



## SEATTLE AWIS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (2017-2018)

**Tracie Barry** is entering her senior year at University of Washington Tacoma (UWT), where she is majoring in environmental science. She is receiving a scholarship funded by **Battelle**. Tracie's passion for the aquatic world, inspired by the great Pacific Northwest, has led her to study the wonders of chemistry, biology, and geology. She intends to receive her PhD, pursue a university teaching and environmental research career, and inspire others to do the same. After years in real estate, and with the encouragement of colleagues and friends, the former high school dropout found the pluck to pursue her true passion. She received her GED, earned her Associate's degree from Grays Harbor College (GHC) with top honors, and transferred to UWT. She credits her professors, especially Dr. Meg Henderson (UWT), and Dr. Monica Baze (GHC) with her success. Tracie tutors other students and conducts research focusing on harmful algal blooms. This summer she will participate in three research cruises.

**Cassidy Bummer** is entering her senior year at Gonzaga University (GU), where she is majoring in biology. She is receiving the **Steve Gilbert and Janice Camp Scholarship**. When envisioning a science-related career, she was immediately drawn to the idea of practicing dentistry and providing care that could greatly improve patients' lives by boosting their confidence, mood, and overall health. Her career goal is to provide quality and accessible dental care to underrepresented communities. Growing up in rural, northeastern Montana on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Cassidy has firsthand knowledge of the challenges of finding and keeping quality dentists in these areas. After dental school, she plans to work for Indian Health Services (IHS), which will lay a foundation for either choosing to continue her education or to open her own practice in a rural community.

**Kristi Holt** is entering her senior year at Seattle Pacific University (SPU), where she is majoring in both physiology and psychology. She is receiving a scholarship funded by **Battelle**, as was also the case last year. Kristi aspires to become a pediatric trauma psychiatrist. Outside of class, she enjoys tutoring organic chemistry students and volunteering as a mentor for youth at HopePlace women and children's center. The next academic year, she looks forward to serving SPU as the coordinator for the school's weekly volunteer outreach program, the president of the Faith and Science Club--and also dissecting brains in the Neurobiology lab! On weekends, she enjoys surfing at the Washington Coast and playing board games with friends.

**Diana Orbeladze** is entering her junior year at Seattle University, where she is majoring in diagnostic ultrasound. She is receiving a scholarship funded by AWIS members and supporters. Diana describes herself as "a wonderful collision of cultures, beliefs, and experiences," all of which have led her to where she is today. She is half-Georgian and half-Ukrainian and moved to the United States when she was five years old, then lived on the Tulalip Reservation a few years later. In the upcoming school year, Diana will begin her professional program. Her senior year will be devoted to a full-time internship. She hopes to work at the hospital where she will intern, and eventually work in a children's hospital as a pediatric cardiac diagnostic ultrasound sonographer. This specialty will require at least a Master's degree.

**Erika Santacruz** is entering her junior year at GU, where she is majoring in both biology and psychology. She has declared both majors with a research concentration as she currently performs research with professors in both departments. Erika is receiving a scholarship funded by AWIS members and supporters. As a first generation college student, she is passionate about education and empowering children from all backgrounds in her community to achieve their personal and academic goals. Her plan for the future is to enroll in an MD/PhD program, with the ultimate goal of advancing and contributing to neuroscience research in order to improve the quality of psychiatric care.

**Grace Sullivan** is a non-traditional, first-generation college student. She is currently completing her studies at Tacoma Community College where she has maintained a 4.0 GPA. In the fall, she will enter the University of Puget Sound's molecular and cellular biology program with an emphasis on undergraduate research. Grace is receiving a scholarship funded by **Immune Design**. She aspires to earn a PhD in microbiology from the University of Washington and become a scientist who not only accomplishes valuable research on the human microbiome, but also helps to bridge the gap between scientists and the public through effective communication, community outreach, and education. Outside of school, Grace enjoys playing piano, reading, biking, films, and spending time with her husband, sons, and dog.

**Katelyn Tozer** is a first-generation college student, who is entering her senior year at UWT and majoring in biomedical science. She is receiving the **Veronica Smith and Natalie Hamrick Scholarship**, given in honor and memory of their parents. Katelyn has an impressive GPA of 3.97. After graduation from UWT, she plans to attend medical school and then practice medicine in underserved areas and continue to inspire other first-generation college students. Katelyn enjoys extracurricular activities such as volunteering at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and her role as Treasurer in the Pre-Health Society at UWT. She is extremely excited to participate this summer in a Global Impacts study abroad opportunity, helping residents in a developing country to improve skills relating to public health

**Tian Qing Yen** is entering her senior year at Western Washington University (WWU), where she is majoring in biochemistry with a minor in math. She is receiving the **Leon and Emma Solomon Memorial Scholarship**, funded by Seattle AWIS Scholarship Committee Co-Chair Fran Solomon in memory of her parents. This summer, Tian Qing will begin undergraduate research on algal biofuels and will lead backpacking trips as part of the Western Outdoor Orientation Trips program for incoming freshmen. Come fall, she will continue to help students with their research and writing projects through her work as Student Coordinator at the Hacherl Research and Writing Studio on campus. Outside of academics, Tian Qing captains WWU's Women's Ultimate Frisbee Team and enjoys rock climbing, hiking, and fishing in the North Cascades. After graduation from WWU, she looks forward to a career focused on green energy issues.

***Seattle AWIS supports the accomplishments of all women  
in science, technology, engineering and math.***