

Like 0 Share: Tweet

Capital Edition



ARCS/Metro Washington Chapter (MWC) Summer 2016 Newsletter

Message from ARCS/MWC 2015-17 Co-President Jane Riddle



Dear MWC Members,

Summer is here and we have so much to celebrate. Our chapter has had a busy year and here are just a few of the highlights "by the numbers":

- 125 ARCS MWC members, including 9 new members
- Spring Celebration: 130 attendees; \$47,500 raised (\$7,600 from the silent auction)
- 3 membership meetings (over 120 attendees) and 11 monthly board meetings
- 6 MWC members on the ARCS National Board
- \$1M plus awarded to each of our partner universities
- 50+ members attended 2016 University visits
- 1 heartfelt "thanks a million" video from University of Maryland

Our Spring Celebration and Eagle Award Presentation was well attended and a big success. A huge thank you to Lorraine Nordlinger and Karen Finkbiner for coordinating all of the details, arranging for an interesting panel discussion and for bringing back the silent auction! We also send our thanks to member Ginger and John Laytham for underwriting our event at their Hamilton Live venue. In recognition of their generous support, the board unanimously voted to name one of our incoming scholars in their honor. Our Eagle Awardee, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, was welcomed into our impressive group of awardees and shared details about the STEM-related legislation she is working on in Congress.

At our General Meeting, we welcomed the 2016-17 MWC Board of Directors. While most of the board is continuing on from last year, Ashley Rehr will move from her At-Large position to Communications and Lorraine Nordlinger will move from Activities to Development. We also welcome Lynn Dillon, Mary Kennedy, Alice Laning, and Amy Mykityshyn as At-Large members on the board.

We are still looking for an Activities chair since Karen Finkbiner will be stepping down from her position as Co-Chair. Please consider taking on this position if you want to help keep our chapter continue its stellar events!

Thank you once again for your continued generosity and support of our mission to support STEM education. I look forward to seeing you in September at our Member Social and Fall General Meeting!

Save the date:

- August 29, 2016

September 10, 2016

October 20, 2016

December 11, 2016

February 2017

April 2017

May 2017
- Tour of Goddard Space Flight Center (Please RSVP to Jane Riddle by August 12!)

2016 Fall General Meeting and Member Social-- home of member Amy Mykityshyn

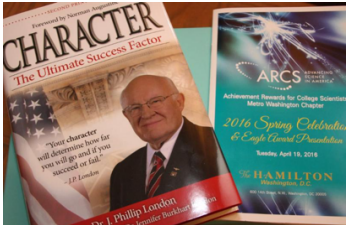
47th Annual Scholar Awards Reception--National Academy of Sciences

Holiday Party--Chevy Chase Country Club

Winter Meeting

Eagle Award Presentation and Fundraiser

Spring Meeting





**2016 Spring Celebration Recognized Congresswoman Comstock,
Presented a Dynamic STEM Panel Discussion, and
Raised Over \$47,000**



The Metro Washington Chapter of ARCS raised over \$47,000 at the Spring Celebration event held at The Hamilton Live in Washington, D.C. In addition to a dynamic STEM panel discussion, one of the evening highlights was awarding the 2016 Eagle Award to Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (VA-10), a strong supporter of STEM education. Congresswoman Comstock says "I am honored to receive the ARCS Foundation's Eagle Award for advocating for STEM education and STEM jobs. In order to have a vibrant economy that provides opportunity and prosperity for all we must be the leader in STEM fields. ARCS awards provide essential support in creating opportunities to a career path for those who desire to find the next cure for a disease or create the next technological advance that will change the world."

Dynamic STEM Panel Discussion

Awarding winning journalist, author, and former CNN Washington correspondent Kathleen Koch moderated a STEM panel discussion on Exciting STEM Developments and Current and Future Workforce Needs.



Panelists included (l-r): C.D. Mote, Jr., National Academy of Engineering, President; Mike Kushin, CACI International, Inc. Executive VP, National and Cyber Solutions Business Group; and Dr. Carol O'Donnell, Smithsonian Institution, Executive Director, Smithsonian Science Education Center. Barbara Lewis, a new member said "The Stem Panel gave an outstanding presentation. The panelists offered insightful and fascinating comments about the future workplace. Science and engineering challenges for solutions to preserving life on our planet were explained in plain English and were extremely interesting. It is the best scientific presentation that I have ever heard."





2016 Fall General Meeting and Member Social

Get out your favorite recipes for appetizers or dessert! The 2016 Fall General Meeting will be held in conjunction with a member potluck dinner on Saturday evening, September 10, at the home of member Amy Mykityshyn in McLean.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 5-6 p.m., followed by our member meeting, dinner, and dessert. It is planned to be a fun, relaxing evening and members are invited to bring their spouse or a significant other. Invitations will be sent by mid-August.

The 2016-17 ARCS Light will be announced at the September party. Many thanks to Angie Delaney for serving as our current ARCS Light as well as the team of past Lights that is meeting in August to select the incoming ARCS Light.

August Tour of Goddard Space Flight Center

ARCS/MWC will tour the Goddard Space Flight Center and the Webb Telescope High Bay Clean Room, Control Center, and Testing Facilities (Greenbelt, MD) on Monday, August 29, 2016. The 3 hour tour starts at 9:00 am. The tour is hosted by ARCS member Sarah Doverspike and her husband Ori Fox (ARCS Alum). We welcome MWC Members and their families, including children and grandchildren. Please contact Jane Riddle by August 12 to RSVP.

**Save the Date:
47th Annual Scholar Awards Reception**

ARCS/MWC will be hosting its 47th annual Scholar Awards Reception on the evening of Thursday, October 20, 2016. We are honored to welcome Diane E. Griffin M.D., Ph.D., as the 2016 Keynote Speaker. The proceedings will be held in The National Academy of Sciences Great Hall and Auditorium, Washington, D.C. Invitations will be forthcoming.

Dr. Griffin is the Vice President of the National Academy of Sciences, and University Distinguished Service Professor and former Chair of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is one of the leading researchers in infectious virology focusing on the pathogenesis of measles and alphavirus encephalitis. The recipient of many prestigious honors, Dr. Griffin is the author or co-author of more than 300 scholarly articles, has edited 7 books, taught microbiology and immunology courses, mentored countless trainees, served as guest lecturer, promoted science, informed the general public through volunteer work, and with her husband Jack raised two children. Her professional and personal accomplishments are an inspirational example to us all.

Endowment Fund Report

These are challenging times in the investment world. It is no surprise that the performance of the ARCS/MWC Endowment Fund has decreased by approximately 3.4 percent from the beginning of the fiscal year July 1, 2015, to January 31, 2016. The good news is that the decline is low in comparison to overall market performance because of our conservative allocation. Another high point is that donations during this period were \$9,020, with the majority invested at a market low.

In order to exercise our fiduciary responsibility in accordance with the "Determination of Scholar Fund Availability" of our current *Endowment Policy*, the ARCS/MWC Finance Committee and our auditor advised against funding an Endowment Fellow for the ARCS/MWC academic year 2016-17. Therefore, to avoid this problem in the future, the Endowment Committee revised our policy to allow for a more realistic time period. Please let me know if you have questions.

The endowment brochure has been revised and reprinted with a colorful array of scientific images and is available for distribution at your request. Contact Toni Schierling if you would like one.

Also, the Endowment Fund has the tremendous opportunity to add \$30,000 to the Endowment Fund by matching not otherwise pledged money. An anonymous donor has offered to match donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$15,000 through **November 29!** If you want to participate, please let Toni know. We can accept securities and, of course, cash. This is an easy way to move our Endowment toward one million dollars and a goal easily attained if every member could donate \$120.00 or more. Many thanks for supporting this challenge! Send donations to Toni:

Antonia M. Schierling , ARCS Endowment Treasurer
2 Cumbernauld Court
Rockville, MD 20850
301.762.2007

Checks should be made out to ARCS/MWC, with "Endowment Challenge" in the notes line.

Thank you for your donations! They are a pillar of future funding of outstanding scholars in our quest for STEM advancement.

MWC Supports Another Graduate Program at Johns Hopkins University

ARCS National University Relations Committee has approved to support an internationally prestigious program of the ARCS/MWC:

Doctor of Philosophy, granted by the W. Harry Feinstone Department of Molecular Microbiology and

Immunology (MMI) at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

This approval will be effective on July 1, 2016. Founded in 1918, MMI is the world's oldest immunology and virology research unit, at the first independent graduate school of public health, consistently ranked #1 by U.S. News & World Report. The D epartment has 29 full-time faculty, including Dr. Peter Agre (the 2003 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry), and 130 students. In addition, the Johns Hopkins Autoimmune Disease Research Center is an MMI Research Center. Research conducted by MMI includes Biology, Chemistry, Genetics, Immunology, Mathematics, Pharmacology, Public Health (Graduate), and Medicine.

Membership News and Notes

The MWC General Meeting in May represented the kick-off of the 2016-17 membership renewal cycle. Continuing with the "paperless" initiative started last year, membership renewals are again available online. Members may access their renewal form, update roster information, and select committees on which they would like to serve all through their ARCS online account. Dues payments may also be made directly and securely using the Paypal link within the renewal form. Please take the opportunity to access the website to ensure you are able to login. If you need help obtaining your username or password, please contact Danielle Robinson.

As was announced at last year's General Meeting, after careful consideration, a resolution for a dues increase was passed; slated to take effect starting in the 2016-17 membership year. Active members' dues increase from \$300 to \$500 annually. Those with 30 or more years of membership are recognized as "Emeritus" members and will maintain their contributions at the current level. The MWC dues fall in the bottom third of all active chapters and have not been raised in over ten years. The increase reaffirms our commitment to our scholars and ensures our ability to fulfill the ARCS mission. 100 percent of the additional contributions will be applied to the scholar fund, with no increase to the amount allocated to operating expenses. National dues for each member, which increased from \$25 to \$35 in 2015, are paid out of the operating budget and are being offset by cost saving efforts such as using electronic invitations and other communications in place of hard copy invitations.

Welcome New Members!

It is with great pleasure that MWC welcomes our new members who bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm vital to our organization!

New Member

- Leslee Gilbert
- Anne Wingo
- Alison Mundy
- LaVita LeGrys
- Sara Gosvenor
- Miriam Erickson

Sponsor

- Carol Lane
- Kristen Smith
- Lorraine Nordlinger
- Lorraine Nordlinger
- Lorraine Nordlinger
- Lorraine Nordlinger

Bridge

Calling all Bridge Players! Please contact Karen Magley if interested in playing bridge with fellow MWC members.

Questions? Please contact Elli Nesbitt (enesbitt1@verizon.net)

confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.