



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact  
Cristina Crowson  
Director of Communications  
Directed Energy Professional Society  
(505) 998-4910  
[Cristina@deps.org](mailto:Cristina@deps.org)

### **DEPS Grants \$140,000 in Graduate Scholarships**

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., August 7-** 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 2017- 2018 academic year.

Fourteen promising students from the total field of applicants were awarded \$10,000 partial scholarships to continue studying or pursuing a career in directed energy (DE) technology areas. These scholars include: Nicholas Antonellis of Wesleyan University, Lilian Casias and Jon Pouncey of the University of New Mexico; Justin Cook, Evan Hale and Michael Plascak of the University of Central Florida, Samuel Dickerson of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Patrick Forbes and Ray Wambold of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Matthew Kemnetz of Notre Dame University, Amanda Loveless of Purdue, Drew Packard of the University of Michigan, Zachary Shaw of Texas Tech University and Amber Vargas of Clemson University.

Candidates for the award must be full-time graduate students who are interested in pursuing or are currently studying the directed energy (DE) technology areas of High Energy Lasers (HEL) or High-Power Microwaves (HPM.) Since 2011, DEPS has provided more than \$715,000 in scholarships. The funds for these awards are provided by grants from the High Energy Laser Joint Technology Office, the Office of Naval Research and DEPS.

“The DEPS Scholarship committee was exceptionally pleased to see such a diversity of individuals, universities, and topic areas submitted. Almost half of the awarded efforts are related to high power microwave systems or components as well as the expected ones in laser systems and components. These scholarships are critical to the encouragement and development of Directed Energy future professionals which is a charter of this professional society and the other organizations funding these grants,” 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](http://www.deps.org).

**END**

**###**