

2017 Gladys Anderson Emerson Scholarship

Mairead Bartlett Smith College



Mairead Bartlett is to be commended for her ability to succeed despite limitations beyond her control. Besides taking traditional, lecture-based courses, she also began independent organic chemistry research as a sophomore. Nominator Elizabeth Jamieson writes: "Mairead is not only an excellent student, but she excels at independent research as well." Her research advisor, Professor David Gorin notes:

"Mairead has made exciting progress on a very important problem. She is technically skilled in the lab, has maintained a positive attitude despite sometimes frustrating results, and is highly engaged. Perhaps more importantly, Mairead ably grasps the intellectual big picture of her project and is able to independently propose experiments and structure her time, which are unusual skills for undergraduate researchers." "I am convinced that Mairead has unusual potential to succeed at the highest level in whatever career path she chooses." "She is among the most self-aware learners I have encountered at Smith – she is exceedingly adept at identifying when her understanding is strong or weak and proceeding accordingly."

Professor Kate Queeny writes: "I would simply add that Mairead's ability to study abroad in Paris for an entire year is yet another testament to both her intellect and her engagement." Mairead writes about her own experience:

"My time in France has been illuminating, and throughout the course of the year it has become more clear that I want to spend my life doing

chemistry. At the end of the semester I'll return to the United States to continue researching Chan-Lam cross coupling, both over the summer and as my senior undergraduate thesis. I plan on applying for Ph.D. programs in organic chemistry, most likely in organometallics. I aim to become a professor at an undergraduate institution so I can take an active role in both teaching and research. I want to encourage undergraduates to try their own hand in lab while still maintaining my role in the classroom. I have found my calling in chemistry, and I hope to one day share my enthusiasm with the next generation of chemists."