Charles H. Stone Scholarship

Four students from Clemson University and one student from NC State University are this year’s recipients of the Charles H. Stone Scholarship. Each of these students receives a scholarship of $3,000 per semester.

Alyx Kahn, a rising senior in Materials Science and Engineering, with a Polymeric Concentration with Chemistry Minor at Clemson University writes: “I am really blessed to be in the Department of Materials Science & Engineering (MS&E) at Clemson University. The program is well-established, developed, and relatively small providing numerous opportunities to get involved in research and community. The MS&E courses are very informative and interactive; students are encouraged to discuss topics and experience the techniques taught in class in the laboratory. The professors really work well with the students and create a welcoming atmosphere. After completing my undergraduate degree at Clemson University, I plan to pursue higher education in one of the following topics: textile chemistry, failure analysis of materials, or analytical chemistry.”

Chase Pfendler is a rising senior at NC State University, Raleigh, NC, majoring in Chemical Engineering and Bachelor of Science - Polymer & Color Chemistry. Chase believes that “the best part about going to NC State is the sense of community among the students and professors. I also appreciate the focus on professional development throughout the university - NC State is very intentional about giving its students a practical skill set. Of course I am also a member of the Student Wolfpack Club and love cheering on the football and basketball teams! The best part about Polymer and Color Chemistry is that, while the course work may seem highly specialized, our world is truly dominated by polymers and color! Knowledge of color and polymer chemistry can be applied in a variety of fields.” Chase’s plan for the future is to “take the best overall offer available to me at the time I graduate, whether it is grad school or industry. As of now, I am most interested in working with chemicals in a manufacturing setting out of graduation. Understanding manufacturing processes is a critical component to a technical career.”
Kristen Smithgall is a senior in Material Science and Engineering at Clemson; she will graduate in December 2014. She is a member of the AATCC Student Chapter at Clemson, as well as the Society of Women Engineers, Phi Psi Professional Honor Fraternity (Textiles and Fiber Chemistry), and Materials Advantage. Kristen shares that “what makes the classes is the student-professor interaction.” After graduation, Kristen would like to work with a company that “would allow me to use my background in Material Science and Engineering while being exposed to other aspects of industry.”

Nicholas Cone is a rising senior in the Materials Science and Engineering Program, and is minoring in Chemistry at Clemson University. Nick shares that, “the thing I enjoy most about my MS&E classes at Clemson is how our department is a very close-knit group. All the students are friends and have a great relationship with the professors. MS&E being a small department at the university is actually what drew me to it in the first place. I appreciate that people within our department care about my success and I’m not just another student like I might be in a larger major. After I graduate, I would like to work in the automotive industry, wherever that might be. I’m currently enjoying my internship at AFR (Alfmeier Friedrichs & Rath), which might be a future employment opportunity. However, I’m open to moving into other aspects of automotive engineering, be it paint, body panels, textiles, etc.”

Devin Harkins is currently a senior at Clemson, majoring in Material Science and Engineering, and minoring in Chemistry; he will graduate this December. Besides working a full time job as a manager at a local pizza and sub shop, he also is interning at Faurecia Interiors as an injection engineer: “I pride myself on hard work, self-motivation, and my ability to help myself and others reach set goals.” His joys in life are his wife and two young children; they keep him motivated and focused on his own future goals.