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DEPS Directed Energy Graduate Scholarship Awardees Announced

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Sept. 6- The Directed Energy Professional Society's (DEPS) Board of Scientific & Engineering Advisors (BSEA) as well as its Executive Director, Mark Neice, proudly announced today the DEPS graduate scholarship awardees for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Twelve promising students from the total field of applicants were awarded \$5,000-\$10,000 partial scholarships to continue studying or pursuing a career in directed energy (DE) technology areas. These scholars include: Matthias Banet of the University of Rochester, Aaron Ediger of the University of Nebraska- Lincoln, Amanda Loveless of Purdue University, Jessica Ma of Johns Hopkins University, Michael Nickerson of the University of California, Santa Barbara; Drew Packard of the University of Michigan, Isabella Pagano of the University of Texas at Austin, Matt Paliwoda of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Kevin Reilly of the University of New Mexico, Daniel Thul of the University of Central Florida, Ray Wambold of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Ryan Yamaguchi of the Naval Postgraduate School.

Candidates for the award must be full-time graduate students who are interested in pursuing or are currently studying the directed energy technology areas of High Energy Lasers (HEL), Ultrashort Pulse Lasers (USPL) or High-Power Microwaves (HPM.) Since 2011, DEPS has provided more than \$995,000 in scholarships. The funds for these awards are provided by grants from the Directed Energy Joint Transition Office, the Office of Naval Research and DEPS.

“DEPS was pleased to receive 30 applications for its Fiscal Year 2020 Directed Energy Scholarship Program from 17 academic institutions, with a great balance of returning and new applicants and an increase in USPL applications, driving new thrust areas. The BSEA was appreciative of the breadth and depth of topics proposed along with the enthusiasm evident in the student’s introductory letters. DEPS ultimately has selected 12 applicants from 12 different institutions for awards totaling \$120,000. Of those, two are in the area of Ultrashort Pulse Lasers, four are in areas related to High Power Microwaves including relativistic magnetrons and variable metamaterials, and six are in the Laser arena including propagation research, beam control, and laser components. We are proud and honored to play a critical role in supporting the education of next generation of Directed Energy specialists,” said Dr. Diana Loree, DEPS Board of Directors Liaison to the BSEA.

The Directed Energy Professional Society fosters research, development and transition of directed energy (DE) technologies, including high energy laser (HEL) and high-power microwave (HPM) technologies, for national defense and civilian applications through professional communication and education. For more information, visit www.deps.org.

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