

AATCC NEWS

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AATCC Student Chapter Award Winners!

Every year, AATCC student chapters may name a graduating senior to be recognized for academic achievement and contribution to the chapter, school, or society. AATCC presents each chapter award winner with a certificate and a copy of *Color Vision and Technology*. Winners also receive one year of free Associate Membership in AATCC as they start their careers.

Florida State University



Delia Bledsoe is the student chapter award winner for Florida State University (FSU). She has a stellar academic record; she was part of the FSU Honors program, has been on the FSU Dean's list since the Fall of 2009, is a member of the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society (since 2010), and was inducted as a member of the FSU College of Human Sciences Glenn (honor) Society in 2012. As well as AATCC, she is a student member of the National Retail Federation. She is also the recipient of the ToysRUs Academic Scholarship. Bledsoe has been a member of the AATCC FSU Student Chapter since Spring 2011, and has been the treasurer of the chapter since the Fall of 2011. She is also the Social Media Director and Accounts Director for *Swatch* magazine. She participates in the FSU AATCC student chapter philanthropic activities at the local women's shelter. She says that "being involved in the FSU chapter of AATCC has taught me how to be a better leader and has allowed me to expand my retail and textile knowledge, all while working with extraordinary mentors and fellow students. I can't wait to graduate with my

degree in Retail Merchandising & Product Development and carry over all that I have learned into the real world!"

Advanced Academy for Development of Textile Technologies (AADTT)

Kushagrathi Debnath, from the Advanced Academy for Development of Textile Technologies (AADTT), is that AATCC Student Chapter's award winner. His advisor, Rajesh Balakrishnan, says he's a very good orator and presenter, with very good technical knowledge. He is an "excellent team leader, active participant, and technical coordinator of the AATCC Student Chapter." In addition to his studies and AATCC student chapter participation, Debnath has organized blood donation drives through the student chapter, and is a badminton champion, consistently winning gold and silver medals in a number of tournaments and competitions. He is also a skilled photographer. Debnath says he plans to be an entrepreneur, after gaining sufficient experience and expertise. "AATCC membership will definitely benefit me in the



long run. It will help me to be in touch with innovations...in wet processing."

Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech)



Emily Gooding is the Georgia Institute of Technology AATCC Student Chapter award winner. "My degree in Polymer & Fiber Engineering is applicable to almost any industry," she says. "I look forward to being able to explore my career options, and am thankful for the versatility this field offers."

University of Rhode Island



Leslie Govalet is the Student Chapter Award winner from the University of Rhode Island (URI). Her advisor, Martin Bide, says that she was "an outstanding student: she is unique in my experience for starting as a Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design major, and switching to the more challenging Textile Marketing degree. Her GPA is stellar, but it's not all about the grades: she is intellectually curious, and has a professional attitude that will serve her well in her future career." Govalet was active in the formation of an honors society based on the majors in URI's Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design department. Govalet just graduated in December of 2012, and is now working as a store manager and social media coordinator at [Gossip Boutique](#). "I am realizing that my favorite part of this position is helping to teach people about personal style," she says. "I love helping customers find the perfect outfit and watching them leave the store happy with their purchase. I also started writing my own blog, StyLeslie, to highlight something fashion/textile related each day. I am hoping to work more with social media and styling in the future with my

Textile Marketing degree."

Clemson University

Trevyn Hey won the Student Chapter Award at Clemson



University. Hey was a double major in Materials Science and Engineering (MS&E)—Polymer, and Ceramic and Materials Engineering; he achieved the Dean's List for four semesters, and the Clemson President's List three semesters, he was a member of the Phi Psi Honor Fraternity, and won the Palmetto Fellowship and other scholarships. Hey says that he intends to pursue a PhD in Materials Science and Engineering. "Ultimately, I want to work in either a national research lab or at a university," he says. His advisor, Gary Lickfield, says Hey served as a "College Ambassador for three years. Every year he served as tour guide and assisted

with demonstrations during MS&E recruiting. He also helped plan the AATCC Textile Bowl and Homecoming activities."

Philadelphia University



Jacqueline Mohen, a senior textile design major, is the winner of the Student Chapter Award for Philadelphia University. Her advisor, Janet Brady, says that Mohen has been very active in the AATCC Student Chapter. She will graduate in December and currently has a 3.41 GPA.

Washington State University (WSU)



Kaitlin Ronngren won Washington State University's (WSU) Student Chapter Award. Her advisor, Karen Leonas, says that Ronngren "has a true passion for learning. She has distinguished herself in the department through her attention detail, commitment to coursework, and enthusiasm for taking on challenging projects." She completed her degree in three years, while maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA. She served as treasurer of the WSU AATCC Student Chapter this past year, and has been an active member for several years, participating in numerous extracurricular projects with the chapter. Ronngren noted that "the more I learned academically, the more apparent it became that experience and interactive learning were vital to my future success. Perhaps the most valuable contribution to my personal growth was my involvement in the student chapter of AATCC at Washington State University. As a part of the AATCC student chapter, I've had the opportunity to increase my understanding of textiles, network with industry professionals, and perform community service projects,

all while leading my peers. Overall, my time in AATCC has proven to be endlessly exciting and rewarding. I hope to pursue a career in apparel buying, starting with an internship at Nordstrom Corporate Headquarters in Seattle this summer."

Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT)

Amanda Soule is the AATCC Student Chapter award winner



at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). Ann Denton, AATCC Student Advisor at FIT, says that Soule is “extremely focused and poised” and “has a passion for learning.” Soule achieved the Dean’s List at FIT, while balancing her responsibilities as an officer at the AATCC Student Chapter and working 30 hours a week. As well as being extremely active in the AATCC student chapter and very diligent in her studies, Denton says that Soule does volunteer work outside of school with fundraising and community service efforts. After graduating this May with a BS in Textile Development and Marketing, Soule hopes to work with knit fabric production and color. Soule says “it was an honor to be elected Vice President of Activities [of the AATCC FIT Student Chapter] this past term. This role allowed me to network with industry professionals while arranging field trips and guest speakers for the club. Many thanks to the AATCC parent organization for their dedication to textiles and education.”

Do **YOU** deserve to be nominated for *your* school's AATCC Student Chapter Award? (Or do you know a dedicated AATCC Student Member who does?) Remind your AATCC Student Advisor to [turn in your nominations](#) next January 31st!