2010 lota Sigma Pi Anna Louise Hoffman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Research Aurelia Rose Honerkamp-Smith



Ms. Aurelia Honerkamp-Smith is an accomplished graduate student of Professor Sarah L. Keller at the University of Washington. Ms. Honerkamp-Smith is using Physical Chemistry to rigorously quantify the physical parameters of membranes exhibiting compositional heterogeneity. The problem is important because membrane protein function and spatial distribution can vary significantly in response to change in membrane lipid composition, meaning important cell functions such as signaling budding and transport may be affected. Aurelia has already made major contributions to research and the scientific community. Her nominator writes concerning a recent publication of her work, one of her reviewers wrote "Congratulations to the authors for an outstanding contribution ... This is indeed one of the best, if not the best, manuscript that I have read in the field over the last few years." Ms. Honerkamp-Smith is a proven leader in the classroom, research laboratory and as a mentor and a volunteer. She is an accomplished young scientist with excellent potential to become an important leader in the biophysical chemistry community. Her work, drive, and interdisciplinary strength are outstanding, and she seems extremely focused and aware of where she wants to be in the future.