

# 2011 Medical Scholarship Recipients

This year continues to be a busy and exciting one for the MCMS Scholarship Fund Committee. As a reminder, the Scholarship Committee has worked for almost 50 years helping financially deserving medical students from the Rochester area. Through the generosity of many MCMS members and their friends, the Committee recently increased the scholarship award amounts for the 2011-12 academic year! In addition to the regular annual scholarships for medical students, the Committee also oversees two additional awards. The Edward T. Mulligan, MD Memorial Award is named for Dr. Mulligan who was a revered Rochester surgeon whose career was shortened by his untimely death in 1975. The award is granted to one graduating fourth year University of Rochester (UR) medical student who will be staying in Rochester for residency. The John J. Morton, M.D. and John H. Morton, M.D. Memorial Scholarship is the second award overseen by the Scholarship Committee. John J. Morton was the first Chairman of Surgery at the UR in 1925, and his son John H. Morton was a respected surgeon and teacher at the UR Medical Center until his death in 2005. This scholarship is given to one (or more) deserving and financially needy UR fourth year medical student who will be doing a residency in a surgical field.

The highly competitive 2011 MCMS Scholarship has been awarded to Yaroslav Shtengrat. Yaroslav emigrated with his family from the Ukraine when he was eleven years old. In spite of the hurdles he faced as a non-English speaking child, he excelled in school and eventually was accepted into the very competitive Rochester Early Medical Scholars (REMS) program at the University of Rochester. During the undergraduate portion of his education, he was elected into the Phi Beta Kappa Society and graduated magna cum laude. He was also awarded the highly competitive Kaufmann Entrepreneurial Year (KEY), which is a tuition-free fifth year of studies. During that time he developed and managed a painting business, and was very active in being a translator in the health care arena. He has been involved in cerebrovascular research at the UR since 2006. His letters of reference are replete with accolades, such as "he has consistently been one of the brightest and hardest working students I have mentored during my time here in Rochester." The Committee members are confident he will excel in medical school!

The Edward T. Mulligan Memorial Award for 2011 was awarded to Dr. Glenn Buchberger, a 2011 graduate of the UR School of Medicine. Dr. Buchberger, a native of Connecticut, graduated Cum Laude from Dartmouth College with a major degree in English and a minor in Biochemistry. Instead of matriculating at the UR School of Medicine directly from Dartmouth, Dr. Buchberger did research at the University of Connecticut on carcinogenesis of oral epithelium in mice. He also used his love of reading and writing to help non-profit organizations write grants for public health projects. Once matriculated, he excelled academically at the UR, and he was involved in several community programs, notably a Teen Outreach Program. After two years of medical school, he was accepted into the Pathology Year Out program, a highly structured year of rotations through different disciplines of Pathology. During that time, he published an abstract in *Society for Pediatric Pathology*. His remaining two years of medical school were also very impressive. His letters of recommendation mention things like, "Glenn is truly a wonderful person who will bring great things to his program, his patients and his community" and "He will be a wonderful asset to our community and a wonderful role model for medical students and his colleagues." Dr. Buchberger recently began his residency in the combined Medicine and Pediatrics program at Strong Memorial Hospital. The committee is confident he



Yaroslav Shtengrat



Michelle Coriddi, MD



Glenn Buchberger, MD



David Lee, MD

will succeed in his endeavors.

The Committee chose two 2011 graduates of the UR School of Medicine for this year's Morton Scholarship. Dr. Michelle Coriddi, a native of Rochester, NY, graduated from Syracuse University Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Biology. Prior to attending the UR School of Medicine, she worked at the Syracuse VA Medical Center preparing reports for the Institutional Review Board and Hospital Board. At the UR, she excelled in all of her academic work and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Society in 2010. She was also involved in several community service projects during medical school. She worked at the student run clinic for the uninsured, coached inner city girls in soccer, and volunteered for Gilda's Club. One reference letter said, "once in a long while, a student would come along that is truly marked for greatness, and Michelle is one such student." During her final year of medical school, she had the privilege of volunteering on a cleft palate/lip mission to Uganda, Africa. She had significant hands on surgical experience during this trip. In fact, Dr. Coriddi recently began her Plastic Surgery residency at Ohio State Hospital.

The second recipient of the Morton Scholarship is Dr. David Lee. Dr. Lee is originally from Taiwan, but moved to California at the age of five. He graduated with numerous honors from Stanford University, with majors in Biological Sciences and Music: Piano Performance. Many of his rewards and honors involve his talent playing the piano. During college and medical school he was involved in numerous research projects that led to publications. In the summer of 2008 he received a prestigious and competitive summer internship in plastic surgery at Stanford University. Dr. Lee has also been very involved in community service, including volunteering in the student run clinic and tutoring inner city high school students. One reference letter stated that "David has the drive and determination to excel in surgery and I have every confidence he will contribute significantly to the advancement of the field." Dr. Lee recently began his Plastic Surgery residency at University of Massachusetts – Worcester. The Committee is confident both Drs. Coriddi and Lee will excel in their surgical careers.

The Scholarship Committee salutes and congratulates all of this year's recipients!