

## The MSA Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program

With this year's call for applications, the MSA Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program begins its eighth year providing funding for undergraduate research. To date over 40 projects utilizing a variety of microscopic techniques have received support from this program. This year, for the first time, abstracts prepared by awardees describing their research projects are being published in the Journal of the Microscopy Society of America, JMSA. A measure of the benefit of the program is that nearly all recipients of MSA research scholar awards have maintained their interest in microscopy-orientated research and have gone on to graduate school, professional school, industry, or teaching positions.

The program presently receives all of its funds from MSA and has been able to support approximately 25-30 % of applicants. The maximum award from MSA is currently set at \$2,500 to help provide student stipends, supply costs, and limited travel expenses associated with the research. Additional support in the form of instrument use time, equipment purchases, etc. is generally provided by the student's supervisor and/or through the sponsoring institution.

The program is also actively seeking external sources of matching funds in order to maintain the favorable levels of support both in terms of the number of projects supported and the level of support for each.

The 1995 awardees are as follows:

- 1) Lisa Messina: University of California, Davis  
Topic: Chromosomal Control of the Meiotic Cell Cycle  
Supervisors: Dr. Becky L. Green & Dr. Scott Hawley
- 2) Sergei Levin: Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Topic: Calcium Influx in Paramecium  
Supervisor: Dr. Brigit H. Satir
- 3) Crystal Brimer: Duke University  
Topic: Can Barium be used as a Tracer to Examine Calcification in the Adult Barnacle?  
Supervisor: Dr. Ann LeFurgey
- 4) Francis Johnson: Carnegie Mellon University  
Topic: The Microscopic Investigation of Dispersion Strengthened Nanocomposite Alloys  
Supervisor: Dr. Michael McHenry
- 5) Kelly Cordisco: St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia  
Topic: Infection of Corn by the Maize Smut Fungus  
Supervisor: Dr. Karen Snetselaar
- 6) Dan Lewis: Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA  
Topic: Mechanical Properties and Fatigue Characteristics of Lead Free Solders for Microelectronic Applications.  
Supervisors: Dr. David Williams & Dr. David Ackland

Abstracts of the completed research of the 1995 award winners will appear in a forthcoming issue of JMSA. The 1996 Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program is currently soliciting applications from students interested in conducting a research project which involves the use of any microscopy technique. Students should be sponsored by a member of MSA. The maximum award is \$2,500. The application deadline is December 30, 1995. Applications can be obtained from the MSA Business Office: call toll free at (800)538-3672, or FAX at (508)548-9053.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the program please contact either: ■

Dr. Ralph Albrecht  
University of Wisconsin  
1655 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706  
(608)263-3952/4162  
Fax: (608)262-7420  
eMail: RMA@ahabs.wisc.edu

Dr. Richard Ornberg  
Monsanto Company  
Analytical Sciences Center  
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63167  
(314)694-1184  
Fax: (314)694-6727  
eMail: rlornb@ccmail.monsanto.com

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