



## ARCS FOUNDATION NCC MEMBER NEWS OCTOBER 2021



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ARCS Members,

Our chapter follows the rhythm of the academic year and I am delighted to say that we are truly **Back to School**. The past year has been very instructional, both as we improvised how to live together or alone in COVID (as our circumstances found us), and reinforced how important both science and our connections with our friends are to our well-being and that of our future.

I continue to be impressed with all that our chapter, with Jo Whitehouse as President, was able to accomplish in 2020-21. At the height of the pandemic we were able to award the highest level of unrestricted Scholar Awards our chapter has ever awarded – **\$1,032,800** – to young STEM scholars who are working to better understand and come up with solutions for the many questions we face.

With all that we accomplished last year, ARCS NCC is poised to have our best year ever in supporting science through our ARCS Scholars. ARCS was founded as an organization of women who sought to make a difference in the environment they found themselves in more than 50 years ago, and we are well situated to continue that mission.

We go into this year with renewed energy and great aspirations, including:

- Having a sold-out attendance at our slightly delayed and very exciting 50th++ anniversary celebrating our chapter and our scholars next April. Please stay tuned for more details on our combined Scholar Awards Celebration and Symposium. It will be "**An Affair to Remember**"!
- The exciting prospect of adding **UC Merced** to our partner universities. In September our chapter voted overwhelmingly in favor of adding UC Merced, and we will hear back from ARCS National in January. We will keep you posted!
- We have a fabulous **Board** of both relatively new and long-term members who seek to build on what we have done before while taking advantage of these changing times and opportunities.
- During the pandemic **Zoom** has allowed us to stay connected while we are apart. While we plan to meet in person as soon as we are able, we also intend to continue holding virtual or hybrid events and to keep our far-flung members engaged.

I encourage you all to join a committee (or two) if you have not yet done so. All are meeting on Zoom; please take a look at the committee lists in the new Roster/Handbook (which should hit your mailboxes before the end of the month) and contact the committee chair if you would like join.

Here's to 2021-22 and to you all!

*-Elizabeth Callander*

## CALLING ALL MEMBERS

### Invite potential membership candidates to upcoming events!

The strength of any organization lies in the quality of its membership. This is surely true of ARCS. Help us continue to grow and strengthen our organization and support science by sponsoring or co-sponsoring a new ARCS member this year. Now is the time to think about friends who would be good new members of our Chapter and invite them to our upcoming virtual events. (See Calendar of Events at bottom of this newsletter.) Intent to Propose forms for any potential membership candidates are available; please return as soon as possible and no later than **January 7, 2022**. We look forward to welcoming membership candidates to future events to learn more about our organization. If you have any questions about the membership process, please reach out to **Katy Hope, Membership VP**.

## SCIENCE ACTIVITIES KICK-OFF

Our new year of Science Activities got off to a terrific start on September 9 with **Michael S. Malone**, currently a columnist for the San Jose Mercury News and ABC News, an op-ed contributor for The Wall Street Journal, a contributing editor to Wired, and the editor-in-chief of Edgelings.com, a website focused on business and technology news in Silicon Valley. Mike is a long-time friend of ARCS who has lived in the Valley since 1963, and he was the perfect guide to "**Silicon Valley: Past, Present and Future**" -- a wide-ranging exploration of the many changes that have taken place over the decades as well as educated speculation about what the future may bring. If you missed this inspiring talk and the lively Q&A that followed, check out the recording on our YouTube channel. You can learn more about Malone's take on Silicon Valley in his recently re-released book: [The Big Score: The Billion Dollar Story of Silicon Valley](#), by Michael S. Malone (hardcover, July 2021).



## "WINE, WOMEN & THE WEB" SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

The Communications Council is delighted to inaugurate this year's Wine, Women & Web series of webinars. These webinars are a part of our Social Media Series, which aims to demystify the principal social media platforms (LinkedIn, Facebook/Instagram, Twitter and YouTube) and illustrate how we can leverage these platforms to aid the ARCS mission.

Each webinar will center around the importance and unique characteristics of a particular social media channel, as well as how ARCS is currently utilizing that platform. The Social Media Series of webinars will also provide an explanation of related vocabulary and best practices for each social media platform — all with an emphasis on audience interaction and fun!

The series kicked off on September 30 with a look at **LinkedIn**, the world's largest professional network. For the next webinar on January 19, we'll dive into **YouTube**, one of the world's best known video hosting sites. See the calendar below and save the dates for the remaining three WW&W events. All will be held in the early evening, and flyers with registration links will be sent out in advance.

Once the Social Media Series is complete, we'll kick off another installment of Wine, Women & Web events, the Social Media Workshop Series. This series will take a hands-on approach to creating profiles, sharing ARCS content, and further developing your social media skills. Be sure to attend our current Social Media Series in preparation for our Workshops series!



The content for Wine, Women & the Web was created by **Payton Bush** (daughter of Chapter member Nancy Bush), who is also hosting the webinars. Payton is a Bay Area native with a passion for all things science and communication related. She has five years' experience in Marketing for technology startups and is now a graduate student at San Francisco State University.

We are thrilled to have Payton helping out with our communications efforts!

## ARCS NCC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow ARCS NCC on social media! Items are posted weekly on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and at least monthly on LinkedIn. All of our Science Activities and Scholar events held over Zoom are recorded and posted to our YouTube channel, so if you're unable to participate you always have the opportunity to catch up later.

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrMA4oJIWDyTjYpcTd6csng>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ARCSFoundationNorthernCalifornia/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ARCSNorthernCal>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/arcsnortherncal/?hl=en>

LinkedIn NCC Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13651510/>

LinkedIn National ARCS: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3757538/>



## SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

**Victoria Chen**, a current ARCS Scholar and PhD candidate in the Department of Electrical Engineering at **Stanford University**, spoke to ARCS members at the General Meeting on September 15, 2021 via Zoom. Victoria is investigating novel materials for thermoelectric energy harvesting. She explained succinctly why scavenging waste heat is important as an approach to fulfilling the world's growing energy needs. She pointed out that thermoelectrics is very inefficient and primarily used in only niche applications. (For example, it is part of the Curiosity Rover currently exploring Mars.)



Due to their unique physical properties, two-dimensional (2D) materials that consist of sheets of atoms arranged in ordered layers are especially promising as efficient thermoelectric harvesters. These materials are the focus of Victoria's research, a major aspect of which involves fabricating test structures and characterizing these materials. Potential uses include powering wearable devices and capturing car engine heat.

A native of Portland, Oregon, Victoria has always had a scientific bent. Her father, a mechanical engineer in the semi-conductor world, encouraged her to pursue her passion that began to take focus when she was in high school. Robotics was the trigger that led her to electrical engineering. She's also intrigued by nanomaterials. Another hat: She serves as the Atomic Force Microscope Instrument Manager at the Stanford Nano Shared Facilities.

Victoria chose Stanford because it's a beautiful campus with great experimental facilities and wonderful expertise available. For recreation, she likes to run, and she's mastering making espresso along with the foamy milk art that tops a good latte. Victoria's younger sister is in aerospace, so scientific minds run in the family!

## PRELIMINARY CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2021 - JUNE 2022

**Wed, Sept 8, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Sept 9, 5 pm** - Science Activities, Michael S. Malone on Silicon Valley (Zoom)

**Wed, Sept 15, 11:30 am** - General Membership Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Sept 30, 6 pm** - Wine, Women & the Web Social Media Series #1 (Zoom)

**Wed, Oct 13, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Oct 14, 5 pm** - Science Activities, Elizabeth Hadly on the Anthropocene (Zoom)

**Oct-Nov, dates tbd** - Scholar Meet-and-Greets (6)

**Thurs, Nov 4, 6 pm** - Science Activities, Jared Diamond

**Weds, Nov 10, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Wed, Dec 1, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Wed, Dec 8, 11:30 am** - General Membership Meeting (Zoom or In Person tbd)

**Thurs, Dec 9, 5 pm** - Science Activities (Zoom, speaker tbd)

**Wed, Jan 12, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Jan 13, 5 pm** - Frontiers of Science, panel, "The Science of Food"

**Wed, Jan 19, 5:30 pm** - Wine, Women & the Web Social Media Series #2 (Zoom)

**Wed, Feb 9, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Feb 10, 5 pm** - Science Activities (Zoom, speaker tbd)

**Wed, Feb 23, 11:30 am** - General Membership Meeting (Zoom)

**Feb, dates tbd** - University Site Visits (3)

**Wed, Mar 9, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Mar 10, 5 pm** - Science Activities (Zoom, speaker tbd)

**Thurs, Apr 7, 5:30 pm** - Wine, Women & the Web Social Media Series #3 (Zoom)

**Wed, Apr 13, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Thurs, Apr 14, 5 pm** - Science Activities (Zoom, speaker tbd)

**Thurs, Apr 28, 4 pm** - Scholar Awards Celebration/Symposium "An Affair to Remember"

**Wed, May 4, 11:30 am** - Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Wed, May 11, 11:30 am** - Annual Membership Meeting (In Person)

**Thurs, May 12, 5 pm** - Science Activities (Zoom, speaker tbd)

**Thurs, May 23, 5:30 pm** - Wine, Women & the Web Social Media Series #4 (Zoom)

**May, date tbd** - New Member Orientation

**Wed, June 15, 11:30 am** - New/Old Board Meeting (In Person)

Be sure to check out the ARCS NCC website on a regular basis --

<https://northern-california.arcsfoundation.org/>

It's being continually improved and updated and is an excellent source of information, inspiration and access for members and the community at large.

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