

# Capital Edition



## ARCS® MISSION

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.

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## Summer 2014

## Metropolitan Washington Chapter

### From our President

*“Déjà vu..... all over again”*  
*Yogi Berra*

Dear MWC Members,

As we close another year for our amazing Chapter, it is incredible to realize that we have moved into the 47th year of our ARCS contribution to STEM advancement in the mid-Atlantic region. That is a huge accomplishment - one that should make all of us proud of our heritage and one that I believe few organizations can claim. At the same time, we are building for the future – adding new members with an impressive array of skills and contacts, building a broader donor base, expanding our media coverage and community outreach, and energizing our organization. I do believe that our founding members would be proud of our momentum and our increasing impact. Déjà vu, indeed.

This final fiscal quarter was one of continued progress and achievement for our Metropolitan Washington Chapter. Sincere thanks to the Board, to the various Councils, and to all our partners. Here are some highlights:

- The spring event, *Promoting Partnerships to Advance Science in America*, ushered in a new approach for our friend raising and fund raising. This was a major change for MWC and could not have been successful without the support from Lockheed Martin Corporation for the panel event and the efforts of Mary Snitch, Holly Coyne, and Sally Burns. Thank you, all.
- The remarks by our Eagle Award recipient, Dr. Wanda M Austin, CEO- Aerospace, reaffirmed the importance of the ARCS mission and our critical impact in shaping the future for America.
- Our five university visits were again an affirmation of the quality of our academic relationships and the incredible prospects for our scholars. Appreciation to Aneta Large and Martha Harris for their effective leadership in this endeavor and our ever-growing university relations.
- Given the results of our terrific chapter efforts, coupled with the Roche/ARCS Foundation Scholar, we will fund a record number of scholars in the coming year – 27 graduate students and 6 undergraduate students, for a total of \$435,000. This is significant and should be a source of pride for all. Congratulations to our development team, led by Doris Pierson and Bev Herrington, for their success.
- Our communications colleagues, led by Amy Mykityshyn and Beth Schierling, have helped pave the ground for our continued outreach and effectiveness in all channels of communications.
- Thanks to our finance team, led by Karen Stoner, we continue to assure effective fiduciary responsibilities in our management. With pride, we can acknowledge an unqualified audit opinion for 2013, broadening operational capabilities, and a positive endowment performance.
- Appreciation to Angie Delaney for all our membership advancement efforts, both with current and new additions to our Chapter. This is a critical resource in every regard.
- Lastly, sincere thanks to Connie Watts and all who served on the Nominations Committee for the effective efforts on the 2014-15 Slate.

Best to all for the summer ahead. Take pride on our past and may we all take positive energy to our future.

*Lynn Dillon*



## May 2014 MWC General Meeting

Once again the MWC spring General Meeting took place at the beautiful Washington Golf and Country Club. On May 22, over 50 ARCS members and guests attended the lively meeting and enjoyed a delicious lunch, thanks to hostesses Cynthia Howes, Beth Schierling, and Susan Trice. Each Officer reported on the highlights and progress of their respective Councils during the 2013-14 year. The meeting also included a very informative presentation by our financial advisors from Morgan Stanley Wealth Management followed by a question and answer session. Finally, the new Board was introduced and sworn into office.



### 2014-15 Board of Directors

#### Office of the President

Sally Burns  
Lynn Dillon  
Karen Finkbiner  
Susan Trice  
Karen Stoner  
Melissa Rhoads  
Claudia Benack  
Carol Lane  
Jane Riddle  
Amy Mykityshyn  
Rose Gombay  
Sally Burns  
Holly Coyne

#### Secretary

#### Treasurer

#### Vice President Membership

#### Vice President University Relations

#### Vice President Development

#### Vice President Finance

#### Vice President Communications

#### Vice President Administration

#### Vice Presidents Activities



## Promoting Partnerships to Advance Science in America

On Wednesday, May 7th, nearly 200 guests attended the first ARCS/MWC "Promoting Partnerships to Advance Science in America" fundraiser. The truly stunning venue for the event was the Rooftop Terrace overlooking Capitol Hill and Washington. The focus of this completely new event was to thank all long-time and new partners who support the mission of providing scholar awards to the "best and brightest" graduates and undergraduates at MWC's five area universities. These partners include MWC universities, individual and corporate donors, scholar alums, national science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) advocates, and ARCS members. Also, nearly 50 guests were first-time attendees at an ARCS event and so new friends were made during the evening. In keeping with the new format, Patti Grace Smith, a distinguished official in the Washington aerospace community, served as the Event Honorary Chair. Dr. Wanda M. Austin, CEO and President, Aerospace Corporation, brought great distinction to the event as the 2014 Eagle Honoree.



Another first for MWC was the Lockheed Martin-sponsored, distinguished STEM panel which was held during the afternoon before the reception. The "Driving Innovation and Competitiveness with a STEM-educated Workforce" panel was moderated by Dr. Ray O. Johnson, Senior VP and CTO, Lockheed Martin Corporation. Distinguished panelists were Dr. France Cordova, Director, National Science Foundation; Honorable Deborah Wince-Smith, CEO, Council on Competitiveness; Dr. Lisa Porter, President, Teledyne Scientific and Imaging (ARCS Scholar Alum and MWC Member); and Dr. Kathie Olsen, Founder, ScienceWorks (ARCS National Board and MWC Member). The standing-room only audience included major individual and corporate donors to MWC scholars, STEM leaders, and ARCS Scholars. A formal report on the panel's findings and recommendations will be published this summer and made available to all panel attendees; it will also be publicly available through the ARCS National Website.



Photos courtesy of UMD/UMIACS

## 2014 Scholar Awards Reception

The 2014 Scholar Awards Reception will be hosted on Thursday evening, October 23, at The National Academy of Sciences. This event is a highlight for our Chapter, as an opportunity to welcome our incoming class of 33 scholars (27 graduate @ \$15,000/scholar and 6 undergraduate @ \$5,000/scholar), which represents a second year of record funding by MWC. Added benefits of the evening are visiting with our scholars during the reception, acknowledging our donor partners, meeting other guests, and enjoying the fabulous venue.

It is our honor to welcome Dr. Anthony J. “Tony” Tether as our keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Tether served as Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) of the Department of Defense from 2001-09. In this position, he was responsible for management of projects focused on high-payoff as well as innovative research & development. Prior to this leadership post, he held other leadership positions in DARPA as well as with major corporations, including Dynamics Technology, Inc., Science Applications International Corporation, and Ford Aerospace. Dr. Teth-

er is co-founder of The Sequoia Group, which provides program management and strategy development services for government and private industry clients. He has been honored with numerous awards, including the National Intelligence Medal, the Department of Defense Civilian Meritorious Service Medal, and the Department of Defense Outstanding Public Service Medal.



## National Board Meeting Update

The National Board held its meeting in Washington, D.C., in early May. The busy agenda was filled with updates on the ARCS website, communication and branding strategies, committee work, networking opportunities, and election of the new Board. For MWC, we will continue to be well represented on the 2014-15 Board by: Angela Diaz (Chair, SEAC), Kristen Bloshock (Secretary), Di Alexander (New Chapter Development), Andi Purple (National Board Meetings), Mary Snitch (Long Range Planning), Jackie Henson (Advisory Board), and Karen Finkbiner (Co-President, MWC).

### Major headlines:

- Nancy Spetzler (Phoenix Chapter) continues as National President.
- The Roche Foundation (USA) has signed a three-year funding agreement to provide a total of \$663,000 to ARCS to support graduate scholars in the life sciences at all chapters, beginning in the 2014-15 academic year. This is a groundbreaking undertaking, creating the first such cohort of scholars nationwide. Each scholar will be designated as the Roche/ARCS Foundation Scholar.
- Dues assessed by National will be raised in FY 2015 and FY 2016, increasing by \$10 per active member by the close of the second year.
- The National Annual Meeting will be in Salt Lake City, Utah – September 17-20, 2014—with full details to be provided shortly by email to all members.

## Kathie Olsen Award

ARCS/MWC's Kathie Olsen, Ph.D., was awarded the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' (AIAA) 2014 Public Service Award on April 30<sup>th</sup> at the AIAA Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala. Kathie is the founder of ScienceWorks, Inc., Washington, D.C., and affiliate professor of neurosciences at the Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study, George Mason University, Fairfax, Va. As noted in an AIAA press release, dated April 25, 2014, "The AIAA Public Service Award honors a person outside the aerospace community who has shown consistent and visible support for national aviation and space goals. Olsen is being honored for "a lifetime of personal and professional commitment to the advancement of science in aerospace and biological fields, and for inspiring the next generation of scientists around the globe." The press release further states that Kathie has served in a variety of scientific positions in the U.S. government, including as deputy director and chief operating officer of the National Science Foundation; associate director of science, and later deputy director of science, at the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President; and as chief scientist at NASA.



ARCS/MWC is honored to have Kathie as a member, given her proactive contributions to the organization. She fully understands the national importance of STEM and the role it plays in economic and technological growth and is an inspiring role model for many in the STEM community. Kathie has expressed deep appreciation for the award, saying "I know that my involvement in the ARCS Foundation must have played an important part in my being recognized for this very prestigious award."

## University of Virginia News

### Knowledge is Power Campaign



In 2006, the University of Virginia launched a major fund raising campaign with the objective to raise \$3 billion. The purpose of the campaign was to provide resources – for scholarships, fellowships, professorships, interdisciplinary centers and research initiatives – and to thereby assure continuing academic excellence. As of June, 2013, the goal had been surpassed due to the generosity of alumni, parents, foundations and friends, with over \$3.05 billion raised. At this level, the campaign ranks as the 9<sup>th</sup> largest conducted to date by an institution to support higher education. Of the totals raised, over \$100 million has been designated to support the School of Engineering and Applied Science and over \$675 million to support the UVa Health System. With the strength of these results, campus leadership fully believes that the university is poised to maintain its academic standards - and in the words of Thomas Jefferson - to assure "destinies of high promise" for its students.



## 2014-15 ARCS MWC Endowment Scholar



Erin M. Adkins, the 2014-15 ARCS MWC Endowment Scholar, is a doctoral candidate in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences at George Washington University (GWU). She is pursuing a doctoral degree in Chemistry and has maintained a GPA of 3.95 in her graduate studies at GWU. Her research centers on soot and can be summed up in her own words, “In order to mitigate the negative human health and environmental effects of black carbon (soot) by designing cleaner burning processes and introducing controls, the chemical and physical mechanisms of soot formation in flames need to be understood. The combustion community disagrees on a pivotal part of the soot formation mechanism, which is where nascent soot particles stop growing chemically and start to agglomerate and grow physically. My research aims to use laser diagnostics to add experimental evidence to the size of the chemical structure where this transition takes place.”

Soot is a timely topic in the news. Just last month the Supreme Court backed federally imposed limits on smoke stack emissions that cross state lines and create a burden for states who cannot control their sources of pollution. We are most fortunate to support a scholar who has the potential to positively influence our environment.

## IN MEMORIAM

ARCS/MWC lost a treasure with the passing of Ileene Hoffman (Mrs. Gary H.) on Tuesday, February 25, 2014. Ileene was an intelligent, energetic, vibrant woman who devoted her professional life to furthering education. She was passionate about early childhood education and co-founded Infant Toddler Family Day Care (ITFDC) in 1983.

Over the years, Ileene brought creativity, vision, and the strength of perseverance to ITFDC. She won her fight to have it designated a 501c3, and drove the organization to be a model of diversity for the community. Her vision of a highly educated professional childcare workforce has been a model not only for our region, but our nation. She often spoke on early childhood education and the model of shared services developed by ITFDC at regional, state and national conferences. Ileene retired in 2011 but remained active in ITFDC by serving on the Board of Directors and supporting many of their programs.

Ileene dedicated her life to others, and she was active in numerous philanthropic organizations. Her generosity is noteworthy. Ileene had been a member of ARCS/MWC for only a few years, but she participated whenever she could. She was active on the Development Council and always had a good idea about how to accomplish a difficult task. Her wicked sense of humor made her a joy to work with. She will be sorely missed by those of us who worked closely with her. It is truly our loss and we treasure the brief time we had with her.

Ileene was a devoted wife to Gary – the love of her life, having been married for over 45 years and known each other for over 50 years (the two were life partners) - and mother to two lovely daughters. Her two young grandsons were the joy of her life. In her memory, her family has donated an additional scholar award – a fitting tribute to a fine woman who dedicated herself to education.

## 2014 MWC University Visits

It was again a Chapter highlight this past spring to meet with each of our five universities and their respective scholars. This is truly an extraordinary time – giving us the opportunity to visit with our scholars, receive valued updates on their research, tour lab facilities, and share perspectives and conversations with members of university leadership. It is truly a testimony to the wonderful partnership between ARCS and its academic partners. Sincere appreciation to Aneta Large and Martha Harris for coordinating these visits (with support from our University Relations Council) for the benefit of our MWC membership. Approximately 40 MWC members participated in the visits.

We were provided with tours of the facilities and/or labs within the engineering and/or science fields at each of the five campuses,. This is particularly impressive as all five schools have made - and are continuing to make - significant capital investments in research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The quality and capacity of these labs are important in that they attract the best and brightest students, retain faculty expertise, and assist with the pace of research (both singular field as well as cross-disciplinary). For each visit, the opportunity to meet our scholars, both current and members of the incoming class for 2014-15, is invaluable. At each university, we were delighted to have the chance to hear updates on their research and to learn how the ARCS funding made a material difference. The range of research is daunting, including a focus on energy topics (e.g., renewable and sustainable sources and lithium ion battery enhancements); health care issues (e.g., nature and treatment of cancer cells, neurological processes, virus containment efforts, and cardio behavior); space-related research (e.g., micro-vacuum arc thrusters); information technology (e.g., quantum mechanics/quantum computing and robotics); and infrastructure topics (e.g., mechanisms to monitor safety and water treatment). As always, our scholars are amazing –pursuing significant research yet being such thoughtful and balanced individuals. The quality of their presentations continues to impress, year after year.

As noted in prior years, the warmth of each meeting is most special. It reaffirms the value of our mission and the strength of our partnership.



## Mark Your Calanders!

**Monday, August 25, 2014**

**Wednesday - Saturday, September 17- 20**

**Thursday, September 25, 2014**

**Thursday, October 23, 2014**

**Sunday, December 14, 2014**

**Field Trip to Naval Observatory (evening)**

**National Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah**

**General Meeting at Columbia Country Club (mid-day)**

**Scholar Awards Reception at The National Academy of Science (evening)**

**Holiday Party at the Chevy Chase Club (evening)**

For information, please contact Holly at [hollycoyne@yahoo.com](mailto:hollycoyne@yahoo.com)

## Preview – ARCS September Events

The ARCS National Annual Meeting, “Peak Experience: Cutting Edge Science in the Wasatch,” will be hosted in Salt Lake City from September 17-20. The center of activity will be the lovely Grand America Hotel, which is located in city center. Over the period of days, this event provides an array of valued opportunities for all ARCS members nationwide, including opportunities to network with one another, to attend workshops and panels to broaden our STEM knowledge, and to participate in various field trips and experiences unique to Salt Lake City. On Thursday evening, for example, there will be the opportunity to attend a rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir on Temple Square. Among the august guest speakers will be Governor Gary Herbert, Governor – Utah. Registration materials will be forthcoming from ARCS National in the near future.

On Thursday, September 25, MWC will host its fall General Meeting at Columbia Country Club. We look forward to this opportunity to recognize our incoming ARCS Light, to hear updates on summer activities within our Chapter, to share plans for the year ahead, and to welcome guests and prospective members. The event will feature our membership meeting (beginning at 10:30 am), followed by a guest speaker and lunch. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us.

## Marathon Bridge Update

The ARCS bridge players were the guests of Virginia Wright at Congressional Country Club’s Ladies’ Bridge Day on Tuesday, June 17th. The setting and the food were wonderful! It was also a great opportunity to meet other bridge enthusiasts since each player had the chance to play a round with 5 different partners. Thanks to Virginia for this opportunity to make new friends.

**This year’s marathon winners were:**

**Holly Coyne & Marilyn Sweetser – 19,690**

**Sally Burns & Mary Kennedy – 14,170**

**Debbie Klar & Karen Magley – 13,530**

**Betty Polutchko & Toni Schierling – 13,520**

**Holly Coyne & Mary Kennedy – 13,320**



Don’t forget to send Karen Magley your registration (and the associated donation to ARCS) for next fall’s Marathon, Social, or Couples bridge before August 1st. Call or email her if you have any questions or need an info sheet or registration form. We especially need new teams for Marathon Bridge (your partner doesn’t have to be an ARCS member in order for you to play in the Marathon Group). We’d also like to have a more active Social group, a Couples group, and identify subs for the Marathon Groups.

## Welcome New Members

Again, with both pride and pleasure, our Chapter is delighted to welcome new members this past year. This diverse and talented group brings skills, enthusiasm, and commitment to help advance our mission.

### New Member:

Alice Borrelli  
Rose Gombay  
Martha Maiden  
Debbie Meyers  
Jeri Moses  
Danielle Robinson  
Melissa Rhoads  
Shameema Sikder  
Ellen Stofan  
Karen Van Buren

### Sponsor:

Kathie Olsen  
Kathie Olsen  
Mary Cleave  
Lynn Dillon  
Mary Snitch  
Melissa Rhoads  
Mary Snitch  
Aneta Large  
Angela Diaz  
Tina Ayiotis