ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
CELEBRATES OUR
STUDENTS AND DONORS

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS
AND AWARDS BRUNCH
AT THE RIZZO CENTER IN CHAPEL HILL
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2013
Dear Distinguished Guests,

On behalf of our faculty and staff, I would like to thank you for attending the Department of Allied Health Sciences seventh 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

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Stephen R. Hooper, PhD
Professor, Associate Dean and Chair
# 2013 Allied Health Sciences Scholarships and Awards
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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.

Aditi Borde  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I have always been a student with a variety of interests; I enjoy reading a fantasy fiction novel as much as I enjoy performing a chemistry lab experiment. While most people tend to focus on one academic area, I want to pursue a career in which I can take a blend of science classes and combine various methods of learning. I was initially drawn to the Clinical Laboratory Science program at UNC because it has a clinical practicum component as a part of the curriculum alongside its classroom setting. In just the first two months of being in the program, I have realized that clinical laboratory scientists are involved in the most crucial part of patient care. I am incredibly honored and thankful for being chosen as one of this year’s recipients of the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship. This fellowship has lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. With this scholarship, I can focus on learning how to make a positive impact on the well-being of my local community and society at large.

Anna Rebecca Koritz  
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy  
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I chose Occupational Therapy as my career path because it is a worthy profession that improves the lives of others and is holistic in nature. It takes into account many aspects of the individual – their living situation, their family dynamics, the activities they find meaningful, their goals and belief systems, their communities – and customizes treatment accordingly. As a first-year student, I am keeping an open mind as to the specific population that I would like to focus on, but I would like the opportunity to utilize my Spanish language skills to better serve. Eventually, I plan to work at the community level where I can help facilitate the most positive change. Occupational Therapists often adjust the immediate environment to better accommodate the individual, so altering community structures and policy for participation to become more accessible for all will improve the community as a whole by making it more inclusive and diverse. To those that awarded me this fellowship, I am grateful to you for believing in me. I will work my hardest to become the best Occupational Therapist I can be to positively influence the lives I touch.

Deidra Ellen Debnam  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: Fayetteville, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: Physical Therapy is a growing profession with endless opportunities, and I hope that throughout my career I will embrace new opportunities that challenge me both as a person and as a clinician. Physical Therapy is investing one’s knowledge, skills, training, experience, and most importantly one’s heart to assist others in the achievement of their personal goals. It has the potential to influence the lives of many people in a variety of settings, and I hope that my commitment to learning and excellence will positively impact the overall health and wellness of each individual. I have the opportunity to serve. Furthermore, I aspire to fulfill my commitment to the growth and development of the profession through public service, education, and promotion of diversity within the profession. I believe that my greatest professional accomplishment will be a genuine sense of service to my patients, colleagues, and the larger community. It is my goal to be a physical therapist with the unique ability to combine professional knowledge and clinical experience with an honest desire to demonstrate qualities and characteristics that help restore people’s faith in humanity. I sincerely appreciate the generous donors whose contributions help support my efforts toward becoming a Physical Therapist.

Susan Mason  
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences  
Hometown: Marlboro, New York  
Personal Statement: I was drawn to speech-language pathology because my interests always led me there. At first, I was interested in prosody and articulation, so I got involved in musical theater. Next, literacy became really important to me, so I volunteered with speech pathologists and literacy specialists at my elementary school. During undergrad, I saw the potential for combining expertise in singing and speech-language pathology in a bidirectional fashion: speech-language pathology helping singers (and other professional voice users) maintain healthy voices and music during therapy to help people with other communication disorders. Next, I started volunteering with adult English language learners who wanted to improve their spoken communication. Then, I found another literacy program and began helping adults with written communication. It seemed that everything I became interested in somehow related back to helping people reach their goals for healthy and accessible communication. In my future career, that is my mantra: healthy and accessible communication for all. I hope to provide comprehensive services to those with any communication difficulty regardless of any obstacles that may stand in their way. I am extremely grateful for this scholarship and will continue to volunteer with those who could benefit from my help. Thank you!
UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Sarah Elizabeth Cohen
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Throughout my entire life I have always known that I wanted to help people. After pondering a number of different professions, I finally found the one that “clicked.” Rehabilitation counseling helps people with all kinds of disabilities by giving them the tools to help them recognize their innate strengths and build upon them to pursue personal and vocational goals. I was drawn to this field because of the way people’s needs are addressed in a holistic nature, taking into consideration social, environmental, psychological, biological, and vocational factors. In my future career I hope to work with individuals with chronic illnesses, helping them to function successfully in society and achieve goals that they may not have thought were possible. I am very fortunate to currently work with the UNC Kidney Center, helping adolescents and young adults make their transfer to adult care more successful. The UNC Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowship will allow me to fully commit to my work and spend more time creating interventions to ease this process for our clients. I am very thankful for this award and will honor it by dedicating myself to my studies and the community.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Community Service Fellowship

Supported through a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, the Community Service Fellowship recognizes an Allied Health Sciences student who has demonstrated scholastic ability and emerging professional excellence, as well as exemplary and extensive devotion to community service.

Sarah Svetkey van der Horst
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Since the age of 6, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in health care. I began my training young, using my father as my test patient. I had twigs for tongue depressors, grass for thermometers, and occasionally I got my hands on a stethoscope. I was drawn to a career in Physical Therapy because of the opportunities for provider-patient relationships, outreach, creative problem solving, and teaching preventative self-care. My vision aligns with that of Physical Therapy’s: transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience (APTA, 2013). I aspire to provide affordable Physical Therapy to the underserved Latino communities of North Carolina through my involvement in SHAC and founding/directing Latina Wellness Initiative (LWI). Obtaining this award means being able to devote more time and money to LWI, which is necessary for making it a permanent fixture in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro community. With this support, LWI will be able to broaden its outreach to the Latina community by promoting health, fostering a sense of community at El Centro Hispano’s Carrboro office, and forming a relationship between the Hispanic community and UNC.

The June C. Allcott Fellowship

In her life (1916-1996) June C. Allcott was a gardener of friendships. She explored the world as a traveler, a weaver of baskets, a culinary adventurer, a designer of jewelry and clothes, and a guidance counselor at the University of North Carolina, computer explorer, music and art lover, and friend. June Allcott helped students expand their potential at UNC and make career choices. She had a particular place in her heart for those interested in the health fields. Fellowships are awarded to students who demonstrate exemplary, ongoing, and new community service.

Martha Kathleen Carrick
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Gastonia, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am incredibly honored to receive the June C. Allcott Fellowship, which allows me to continue my education and gives me the ability to continue serving my community. My love of genetics began in high school. I was very fortunate to have an intelligent and inspiring biology teacher. Once in college, I was able to explore this rapidly evolving field. I decided that I should strive for a career that combines my love for genetics with my desire to help others. I would like to contribute to the field of molecular diagnostics by creating and implementing new tests that would benefit patients and help to curb increasingly expensive health care costs. I believe having more women in leadership positions would positively benefit the field. It has been my experience that, although there are more women than men in the life sciences, men tend to hold more of the higher level leadership positions. I would like to serve as a role model for future female scientists and prove that a woman with solid leadership skills, a firm drive to succeed, and a strong understanding of the fundamental knowledge behind the testing, would be a great asset to any clinical laboratory.
Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards

The Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Award honors Dr. Robert L. Thorpe and Dr. Brenda Mitchell. Dr. Thorpe served as a mentor to countless students and faculty members as a professor in the Division of Radiologic Science from 1973 to 2007. He was Associate Chair/AHEC Director in the Department of Allied Health Sciences (DAHS) from 1986 to 2001. Dr. Mitchell currently serves as the DAHS Associate Chair for Student Services and has been AHEC Operations Director for the department since 2001. She has also been a faculty member in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences since 1996. Drs. Thorpe and Mitchell, the co-founding donors of this award, are passionate about mentoring and encouraging others to excel and achieve their highest goals.

Lúcia Lopez Fischer
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Porto Alegre, Brazil
Personal Statement: Speech-language pathology seems to be the intersection of the linguistics and clinical practices I enjoy so much. During the summer of my junior year and final semester as an undergraduate, I had the opportunity to work as a research assistant with Dr. Adam Jacks in the aphasia lab here at UNC. It was an eye-opening experience and my goal of becoming a speech-language pathologist solidified. My first language is Portuguese, and I would like to practice as a bilingual SLP by helping bilingual speakers with their language needs in a school or a hospital setting. After practicing as an SLP for a few years, I may pursue a PhD in speech sciences in order to work towards incorporating linguistics into research on language disorders and their underlying mechanisms. I am both grateful and excited to be presented with such an honor. Receiving this award has meant a lot to me and I cannot sufficiently express my appreciation for all of the donors who have made this possible. Thank you! I know this scholarship will help my academic funding be less of a burden in the fall.

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. Also, I value promoting diversity and leadership into health care and am very thankful for the support to increase diversity into our profession. It is imperative to drive advancement in our nation’s health and necessary to actively foster, encourage, and promote inclusiveness to be able to connect with patients and even other health care providers. 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 award has allowed me to be one step closer to my dream.

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 students for the 2013-14 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.

Buddy Clark Loyalty Fund Radiologic Science Annual Scholarship
Established through the generosity of Dr. Ernest and Mrs. Jean Spangler

Samantha Marie Franklin
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Morganton, North Carolina
(Samantha’s personal statement is on page 20)

Jerry Lambiente Loyalty Fund Radiologic Science Annual Scholarship
Established through the generosity of Robert and Lauren Noble ('89)

Melissa U. Lang
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Garner, North Carolina
(Melissa’s personal statement is on page 21)

Lanning-Taylor Clinical Laboratory Science Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship
Established through the generosity of Steve Taylor and Susan Lanning-Taylor ('85)

Carla E. Molestina
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
(Carla’s personal statement is on page 17)
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.

Lauren Elizabeth Wallrichs
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Rutherford College, North Carolina
Personal Statement: The diverse and fast-paced nature of Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) initially drew me to choose this field as a career path. However, I have realized this field is truly unique and rewarding. Combining my passion for science and technology, CLS simultaneously allows me to play an essential role in the health care system. My work as a clinical laboratory scientist will ultimately impact the diagnosis and treatment of patients. After completion of UNC’s CLS program, I aspire to pursue a degree in Molecular Diagnostic Science at UNC. This degree will allow me to delve further into the topics and applications of CLS that are most appealing to me, such as the diagnosis and treatment of genetic disorders and cancerous diseases using the most advanced molecular techniques. As a chosen recipient of the Allene W. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Scholarship, I cannot fully express my gratitude for this opportunity. I know that working in this field will provide me with the chance to impact not only the lives of the patients I work with, but the health care system and well-being of patients worldwide. Thank you for investing in my future as well as the future of Clinical Laboratory Science.

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 Scholarship in honor of Kay’s father to assist and reward a student at UNC studying to become a clinical laboratory scientist.

Duy Hoang Minh Ngo
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Vietnam
Personal Statement: My personal interest in becoming a clinical laboratory scientist is rooted in my desire to work in the laboratory and my indulgence in chemistry and biology. I chose Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) because this is a fantastic way to learn about the human body. CLS is an interesting and important field in our world today. CLS functions as a medical detective, performing laboratory tests ranging from simple dipstick urine tests to complex DNA tests. Therefore, it plays a crucial role in assisting physicians as they assess the risk of diseases. Moreover, an especially intriguing aspect of this profession is the wide career opportunities available. I am really happy that I have been chosen for the Jesse C. Alphin Scholarship. Thank you so much for your support. I am genuinely and deeply appreciative of the CLS financial support in order for me to continue my higher education. I am grateful for your kindness and involvement in the promotion of success in the lives of college students.

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 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.

Troy Minh Dang
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I immediately sought the Clinical Laboratory Science program upon learning of its goals and objectives and realizing that this is the way I want to contribute to patient care. I began working in plant pathology during my sophomore year, which made me really want to perform work in a laboratory, but in a more clinical setting. I appreciate this program because we learn a wealth of information that is immediately applied in a clinical laboratory, which is the best way to reinforce our knowledge. After graduation, I would like to work in a hospital laboratory and then come back to UNC for the Master’s in Molecular Diagnostic Science program. I am honored to have been chosen for the Louise M. Ward Scholarship. This generosity has inspired me to put forth my best effort from day one of entering the CLS program. I am wholly grateful for your confidence in me and for allowing me to follow my passion in this field.

Rebecca Caitlin Sawyer
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I applied to the Clinical Laboratory Science program because I desired an area of study that would not only satisfy my interest in science, but would also allow me to contribute to the medical field and patient care. My mother graduated from Carolina’s Medical Technology program, so with her insight and the information I gained from interest meetings, I decided CLS would be the perfect fit for me. After over a year in this program, including some time in rotations in the Core Lab of UNC Health Care, I am confident that I made the right choice. My experiences in this program have greatly expanded my knowledge in the clinical field and have provided me with a solid foundation for the future. I am extremely excited about the wide array of career opportunities that a CLS degree provides. Though I have not yet decided on any one particular field, I look forward to exploring the different areas of the clinical laboratory this year in my rotations. Receiving this scholarship is such an honor and I am both grateful and encouraged to have been chosen as a recipient this year.
Louise M. Ward Scholarships

**Amy Zhan**
*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*

**Hometown:** Jamestown, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** I always enjoyed science as a child and was determined to start a career in the subject that I loved most. When I was accepted into the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Clinical Laboratory Science major captivated me. I was intrigued by the different opportunities the major offered and the course of the program. A year ago, I was accepted into the program and couldn’t have been happier. This past year, I have learned so much in order to be a competent clinical laboratory scientist and now I am allowed to use what I have learned in the classroom and apply it in rotations this year. I love knowing that what I am doing is for the care of the patient. I have always enjoyed making a difference in someone’s life and being able to do that on the daily basis is the best feeling in the world. I am extremely grateful to be awarded with the Louise M. Ward Scholarship because it allows me to keep doing what I love and fosters the knowledge that there are people who want to help students like me fulfill their dreams.

Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partner Program Scholarships

We are pleased to offer three Molecular Diagnostic Science (MDS) Corporate Partner Program Scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year thanks to the generosity of our founding Gold partners in the MDS Corporate Partners Program: Abbott Molecular, Hologic / Gen-Probe, Laboratory Corporation of America, Quest Diagnostics, Roche Diagnostics Corporation, and ZeptoMetrix Corporation.

**Canhong Cao**
*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*

**Hometown:** Chapel Hill, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** I was born in China. In 2003, I came to the U.S. and obtained my PhD in Biomedical Sciences at UNM Albuquerque. After graduation, I worked as a post-doctoral researcher at UNC. Two years ago, I made a big career decision to move into the field of molecular diagnostic science. In this way, I am able to enjoy both scientific bench work and health care service. My goal is to provide patients with the best health care services in molecular diagnostics. To this end, it is very important that I receive an excellent academic and professional education. Undoubtedly, the MDS program at UNC Chapel Hill is helping me to achieve my career goal. I really enjoy studying in the learning community provided by the MDS program and the many generous sponsors who make this possible. It is a great honor to be the recipient of the MDS Corporate Sponsors Scholarship. This scholarship will help distinguish me from others in the competitive job market. It also encourages me to pursue my career aspirations.

**Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partner Program Scholarships**

**Ryan Thomas Evans**
*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*

**Hometown:** Mohrsville, Pennsylvania

**Personal Statement:** I have always been fascinated by the elegant power of molecular techniques to both uncover underlying genetics and to identify organisms and traits with the utmost sensitivity. This fascination initially pulled me into molecular biology basic research and ultimately into molecular diagnostics as my desire grew to have a greater translational impact and improve clinical outcomes. These interests, coupled with the rapid expansion and technological advancements occurring in the field, made molecular diagnostics both personally exciting and open for significant contribution. This led to my aspirations to oversee a molecular diagnostic laboratory and contribute to the field by serving patient needs, training new technologists, and directing the research and evaluation of new diagnostic techniques. Though I had a solid scientific and research background, I recognized that I required additional experience and training in order to reach my career goals. The Master’s in Molecular Diagnostics Science (MDS) program offers that training and gives me the knowledge to contribute scientifically in a clinical space. The MDS program and my career path require substantial personal commitment and the generous support of the Corporate Partners Scholarship both helps make that commitment possible and encourages me to continue following my goals.

**Natasha Lopes Fischer**
*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*

**Hometown:** Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

**Personal Statement:** My interest in molecular biology was sparked in college, where I conducted research on the genetics behind hybridization in spadefoot toads. This experience taught me the basics of working in a laboratory and some molecular techniques, such as DNA extraction, PCR, and cloning. Additionally, I took a human genetics course that also in
caved into the field by serving patient needs, training new technologists, and directing the research and evaluation of new diagnostic techniques. Though I had a solid scientific and research background, I recognized that I required additional experience and training in order to reach my career goals. The Master’s in Molecular Diagnostics Science (MDS) program offers that training and gives me the knowledge to contribute scientifically in a clinical space. The MDS program and my career path require substantial personal commitment and the generous support of the Corporate Partners Scholarship both helps make that commitment possible and encourages me to continue following my goals.

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*Division of Clinical Laboratory Science*

**Hometown:** Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

**Personal Statement:** My interest in molecular biology was sparked in college, where I conducted research on the genetics behind hybridization in spadefoot toads. This experience taught me the basics of working in a laboratory and some molecular techniques, such as DNA extraction, PCR, and cloning. Additionally, I took a human genetics course that also influenced my professional aspirations. Learning about the mysteries of the human genome and the techniques that are used to explore it has incited me to pursue a career in molecular diagnostics. I am particularly interested in the area of research and development. I believe this area is important in the health care field because it allows faster and more reliable tests to be developed, which improves health care services by providing more efficient diagnostic tools. In the future, I hope to work in the industry, conducting research to develop better diagnostic tests. I would like to thank the Corporate Partners for the scholarship I received this year. I am extremely grateful and honored to be bestowed this award. Your generosity will help lessen my financial burden and allow me to focus more on my studies.
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.

Sarah Elizabeth Underwood  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I graduated from UNC in May 2010 with a BS degree in Biology. After I graduated I worked abroad teaching English and in the U.S. working in a marine microbiology laboratory. I knew I loved lab work, but I wanted to contribute to the healthcare field in a clinical laboratory. I am pursuing Clinical Laboratory Science because I love helping others and working in science, which I have been passionate about since I can remember. With this degree, I look forward to working in a healthcare setting, detecting diseases, and saving lives. I am excited to have a direct positive impact on patients’ lives. This degree will provide me with a strong background in the laboratory skills required in a clinical setting and offers so many opportunities in the workforce. I am so thankful for the honor of being selected for this program and scholarship, which will aid me in pursuing my dream of becoming a laboratory professional.

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.

Rachel Laura McDowell  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Taylorsville, California  
Personal Statement: My desire to pursue a career as a clinical laboratory scientist is a result of my experiences as a patient, my introduction to immunology at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), and growing up in a rural community in northern California. I began my career pursuing a degree in veterinary medicine and was fascinated with my immunology course. While attending Cal Poly, I was forced to withdraw from the university temporarily to have heart surgery. This experience provided exposure to human medicine and as a result, my focus shifted from animals to humans. Finally, my career aspirations have stemmed from my rural upbringing in Taylorsville, California. There is a great shortage of trained medical professionals in rural areas, and after receiving certification as a clinical laboratory scientist, I would like to work in a similar setting. I am honored and grateful to be chosen as the WakeMed Health and Hospitals Scholarship recipient this year.

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.

Carla E. Molestina  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: When I was accepted to the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program, I knew my life was going to change, but I did not expect this change to come as soon as it has. I am on my third semester and already working part-time in the Core Lab. During my rotations, I often find myself amazed at how far I have come and how much I have learned from my teachers—not only lecture material, but also hands-on experience. I am capable of using any automated instrument as well as performing any manual testing as required; this gives me confidence that as a professional I will benefit my community in any type of setting. A year ago, my 16-year-old son did not know where he wanted to go to college or what career to choose. Now he constantly talks about going to UNC and is taking a Principles of Bio-Medical Sciences class in high school. CLS has had an enormous positive effect in my life and in my home. I feel an infinite gratitude for the CLS program and donors that have made it possible for my classmates and me to continue with our education.

The June C. Allcott Fellowship

Aditi Borde  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina  
(Aditi’s personal statement is on page 6)

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Martha Kathleen Carrick  
Division of Clinical Laboratory Science  
Hometown: Gastonia, North Carolina  
(Martha’s personal statement is on page 9)
Marlys Mitchell Scholarship
As the founder of the program in Occupational Therapy at UNC, Dr. Marlys Mitchell exemplified thoughtful and innovative professionalism. Funded through a generous estate gift from her husband, the Marlys Mitchell Scholarship commemorates her contributions to the field. Dr. Marlys Mitchell was a leader in Occupational Therapy at both state and national levels. She received the Suzanne Scullin Award for Professional Contributions to Occupational Therapy in North Carolina in 1979 and the American Occupational Therapy Association Award of Merit – the highest award bestowed upon professional members – in 1979. Marlys was a leader in establishing national training programs to develop occupational therapy in the schools (TOTEMS) and work transitions programs (PIVOT). She served on the AOTA Executive Board as Chair of the Commission on Education and chaired the AOTA Program Advisory Committee, serving as a resource to other educational programs.

Shannon Carey
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: It is a great honor to be the first recipient of the Mitchell Scholarship. I was drawn to the field of Occupational Therapy with the desire to assist others in living their lives to the fullest. I believe that participation in occupation is an essential aspect of human life and that occupational engagement positively influences health and well-being. For that reason, I also firmly believe that that each person, regardless of age, ability, race, or socioeconomic status, has the right to participate in meaningful occupation. I hope to follow the example of Marlys Mitchell and to inspire a spirit of innovation for Occupational Therapy practice by expanding its presence in the community setting and spreading awareness about the importance of occupation in everyday life. In my future practice, I will seek to create opportunities for people of all backgrounds and levels of ability to engage in meaningful occupations. Wherever my career takes me, I hope to lead by example and to spread the ideals of occupation-centered and client-centered practice to those that I encounter.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Anna Rebecca Koritz
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
(Anna’s personal statement is on page 6)

Carolinas Healthcare System/Carolinas Rehabilitation Occupational Therapy Annual Scholarship
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.

Logan Robert Mathews
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: Pittsboro, North Carolina
Personal Statement: It took me until my senior year of undergraduate studies and a lot of experimentation with different majors/professions to realize that Occupational Therapy was my true passion. I had never really known what OT was until I took a career assessment test and decided to shadow a clinician to get a deeper understanding of the profession. From that day on I was hooked. After observing different clinicians in different settings, and learning about the endless possibilities that this field had to offer me, it seemed like anything was possible. With a career in OT I am confident that I can go to work every morning knowing that I love my job. Receiving this generous scholarship will give me the opportunity to receive valuable experience and expand my knowledge base of practice techniques and interventions. Ultimately, it will help me reach my goal of working in an inpatient rehabilitation facility after graduating from UNC.

Increasing Diversity in Occupational Science and 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/OS program and profession. This scholarship is now funded through contributions from Mr. Wilson and other alumni.

Christine Bagnall
Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Hometown: Cary, North Carolina
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.

Samantha Marie Franklin  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Morganton, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: Health care has not always been my goal; however, I have always had an unlimited love for people. I stumbled upon the Radiologic Science program mid-way through my freshman year of college. At this time, I was drowning in the vastness that is Carolina and was searching for something smaller. Since starting the program in June 2012, I have developed a passion that extends far beyond the certification that I initially set out to receive. I can honestly say that I love what I do. When I see the fragility of life through my patients’ eyes, I appreciate each day a little more. My patients give me more than I could ever give them. I am honored to be the recipient of the Buddy Clark Scholarship this year. This scholarship demonstrates that others see my passion for the field of radiology and for the lives of my patients. Health care is where I belong, and I am very thankful that I discovered this field. This is just the beginning of a lifelong career, and I cannot wait to see where I end up.

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.

Danielle Ashley Drum  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: It is an honor to be a graduate of the UNC Chapel Hill Radiologic Science program. It had been my life-long dream to pursue a career in the medical field, and this program allowed me to accomplish this goal. Upon graduation in May 2013, I obtained my license in both diagnostic radiology and computed tomography. I have also recently started my career as a CT Technologist at Iredell Memorial Hospital in Statesville, NC. Patient care has been my inspiration to work in a health care facility. Currently, my goal is to one day attend graduate school to obtain my master’s degree in either teaching or public health. I am truly blessed to have received the Tina D. Robbins Memorial Award upon graduation. This award has helped me tremendously as I have transitioned from a college student to a health care worker. Words cannot express how thankful I am to be the recipient of this outstanding award.

Melissa U. Lang  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Garner, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: After volunteering in the radiology department of my local hospital, I knew that medical imaging was the right career path for me. It is exciting to be part of the UNC Radiologic Science program and have instructors who really care about our success. I am currently in my first semester of clinical rotations. I feel delighted to be able to make a difference in a community that has given me so much. I look forward to the new experiences that this program will bring and will give 100% effort toward success and grasp onto all the learning opportunities made available to me. I hope to become the best radiologic technologist I can be and to continue my education to further grow in this profession. This generous scholarship will allow me to focus more in my education by relieving some of the financial stress. I am sincerely thankful to all who made this possible.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Melissa U. Lang  
Division of Radiologic Science  
Hometown: Garner, North Carolina  
(Additional personal statement is on page 9)

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.
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, 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.

Brittney Kara Nicole Del Pizzo
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Fayetteville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: To be selected for the Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Scholarship this year is such a great blessing. Acceptance into the Radiologic Science program has been life changing. I love the experience of helping patients find answers to their troubling medical questions and to ease their fears. Just as the technologist who helped my aunt when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, I now have the same feeling each time I care for one of my patients. This scholarship not only means financial stability for me, but also for my parents. It means I can attend class without worrying about gas in my car to drive to clinical or buying groceries. I am very thankful to the generous donor of this scholarship and the faculty who recognized my abilities and success within the program. I will continue to put all of my efforts into this program and into each patient's care to demonstrate to Dr. Pepper that easing my financial burden this year has allowed me to become a better health care professional.

Austin Ray Smith
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Statesville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Throughout high school I knew I wanted a career in health care but did not have a definite direction. Nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry all appeared as viable options. It wasn’t until the summer between my UNC freshman and sophomore years that I had the opportunity to volunteer in the radiology department at my local hospital. I truly had a change of heart through the friendly interactions and career discussions with the technologists, and I realized that medical imaging was the right choice. I continued volunteering with UNC Health Care and applied to the Radiologic Science program. My goal after completing the program, and potentially obtaining a graduate degree, is to become not only an expert in the field, but also to build many professional and personal relationships that last a lifetime. Being awarded the Pepper Scholarship relieves a huge financial burden because of the current economic state and increasing expense of college. The financial support is much needed and greatly appreciated and will ultimately aid in supporting my academic performance.

Kristen Brianna Reeder
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My time in the Radiologic Science program has been very fulfilling. I have always dreamed of working in the medical field and choosing this program was the best decision I could have made. The amount of clinical experience and patient contact we encounter is something most undergraduate students can never take part in. Being able to positively impact a patient's life is something I find very rewarding. I am truly honored to have been chosen as a recipient for the Pepper Scholarship. This scholarship will be a helpful addition to my academic future by minimizing the amount of financial stress I must deal with. I would like to thank the Radiologic Science faculty and Dr. Pepper for making this possible. It is reassuring to know that there are generous people to help students like me overcome financial burdens so that we may achieve our dreams and have a successful future.

Issack Endeshaw Boru
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Woodbridge, Virginia/Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Personal Statement: God rest his soul, I watched my dad suffer from a contusion that ultimately led to his death. I accompanied him to multiple hospital visits and imaging procedures. During the 10 years that my father suffered from this condition, I witnessed some of the best and worst medical care. Following his death, I began pursuing the goal I developed over those years to work in the health care field, both as a provider and an educator. I want to treat people the way my dad should have been treated every time he visited the hospital, specifically the imaging departments. Through the UNC medical imaging program, I am learning not only how to acquire optimal medical images but also how to provide the best patient care possible. I am an independent student facing financial problems, so I am very thankful to the family of Phyllis Pepper and the medical imaging faculty for awarding me the scholarship. This relieves my financial burden and allows me to work fewer hours and focus more on my education.

Samuel Von Cannon Walden
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Southern Pines, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Carolina’s prestige goes a long way, yet, even further when it comes to UNC’s Radiologic Science program. Since beginning the program this past summer, I’ve realized more and more how much I have enjoyed becoming a part of the medical community and working towards a real goal. I have more structure and challenge in my schedule, and the material we learn and experiences we gain continue to amaze me. I am more goal-oriented now and am excited to further pursue new medical field practice and work within the health field as a team member. For me to continue my education within this field, financial ability is crucial, and that’s why I feel so honored to be a recipient of the Pepper Scholarship. I want to thank my professors for giving me this opportunity so that I can help my parents in ways they truly appreciate. With less stress on my parents and me, I will continue to make the best of my time at Carolina and represent the Radiologic Science program to the best of my ability.
The Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Radiologic Science Memorial Fund Scholarships

Matthew J. Creech
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: After being accepted into UNC from high school, I began to think about what major I wanted to choose. I initially intended on being a pre-med student, and I wanted to do something more diverse than the standard biology or chemistry majors who would be applying to medical school alongside me. Going through the list of potential majors, one caught my attention and I have been committed ever since. The practical skills that the Radiologic Science program offers are more valuable to me than anything that could be taught out of a textbook. Within a month of starting the program, we were placed in a clinical setting, already putting our skills to use in a professional environment. I have enjoyed being a part of the program and fully intend to remain in the field upon graduation. Med school is still a consideration, but would only happen after working for a few years in the radiographic imaging field. This scholarship will be very useful, as my family has recently been dealing with significant financial struggles. This extra support will allow me to focus on school without worrying about my basic expenses.

Chi Adabel Lee
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina
Personal Statement: For as long as I can remember, I have accompanied my family members to the doctor to help them translate in Hmong. Witnessing the interaction between health care providers and my 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 children to go to college to make something of myself. After graduation, I worked for a light industrial company, which helped me hone my interests. I still crave that hands-on experience. After being accepted in the UNC Radiologic Science program and working in the lab and clinical rotations, I have grown to love my work. The smile I can put on a patients’ face, or the laugh I can elicit even when they are hurting, has shown me that radiology is not just about taking images, but being the patient’s advocate. After graduating, I hope to work as a technologist and then apply for medical school to become a radiologist. Being awarded the Pepper Scholarship is such an honor; this scholarship encourages me to strive for better and reminds me of my perpetual role as an interpreter, guide, and helper.

Amanda Elizabeth McClung
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My freshman year at UNC, my father and grandmother were diagnosed with terminal illnesses. Seeing my family members’ rapidly declining health with no hope for improvement inspired me to dedicate my life to helping as many people as I could. I decided to become a biology major and pursue a career in health care; however, I did not know which field I wanted to join. As I continued to visit doctors with my family, my interest in radiology grew. I saw how important it was in both the treatment and diagnosis of illnesses and discovered that radiology was where I belonged. Upon graduating from UNC, I came across the Radiologic Science program. My time in this program has far surpassed my expectations and has opened up doors to more opportunities than I could have ever imagined. Continuing my education has been rewarding in so many ways but has also been a financial struggle. I feel honored and truly grateful to receive the Pepper Scholarship and be allowed to continue my journey in the Radiologic Science program without the financial burden that I once carried.

The Phyllis Ann Canup Pepper Radiologic Science Memorial Fund Scholarships

Andrew Brian Mayer
Division of Radiologic Science
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I have always been interested in life sciences, health care, and photography, and radiologic science is the perfect combination of all three. My father is a retired dentist who had a successful practice for over twenty years, and I grew up in his office. I can still remember the smell of vinegar exuding from his x-ray film processor. It was from him that I learned the importance of the relationship between health care professionals and patients and how a friendly, caring attitude can establish trust and lead to overall better health care for the patient. It is my hope that I will promote the profession of radiologic science by providing excellent patient care, obtaining quality diagnostic images, and reducing patient dose by always adhering to the principles of radiation protection. It is a great honor to receive the Joseph Taylor Scholarship; it will go a long way as I continue my efforts in the Certificate in Radiography program and in my future career as a radiologic technologist.
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.

Negat Gabrielle Retta
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Personal Statement: It is truly an honor and exciting to have been selected for a scholarship sponsored by an alumnus, Dr. Mark C. Fleming. As a student born and raised in Ethiopia, where mental health awareness and services are sparse, I value the importance of knowledge. I have seen the need for trained clinicians that are passionate about improving current standards of mental health care services regionally as well as internationally. I believe it is important to promote international and cross-cultural learning, and I’m so grateful that the Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology program at UNC is preparing me to become a well-rounded professional that has a passion for conducting research, applying knowledge, and advocating for marginalized populations. I believe every client, despite their socio-economic status, citizenship, race, sexuality, or culture should receive the best research-based interventions, educational supports, and mental health services, and I want to spend my career advocating and practicing with this mantra in mind. I am incredibly grateful to Dr. Fleming for helping me on this journey, and I hope to do justice to the legacy of past and future Fleming Scholars by exemplifying clinical excellence in all my professional endeavors.

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 loving 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.

Sarah Elizabeth Cohen
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am incredibly thankful and humbled to receive the Richard H. Peters Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarship. Throughout my entire life I have always known that I wanted to help people. After pondering a number of different professions, I finally found the one that “clicked.” Rehabilitation counseling helps people with all kinds of disabilities by giving them the tools to help them recognize their innate strengths and build upon them to pursue personal and vocational goals. I was drawn to this field because of the way people’s needs are addressed in a holistic nature, taking into consideration social, environmental, psychological, biological, and vocational factors. In my future career I hope to work with individuals with chronic illnesses, helping them to function successfully in society and achieve goals that they may not have thought were possible. I am very thankful for generous donors like Mr. Peters who continue to support our program and will do my very best to honor this award.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Sarah Elizabeth Cohen
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
(Additional personal statement is on page 8)
Educational Planning Symposium Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Annual Scholarships

A generous gift from the Educational Planning Symposium has funded three scholarships for students attending the UNC Chapel Hill Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology program for the 2013-14 academic year. The Educational Planning Symposium’s gift will also fund two student scholarships for the upcoming 2014-15 academic year.

Michael Anthony Galobardi
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Mooresville, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My program, Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology, is all about helping people with disabilities regain independence, gain a place in the community, and receive the respect they deserve. I myself have a mild disability due to a traumatic brain injury, which is also one of the populations that rehabilitation counselors help. This program interested me because it would allow me the chance to help people like myself. Because of my brain injury, I am also fascinated by the brain. That is why I wish to continue my education as a clinical neuropsychologist, and I am sure this program will help me attain a position in a doctoral program. I am confident that with my added knowledge of the brain from clinical neuropsychology and prior knowledge of a rehabilitation counselor, I will be better able to help people with traumatic brain injuries. I am honored to receive the Educational Planning Symposium Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Scholarship because it will allow me to focus on my studies and not worry so much about the cost of attendance. I am thrilled to be given this opportunity that will help me reach my goals.

Eden Patience Garner
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I chose to study rehabilitation counseling because I strongly believe that each and every person, disabled or not, has the potential to make a positive difference in the lives of others as well as in their own lives. I am excited to become a professional counselor who encourages others and helps them realize their immense potential in life. I appreciate this program’s belief that rehabilitation is not only possible but essential through counseling. The overall mission of empowering clients to become self-sufficient through counseling rings true with my desire to help individuals feel important and necessary to society. Upon graduation, I will pursue certification as a rehabilitation counselor as well as licensure as a professional counselor in North Carolina. Specifically, I plan to serve individuals with severe and persistent mental illness who may be at risk of homelessness without access to counseling services. I am extremely grateful to receive this award because it will allow me to pursue my passion of helping marginalized members of our society by becoming a qualified professional in the field of rehabilitation counseling.

Peters-Reives Rehabilitation 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, NC, 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.

Casie Hall
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Davis, California
Personal Statement: As a self-proclaimed “military brat,” my time spent as part of a military family impacted my life tremendously. My mother was a major in the U.S. Air Force and her post-deployment battle with PTSD spurred my desire to study the disease and research its impact on military families. I would like to become an expert on PTSD and investigate ways to incorporate family into evidence-based treatments already established for the treatment of combat-related PTSD. My desire is to work directly with members of the military, as well as in considerable capacities with military families. My ultimate aspiration is to start a practice that provides counseling, programs, and outreach activities to soldiers and their families prior to, during, and after deployment. Part of the severe devastation associated with PTSD is due to a lack of understanding, both on the part of the soldier, as well as the people closest to them. In my practice, my goal would be to prepare each family member for life during deployment, equip family members with the skills needed to appropriately regard PTSD should it become relevant to their family, as well as to help soldiers cope, recover, and heal upon their return.

Shaun Patrick Thomas
Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology
Hometown: Wadsworth, Ohio
Personal Statement: I believe that every person has the right to live a happy, fulfilled life, regardless of the time, place, and circumstances into which they were born. I have spent a significant part of my life working closely with individuals with disabilities, and I have gained a great appreciation for the people I have worked with. The Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology program has given me a great opportunity to take my passion and add to it the skills and knowledge necessary to best serve those around me, and enable me to make a concrete difference in the lives of those who need help. With these skills, I would like to work with young adults with autism, helping them navigate the transition from high school and the end of mandated services to post-secondary education or meaningful employment. I come from a family that has been immersed in the field of caring for individuals with psychiatric and developmental disabilities for several generations, and this scholarship gives me an opportunity to carry on a tradition I am very proud of.
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-Flager Business School in 1988. Amy has a private practice serving adult clients in the Princeton, NJ, 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.

Katherine Emily Loebner  
*Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences*  
*Hometown:* Los Altos, California  
*Personal Statement:* As a future speech-language pathologist interested in adult neurogenic communication disorders, I am eager to be in a profession that asks me to give equal consideration to both my head and my heart. In fact, this combination is what initially magnetized me to the field and continues to motivate me to work toward congruency – defined by audiologist David Luterman as having “equal access to intellect and affect.” This marriage between ever-evolving research and evidence and the emotional needs and priorities of our clients will help improve the communication, cognitive, and/or swallowing abilities of my clients. The MS program at UNC Chapel Hill has expanded my interests and dedication to this field; I especially enjoyed applying the theories from our coursework to my clinical practicums and observing how the two inform one another. I am honored and grateful to have received the Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship. Thank you to all those who help support this scholarship.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Susan Mason  
*Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences*  
*Hometown:* Marlboro, New York  
(Susan’s personal statement is on page 7)

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 Scholarship in Janice’s honor and memory will continue her legacy of dedication and love for teaching children.

Rachel Ann Rhyne  
*Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences*  
*Hometown:* Laurinburg, North Carolina  
*Personal Statement:* Initially, I became interested in this field after working with two preschool children with autism who had vastly different communication abilities. I decided to blend my passions for children and communication by becoming a speech-language pathologist working with children in an early intervention setting. The population that I am most passionate about is children from birth through five years of age with a variety of disabilities. This affords me the opportunity to serve clients with a diverse range of impairments. During my career, I hope to enhance the lives of my clients and their significant others. I desire to provide children with early intervention services in order to achieve the best long-term outcomes. I want to support families, teachers, and other individuals in the clients’ lives and work closely with them to accomplish the patients’ communication goals. I am honored and extremely grateful to receive this award in memory of Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles due to our shared passion for and dedication to children.
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 NC 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, outreach, and care.

Chanel Iman Blaylock
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am honored to be the first recipient of this paramount award honoring the legacy of Millicent Blair-Arnett. During my early years of college, I had no real direction for my career path. Millicent, a family friend, spoke to me about her love for speech-language pathology and working to improve communication of young children. I caught her passion and quickly pursued SLP. After completing my master’s degree, I plan to be a powerful resource for underrepresented families who have young children with cochlear implants. I will provide competent treatment for children and education for families while motivating them to excel in every area of life, specifically communication and education. Millicent will be remembered for providing great wisdom, guidance, and encouragement. Her passion for SLP will forever live through the lives of so many people that she touched – including me…for that I am forever grateful.

Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship
The Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship was established through the generosity of Gary Campbell in honor of his wife, Sylvia, 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, NC, and then served as the resident speech-language pathologist at the North Carolina Developmental Evaluation Clinics in Fayetteville, Rocky Mount, and Raleigh. From 2000 to 2006, she was an adjunct faculty member of the Graduate School of Human Development at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 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. There, she taught essential prerequisite and upper-level courses. She extended her commitment to the University of Kuwait for an additional academic year in order to teach several courses essential for graduation. She celebrates the first class of Kuwaiti women who graduated in 2008 as the first locally trained speech-language specialists.

Sarah Hall Webster
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Fairfax, Virginia
Personal Statement: As my mother was born with a bilateral mild sloping to severe hearing loss, I have grown up understanding the way hearing loss can affect not only the person with the loss, but also their loved ones and those who interact with them. I have also seen how profoundly the work an audiologist does can improve the life of someone with a hearing loss through amplification, counseling, and other services. Although her loss was congenital, my mother was not diagnosed until she was screened in kindergarten. I hope to improve upon the great strides that have already been made in terms of universal newborn hearing screenings and early diagnosis of hearing loss so that all children who are hard of hearing will have the opportunity to hear and develop language at a young age. I am very excited about my future as a pediatric audiologist and am confident that UNC’s program is one of the best in the field. Receiving this scholarship is an honor and has certainly eased the financial burden of paying for a doctoral program. I am extremely grateful for the alumni who made it possible.

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.

Molly Elizabeth Spears
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Wilmington, North Carolina
Personal Statement: When I was in the third grade, I remember reading an autobiography of Helen Keller and being completely fascinated by the role Anne Sullivan played in facilitating this young girl’s communication. I memorized the entire sign language alphabet and would practice signing words into my own hand, just in case a situation ever arose where such a skill might be useful. Looking back, I am certain that this was an experience from which my later interest in communication disorders stemmed. Since then, numerous experiences have allowed me to further realize my passion for speech-language pathology, and now I hope to serve children in either an early intervention or elementary school setting. After studying Spanish throughout my undergraduate career, I became particularly interested in working with Spanish-speaking children and their families. Additionally, I hope that I will one day be able to further our knowledge related to the assessment and treatment of this growing population through expanding research in the area of bilingualism. I am thus honored to be a recipient of this scholarship, as it has allowed me to focus on the educational and clinical experiences that will undoubtedly shape my future as a professional in this field.
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.

Jonathan Lyle Jolivette
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Personal Statement: A few years ago I began volunteering on weekends at Literacy Advance of Houston, an agency that provides free literacy programs to adults in Houston, Texas. After volunteering for a couple of years, I decided to pursue a career in speech-language pathology. Upon completing coursework in both language development and audiology, I realized I enjoyed aspects of both speech-language pathology and audiology. Specifically, I became interested in the speech pathologist’s role of teaching children with hearing loss how to communicate verbally. Treatment of pediatric hearing loss is an interesting blend of technology, teamwork with other professionals, one-on-one treatment of children, and inclusion of parents in treatment. UNC is the ideal destination to continue my studies because of the numerous learning opportunities related to my area of interest such as the Center for the Acquisition of Spoken Language Through Listening Enrichment (CASTLE) and the Carolina Children’s Communication Disorders Program. I am grateful for this scholarship because it is both an acknowledgement of my past accomplishments and an expectation of future contributions to the field. I look forward to assisting families with the goal of teaching their children how to communicate verbally.

Petros Pravasilis
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Jamaica, New York
Personal Statement: I am eager to start a new chapter in life as a speech-language pathologist. My decision to join this fascinating field was cemented by my various experiences with people with communication disorders, through which I was able to witness the profound impact that a speech-language pathologist can make on a person’s life. Being able to communicate effectively is a gift that no one should take for granted. I aspire to work with both children and adults facing communication impairments and aid them in achieving their full potential in life. I also firmly believe that it is of utmost importance to advocate for people with communication disorders in order to ensure that all of those that require therapy have access to the services that they need. I feel extremely honored to have been awarded this scholarship, which will help me accomplish my academic and professional goals. My sincere gratitude goes out to all of those who made this possible.

Whitney Rebekah Doub
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Personal Statement: My interest in speech-language pathology arose from my work on a Duke University Medical Center research project studying the effects of memory and aging on the elderly. I interviewed participants struggling with speech and language deficits ranging from the life-long effects of cerebral palsy to sudden aphasia due to stroke. Interacting with these individuals reinforced the importance of communication to me. I was driven to find a field in which I could assist others, particularly adults and the elderly, in finding their voices. My coursework and clinical practicum experiences have further fueled these desires. While at UNC, I have conducted research on developing materials suitable for culturally and linguistically diverse individuals. I hope to utilize this knowledge, along with my undergraduate degree in Spanish, to better serve clients in a medical speech-language pathology setting. I am grateful for this award and would like to thank the donors for their thoughtful generosity.

Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards

Lúcia Lopez Fischer
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: Porto Alegre, Brazil
(Lúcia’s personal statement is on page 10)
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.”

Stephanie Jo Carruthers
Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences
Hometown: San Leandro, California
Personal Statement: I was first drawn to the field of speech-language pathology after my grandfather was diagnosed with dementia. As I watched him slowly lose his ability to speak and swallow, I became aware of just how crucial speech and communication truly are. They are what connect us all together and bring meaning and joy to life. I chose to pursue a degree in speech-language pathology in order to make a difference in the lives of those who have had their ability to communicate impaired. Through my studies, I have become extremely passionate about working with adults who have neurogenic disorders, especially those who have aphasia. I hope to work with those individuals to help them improve both their communication and their quality of life. I am honored to have been selected for the Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Scholarship. This generous scholarship will greatly help me as I pursue my graduate degree and assist me in achieving my goal of working to improve the communication and quality of life for individuals with speech and language impairments.

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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.

Chenin Delaney Duclos
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Londonderry, New Hampshire
Personal Statement: Everyday trusting relationships are built, spirits are lifted, and courage and human potential are discovered with support from skilled, compassionate physical therapists. Not a day goes by that I am not deeply appreciative and extremely excited to be heading into a field that positively impacts people’s lives. As the recipient of the Sara Fowler Anderson Scholarship, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and join Ms. Anderson’s family and friends in celebrating and honoring her life and career. It is evident that she was a hard-working, dedicated physical therapist with a beautiful heart and soul. I share in her appreciation for the field of physical therapy and comprehensive education that UNC provides. Ms. Anderson’s commitment to her community, desire to serve people in need, and her unique ability to make people feel better are truly an inspiration. As Ms. Anderson did and still does, I hope and look forward to touching the lives of many and giving back to others by my work as a caring leader, educator, and physical therapist. Thank you again for the support and encouragement as I embark on my own physical therapy career! I am truly honored.
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.

Jaime Lynn Emel
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Downingtown, Pennsylvania
Personal Statement: Throughout my academic career I always harbored a fascination for and amazement with the human body. I knew at a very early age that I would be most fulfilled in a medical profession, and after many shadowing experiences during my undergraduate education, I found pediatric physical therapy to be a perfect fit. I have a passion for pediatric physical therapy unlike any other I have experienced; it brings me joy and fulfillment. I plan to use the knowledge I gain during my physical therapy education at UNC to heal, motivate, and encourage children with developmental disabilities and hopefully prepare them for a healthy future. I am extremely grateful to have received the Charlotte Money Beatty Memorial Scholarship and the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship to help fulfill my dreams. These generous gifts will allow me to become the best therapist I can be and provide care for others throughout my life.

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.

Stephanie Lynn Lawson
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Wise, Virginia
Personal Statement: From the beginning I have always wanted to help people, but being a physical therapist will give me the chance to help them not only physically, but emotionally as well. To see their success and celebrate with them is a remarkable event to experience and why I love the profession. I get to be there and support them in a way other medical professions cannot. I plan on returning to my hometown, at least for a few years, to make a difference there. I care so much for those people. Because I am from there, they can trust me and I can lead them in the right direction. These are the people that always helped me, and this will be my chance to help them. I hope to specialize in women’s health, bringing something new to the area, but also making such a difference in these people’s lives. What an honor it is to receive this scholarship, and I am so thankful and appreciative of it.

Diversity Scholarship in Physical Therapy

Betsy Crawford (UNC DPT Class of 2009) made a generous gift and commitment to the Division of Physical Therapy to create the Diversity Scholarship in Physical Therapy, which seeks to increase the diversity of students pursuing physical therapy careers. We are also thankful to other alumni and friends who have contributed to this fund. The Diversity Scholarship in PT was first awarded to a deserving student for the 2008-09 academic year.

Marian Thomas
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Apex, North Carolina
Personal Statement: With advancing technology, we have been able to speed up most medical visits by light years. Patients come in and their symptoms may be superficially fixed, but their underlying medical problem is not necessarily addressed. Physical therapy allows a clinician to spend valuable time with their patient – individual time to assess them holistically and detect the source of the problem. This aspect of the field is what drew me to physical therapy, and as I begin to gain more knowledge, I am even more excited to enter the field. I know that I am being equipped with the ability to impact people’s lives not only by physical treatment, but also by education on their condition. I want to enable my patients so that they change their lifestyle to prevent future visits. My greatest aspiration is to open a summer camp for children and teenagers with physical disabilities. I believe summer camp provides a setting where children can take on new challenges, create friendships, and grow, all while having fun. I am thankful for this scholarship for allowing me to become an influential therapist.

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. Also, I value promoting diversity and leadership into health care and am very thankful for the support to increase diversity into our profession. It is imperative to drive advancement in our nation’s health and necessary to actively foster, encourage, and promote inclusiveness to be able to connect with patients and even other health care providers. 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.

Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards

Alexis Ann Williams
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
(Additional personal statement is on page 10)
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.

Ryan Christopher Rubio
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I chose to pursue a career in physical therapy because I was amazed by the workings of the human body and that fascination is still strong two years into my education. I have learned a lot, but I know that my education will never stop, even after I have graduated and become a licensed physical therapist. I will need tools to learn new things as well as to refresh my mind. Receiving this award means a great deal to me, as it will allow me to access to even more resources that will make me a better practitioner. I am especially honored that this award is for pediatric physical therapy, as I have enjoyed the experiences that I have had with children and I hope to continue that kind of work in my future career. I would like to thank the Gitterman family and I promise that I will work to make them proud that they selected me for this prestigious award.

Rose and Dave Hamm Annual Scholarship for Clinical Excellence in Physical Therapy

The Rose and Dave Hamm Annual Scholarship for Clinical Excellence in Physical Therapy is awarded annually to an in-state student with financial need and promise for future clinical excellence in the physical therapy profession. The scholarship honors Dr. Hamm’s late husband, David Hamm, Jr., MD, who was well known for his genuine, compassionate care, his diagnostic skills, and his integrity with all medical personnel with whom he worked. Rose Hamm (UNC Class of 1969) is currently an Assistant Professor of Clinical Physical Therapy at the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, Ostrow School of Dentistry, University of Southern California.

Gabrielle Scronce
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Vale, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I often reminded in the classroom and in the clinic how physical therapy combines my loves of science, people, and community service into a career that enables individuals to reach their highest functional and health potentials. The field of physical therapy is continuously growing and improving, and my goal as a professional is to contribute to the field’s advancements in rehabilitation. I am grateful to be a physical therapy student at UNC Chapel Hill where faculty and students work side by side as well as in partnership with medical professionals from other disciplines. Receiving the Rose and Dave Hamm Scholarship enables me to continue my focus on academics, volunteering, and research, and I am thankful to Dr. Hamm for her investment and support of my academic pursuits.

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. Over 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 over $200,000.

Caitlin Gallagher
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Gardnerville, Nevada
Personal Statement: Since I was young I have known that I wanted to go into the health care field so that I could help people, but it took a little while for me to discover that the specific profession that would blend all of my interests was physical therapy. A career in physical therapy is allowing me to combine my appreciation of the human body with my desire to develop meaningful relationships with patients, while guiding and educating them through the rehabilitation process. I have a growing interest in working with the geriatric population, as I have come to recognize that aging is not synonymous with decline. I feel that as a physical therapist I can help keep aging adults active and maximize their quality of life. I am currently pursuing the interdisciplinary Certificate in Aging offered through the UNC School of Social Work to better prepare myself to participate in prevention efforts and treat the needs of older adults alongside other health care professionals. I feel very lucky to be a part of the UNC DPT program, and I am very grateful for the Hall Scholarship that is allowing me to pursue my passion.

Meredith Ellis Haigh
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am so blessed and honored to be the recipient of the Hall Scholarship this year. What a beautiful gift this couple has given so that students can give back to communities all across the country to bring healing and joy to those in need. My interest in physical therapy began after volunteering in several medical related facilities. I was unable to see the change that was made in patients both physically and emotionally in any other fields as much as I saw it in the field of physical therapy. I am very excited to concentrate in the hospital setting in either acute care or inpatient rehabilitation to be able to make a difference in someone’s life when they are at their most vulnerable state. This is when one needs a kind spirit, a smiling face, and a listening ear. If I can bring educated medical treatment to them while also providing these things, I would be honored. I’m so thankful for this opportunity and bright future.
Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Annual Scholarship

The Duquette scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who is enrolled in UNC Chapel Hill’s Doctoral Program in Human Movement Science. The Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Scholarship was established through the generosity of Colonel Thomas L. Duquette, a 1991 graduate of the HMS program, in honor of his parents. Louis and Eleanor Duquette of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, are native New Englanders who instilled the virtues of hard work and the value of education in all their children. Now retired from their successful hardware business, Louis and Eleanor continue to lead active lives.

Elizabeth Eve Hibberd
Human Movement Science Program
Hometown: Charlotte, North Carolina
Personal Statement: After working clinically as an athletic trainer, I decided to continue my education in the Interdisciplinary Program of Human Movement Science at UNC Chapel Hill with the goal of advancing my understanding of human movement and developing my skills as an instructor. My plan after graduation is to pursue a career in higher education. As a scholar, my goal is to help prevent upper extremity injuries in overhead athletes, primarily at the youth level. As an educator, I hope to create an environment that fosters education and ultimately application of the course content outside of the classroom and to inspire students to think deeply about how the subject matter applies to their future career plans. It is an honor to be the recipient of the Louis and Eleanor Duquette Human Movement Science Scholarship. As I move into my professional career, I hope I can continue to show my enthusiasm and passion by continuing to build on many of the opportunities that I have been granted while receiving my PhD and continue to serve the mission of the Duquette Scholarship.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Community Service Fellowship

Sarah Svetkey van der Horst
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
(Sarah’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.

Deborah Michelle Kenner
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Boca Raton, Florida
Personal Statement: I am truly excited to be a part of the field of physical therapy. I plan to use the knowledge and skills I learn through UNC to help improve function and quality of life for this country’s servicemen and women. I have seen what injuries can do to a service member’s sense of self and career during my clinical time spent in an U.S. Army hospital, and I feel fortunate to have a future career in which I can be a part of their rehabilitation. I am most interested in the outpatient physical therapy setting, namely orthopedics and traumatic brain injury. I am extremely grateful for this scholarship as it will assist me in continuing to learn and contribute to the field of physical therapy as well as work toward my goal of helping men and women who serve in the military.

Jessica Nicole Skeeter
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chesapeake, Virginia
Personal Statement: It is with my most sincere gratitude that I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Long for their support of the G. Wayne and Tanya B. Long Scholarship. The expense of higher education is often an additional source of stress when added to daily worries over exams and class grades. However, the generous assistance that this scholarship will afford me over the next two semesters will help reduce my overall debt and anxiety, which will allow me to focus more clearly on my studies. As a scholarship recipient and future PT, I look forward to expanding my knowledge of physical therapy while attending UNC and being able to fully express my gratitude by giving back to the NC community as a practicing therapist.
Physical Therapy MS Curriculum 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.

Heather Lynn Eustis
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: North Granby, Connecticut
Personal Statement: I am deeply thankful to have been awarded the UNC MS Curriculum Scholarship so that I may pursue an academic track with a focus on Multiple Sclerosis. I have always been interested in neurology and knew that I would travel down a career path in neurological rehabilitation. However, for over a year I have been drawn to the MS patient population through wonderful opportunities working closely with them while observing physical therapists that specialize in the this area. I discovered a passion and calling to work with these patients. Additionally, I not only hope to work in the clinic with this population but I would like to explore options in research. In this way, I hope to increase our growing knowledge of this complex disease such as sustainability of quality of life through rehabilitation. I am honored to be a MS Scholar and look forward to contributing to this unique and wonderful Scholarship opportunity.

Catherine Leigh Jacobs
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I would like to offer a sincere thank you to the National MS Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter, for the opportunity to learn as a MS Scholarship recipient. I am excited to continue to learn with and from others through the MS STEP UP program. I was drawn to physical therapy because of the opportunity to combine academic knowledge and interpersonal skills in creative ways to enrich people’s lives. I have enjoyed getting to do so throughout the last year as I have worked with individuals diagnosed with MS. This scholarship allows me many opportunities to develop a more in-depth understanding of the disease and the ways we as therapists can provide effective neurological rehabilitation. I hope to continue to enhance my education on the MS population as I go into my last year of this track. With this knowledge and experience, I hope to educate patients and collaborate with other medical professions to help with the unique challenges faced by people with MS. Thank you again to all who support this scholarship. I look forward to giving back to the NC and MS communities as I continue to expand my knowledge and experience.

Audrey Celeste Osinski
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Troy, Michigan
Personal Statement: I want to thank the Greater Carolinas Chapter of the National MS Society for giving me the privilege to be mentored by some of these previous scholars, neurologists, and other experts in neurological practice. My goals for the program include learning about the medical and psychosocial factors that patients with MS encounter, exploring the latest research and technologies in this field, becoming an advocate for patients with neurological conditions, and empowering patients to effectively manage their conditions. I intend to make my own contributions to this field, spread awareness to my peers and other clinicians as to how to best serve those who live with MS, and continue the tradition of mentoring future MS Scholars.

Joe William Miller
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Mount Airy, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Coming to UNC for Physical Therapy was always my dream, though I have realized that becoming a MS Scholar may be the best thing that has professionally happened to me. The opportunities and the challenges associated with the MS STEP UP program are exciting, humbling, and even intimidating because of the magnitude of what previous scholars have accomplished. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the Greater Carolinas Chapter of the National MS Society for giving me the privilege to be mentored by some of these previous scholars, neurologists, and other experts in neurological practice. My goals for the program include learning about the medical and psychosocial factors that patients with MS encounter, exploring the latest research and technologies in this field, becoming an advocate for patients with neurological conditions, and empowering patients to effectively manage their conditions. I intend to make my own contributions to this field, spread awareness to my peers and other clinicians as to how to best serve those who live with MS, and continue the tradition of mentoring future MS Scholars.

Personal Statement: Not only will I work with patients in the clinic, but I will also devote my efforts towards educating people with MS and professionals in the community to help others understand the importance of physical therapy so we may provide the best possible care for the MS patient population. I look forward to gaining more knowledge and skills in this final year of the MS track! Again, thank you to the Chapter and Division for this exceptional opportunity and for their support, which helps me towards achieving the education necessary to accomplish these aspirations.
Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship

The Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship was first established through the generosity of Gladys (’62) and Robert Hart for the 2007-08 academic year. Mabel Marie Parker was born in Cass County, Mich. 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, Ga., 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.

Morven Ann Ross
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Personal Statement: I feel truly honored and grateful to have been selected to receive the Mabel M. Parker Physical Therapy Annual Scholarship. The option to pursue a career in physical therapy always seemed like a natural choice for me. The profession of physical therapy is a perfect mixture of all the things that I value in a career such as helping and interacting with individuals and the study of human anatomy and physiology. It is also a field that is never stagnant and will continue to challenge me and take me in multiple directions throughout my career and my life. As I continue my journey to becoming a physical therapist, I am more convinced now than I ever was before that physical therapy is the right career choice for me. I am continually excited by the opportunities that physical therapy presents to me and filled with gratitude that I get to work day in and day out with individuals that inspire and challenge me as much as I hope I do for them. I will continue to strive for excellence and pursue the positive and impactful career and lifestyle that Mabel Parker represents.

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.

Corinne Joell Bohling
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Belleville, Kansas

Personal Statement: My path to pursuing a doctorate of physical therapy was not a direct one; I started my professional life as a school counselor. While I loved helping people work toward their fullest potential, I was also drawn to the science of how the body moves and supports life activities. Helping people improve their functionality, reduce pain, and improve their quality of life through physical therapy was the ideal combination of my interests and my drive to help people reach their potential. It is my hope that my background in counseling will provide me with unique insight to effectively communicate with, educate, and motivate my future patients. As a second-career student, the financial burden of returning to school is no small challenge. The Sande Scholarship has allowed me to dedicate more time to my studies and the activities that enrich and deepen my education, which will ultimately benefit my future patients. I want to whole-heartedly thank the donors of the scholarship for their incredible gift of support. It allows me to focus on becoming the best physical therapist I can be, and for that I am especially grateful.

Annemarie Erich
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Connellys 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. After one week my pursuit of this extraordinary career became intentional. Being a part of the DPT class of 2016 has already proven to be a source of great joy. 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. My first clinical experience will take place in Salisbury, NC, so next summer, I will utilize what I’ve learned here at UNC to serve the people in that area for eight weeks. In the meantime, I am learning, growing, and stretching myself beyond my previous expectations. This scholarship has helped me to focus by removing much of the financial burden that tends to preoccupy many graduate students. I hope to one day become the type of PT that so inspired Mr. Sande’s generosity.
Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarships

Krissy Ayers
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Summerfield, North Carolina
Personal Statement: I am honored to be a graduate student in UNC’s DPT program, and I am looking forward to the next three years of education and clinical rotations! As a group fitness instructor, I have always been passionate about motivating others to live healthier and happier lives, and I look forward to having the knowledge to not only encourage, but also treat individuals to restore their optimal mobility and quality of life. I am still in the process of deciding on a specific path of physical therapy, but regardless of my focus, I know that with my knowledge and dedication to the profession of physical therapy, I will make a positive difference in the lives of my patients. I am extremely grateful for the Sande Scholarship, as it will allow me to focus less on the financial burden of higher education and more on becoming an excellent PT. Thank you so much!

Jeremy Craig Evans
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Antioch, California
Personal Statement: For several years, I have worked towards the goal of becoming a physical therapist in order to utilize my interests and talents to help others. This desire began in a high school sports medicine class and has grown into a motivating passion. My ultimate goal is to become a therapist who helps individuals help themselves through treatment and patient education. I plan on continually striving to become a better physical therapist by always providing the best care. This will be possible as I avoid complacency and always search for an increase in knowledge and seek to improve clinical skills. Receiving this scholarship helps me continue on my journey towards becoming a skilled clinician. My wife and I recently enjoyed the birth of our first child, which has been a wonderful experience. However, it also has added a financial burden that has been eased by this scholarship. I am extremely grateful for this generous gift.

Jessica Lynn Rolle
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Boyds, Maryland
Personal Statement: From an early age, I knew I wanted to work in health care. I have always been fascinated by how intricately the human body is put together. I love how physical therapy combines the anatomy and physiology behind human movement with the more personal component of working with patients one-on-one. Injury and illness can have a huge effect on an individual’s functioning and I am passionate about restoring and improving the quality of life of my patients. Physical therapy can be a demanding career, but one that is immensely rewarding as well. As I get closer to graduation, I anticipate working in an outpatient orthopedic clinic. This patient population is exciting to work with and I have had fabulous clinical experiences in this setting. Upon graduation, I hope to be able to serve the people of North Carolina as well as have the opportunity to travel abroad to underserved countries. I am incredibly grateful for the Sande Scholarship, as it is allowing me to focus more on learning to be a great therapist rather than the necessary finances that go along with it.

Jessica Louise Burpee
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Griffin, Georgia
Personal Statement: I would find it immensely rewarding to have a career as a physical therapist working with underserved populations and individuals with limited access to health care services. I believe that the need for rehabilitation services in many communities far exceeds the care that is available. Thus, my goal is to be an advocate for patients and the community as a whole by striving to increase the quality and availability of physical therapy clinics and education programs in these underserved areas. The experience I have gained through SHAC and the Refugee Health Initiative has opened my eyes to how fulfilling community outreach can be. However, it has also made me aware of the barriers to accessing physical therapy services that some populations often face. Therefore, I aspire that as a physical therapist I will be able to empower patients on both the individual and societal levels, and work towards ensuring that all patients have access to the care and services they need.

Meredith Taylor Reed
Division of Physical Therapy
Hometown: Atlantic Beach, North Carolina
Personal Statement: Witnessing how physical therapy has helped others overcome struggles in their daily lives has had such a profound influence on my career path. Physical therapy offers relief to patients suffering from an array of ailments, treating each in a manner specific to their needs. Empowering patients functionally to improve their quality of life is certainly an aspect of the field I love and look forward to contributing to. After graduating and obtaining licensure, I plan to practice in the field and gain experience with a diverse patient population. Eventually, I plan on opening an amputee clinic in an underserved area in eastern North Carolina. Being able to combine my interests and talents by offering access to care while having the opportunity to give back to my community is something I look forward to accomplishing. I am truly honored and blessed to receive the Sande Scholarship. Such a generous gift will allow me to focus more on school and relieve some of the financial burden associated with furthering my education.
Cara Lillian Hehn  
**Division of Physical Therapy**  
**Hometown:** Chelmsford, Massachusetts  
**Personal Statement:** While in high school, my father suffered various traumatic injuries after falling 30 feet from a scaffold at a painting job. In witnessing my father's full recovery through physical therapy, I soon realized the job description of a physical therapist extends far beyond a physical healer. A physical therapist also includes being an emotional confidant, a motivator, and a friend. The immense impact that physical therapy made on my father's recovery inspired me to seriously consider physical therapy as a profession. Since I have come to UNC as a physical therapy student and grown immensely through clinical and educational experiences, my interest in neurological rehabilitation has grown as well. I am very excited to see where this newfound interest takes me, and look forward to incorporating this passion into my educational and service endeavors. I am very honored to have received the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship, and grateful to the Sande family and relatives for aiding me in achieving my goals and furthering my education at this prestigious university.

Beverly Knight  
**Division of Physical Therapy**  
**Hometown:** Raleigh, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** My decision to pursue physical therapy as a profession has been strengthened over the past year in graduate school. Through my classroom and clinical experience, I’ve been afforded the opportunity to apply the information I have learned thus far and continue to build a strong foundation of knowledge that I can carry with me during the extent of my graduate education and into the future as a physical therapist. I remain open to the myriad of areas of focus that exist within physical therapy and I look forward to one-on-one interactions with clients and encouraging them through their healing process. A few of my interests include serving underrepresented populations and I also aspire to one day extend my knowledge and practice beyond the United States. Above all else, I aim to be of service to others and to provide quality care. The scholarships I have received are greatly cherished because they lessen the financial burden of school and allow me to continue to focus closely on my education and go forward to pursue my passion of helping others. Thank you for your generosity!

James Bryan Mull  
**Division of Physical Therapy**  
**Hometown:** Salisbury, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** I chose to major in Exercise and Sport Science as an undergraduate due to my interest in the performance of the human body during physical exertion. I did not have a clear direction for how I would turn that passion into a career until my junior year when I suffered a shoulder injury that required surgery. During my rehabilitation I developed a great relationship with my physical therapist. He was instrumental in motivating me to regain full strength and functional use of my shoulder. I decided to pursue physical therapy because I realized it would channel my interests into a career focused on making lasting, positive impacts on the lives of others. I want to thank the donors of the Rebecca Irene Sande Scholarship for affording me the ability to devote more time to studying and less to the financial burdens that accompany graduate education at UNC Chapel Hill. Having completed the first year of the physical therapy graduate program, I am more passionate than ever about the career path that I have chosen. I feel extremely blessed to be a recipient of this award and the opportunities that it provides.

Michael Robert Murray  
**Division of Physical Therapy**  
**Hometown:** Charlotte, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** From the first time I can remember visiting my pediatrician, I knew I wanted to help others feel healthy. I am passionate about the human body, its intricacies, and ensuring that everyone can enjoy their body’s ability to its fullest. The UNC DPT program has provided me with amazing learning opportunities both in and outside of the classroom. They have motivated me to become active with the APTA and NCPTA, having now attended multiple conferences at both levels. At the most recent NCPTA fall conference, I was elected the NCPTA Student Interest Groups Vice-Chair and am the only UNC student representation on this student board. The DPT program prepared me well for my first rotation, pairing my strengths from prior experiences with aquatics and out-patient therapy to my clinical rotation this past summer in Brevard, NC. My clinical instructors were impressed and allowed me to begin treating patients on the second day. None of these opportunities would be possible without the support I’ve received from the Sande Scholarship. I owe a great debt of gratitude to the Sande family and their relatives for aiding me in achieving my goals and furthering my education at this prestigious university.
I will utilize my Spanish skills and exercise my ability to connect with a diverse population 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 and am excited as I begin my career at UNC where I will be able to engage in a plethora of 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 physical therapy and enthusiastic as I pursue my goal.

Chelsea Jo Parker  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I stumbled upon my future profession “on accident.” As a freshman in 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 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. This scholarship means 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. This scholarship means 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 scholarship enough for helping me reach my goals and make a difference in the medical community.

Jaime Emel  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: Downingtown, Pennsylvania  
(Jaime’s personal statement is on page 38)

Michelle Jené Treffer  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: San Jose, California  
Personal Statement: As an athlete, I knew what “what I want to be when I grow up” and to provide for others the same assistance and encouragement that I received in times of injury and for that I am extremely grateful. This scholarship means 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 scholarship enough for helping me reach my goals and make a difference in the medical community.

Ryan Rubio  
Division of Physical Therapy  
Hometown: Greensboro, North Carolina  
(Ryan’s personal statement is on page 40)
Deidra Ellen Debnam  
Division of Physical Therapy  
**Hometown:** Fayetteville, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** Physical therapy is a growing profession with endless opportunities, and I hope that throughout my career I will embrace new opportunities that challenge me both as a person and as a clinician. Physical therapy is investing one’s knowledge, skills, training, experience, and most importantly one’s heart to assist others in the achievement of their personal goals. It has the potential to influence the lives of many people in a variety of settings, and I hope that my commitment to learning and excellence will positively impact the overall health and wellness of each individual I have the opportunity to serve. Furthermore, I aspire to fulfill my commitment to the growth and development of the profession through public service, education, and promotion of diversity within the profession. I believe that my greatest professional accomplishment will be a genuine sense of service to my patients, colleagues, and the larger community. It is my goal to be a physical therapist with the unique ability to combine professional knowledge and clinical experience with an honest desire to demonstrate qualities and characteristics that help restore people’s faith in humanity. I sincerely appreciate the generous donors whose contributions help support my efforts toward becoming a physical therapist.

Nicholas Christopher Mang  
Division of Physical Therapy  
**Hometown:** Hendersonville, North Carolina  
**Personal Statement:** When I was in elementary school, my mother introduced me to a boy at my church who could not walk. He had a progressive disease called Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. We became best of friends and remained so until he passed away my junior year in college. I was extremely blessed by his life and his friendship. At a young age, I decided that I wanted to serve in the medical field because of the influence my dear friend had on me. He always enjoyed his physical therapy, and I enjoyed spending time with his physical therapist. I originally decided to pursue pediatric physical therapy, but I have developed a love for outpatient orthopedics. UNC’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program is wonderfully preparing me as a general PT clinician, but I plan to hone my outpatient orthopedic skills through professional conferences, research, and focused clinical experiences. I plan to use my skills in North Carolina, as well as Haiti and Kenya. I like to think that my best friend’s legacy carries on as I serve people through physical therapy. I am so grateful to be a recipient of the Judy A. White Professional Development Award.

Jessica Nicole Skeeter  
Division of Physical Therapy  
**Hometown:** Chesapeake, Virginia  
**Personal Statement:** I am incredibly honored and excited to have been chosen as the recipient of the Judy White Professional Development Award. With this award, I will have the opportunity to enhance my understanding of the practice of physical therapy within North Carolina while networking with practicing PTs throughout the state. The funds that this award provided made it possible for me to attend the NC Physical Therapy Association fall meeting in October. I would like to especially thank the donors who support this award as it will allow me to focus more on my own professional development as a physical therapist and SPTA officer while helping to ease to financial strain of the DPT program. I am looking forward to the year ahead, and in the future, I plan to give back to the NC community as I expand my physical therapy knowledge and proficiency.
Inaugural Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship
A generous gift from the UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science program's medical director Bradley Vaughn and his wife, Karen, provided funding for the inaugural merit-based scholarship to assist and reward a deserving student studying in the UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science program.

Eunmi K. Han  
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program  
Hometown: Hartford, Connecticut  
Personal Statement: My career aspirations can be summed up in three simple words: better patient care. That is what I, as a sleep technologist, always strive for and what I believe that we as a medical field should always be working towards. Patients are the very basis of why we work and they deserve our best efforts in helping them get well. The only way to ensure that we are continuously providing our patients with the utmost in health care is to be constantly educating ourselves in how to do so. Receiving this scholarship will help me to fulfill this goal for myself and help me to fulfill this goal for my family. The oldest of my three daughters will be attending college this year as a freshman with aspirations of entering the medical field and this scholarship will be helping her future as well as my own.

Nihon Kohden Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship
As a founding gold partner in the 2012 UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Corporate Partners Program, Nihon Kohden, as a 2014 gold partner, has generously provided a merit-based scholarship for the 2013-14 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.

Steven James O’Dell  
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program  
Hometown: LaGrange, North Carolina  
Personal Statement: I graduated from Lenoir Community College with my associate’s degree in Polysomnography in May 2011. I then started my career in sleep during August 2011 and have been striving to make a difference ever since. I am still considered new to the sleep sciences field and have only been registered since September 2011. I am continually learning through experience while working both a full-time and part-time position. Though experience is beneficial in honing my skills as a registered polysomnographic technologist, I will be able to apply new knowledge from the Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Sciences Program and excel in my profession. This program was attractive to me because it is offered through distance education and geared so that a student can continue working while enrolled. The acceptance of this scholarship is important to me because it will relieve the financial burden I face to complete my goals.

Nihon Kohden Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship

Deborah L. Chiou  
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program  
Hometown: Los Angeles, California  
Personal Statement: I am lucky to have found a career that I am passionate about! I first heard about the field of Neurodiagnostics through a family friend in 2004. I was instantly fascinated with helping people. Through some obstacles, I finally enrolled into EEG school in 2006. It turned out to be the most rewarding experience as it opened my eyes to an entirely new area of learning. I am so enthusiastic about this field that I chose to enroll in this particular program because I want to continue the fountain of learning by pursuing higher education in the field of Neurodiagnostics. I believe that obtaining this degree will help advance my knowledge and build upon my experiences in the field. It will better equip me for future advancement and encourage involvement by connecting with others in my field, all while leading me to achieve greater heights in my career. It took a lot of courage and dedication for me to go back to school, especially in this economic recession. Therefore, I am extremely fortunate and grateful to be the recipient of this scholarship. It will relieve some financial burden so that I may focus my energies in academia, help realize my dreams, and help to reach my full potential. Thank you for your generosity.

Tempur Sealy International Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarships
As a founding platinum partner in the 2012 UNC Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Corporate Partners Program, Tempur Sealy has generously provided three merit-based scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year. Tempur Sealy is focused on developing, manufacturing, and marketing advanced sleep surfaces that help improve the quality of life for people around the world.

Bereket Habte  
Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program  
Hometown: Centennial, Colorado  
Personal Statement: I am honored to be one of the recipients of the Tempur Sealy International Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarship. Thanks you for your generous support. When I moved here from Ethiopia my goal was to get an education. In spite of the radical shift in culture and educational systems, within three years I was able to enter and complete the Electro Neurodiagnostic program at the Community College of Denver. Since then I have continued to look for opportunities to further my education. Currently I am an Equipment Engineer for the department of Neurophysiology, Sleep, and IOM at the Children’s Hospital Colorado. My current goal is to explore innovative use of technology for the field, do research on providing remote medical services (telemedicine), and develop cost effective ideas. The scholarship will enable me to continue my education without feeling additional financial pressure. Thank you again for you generous contribution to my education. I will work hard to honor your scholarship commitment.
Tempur Sealy International Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Annual Scholarships

Sy J.H. Turner
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*

**Hometown:** Sedalia, Colorado

**Personal Statement:** I have always enjoyed working with people and was drawn to my field in a desire to help others. During my clinical internship for my first degree, I particularly enjoyed working with children, especially when I realized how much can be done to help them in the field of Neurodiagnostics. My career aspirations include growing in and contributing to my field. One of my goals is to become a director at Children’s Hospital Colorado where I work, and I also have a strong desire to contribute to my field in the area of education. I’m serving as an advisory board member for the development of an accredited EEG program in Colorado and would like to expand my work with the program as it develops. This scholarship means a tremendous amount to me. It will help me to reach my professional goals, especially with the financial challenge of attending college while supporting my growing family. I feel appreciative and extremely grateful to have received the Tempur Sealy International Scholarship.

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 2013-14 academic year.

**Beth Ann Payne**
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*

**Hometown:** Kinston, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** I started my career as a Registered Respiratory Therapist, and transitioned into sleep medicine in 2009. During my time in the field, I found myself enjoying teaching and training coworkers. I would train them clinically to perform sleep studies, and then prepare them to pass their registry exam. I was offered a teaching position at Lenoir Community College in 2012, and I fell in love with my job. I have found my life’s passion, which is to promote the advancement of polysomnography through education. There is a large need for accredited polysomnography programs all over the United States. Providing competent and confident individuals to the polysomnography work force will increase patient care, sleep education to the public, and qualified individuals to participate in research. Furthering my education through the Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science bachelor’s degree program will allow me to better prepare the next generation of polysomnographers. I am truly honored to receive this scholarship, and I would like to thank the Smith Family Foundation for their generous gift.

**Brittany Elaine Tolar**
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*

**Hometown:** Kinston, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** After I gave birth to my son in my teens, it became my mission to be an example to him that struggles are not to be used as excuses, but as motivation to succeed. My son has witnessed my progression from working for minimum wage to receiving an associate's degree, and now I am a senior in the Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science bachelor’s degree program. Receiving this generous scholarship not only affords me the opportunity to more easily pay for college, but it has also shown my son that hard work is rewarded. After graduation, I hope to further my education by attending graduate school in order to follow in my grandmother’s and sister’s footsteps and become an educator either in a clinical or educational setting. I want to help students realize their full potential and help guide them to the path of success as many of my past teachers have helped me. With the field of sleep medicine growing every day, I believe I can set an example for many students that despite their background, not only can they become successful, but they can flourish in this specific field.

**Jonathan Lee Upchurch**
*Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Program*

**Hometown:** Ahoskie, North Carolina

**Personal Statement:** I have been working in the field of sleep medicine since May of 2012. I graduated from Pitt Community College in 2012 with an AAS in Polysomnography and became an RPSGT that same month. The day after I became registered I started my first job and I have loved the field ever since. Unlike many people, I am lucky enough to go to a job where I feel like I can help others and truly make a difference in their lives. It is very rewarding for a patient to come back for a follow up appointment and tell me how much better they are sleeping and how good they feel. I am currently working for a sleep lab in Kinston, NC, as a Polysomnographic Technologist. Upon graduation I hope to possibly manage a sleep/neurodiagnostic department or possibly teach up-and-coming sleep techs. In my position now we have students come thru for their clinical hours and I really enjoy helping them learn. I would like to thank the Smith Family Foundation for their generous donation. This scholarship will help a lot in the cost of my education and I feel honored to receive it.