

INSIDER

ARCS
ADVANCING
SCIENCE
IN AMERICA

June 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...



Holly Heaton

When the Beatles rocked to fame in 1964, they probably never knew that one of their songs, "Hello, Good-bye" (1967), would be used 55 years later by two San Diego ARCS members in describing their roles. But, here we are: **"I say good-bye and you say hello!"**

It is with tremendous pride and pleasure that after three years as your president I am now saying good-bye. It has been a privilege to serve in this role and I am grateful for the opportunity to get to know so many of you, our Scholars and our academic partner colleagues, not to mention the many friends, donors and supporters I have met along the way. I have learned so much from you and am so thankful for your support and friendship!

Just think about it — to have an organization, started and administered by women volunteers, started almost 65 years ago! What foresight these women had! And how very fortunate we are to have **Karen Bowden, Barbara McColl, Pattie Wellborn** and the late **Karon Luce** as our Founders. When I look at us now— after 37 years— I am amazed at not only what they created and have given us, but also what we have become and continue to be! I am so proud of our organization!

I am excited to pass the baton to **Kathe** and the new Board and other leaders. I know they will continue to take us to the next level! Kathe is the perfect person to become our President. She is an experienced leader who is bright, organized, accomplished and efficient. We have a wonderful chapter, and as I have said repeatedly, it takes a village to run ARCS and thank goodness we have a thriving, terrific village!

Since my last *Insider* message really covered my good-bye thoughts and thanks, I will not repeat, except to say that being your President has been one of the most fulfilling, rewarding jobs I have ever done and I will always remember the pride and joy I feel for ARCS and all of you. Now, let's say Hello to Kathe!

Holly Heaton, Past President
ARCS Foundation, San Diego Chapter

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***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...*** Continued from Page 1**Kathe Albrecht**

It is with both happiness and humility that I take on the role of President. With the help of the incoming board and our active members who play so many important roles in our chapter, I will strive to lead ARCS, San Diego, with care, commitment, and enthusiasm.

Holly is a tough act to follow! She has guided our chapter successfully for these past years through her strong and capable leadership. She has done so while demonstrating great care and concern for individual members and for the organization as a whole. She has championed and encouraged our incredible Scholars as they pursue their academic endeavors. And she has done it all with her signature humor and grace. I am thankful that Holly will continue to be a presence on the board in 2022-2023.

Kathe Albrecht, President
ARCS Foundation, San Diego Chapter

Please Welcome Our New San Diego Chapter Members

**Alexis Lasheras**

Alexis Lasheras grew up in Pasadena, California. She attended UCLA, graduating with a BA in English Literature and a California State Teaching Credential for K-8th grade and Adult Education. In 1973, she moved to Lausanne, Switzerland where she taught English at the Colleges du Bethusy and Belvedere. While there, she also attended the University of Lausanne and earned a Certificate in French Language and Literature in 1977. Upon returning to California, she enrolled in a Masters' Program in Teaching English as a Second

Language (TESOL) at UCLA which she received in 1983.

In 1991, Alexis moved to La Jolla and founded the International Center for American English (ICAE) a language school dedicated to teaching English to international students and professionals. While Director of ICAE, she was a member of English USA, serving as Vice President for Outreach from 2006 – 2008. She also volunteered as an Academic Representative for ACCET, a national accrediting agency for continuing education and training programs.

Shortly after selling her language school in 2008, a friend invited her to the San Diego Women's Foundation's Grants Kickoff. Alexis joined SDWF and became an active member of the Education Committee, the Grants Committee (Proposal Review, Site Visits, and Impact) and the Collaboration Committee.

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Please Welcome Our New San Diego Chapter Members... Continued from Page 2

She continues to be involved with SDWF as it has given her the opportunity to meet very interesting and knowledgeable women and to continue learning about San Diego and the issues that need tending to.

Alexis is looking forward to joining ARCS, to getting involved in the Scholars Program and to getting to know the members.



Jayne Lindberg

Jayne Lindberg is from Fremont, Nebraska where five generations of her family have lived. Following her parent's and grandparent's tradition of attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, she became a Husker and graduated with a degree in Interior Design.

After college she moved to Aspen to ski for one winter but she fell in love with the town and stayed for 11 years. Following her passion, Jayne worked in high end residential design and also volunteered for

many years at the International Design Conference at Aspen which allowed her to meet Designers and Architects from around the world.

Moving to San Diego to pursue commercial interior design gave Jayne the chance to work on much larger projects. The day she arrived in San Diego she was offered a job as a Senior Designer for a large furniture dealership. During the five years she was with the firm she mentored design interns which she thoroughly enjoyed. During the 1991 recession she was part of a 50% staff reduction and was laid off.

She drove straight to the City of San Diego office, obtained a business license and sales tax ID, and stood in the lobby calling clients until she found one who needed her services. Her company was born that day and prospered for 30 years with all business being referrals from previous clients. Fitting in time to volunteer while running her business and later caring for her mother whom she moved to Pacific Beach to be closer, wasn't easy but she made some time and enjoyed working with the Doris Howell Foundation, the Military YMCA, a church group who wrote letters to active duty service members serving in Iraq and as a Pi Beta Phi (her college sorority) alumnae advisor to the student chapter at UCSD.

Although retired from design, she still works managing her rental property in Pacific Beach and one farm in Nebraska. Retiring has given her more time to spend with her college sorority alum group where she will be the incoming president for next year. She also looks forward to skiing more, watching some Husker football, attending dance performances and traveling, especially to Rome, a city she loves.

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Please Welcome Our New San Diego Chapter Members... Continued from Page 3

When she heard of ARCS from **Karen Ludwig**, she instantly jumped at the chance to participate. Learning more about scientific discoveries is fascinating to her. She has always been interested in health and attended several of Scripps Health Nutritional Conferences. After working with undergrads at UCSD, she realized how difficult it is for them to manage jobs and study. By supporting college students it frees budding scientists to fully pursue their studies and that benefits everyone.

‘Getting to Know You’ Program A Firsthand Account by Janet Hubka

Sometimes you’re asked to help with a project and, even if you know the request is for a good cause, it still seems like one more thing to add to the never ending to-do-list that is life. But, I agreed to be part of our chapter’s “Getting to Know You” program, where ARCS members either pick, or are assigned one of the current Scholars. It is a way to connect with the people that our chapter works so hard to fund, and it gives the Scholar a chance to put a face to ARCS. I learned that the idea behind this program is for the ARCS member to meet their Scholar for coffee or lunch (or during Covid, by zoom) and find out all about their PhD program. Learn about the science, their university, where they went to undergrad, their hometown, etc. **June Chocheles** connected me with **Amanda Alker**, a PhD candidate in a joint doctoral program at SDSU & UCSD. Her concentration of study is in Marine Cell and Molecular Biology.

I arranged a zoom call with Amanda, and knowing how busy she was preparing her defense, I told her we could keep our time to under 30 minutes. We ended up spending quite a bit longer getting to know one another. In fact, we email or call each other regularly, and my husband, Mark, and I went to her defense a few weeks ago. It has been an honor to get to know this amazing young scientist, and knowing Amanda certainly reaffirms why I am an ARCS member.

Amanda is from Florida, attending undergrad near her childhood home. Even as a kid, she was always interested in the ocean and volunteered with organizations in Florida that study the effects of climate change on marine life. She has a loving mother and brother, but finances for the family were tight, so she paid her own way through college. She got into the PhD program at SDSU, but after a few years found that the university stipend was not enough to cover her rent and living expenses. She realized that she was going to have to drop out of the PhD program. That is until she was notified that she had won an ARCS scholarship. The money she received from our chapter increased her annual income by 25% and was the ONLY reason she was able to complete her PhD. Because of what we do at ARCS.

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'Getting to Know You' Program - A Firsthand Account by Janet Hubka... Continued from Page 4



Amanda Alker was 'hooded' by her lab leader Nick Shikuma in May.

Imagine this young lady, living so far from home, with no one to go to for help when there was not enough money for food or rent. She was so selfless that she even stretched her own limited income to help others when they needed it. And now picture a smiling young woman who proudly gave her PhD defense and will be studying ways to restore threatened coral reefs. Because of what we do at ARCS.

That's why we work hard for our Scholars, every single one of them. Scientists who will change the world. When the "Getting to Know You" program starts up again in the fall, say yes to the request to connect with a scholar, even if your to-do-list is long. It's worth it. What we do really matters.

Summer General Meeting (June 9, 2022)

What a joy to close out the fiscal year *in person* at the Lomas Santa Fe Country Club for the Summer June General Meeting! Heartfelt thanks and kudos to **Priscilla Moxley** and her team (**Sue Dramm**, **Margaret Dudas**, and **Barbara Starkey**) for organizing this event. 52 ARCS members and guests signed up for the luncheon and Holly Heaton presided over the final meeting of her 3-year tenure.

Laurie Roeder began by introducing our newest members, many of whom who were in attendance. Holly then proceeded to thank members of the Board of Directors who had worked alongside her over the past few years, while repeatedly exclaiming that "it takes a village"! Next she introduced the 2022-2023 Slate of Officers, who were unanimously approved by the group. **Rachel Collins** followed with a surprise tribute to Holly and presented her with a beautiful orchid and Swell bottle, adorned with the ARCS logo, in thanks for her dedication and leadership. Everyone applauded enthusiastically!

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Summer General Meeting (June 9, 2022)...

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After the business portion of the meeting, we moved to the science presentations featuring two guest speakers, both of whom were invited by Priscilla Moxley: **Sonya Haupt**, 2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UCSD/LJI, and **Dr. Ivor Royston**, CEO of Viracta Therapeutics and our 2006 Scientist of the Year. Sonya gave us a crash course in evaluating HIV vaccine strategies in mice and then expressed her sincere thanks for the critical support she had received from ARCS this past year.

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Summer General Meeting (June 9, 2022)...

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Next up was Dr. Royston, who took us back to 1978 when he founded Hybritech, San Diego's first biotech company. He then compared and contrasted the biotech scene in San Diego today, 44 years later. He emphasized the need for three core pillars of strength in order to be a successful biotech company: capital, management, entrepreneurship. Ivor will receive the Biotechnology Heritage Award on June 13th, which honors "extraordinary individuals whose work in biotechnology is helping to heal, fuel, and feed the world through discovery, innovation, commercialization, or public understanding." We felt fortunate to have him as our speaker and were pleased to congratulate him on his many achievements.



It was then time to for a delicious 3-course lunch and friendly conversation with fellow ARCS members. We all remarked how much more enjoyable it was to meet in person versus on Zoom!



ARCS Scholar Picnic (May 15, 2022)

It was such fun to gather *in person* at our annual ARCS Scholar picnic on a gorgeous day in May! We are grateful to the UR organizing committee for all their hard work leading up to the event. In addition, we extend our heartfelt thanks to **Catie Madani** for opening up her beautiful home to Scholars and members, and to **Matt Adams**, from Dowling & Yahnke, for his insightful financial tips. The food, the weather, and the lively conversation were all thoroughly enjoyed!



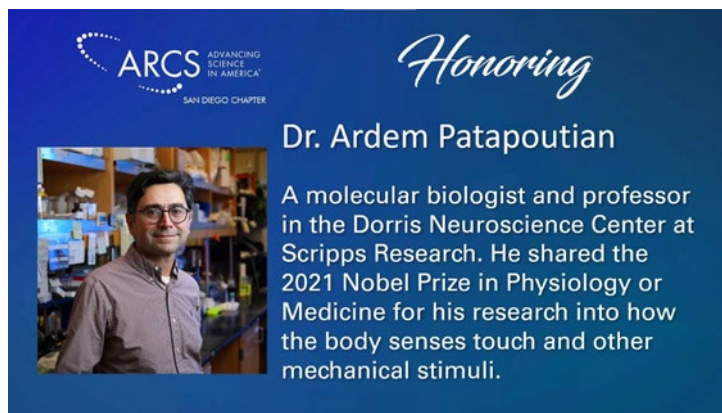


2022 ARCS Scientist of the Year Virtual Event (April 24, 2022)

As the saying goes, “third time’s a charm,” and so it was for our third virtual SOY event presented as a YouTube Premiere on April 24th, 2022. Definitely one for the history books!

Major kudos to **Paulette Roberts**, who chaired the SOY committee for the second year in the row, and **Holly Heaton**, our MC, who guided us through the program with such poise and charm, and the other SOY team members **Kathe Albrecht**, **Ingrid Benirschke-Perkins**, **Rachel Collins**, **Holly Heaton**, **Karen Ludwig**, **Janet Roemer**, and **Marla Shepard** for their hard work, creativity and determination to make our annual SOY an event to remember! We also want to thank all of our members, Scholars, Scholar alum and friends of ARCS who attended and supported the event. Thanks to their generosity, we raised over \$170,000 for our Scholars!

Extra-special kudos to **Rob Healey**, our executive director and producer, who once again worked his video editing magic, resulting in a very professional and smooth-flowing program filled with many dazzling special effects.



If you missed the presentation or would like to view it again, please click [HERE](https://san-diego.arcsfoundation.org/2022-scientist-year-virtual-event):

<https://san-diego.arcsfoundation.org/2022-scientist-year-virtual-event>

Scripps Research Check Presentation (March 3, 2022)

ARCS San Diego awarded a total of \$45,000 to 9 graduate students at Scripps Research for the 2021-2022 academic year. The official check presentation was held virtually on March 3, 2022. In attendance were many of the Scholar award recipients (**Brett Garabedian**, **Nathalia Gazaniga**, **Hailee Perrett**, **Sergio Labra**, **Caroline Stanton**, and **Nelson Wu**), along with **Phil Dawson**, PhD, Dean of the Skaggs

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Scripps Research Check Presentation (March 3, 2022)...

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Graduate School of Chemical and Biological Sciences, **Dawn Eastmond**, PhD, Director of Graduate Studies, **Meredith Johnston**, Vice President of Philanthropy, **Allison Basille**, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations and **Addie Eure**, Senior Manager of Donor Relations. ARCS members in attendance included **Holly Heaton**, **Tamia Strachan**, **Laurie Roeder**, **Ellen Moxham**, **Karen Bowden**, **Patricia Judd**, **Ingrid Benirschke-Perkins** and **Toby Eisenberg**.



Meredith Johnston began the meeting expressing the institute's overwhelming gratitude to the ARCS Foundation for their support over the last 25 years, remarking that the first Scholar awards for graduate students at Scripps Research took place in 1997! Meredith shared that ARCS San Diego has provided Scripps Research with over \$1M to date and supported 75 students.



Meredith provided updates on last year's graduating Scholars, noting where each has ended up post-graduation. Next, **Dean Phil Dawson** provided some updates on the current trajectory of the graduate program at Scripps



Research. Dean Dawson shared that SR continues to receive a record number of applicants year over year and has a high acceptance rate among those offered admission. Additionally, **Dean Dawson** shared that the student body has near gender balance and is working closely with Scripps Research leadership on an institute-wide Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative. After Dean Dawson, **Dawn Eastmond** introduced each of the current Scholars in attendance, each of whom then shared a bit about their research and future plans.

Closing out the meeting, ARCS San Diego Chapter President **Holly Heaton** expressed ARCS' enthusiasm for its partnership with Scripps Research over the years. The group also discussed their shared excitement surrounding the upcoming Scientist of the Year Event, which will honor SR's most recent Nobel Laureate, **Dr. Ardem Patapoutian**.



Updates from ARCS Members



Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to ARCS Member **Janet Hubka**, CEO of Illus Art, for creating the perfect gift for our 2022 Scientist of the Year **Dr. Ardem Patapoutian**; namely, a microscopic image of the Piezo1 ion channel protein that helps cells to sense touch, the focus of his work at Scripps Research for the past 20 years, which led to the Nobel Prize!

Janet Hubka, Dr. Ardem Patapoutian, Paulette Roberts, Holly Heaton.

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of San Diego County celebrated "Leading Ladies, Stars of San Diego," the theme of its 56th Anniversary Women of Dedication (WOD) luncheon, presentation and fundraiser on Friday, April 1, 2022, at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina. The event honored a dozen extraordinary women – a dynamic and diverse group from throughout San Diego County – for their dedication to our community through volunteerism and service.

We were so proud to see our fearless leader, **Holly Heaton** (7th from the left), among the honorees. Since 2012, Holly has lent her time, talent, and treasure to ARCS San Diego, serving as our President during the last three years. Brava, Holly!



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Updates from ARCS Members...

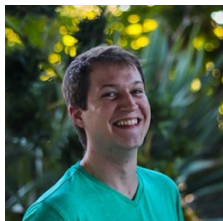
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Thanks also to **Laurie Roeder** for snapping these photos of the ARCS Members who attended the event in support of Holly and her fellow Women of Dedication!





Updates from ARCS Scholars



Andrew Kleinschmidt, PhD (2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UCSD) persevered through a traumatic brain injury to complete his PhD in Chemical Engineering last month and will be participating in the graduation ceremonies over the June 11-12 weekend. Andrew hopes to work for a computational chemistry company that helps to transform how we can use nanotechnology in drug development and medicine. Andrew was featured as a "Class of 2022 Shining Star" along with his inspiring story [here](https://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/feature/class-of-2022-shining-stars): <https://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/feature/class-of-2022-shining-stars>



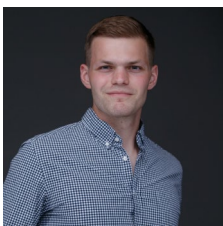
Nicole Mlynaryk, MS (2019-2021 ARCS Scholar at UCSD) won her first Health Care Communicators award for science writing on May 6th. The Health Care Communicators of Southern California (HCCSC) Finest Awards recognize digital and traditional media, special events, and the metrics that measure success. Receipt of a Finest Award represents excellence in your field and line of work.



Alisha Ukani (2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UCSD) was the recipient of a 2022 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship that supports outstanding grad students in STEM. The five-year fellowship includes three years of financial support including an annual stipend of \$34,000 and a cost of education allowance of \$12,000 to the institution. Congratulations, Alisha!



Sophie Shevick, PhD (2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at Scripps Research) completed her doctoral studies in the Shenvi Lab at Scripps Research and is now gearing up for a postdoc in Prof. Eric Jacobsen's lab in the Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology at Harvard University. Brava, Sophie!



Channing Prend, PhD (2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UCSD/SIO) recently received his PhD in physical oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography working with Sarah Gille and Lynne Talley. Starting this summer, he will be a NOAA Climate and Global Change postdoctoral fellow with Georgy Manucharyan in the School of Oceanography at the University of Washington and Andy Thompson at Caltech. The overarching purpose of the program is to help create and train the next generation of leading researchers needed for climate studies. Congratulations, Channing!



Scholar Alumni – Where Are They Now?

Suzanne Hall, MA, MEd (1997, SDSU) has worked in the field of biological sciences for over 24 years, in a number of scientific, advisory and educational capacities. As a member of the San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research for more than 16 years, she has engaged in and supported primary research examining the behavioral ecology of bear species, with a special emphasis on Asiatic species (i.e., the giant panda, sun bear, and sloth bear). In support of these objectives she has worked with diverse teams of people from a variety of scientific disciplines, both in the U.S. and abroad.



In more recent years, she has focused her professional energies on facilitating the implementation of San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance's species conservation objectives via partnership building with government agencies, elected officials, and like-minded NGOs. In this capacity, she regularly translates scientific methodologies, principles and goals to lay people, other scientists and conservation managers.

Additionally, she frequently engages in training and education of staff, students and volunteers in all manner of scientific endeavors in support of their organizational objectives. In this, her experience with teaching and mentoring spans more than two decades of professional work. This effort has been supported by studies for her master's degree, which included a focus on the process of inquiry: observation, uncovering questions that lead to rewarding investigations, developing predictions and action plans, gathering evidence and interpreting findings. Presently she is adding to her teaching arsenal with the addition of a single subject credential in the life sciences.

Scott Wolkenberg, PhD (1999-2002, Scripps Research) is Global Head of Parallel Medicinal Chemistry at the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson. His research focuses on development and application of novel chemistry capabilities to accelerate target identification, validation, hit identification, hit-to-lead, and lead optimization in drug discovery.



Scott is a member of the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* Editorial Advisory Board, is past Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on High Throughput Chemistry and Chemical Biology, serves on the International Chemical Biology Society's Pharma-LifeSci Advisory Team, is past member of the National Medicinal Chemistry Symposium Scientific Advisory Board, and is an ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Mid-Career Investigator awardee. He has co-authored more than 50 publications and numerous patents.

Prior to joining Janssen, Scott held positions in Medicinal Chemistry, Technology-Enabled Synthesis, and Chemical Biology at Merck & Co., Inc. He received his BA in Chemistry and Biology at Cornell University in 1998 and completed his PhD with **Dale L. Boger** at the Scripps Research Institute.

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Scholar Alumni – Where Are They Now?...

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Lori (Taubler) Taylor, MD, FAAP (1993-1994, UCSD) grew up in Pennsylvania and Northern California, and completed her undergraduate education at USC (go Trojans!). She moved to San Diego to attend medical school at UCSD, and fell in love with both the Southern California climate and her husband Ken, a fellow medical student. She remained in San Diego to complete her pediatric residency, and has practiced pediatrics in the area ever since.



Lori was a faculty member at UCSD for nearly 10 years, during which time she pursued research interests in multi-cultural medicine and early childhood education. She then spent several years providing pediatric care to families in North San Diego County, working with a large pediatric group. *San Diego Magazine* recognized Lori as a “Top Doctor” in their annual rankings 2003 through 2005, 2010, and 2013 through 2021.

In 2010, Lori moved with her family to New Zealand where her husband worked as a physician. The Taylor family then returned to San Diego in 2011 ready for change. For Lori, this meant creating the type of pediatric practice that would allow her to take the time to really get to know each child and family. Now, with Coast Pediatrics Del Mar, she is thrilled to once again partner with parents to support a healthy and active lifestyle for babies, children and teens.

Lori lives in Solana Beach with her husband Ken, who is Director of the Sports Medicine program at UCSD, and their rescue dog Brownie. In her free time she enjoys visiting her sons Griffin and Gavin in college at Cal Poly and University of Michigan, as well as reading, yoga, traveling, cooking and trying not to fall off of her stand-up paddleboard.

ARCS Calendar of Events

JULY

- Tuesday, July 19 – Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday, September 20 – Board Meeting

October

- Tuesday, October 18 – Board Meeting