

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists

ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter's

IMPACT REPORT

2024



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What We Do

ARCS Mission Statement

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

Chapter Vision Statement

The vision of ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter is for Washington State to be a world leader in scientific excellence and innovation for the betterment of humanity. We are a thriving chapter of members who support research scholars at the University of Washington and Washington State University through well-funded fellowships.

Solidarity Statement

ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter stands in solidarity with the BIPOC and LGBTQ communities. We are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We commit to use our platform as a catalyst to create lasting change. You may read our full statement of support at www.seattle.arcsfoundation.org

ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter



"Support from ARCS Foundation Seattle opens doors for outstanding graduate scholars, paving the way for discoveries crucial to our world and well-being. We are honored to join with our valued donors to provide essential, unrestricted funding for our country's next generation of scientific leaders."

JENNY WYATT
President, ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter

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Our Partners in Advancing Science

"We need new solutions to address the serious challenges that we face as a global society. At the UW, graduate students are deeply engaged in research and innovation that is advancing these kinds of solutions. ARCS Fellowships give our scholars the freedom, flexibility and confidence to conduct research that spurs discovery and expands knowledge for the good of people and the planet."

ANA MARI CAUCE

President, University of Washington



"Washington State University is grateful for the support of the ARCS Foundation in helping to realize the potential of our graduate students pursuing degrees in science and engineering. Their partnership has not only had an enduring impact on the lives of our students and their research but also enhanced our ability to recruit the innovators of tomorrow."

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President, Washington State University

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26%

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Served

1600+ \$23.9M+

in Fellowships **Awarded**



\$17.5M+

in University **Endowments**



50+

University **Departments Supported**







"At the UW, I dedicated my time to innovation and mentorship to shape the future of neural engineering. I built the first bidirectional Virtual Reality Brain Computer Interface (VR-BCI) platform for use with implanted neural devices in humans, led a team of students in advanced neuroscience research and neurotechnology development and now continue in my MD training alongside cutting-edge AI and biotechnology development to support clinical practice."

COURTNIE JEAN PASCHALL

UW ARCS Alumna 2018-2023, MD PhD in Bioengineering

"We love to invest in scientists as they begin their graduate education because their research changes our world and solves big audacious problems - a venture investment in STEM education."

NANCY ZEVENBERGEN

President and CEO, Zevenbergen Capital Investments



Ways to Give

- Advance the ARCS Mission with a gift of any size
- Support an ARCS Scholar with a gift of \$22,500
- Support Scholars in perpetuity with an ARCS Endowment of \$150,000+
- Consider Corporate Partnerships ranging from \$2,500-\$25,000
- Leave a Legacy with a Planned or Estate Gift





DR. MUNIRA KHALIL

Leon C. Johnson Professor of Chemistry and Department Chair University of Washington

"ARCS began partnering with the University of Washington's Department of Chemistry in 1998. Over those nearly 25 years, the department has had 33 ARCS Fellows in its Ph.D. program. This fruitful collaboration has also resulted in the funding of two endowments. These significant investments are a testament to the legacy of ARCS within our department and the importance of this type of support," comments Dr. Munira Khalil, Leon C. Johnson Professor of Chemistry and Department Chair.

"ARCS provides much-needed financial support for our students," she adds. "The reward over three years is higher than any other fellowship we currently offer to prospective students." She continues, "The graduate students we recruit receive offers of admission to top chemistry Ph.D. programs across the country. ARCS fellowship support is often a deciding factor and helps us attract these excellent and highly sought-after candidates."

Dr. Khalil also emphasizes how ongoing support of the academic community is a key component of an ARCS Fellowship. "While the financial assistance is extremely helpful in a practical way," she explains, "the encouragement and validation that students receive when they are selected for these fellowships is an important vote of confidence as they make the decision to start a Ph.D. program." She concludes, "ARCS members also maintain a strong community and are highly supportive, allowing some students to gain mentors or develop relationships with donors."

UW Departments

ARCS Seattle Chapter supports Scholars in the following departments and schools

College of Arts & Sciences

Applied Mathematics
Astronomy
Biology
Chemistry
Mathematics
Physics
Speech & Hearing Sciences
Statistics

College of Engineering

Aeronautics & Astronautics Bioengineering (Jointly with School of Medicine) Chemical Engineering Civil & Environmental Engineering Computer Science & Engineering Electrical & Computer Engineering Industrial Engineering Materials Science & Engineering Mechanical Engineering

College of the Environment

Aquatic & Fishery Sciences
Atmospheric Sciences
Earth & Space Sciences
Environmental & Forest Sciences
Oceanography
Quantitative Ecology & Resource
Management (QERM)

Graduate School (Interdisciplinary)

Molecular & Cellular Biology Neuroscience

School of Dentistry

Department of Oral Health Sciences (includes DDS/PhD and PhD degree programs)

School of Medicine

Bioengineering (Jointly with School of Medicine)
Genome Sciences
Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/PhD)
Microbiology

School of Nursing

Nursing Sciences

School of Pharmacy

Health Economics and Outcomes Research Medicinal Chemistry Pharmaceutics

School of Public Health

Biostatistics
Environmental & Occupational
Health Sciences
Epidemiology
Institute for Public Health
Genetics
Pathobiology

University of Washington

GYGERIA MANUEL

MD PhD in Molecular & Cellular Biology University of Washington Chisholm Foundation (15th) ARCS Scholar



Group B streptococcus (GBS) impacts approximately 20% of pregnancies worldwide. It can present asymptomatically and can become invasive, potentially leading to preterm birth, stillbirth or fetal death. The CDC recommends screenings and the preventative use of antibiotics in those who are GBS positive—however, antibiotics don't always prevent GBS infections.

First-year ARCS Fellow Gygeria (GG) Manuel is focused on understanding the factors that contribute to resolving GBS infections. Her work, using a clinically relevant model, aims to increase knowledge and help guide more reliable therapeutics, potentially reducing the devastating impacts of these infections.

Hailing from the South, GG selected UW for what she describes as its "endless opportunities and

resources" but, she says, "I underestimated how expensive Seattle was going to be." She continues, "The ARCS Fellowship provides breathing room so I'm not thinking about finances all the time. Without it, I'd feel a lot heavier—less able to experience the joys of research. It would be more a matter of survival, and the Fellowship makes it more about living."

GG's appreciation for ARCS isn't all about the financial award. "Students are supported professionally; I feel connected and embraced," she comments, adding, "Please keep offering these opportunities for those that come after me. It's very important in determining which schools are committed to their students."



"As a first-generation college student, the trajectory of my life was transformed by my opportunity to earn a college degree, and the key aspect of that transformation was finding a passion for science. The support of ARCS Foundation Seattle Chapter ensures the University of Washington can support the most promising scientists in the nation who are deeply passionate about making an impact. These scientists have the capacity to change lives at the individual and collective level throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond."

TRICIA R. SERIO

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Professor, Biochemistry University of Washington



LINDSEY DU TOIT

Professor and Chair, Department of Plant Pathology Washington State University

"Plant pathology isn't a well-known profession," begins Dr. Lindsey du Toit, chair of WSU's Department of Plant Pathology. "But ARCS helps us draw attention to the amazing opportunities this profession offers for students." She continues, "Our department is spread across five locations: the main campus in Pullman and four research and extension centers spread across the state."

That's where ARCS can make a real difference. "ARCS Fellowships are a valuable resource, enticing top tier-candidates to conduct their research in disparate locations and focus on a profession they might not have initially considered," notes Dr. du Toit. She adds, "And an ARCS Fellowship is prestigious—

it offers students more incentive to consider WSU. We're competing against robust and highly respected programs like UC Davis, UW Madison, NC State, University of Florida ... ARCS Fellowships are a real draw."

Dr. du Toit also sees strong value in having ARCS Fellows connect with one another. "Students tend to focus exclusively on their area of specialization, it's possible to become isolated. The ARCS program provides exposure to Fellows across a variety of disciplines; both at WSU and UW. This provides a valuable community—it really pulls back the blinders and helps Fellows see the broader potential and impact of the work that's out there."

WSU Departments

ARCS Seattle Chapter supports Scholars in the following departments and schools

College of Agriculture, Human & Natural Resources Science

Animal Sciences Crop and Soil Sciences Entomology Molecular Plant Sciences Plant Pathology

College of Arts & Sciences
Chemistry

Voiland College of Engineering & Architecture

Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

College of Veterinary Medicine

Global Health
Molecular Biosciences
Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience
Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology



Washington State University

EVAN DOMSIC

Crop & Soil Sciences
Washington State University
Lyndi & Bob Taylor (3rd) ARCS Scholar



Native to the Andes in South America, quinoa is often described as a superfood. Typically containing all nine essential amino acids, it is a rare plant-based complete protein that grows well in a variety of regions, including the area surrounding Mt Vernon, WA. Third-year fellow, Evan Domsic, focuses his research on why, in some soil conditions, quinoa fails to develop into a complete protein. "Quinoa is a great crop," he says. "It's native to the Andes in South America but it's adaptable and does well in a wide variety of growing regions."

Those regions include the area surrounding Mount Vernon, where Evan is conducting his research at WSU's Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center. "We suspect that, when quinoa fails to develop into a complete protein, it's related to the nutrition of the soil," he explains. "My goal is

to identify how to grow quinoa organically; optimizing production and nutritional quality while enhancing soil health."

This work is close to Evan's heart. "Prior to attending WSU, I was an organic farmer for about a decade," he says. "Entering graduate school at almost 30 years old and leaving a job with a pretty cushy salary wasn't easy, but I really wanted to pursue plant breeding." ARCS helped cushion the financial blow and offer additional benefits. "While the unrestricted funds provided by ARCS have been an amazing gift, equally important are the opportunities to network with other scientists, ARCS alumni and even, potentially, investors for future projects."



"Doctoral students are at the core of every great research university. We are grateful for the impactful support of the ARCS Foundation, which helps us recruit outstanding students and enriches their educational experience. The research and innovation of WSU's doctoral students inspires and empowers the University community and greatly contributes to our land-grant mission in Washington and beyond."

T. CHRIS RILEY-TILLMAN

Provost and Executive Vice President Washington State University

ARCS Endowed Fellowship Donors

ARCS Seattle is grateful to the following donors who have given \$75.000-\$150.000+ to fund named endowments held at the UW and/or **WSU** supporting ARCS Scholars in perpetuity. The (#) indicates the number of endowed scholars supported by the donor(s) over time. Donors sharing endowments are listed together.

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ARCS Seattle is grateful to the following donors who have given up to \$22,500 to support an ARCS Fellowship commencing in 2022, 2023, or 2024. The (#) indicates the number of scholars supported by the donor over time. Donors sharing a fellowship are listed together.

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WSU Vice Provost for Graduate & Professional Education Zevenbergen Capital Investments (33rd-35th & 38th)

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ARCS Member Judy Rogers with WSU ARCS Scholar **Camille Wagstaff**

Dorothy L. Simpson Leadership Award

NASEEHA CARDWELL

Chemical Engineering Washington State University Washington Research Foundation (122nd) ARCS Scholar

Established in 2018 in honor of Dorothy Lewis Simpson (1924-2018), this award recognizes an ARCS Scholar with exceptional qualities of leadership, intellectual curiosity, and dedication to the greater good.

Naseeha (Nas) Cardwell, originally from Des Moines, WA, earned her B.S. in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics from Montana State University in 2020. Her collegiate experience ignited a passion for research, leading her to pursue a Ph.D. at Washington State University (WSU). Now in her final year, Nas focuses on developing and upgrading renewable biofuels through catalytic processes, computationally simulating these systems at the molecular level to understand the behavior of the molecules within the fuel and to guide the design of effective and long-lasting catalytic materials.

Throughout her graduate studies, Nas has presented at conferences, published papers, mentored undergraduates, and completed a GEM fellowship internship at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. She is active in WSU's Graduate Society of Women Engineers (GradSWE) and helped organize WSU's academic student workers union, UAW Local 4591.

Nas's accolades include the WSU-NASA Space Grant Consortium Fellowship, the Renewable Energy Scholarship Foundation scholarship, and the SWE-Intel Graduate Award. She recently received the AIChE Chemical Reaction Engineering Travel Award for her academic and communication skills. Nas is dedicated to advancing her field and community. She credits her success to the support of her family, mentors, friends, and fiancé.





Achievement Rewards for College Scientists ARCS® Foundation Seattle Chapter

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