**ARCS: Advancing Science**

*Our greatest science questions will be answered by the young minds at work today in U.S. colleges and universities.*

This idea is the driving force behind ARCS—Achievement Rewards for College Scientists—an organization of women philanthropists who are dedicated to advancing science in America. The ARCS Foundation was founded in 1958 by four forward-thinking women who saw the importance of supporting science and technology education in the United States. A half-century later, this remarkable organization has grown to include more than 1,600 women who volunteer their time and resources.

The foundation sponsors ARCS Scholars: outstanding U.S. students completing degrees in science, engineering, and medical research. The Moran Eye Center is proud to be one of two departments at the University of Utah (the other is the College of Engineering) that receives ARCS Scholar Awards. Because of the generosity of our local ARCS chapter, one incoming resident per year is awarded $15,000, allowing the student to pursue a research focus and lay the groundwork for a productive academic career.

ARCS took an interest in the Moran Eye Center after touring the building and learning about the cutting-edge discoveries our researchers are making into AMD and other retinal diseases. Current Moran Eye Center ARCS Scholars are:

**Eileen Hwang, M.D., Ph.D.** began her training in the MD/PhD program at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey, where she was the beneficiary of a highly sought-after NIH F30 fellowship to study hereditary diseases of collagen. Upon graduation, she joined the prestigious ophthalmology residency program at the University of Utah Moran Eye Center. As a first year resident, she has already made use of the ARCS foundation support to investigate the role of genetic risk factors and serum biomarkers for age-related macular degeneration. In her personal time, Dr. Hwang enjoys biking, skiing, and rock climbing in the Wasatch Mountains.

**Brian Stagg, M.D.** graduated from the University of Utah School of Medicine in May 2012. He then completed an intern year in Internal Medicine at the University of Utah, and joined the Moran Eye Center as an ophthalmology resident summer of 2013. Dr. Stagg was initially drawn to ophthalmology by the meaningful relationships eye doctors can develop with their patients. Research has played an important role in his medical training, and he looks forward to dedicating a significant portion of his future career to research. His research interests include corneal neovascularization, cataract surgery safety and efficiency, and improvement of eye care delivered to indigent populations. Dr. Stagg views research as an
opportunity to improve patient care and have an impact on the future. He spends his free time with his wife and two daughters who help him have balance and perspective in life.

Brian Zaugg, M.D., was named as the first Moran ARCS Scholar in 2012. Dr. Zaugg completed medical school at the University of Utah in 2011 and started his residency in July 2012 after a year internship. He has performed ophthalmology research both at the Moran Eye Center and in South Carolina. Funds for Brian’s ARCS Scholar Award were donated by Judith Miller in honor of her husband Clifford. Cliff is a longtime member of the University of Utah’s National Advisory Council, and both he and Judith serve on the U of U Clinical Neuroscience Community Advisory Board.