



ARCS Pittsburgh: Board Brief

March 2016 *“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.” Albert Einstein*

March 2016 Board Meeting Focus on Finances.

A special thank you to Angie Maher (ARCS Pittsburgh VP Finance) and Missy Unkovic (Chair Fund Development) for developing and then using exemplar financials materials to deepen all board members’ financial literacy for our ARCS chapter. A description of our endowment fund (\$76,500) comprised of permanently restricted funds (donor designated) as well as temporarily and unrestricted funds (other designated) demonstrated our high-level compliance with standard accounting practices. The materials and training process will be replicated as new board members assume leadership roles in the future.

Our income to date is less than last year due to the infusion of award dollars last year from corporate donations. Since all of our donations (members, corporations, foundations, other) are booked in the year the donation is made (or pledged), the income can bobble up and down year-to-year. Our financial footing remains extremely healthy because we maintain more than enough funds for all of our committed awards for the next few years. Thus, we have in our account about \$400,000 of which about \$280,000 is obligated to current (and this fall’s) scholars.

Celebrating Our Scholars: April 12, 2016



This year’s Scholar Celebration is in a new location (Grand Hall of the Priory on the Northside with free valet) with award winning food and drinks from their banquet service. Also this year we changed the format from a single

lecture with 3rd year student research posters to a more fun-informative-format: attendees will learn about ALL of our very talented students’ research and accomplishments. You can see from this photo montage that our students enjoy interacting with our member-donors. But there is much more that you don’t know about our students. Many have talents beyond their research areas. Many have, already in their very early careers, garnered national recognition, and all are socially engaging,



creative individuals. Party attendees will have that “student inspired interactions” AND a chance to bid on a unique auction of *our students*. One auction item is *Gourmet on the River*, hosted by two of our members at the home of one on the river. Their

student guests will be researchers in areas relevant to sustainability. The other auction item, also hosted by our members, *Wine and Music in the Garden*, will include a solo concert by an ARCS scholar (who is also a freelance musician) and wine/appetizer pairings with instruction from a recognized



oenologist. All auction proceeds go to our Scholar Award Fund. Be sure to get your tickets for attending this year’s Scholar Celebration by contacting Beth Wainwright bethwainwright@gmail.com. Prospective members have a ticket discount so bring along your friends!

Finance and Fund Development: We received an additional donation for completing the PPG corporate Named Award made to a chemistry/chemical engineering student at CMU so that the board was able to approve another scholar for CMU for this coming Fall. With this award, we can maintain our total scholars at 31: CMU 15, Pitt 13, and Penn State 3.

Membership: Our member-donors drive our ability to accomplish our mission – strengthening science in America by giving financial awards to the future science leaders as they start their PhDs. Therefore, we want to grow our membership base. Linda Burke (Membership Committee Chair) will host a prospective member event at her home, providing drinks, appetizers, information, and inspiration on **April 5, 5:00pm-7:00pm**. Invitations were sent via email on March 11 (with an attached flyer for members to share with friends and colleagues) to all members, so please refer to that email for more specifics. We hope ALL members contact their friends/colleagues about this opportunity to become more acquainted with our organization AND the scholars. Scholars will be there to inspire us all. Our members join for various reasons (commitment to STEM; our unique members-only educational events; collegueship of science-interested women; learning in depth about particular areas of science/technology through our scholars and their advisors; connecting closely with our nationally-ranked science/technology programs at Pitt, CMU and Penn State and so on). **But all of our members hear about ARCS from other members so please let your network know that they are welcome to this April 5th event (whether you can come with them or not!). Linda's home, 5023 Frew Street #5A, Pittsburgh 15213; RSVP by emailing or calling Linda: phone # 412.688.8411, tfb5650@aol.com.**

University Relations: Chair, Karen Slevin, Kathy Testoni (co-president), Sarah Jones (University Relations co-chair), and Leslie Dunn (Scholar Relations Chair) met with our University of Pittsburgh liaison, Denise Mieszkowski (Foundation Relations Specialist) and heads of programs/departments with ARCS scholars. As with the recent meeting with CMU, we learned how the awards are being made, their views on timing and amounts of awards, and ways we can assist each other going into the future and we updated all regarding our award policies. During the meeting, we learned that several of Pitt's current scholars have already been nationally recognized for their early research. We will acknowledge all our scholars' cutting-edge work at the Scholar Celebration, so be sure to attend!

Nominating: Annie Rivers (Chair) submitted the slate of new board members for our board discussion so that the slate can be sent to all members prior to our annual meeting May 24, as per our Bylaws. Thank you Annie and committee for bringing together a great slate.

Planning: Barbara Granito (Chair) held a very well attended and fun gathering at her home for new members and board members to plan the May 24 Planning Meeting. Based on the engaging process that Barbara used, we're looking forward to having many more involved on May 24, 5:00-7:00pm at the Schenley Welcome Center (Schenley Café). Please put this on your calendars!

IMPORTANT DATES UPDATES

April 12, 2016, Tuesday, Scholar Celebration! Doors open 6:00pm, The Priory Grand Hall (free valet parking): Exciting new venue with a novel way of interacting with our scholars! A community-wide event for anyone enthusiastic about cutting edge science and technology. Send in your rsvp soon!!! Tickets: contact Beth Wainwright, bethwainwright@gmail.com.

May 5, 2016, Thursday 6:30pm-8:00pm (drinks and appetizers), Impact on Drug Discovery and Medicine of Building Mini-Human Livers on Chips, Dr. Lans Taylor (Director of the University of Pittsburgh Drug Discovery Institute and the Allegheny Foundation Professor of Computational and Systems Biology) at the newly opened Fox Chapel Community Center (Lauri Ann West Community Center). Look for upcoming Paperless Post Invitations. Questions contact Jennifer Martin, Program Chair: jmartin76@me.com.

May 24, 2016, Tuesday, 5:00pm-7:00pm. Planning Meeting and Annual Meeting combined, for ALL members, Schenley Park Visitors Center (Café). Wine, appetizers, fun social interactions, status of the organization, focus on Membership. Come!!!!

June/summer Tour of CMU's Scott Hall, center for energy innovation or the Energy Innovation Center on Bedford Ave. Still being developed.