of the HMSC program, in honor of his parents, Louis and Eleanor Duquette of Connecticut, native New Englanders who instilled the virtues of hard work and the value of education in their children. Eleanor passed away in April of 2013 but through this scholarship her legacy lives on.

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**UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship**

**Abbie Shea Marralle**
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Homer, Alaska

(Abbie’s personal statement is on page 8)
G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long Annual Scholarships in Physical Therapy

G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long of Wilmington have made commitments to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to support UNC physical therapy and nursing students. The Longs, who own Well Care LLC, a Wilmington-based home health care company, created the G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long Annual Scholarships in Physical Therapy, which were first awarded for the 2009-10 academic year. Selection is based on financial need and outstanding scholastic achievement, with preference given to students interested in a career in home health care. The Longs each graduated from UNC in 1978. Wayne earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and Tanya majored in sociology.

Christopher Evan Green
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Concord, North Carolina
Personal Statement: The success of a skilled physical therapist is often attributed to an intimate mixture of art and science. As a former professional performing musician, I understand the discipline and dedication required to develop a skill. My passion as a music teacher also made me appreciate the art of communication. As a physical therapist, I hope to draw on these previous experiences and combine them using the best available evidence to provide exceptional care to my patients.

Just as when I spent hours perfecting one phrase in a concerto, I am committed to developing my clinical skills to my greatest capacity. In a similar vein, I believe that continuing to hone my listening and comprehension skills is essential to serving my patients effectively. By using the combination of clinical and communication skills, both informed by quality evidence and experience, I hope to give patient-centered care at the highest level. At this point, I am not sure if my ultimate goal is to have my own private practice or to assume a leadership role in another setting. But I do know that regardless of the setting, both the artist and the scientist in me are devoted to those I will treat.

Kristen Nicole Ignaszewski
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: South Burlington, Vermont
Personal Statement: When thinking about college, many people are still unsure which career they want to pursue; I have known since I was 16 years old. Through my work and shadowing experiences, as well as my first-hand rehab experiences, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in physical therapy. I have always had the desire to help people and make a positive impact in the surrounding community. I am thrilled to be part of the UNC DPT Program as I continue working toward my dream. Looking back on my many experiences with rehabilitation, I couldn’t have done it without the help and dedication of my physical therapists. As a future PT. I want to use my own experiences as motivation for others. I hope to build lasting relationships with patients as we work together to help restore, maintain, and promote fitness and wellness while improving their overall quality of life. I am humbled and grateful to be receiving the G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long Scholarship as it aids in reducing the financial burden of graduate school allowing me to focus on my academics and personal growth in the program.

Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship

The Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship was first established through the generosity of Gladys (‘64) and Robert Hart for the 2007-08 academic year. Mabel Marie Parker was born in Cass County, Michigan. She earned a baccalaureate degree from Western Michigan University, a graduate degree at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a professional degree in physical therapy at Duke University in 1957. Mabel specialized in treating patients with poliomyelitis, which was prevalent at the time. She practiced at Warm Springs, Georgia, Variety Children’s Hospital in Miami, and in private practice in Orlando. She joined the faculty of the Division of Physical Therapy at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine and UNC Hospitals in 1959. Her career accomplishments at UNC included managing clinical education for students, developing a protocol for integrating public health principals into the curriculum, serving as the acting director of the program on two separate occasions, and co-directing a grant to develop a method to evaluate stroke patients. She found great joy in teaching and retired as professor emeritus in 1979.

Mabel was a member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), and recipient of several awards including the APTA’s prestigious Lucy Blair Award in 1982. She also authored several publications concerning clinical education. Mabel remained active in retirement, playing tennis, golf, and bridge and fishing, especially at Topsail Beach where she shared a sound-front home. She was also an avid sports observer and a great fan of UNC teams. Mabel died on January 18, 2012, in Chapel Hill at the age of 93.

Abbie Shea Marrale
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Homer, Alaska
Personal Statement: Through my ongoing education in the UNC DPT program, I am continuously surprised and delighted by the endless possibilities of physical therapy and how it can help promote general health and prevent injury, as well as aid those with preexisting impairments. My personal interest in women’s health have paired beautifully with this education, as I pursue a career in women’s health physical therapy. I am honored to be the recipient of the Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship, and hope that through education, commitment, and experience, I will be able to forward these gifts to my patients, colleagues, and the larger community.
UNC Physical Therapy MS STEP UP Scholarships

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter, provided funding to establish the UNC Physical Therapy Multiple Sclerosis Scholarship Curriculum for students who will specialize in working with individuals with MS. The program, now designated as the MS Standardized Training and Education Program with University Partners (MS STEP UP: UNC PT), was founded by UNC PT faculty member and Carolina alumna Angela Rosenberg, PT, DPH. MS STEP UP: UNC PT seeks not only to produce clinicians with a thorough understanding of MS, but also to educate the physical therapy community at large and create a curriculum model that can be emulated by other physical therapy programs nationwide.

Corinne Joell Bohling
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Belleville, Kansas
Personal Statement: I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Greater Carolinas Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and to the donors of the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship for the opportunity to participate in MS STEP UP and for their support of my physical therapy education. I have the pleasure of knowing and working with amazing people who live with MS, and I am grateful for this chance for additional study and focused experiences that will prepare me to better serve those who live with the disease. Through the knowledge and skills I gain from MS STEP UP, I hope to find ways to improve access to MS-specific services for patients who live in remote areas and to further research on ways to improve physical therapy treatments for patients with MS. The financial assistance provided by the MS STEP UP and Rebecca Irene Sande scholarships have allowed me to dedicate more time to my studies, curriculum-enriching activities, and volunteer opportunities, all of which help me to better serve my patients and community. Thank you for your support!

Jessica Reynolds
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio
Personal Statement: I am extremely grateful to receive the Multiple Sclerosis Scholarship so that I can help patients and their families navigate the unique challenges of living with MS. Prior to coming to physical therapy school, I worked as a teacher and a coach. I have a passion for problem solving with others and helping them persist through challenges to reach their utmost potential. Due to the high prevalence of MS and symptoms that can challenge one’s ability to function safely and independently, we as physical therapists need to take the time to understand how each patient and his or her family is uniquely affected, what the patient’s goals are, and which treatment methods have proven most effective. The Multiple Sclerosis Scholarship will give me the opportunity to learn from health experts and to collaborate with community members to ensure that patients with MS have access to the care and the resources that they deserve. In addition to teaching and motivating patients and their families, I look forward to teaching colleagues how to meet the needs of their patients with MS. Since there is no current cure, we need to collaborate with other health care professionals and innovate methods to help our patients.

Alexis Ann Williams
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Physical therapists provide hope for the future. With the help of the patient, they can transform the harsh reality of an injury or disability into a competition to prove others wrong. Despite the sometimes long road to recovery, full of struggles, setbacks, and emotional roller coasters, this field has the power to improve the quality of life for patients. I am honored to be part of the UNC DPT program and know that my preparation here will allow me to excel in making a lifetime of positive impact in others. My professional goals include continuing on my education post-graduation to attend a neurological residency program with a long-term goal to achieve a neurology specialty certification. I hope to begin a career in a mentor-focused setting caring for those with various neurological disorders. Thanks to this award, I am able to focus on bettering myself as a future physical therapist and less of the financial burdens of a degree. I realize it is more than earning the title of Doctor of Physical Therapy; it is learning how to impact and change individuals and communities and this scholarship has allowed me to be one step closer to my dream.

Whitney Nicole Wilson
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Cornelius, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My interest in pursuing physical therapy as a profession comes from my own positive experience as a patient. Additionally, obtaining my doctorate in physical therapy will enable me to give back to communities globally and locally. This appeals to me because I have a heart for service and aspire to help underserved populations throughout my career. When I first discovered that UNC had a MS scholars program, I began to volunteer and gain experience with patients that have MS. Through my experiences working with these patients and shadowing with physical therapists and a neurologist, I have discovered a strong passion in working with these patients. There are many people who have MS and it impacts their physical ability to participate in many valuable aspects of their lives. I am thrilled to enhance my skills and knowledge base to help this specific patient population. I have seen the impact that physical therapy has on those with whom I have been able to volunteer with and I desire to continue to help people in this very special way. I am very thankful for this scholarship program and am looking forward to improving my knowledge and ability to help this patient population.
Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships

A $757,000 bequest from the estate of L’Vir Sande of Salisbury established the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship Fund in Physical Therapy at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2002, allowing the division to offer scholarships to prospective students. Income from the fund—established in honor of Sande’s wife, Rebecca, produces scholarships awarded annually to physical therapy students with financial need. Mr. Sande was a pioneer in radiologic medicine and was widely published in that field. In the late 1980s, he became physically incapacitated and received physical therapy. It was this experience, coupled with a love of the Carolina campus and its students, that led him to designate the scholarship for PT.

Monica Leigh Anderson
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am so very grateful to have been given the opportunity to be part of UNC’s Physical Therapy program. Going into my second year of the program, I believe I have grown and learned so much because my professors have stretched my abilities, my mentors have offered significant guidance and experiences, and my fellow classmates have positively influenced who I am today. So far every experience I have had within the physical therapy field has only solidified my passion for it. I find that learning a patient’s background, detecting a functional problem, and then implementing a plan of care to improve their lifestyle is the most rewarding type of problem to solve. I hope to build a healing relationship with my patients by providing both proper medical treatment and emotional reassurance throughout the therapy process. I am so thankful and honored to have received the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship.

Krissy Ann Ayers
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Summerfield, North Carolina
(Krissy’s personal statement is on page 42.)

Corinne Joell Bohling
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Belleville, Kansas
(Corinne’s personal statement is on page 48.)

Jeremy Craig Evans
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Antioch, California
Personal Statement: I was originally drawn to the field of physical therapy due to an assignment in a high school sports medicine class. I was supposed to research a health profession, and chose to look into physical therapy. I loved the combination of personal interaction, a variety of settings, and being able to make a big difference in many lives. I continue to love those aspects of the profession and aspire to be a highly skilled and effective clinician. I plan on specializing in orthopedic conditions, but will be prepared to deliver outstanding services to whomever I end up working with. I also have a wife and two young children who are depending on me to provide for them, and this scholarship makes taking care of them a little easier. I am extremely appreciative of this scholarship and the blessing it has been for me. It will assist me as I continue toward completion of my degree and entry into a career in physical therapy.

Jon Benjamin Buchanan
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Thetford, Vermont
Personal Statement: It has been a long road to the UNC Physical Therapy program, but the greatest decision I have ever made in my life. After returning to school at the University of Vermont and working with professors and physical therapists in a variety of settings, I realized the true range and scope of what the profession of physical therapy has to offer. To me, nothing is more valuable than the ability to motivate and empower others to make lasting positive changes in their lives. I am truly blessed to be a part of the UNC family where I can pursue this passion to its full extent and am tremendously honored to be a recipient of the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship.

Annemarie Erich
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Connelly Springs, North Carolina
Personal Statement: In the summer of 2011, I volunteered at a PT/OT camp for children just because my friends were volunteering there and it sounded like fun. Learning skills for a career that encompasses my love for people, healthy lifestyle, and science is truly a blessing. I feel so honored to have received this gift. Your investment in my future has conveyed a confidence in my abilities and I am grateful for such encouragement. Like L’Vir Sande, I too love this university and take pleasure in being able to study physical therapy in such an amazing place. Ironically, my first clinical experience was in Salisbury, North Carolina, the home of the Sande family. I had a great experience there and felt welcomed by the community. Now in my second year, I continue to learn, grow as a person, and stretch myself beyond my previous expectations. This scholarship has helped me to focus on these things by removing much of the financial burden that tends to preoccupy many graduate students today. I hope to one day become the type of physical therapist that so inspired Mr. L’Vir Sande’s generosity.
Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships

Sarah Kaitlyn Finegan
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Huntersville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: First and foremost, I feel tremendously honored to have the opportunity to study physical therapy at UNC. Growing up playing sports, I have always been intrigued by the human body and the rehabilitation process. However, it wasn’t until I began shadowing as an undergraduate that I came to fully realize all that physical therapy entails. As a future Physical Therapist, I look forward to the opportunity to not only help my patients optimize movement and improve daily life, but to also empower them to take charge of their own health. Physical therapy is a constantly evolving field, and I look forward to being a lifelong learner as a practicing clinician. Though I am not fully sure of the setting I will work in, I feel confident that I will be equipped with the tools necessary to be a competent, compassionate professional. I look forward to building relationships with my future patients and using my passion for the field to support and inspire them to reach their goals. I am thrilled to be starting this journey and am sincerely grateful to the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship for making this possible.

Honorée Dakar McGraw-Beauchamp
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I entered my undergraduate years with intentions of making a career out of helping others by pursuing a degree in psychology. After graduating, I found myself working in the field of mental health as a counselor in a long-term treatment facility for incarcerated and mentally ill teenagers. Although my experience as a counselor taught me a tremendous amount about behavioral psychology, I desired to work in a field that took a more holistic approach to patient care. After in-depth research into health care related fields, talks with various health care professionals and reflection into my own past experiences with injury and illness, it was clear to me that physical therapy was the field where I could have the greatest positive impact on patients. I feel immensely honored to be a recipient of the very generous Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship. This scholarship has significantly decreased my financial burden and has allowed me to better focus on becoming a compassionate and competent physical therapist.

Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships

Laura Ellese Nickles
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Personal Statement: All of the steps I have taken in my professional life, including work at the CDC, obesity prevention research with UNC Department of HPDP, yoga teaching, personal training, and direct patient care as a medical assistant, have propelled me toward a career in physical therapy. Through my experiences, I have come to appreciate the challenges of working with patients who are from diverse social backgrounds. As a physical therapist, I will enjoy a broad range of opportunities to positively impact the lives of others. It is my specific priority and goal that through PT, I will utilize my Spanish skills and exercise my ability to connect with a diverse population. I am committed to working with underserved sectors of society. As a PT student at UNC, I have enjoyed engaging in community outreach, philanthropic, and volunteer opportunities working with low-income populations and Spanish-speaking families. I am confident in my ability to contribute to the profession of PT and enthusiastic as I pursue my goal.

Terra Dare Osmon
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Nags Head, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Following completion of my first year in Carolina’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program, and with the start of a new chapter, I find gratitude for all the support I have received at UNC-Chapel Hill. Building on our first year curriculum, with direct patient exposure and a chance to fine-tune my skills, I found my first clinical rotation to be most rewarding. The experience gave me valuable insights; I revalidated my passion for physical therapy and reassessed my career ambitions. I was challenged to form a new way of thought; I applied my knowledge to practical use in the clinic, all the while making advances to becoming a more effective practitioner and educator. I realize my potential now more than ever. I find relief and excitement in serving people, and in turn the profession offers me an intellectually stimulating career, fulfilling my desire for diversity, variety, and purpose. I am privileged to be a recipient of the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship; I am able to focus on my studies and extracurricular affairs, such as attending this year’s NCPTA fall conference in Asheville. Your monetary support eases my financial burden, and gives me encouragement - thank you for this wonderful gift.
Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships

**Lindsay Taylor Saunders**  
*Division of Physical Therapy*  
**Hometown:** Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
(Lindsay’s personal statement is on page 10).

**Megan Colleen Schilter**  
*Division of Physical Therapy*  
**Hometown:** Cedarburg, Wisconsin  
**Personal Statement:** I have always had an interest in healthcare, but it was not until I encountered the profession of physical therapy that I knew what field of medicine would be my calling. Physical therapists have the opportunity to help patients regain their independence, equip them with the tools necessary for recovery, and influence their overall quality of life. I have always had the desire to help others and positively impact the lives of those around me, and I believe PT is such a great profession because it allows me to pursue my passion for helping people while also working in a clinical, evidence-based setting. I am thrilled to be a student of this profession as well as a student at UNC, and I am sincerely grateful to the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship for providing me with the means to make that possible.

**Natalie Stein**  
*Division of Physical Therapy*  
**Hometown:** Cedarburg, Wisconsin  
**Personal Statement:** I am so blessed to be part of UNC’s Physical Therapy program and to be on my journey towards becoming a physical therapist. This profession has always inspired me to use human movement and critical thinking to help individuals live an optimal and independent life. I have seen and personally experienced how human movement not only improves health, but also goes beyond to transform a person’s whole being physically, mentally and spiritually. I know that UNC will prepare me to become a great medical practitioner and I am so excited to take what I learn these next three years and apply it in my future occupation every day. I know that as a physical therapist I not only have the responsibility to help people recovery from injuries or ailments, but to also understand that with recovery and human performance a person’s quality of life can be transformed for the better. I want to thank the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship board for their generous gift to me as I further my education in such a great field.
Judy A. White Professional Development Awards

The Judy A. White Professional Development Fund was established in 2006 by an anonymous donor to promote the professional growth and development of Carolina Physical Therapy students and faculty members in honor of long-time faculty member Judy White. In choosing the Judy A. White Professional Development Award recipients each year, the division director gives preference to candidates who share Judy White’s tireless commitment to the profession of physical therapy.

Christopher Evan Green
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Concord, North Carolina
(Christopher’s personal statement can be found on page 46)

Brennan Janice Ehlinger
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Winston-Salem, North Carolina
(Brennan’s personal statement can be found on page 46)

Molly Rose Miller
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Personal Statement: After graduating from UNC undergrad, I knew I wanted to pursue a health career and found myself drawn to both psychology and physical therapy; I worked in the UNC PEP Lab (Positive Emotions and Psychophysiology) while also shadowing physical therapists and I realized that as a physical therapist, I could pursue my goal of making a positive impact on patients with a holistic approach incorporating both body and mind. While I am not sure yet which patient population I want to work with, I am excited to provide comprehensive care to all my future patients. I am also committed to promoting the profession of physical therapy, especially regarding primary care and prevention. I am grateful for the Judy A. White Professional Development Award which will allow me to continue to develop my skills as a physical therapist and pursue a long lasting, successful and philanthropic career.

Melody Tuong Chau Tran
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Carrboro, North Carolina
(Melody’s personal statement is on page 43)
Howes Family Scholarship in Physical Therapy

Dr. Cathy Lynn Howes, who graduated from the UNC Physical Therapy program with Master of Science in 1996 and a Doctor of Physical Therapy in 2014, and her parents, Alvin and Shirley Howes, have made a generous gift to endow the Howes Family Scholarship in Physical Therapy Fund at The Medical Foundation of North Carolina. The Howes family provided funding for a deserving student with financial need and an interest to practice pediatric physical therapy.

Elizabeth Williams Huber  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: Similar to many other aspiring physical therapists, I first learned the incredible influence a physical therapist can have on one’s life when I, personally, was a patient after suffering a significant soccer injury during high school. However, it was not until I took a semester off from undergrad to volunteer in a physical therapy clinic in the Dominican Republic that the profession truly began to stand apart from other health care professions in my mind. It was in that tiny, understaffed, underequipped clinic where I had the incredible, yet humbling, opportunity to work with children who had all types of physical disabilities. It was painful to note the severely diminished quality of life that these children had as a result of not having access to expert therapy from birth. I returned to the U.S. later that year, more inspired and passionate about pursuing this career and acquiring the skills to help and empower individuals and their families. Now a second year in the PT program at UNC, I am as excited as ever and continuing to work hard towards that goal. It is with great honor that I accept the Howes Family PT Scholarship, and I cannot even begin to express my gratitude toward Cathy and her parents for their generosity. I will strive to represent the profession well and serve others with the knowledge and skills I gain while pursuing my doctorate degree, and in doing so, hopefully honor the family who made this scholarship opportunity possible for me.

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The Smith Family Foundation Scholarships

The Eddie and Jo Allison Smith Family Foundation has generously made a gift to provide three scholarships for deserving students studying in the UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science program for the 2015-16 academic year.

Brandon Christopher Byrd
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My goals are to move upward and forward in Sleep Medicine. As quickly as the field grows, so does my desire to take part in shaping and developing the future of the sleep field. One of my passions is the ability to teach others and see them succeed. My ultimate goal is to find a position focused on education as I believe that is where I will have the most impact on the field of sleep medicine. As a first-generation college graduate, father, husband and foster dad, finding time for work and school is a true challenge. It's been a challenge since the beginning, but I’ve kept moving towards my goals. I haven’t earned lots of awards or anything like that during my time in college, but I have pushed through and showed my family, and most importantly my children that one can achieve goals if they keep pushing. I am beyond honored to receive this award as it shows that my hard work, dedication and perseverance has been recognized. I couldn’t be more thankful to the donors and the selection committee for believing in me.

Eric Dante D’Amico
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program
Hometown: Hope Mills, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My career as a registered Polysomnographic Technologist began in 2009. I knew I wanted to be a part of the health care field even as a young man. I believe growing up with family in the medical field helped facilitate this. However, I always knew that I wanted to somehow help people for a living. I have had the pleasure of working in some great facilities since graduating from Pitt Community College’s accredited polysomnography program. I am proud to say that I currently work for UNC Hospitals in the Sleep Disorders Center. Working for UNC has brought many wonderful opportunities to me and my family. This is where I found out about the Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program. Specializing in sleep is my passion, but this program allows me to broaden my knowledge in neurodiagnostics as a whole and obtain the education I need for my future leadership role. I am hoping this will allow me to be more of an asset within the hospital as well. I plan to pursue a master’s degree in health administration once I have successfully graduated to continue the trend upward in education and within the hospital. With all of this said, I couldn’t be more thankful to the Smith family for what they have done to aid in this academic adventure. I will continue my hard work moving forward in respects to their name and this scholarship.

Ashley Phillips Hastings
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program
Hometown: Lincolnton, North Carolina
Personal Statement: When I was first introduced to Neurodiagnostics in 2010, I had no clue what an impact this health care field would have on my life. I have always been a self-motivated individual, but this field helped me to flourish into a proud EEG technologist with an awesome career. I have recently been given the opportunity to move into a manager position in the field of neurodiagnostics, and I hope to accomplish great things while in this role. One of the major goals I have is to renovate the way EEG technologists see their worth in the health care field. I want to elevate the Neurodiagnostic profession to a high-performing, engaged group of individuals who take pride in what they do. I want my fellow neurodiagnostic technologists to have a sense of purpose when they come to the job every day. This scholarship has been one of the most positive things that has happened to me in my academic career. In receiving this award, I am now able to focus solely on continuing my education that will, in-turn, further my career. This scholarship provides me with a level of comfort in knowing that I have the financial backing to finish my degree.

Nihon Kohden Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship

A founding gold partner in the 2012 UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Corporate Partners Program, Nihon Kohden, as a 2015 gold partner, has generously provided a merit-based scholarship for the 2015-16 academic year. Nihon Kohden is Japan’s leading manufacturer, developer, and distributor of medical electronic equipment with subsidiaries in the USA, Europe, and Asia and distributors in nearly every country in the world.

Leko Morris-Myers
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program
Hometown: Statesville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am honored to be chosen as one of the recipients of the Nihon Kohden Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship. I would like to sincerely thank the Tempur-Sealy donors for this very generous gift, receiving this scholarship will help tremendously with the cost of furthering my education. I’ve spent most of my adult life in the medical field, starting as a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1992 and finally graduating from Stanly Community College in 1999 with an AAS in Respiratory Care Technology. After working as a Registered Respiratory Therapist for several years I transitioned into sleep medicine and obtained my RPSGT. It has long been my goal to continue with my education but life sometimes gets in the way, so that goal was put on hold many times. Attending traditional classes is very difficult while trying to maintain a full-time job and family life, finding the NDSS distance learning program was truly a blessing as it not only focuses on a field of medicine that I truly love, it allows me to pursue my bachelor’s degree online. I would like to again express my deep gratitude to the Tempur-Sealy donors for their generosity and helping me to achieve my goals!
Tempr-Sealy International Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarships

A founding platinum partner in the 2012 UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Corporate Partners Program, Tempr-Sealy has generously provided funding for four merit-based scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year. Tempr-Sealy is focused on developing, manufacturing, and marketing advanced sleep surfaces that help improve the quality of life for people around the world.

**Tabitha Ann Althoff**  
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*  
**Hometown:** Brookfield, Wisconsin  
**Personal Statement:** My career aspirations are to become a manager then ultimately a director of a neurodiagnostic laboratory. I want to be able to create an environment that maintains a balance between employees work and personal life. I would create an atmosphere where team members can work in multiple areas of a neurodiagnostic lab, like in Sleep, EMU, IONM or EEG. I would ensure that team members would have the necessary access to cross train in the different areas and move throughout the lab. This would allow for development, growth, and mastery of one or all of the different areas in the field. I would ensure team members focus on education by keeping them up to date on the latest medical findings, changes, and advancements in the field. This scholarship means a lot to both me and my family. This help lift the burden of worrying about how to pay for classes to further advance in the field. It also allows me to spend more time studying and spending quality time with my family instead of more time working to pay for college. I am forever grateful for this scholarship and thank you does not even say it all. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for selecting me for this scholarship.

**Amy Lea Carlson**  
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*  
**Hometown:** Houston, Texas  
**Personal Statement:** I started back to school in 2008 in a whole new career avenue, fresh with hopes of bettering my life for my children and my myself. I set out some long-term goals and short-term goals. Slowly but surely I am getting closer to reaching my goals. My goal is to continue my education and complete my Bachelors degree in May 2016. My end goal over the next five years or so includes obtaining my RPSGT, REEGT, Masters, and then my DABNM. My hope is that someday I will own my company and enjoy the freedom of working from my home reading IOM. This scholarship means the world to me to be able to continue on in my journey. As a single mom of two little ones while working full time and still manage to continue on is tough but this makes gives me energy to keep on pushing forward. Thank you so much!

**Leko Morris-Myers**  
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*  
**Hometown:** Statesville, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** I am honored to be chosen as one of the recipients of the Tempur-Sealy Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship. I would like to sincerely thank the Tempur-Sealy donors for this very generous gift, receiving this scholarship will help tremendously with the cost of furthering my education. I’ve spent most of my adult life in the medical field, starting as a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1992 and finally graduating from Stanly Community College in 1999 with an AAS in Respiratory Care Technology. After working as a registered respiratory therapist for several years I transitioned into sleep medicine and obtained my RPSGT. It has long been my goal to continue with my education but life sometimes gets in the way, so that goal was put on hold many times. Attending traditional classes is very difficult while trying to maintain a full-time job and family life, finding the NDSS distance learning program was truly a blessing as it not only focuses on a field of medicine that I truly love, it allows me to pursue my bachelor’s degree online. I would like to again express my deep gratitude to the Tempur-Sealy donors for their generosity and helping me to achieve my goals.