

Congratulations to the Scholarship Award Winners!

Education is a key mission of SPE and of the Palisades-New Jersey Section. Our Section's scholarships are funded by the Gerson-Riley Endowment Fund. We have awarded approximately \$200,000 over the past five years, and in 2020 awarded \$26,000. We celebrated the students in a virtual meeting this year. Several of the scholarships are named in honor of members of our section. You can read about their [history on our website](#). Board of Directors' scholarships were also awarded.

This year, **the Alva Whitney Memorial Graduate Scholarship** was awarded to **Kees Schipper**, an MS candidate in Nutritional Epidemiology and Data Science at Tufts Friedman School. He graduated from Yale College in 2019 with a B.S. in Biomedical engineering. His summer research at Tufts under Profs. Zheng and Steindler was in testing the effect of antioxidants found in a polymolecular botanical drug.

Board of Directors' Graduate Scholarships were awarded to:

Alexandra Spitzer, who graduated from Rutgers with a BS in Materials Science and Engineering and will be seeking a PhD in Materials Science at the University of Illinois.

Alyaa Elsaadany, who is a PhD candidate in materials Science at Rutgers University and earned her BS in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at NYU. She is working on thermally protective and fire retardant coatings in Dr. Nosker's lab.

Brian MacDowall, who is a PhD candidate in Materials Science at Rutgers. He earned his BS in Materials Science at Rutgers and is working under Dr. Nosker in graphene reinforced polymer matrix composites. He is studying the mechanical effects of graphene orientation in polymers.

The Jack Ryan Undergraduate Scholarship was awarded to **Elizabeth DeFazio**, a rising Junior at Rutgers who will be earning a BS in Materials Science/Engineering. She is performing undergraduate research in PEG/cellulose acetate attachment to nanoparticles. She is currently working at a co-op job at Phillips 66.

The Richard Bradley Undergraduate Scholarship was awarded to **Farah Samy**, a rising Senior at Rutgers who will be earning a BS in Materials Science.

The J. Stephen Duerr Undergraduate Scholarship was awarded to **Kyle McKee**, a rising Senior at Rutgers in Materials Science and Engineering.

Board of Director's Undergraduate scholarships were awarded to:

Anna Minakhina, a rising Senior at Rutgers and will be earning a BS in Materials Science and Engineering with a minor in Mathematics. She is doing undergraduate research in graphene nanoflake-reinforced polymer composites.

Alissa Kapp, a rising sophomore at Elon University, studying Environmental Science.

Jordan Remillard, a rising sophomore at Elon University, studying Marketing.

Tyler Balas, a rising sophomore at TCNJ, majoring in Physics.

Emily Duerr, a rising sophomore at Duke University in Pre-Med.

The Sal Monte High School Scholarship was awarded to **Kyle Duerr**, who will be attending Duke University, studying Biomedical Engineering. He graduated from Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, NC.

The Francis McAndrew High School Scholarship was awarded to **Joi Rae Connor**, who will be attending Loyola University of Chicago, studying Marketing. She graduated from Springside Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia.

Board of Directors High School Scholarships were awarded to:

Jonathan Benderly-Kremen, who graduated from Metuchen High School and will be attending TCNJ.

Congratulations and best wishes to all the award-winning students!

And thank you to Mark Lavach for organizing and to the Scholarship Committee for all the time and effort in reviewing applications.

IN MEMORIAM: SPE NY SECTION: BERNARD COOPERSTEIN

Bernard Cooperstein passed away, at the age of 92, on May 22, 2020, due to complications from COVID-19. He was born in Brooklyn, New York – the youngest of Rose and Ruben Cooperstein’s three children. After graduating from high school, he proudly served his country as a Marine in The Korean War. He was a lifelong New Yorker who achieved great success in the Plastics Industry. He was longtime member of what was the Newark Section of SPE, serving on its board and as a fixture at local NY Section meetings.

Bernie was best known in the Tooling Industry as a salesman for H&S Tool in Brooklyn, NY. Bernie was a Brooklyn original, with a strong hand shake upon every greeting. He was the great uncle of the current SPE NY Section President, Adam Winston.

Bernie was predeceased by his parents, Rose and Ruben, brother Abraham, and prominent members of the plastics community, brother-in-law Sol Halpern, and nephew, Marvin Halpern.

He will be missed.

SPE PALISADES NEW JERSEY SECTION NEWS

The SPE Palisades New Jersey board held a virtual meeting in July. Peggy Schipper will be the Section president for the year, which runs from July 2020 to July 2021. Arya Tewatia will be first vice-president, and Stu Kapp will be secretary. Thank you to all those serving in new positions and to those who have graciously agreed to continue in their positions. See the last page of the newsletter for an updated list. Elections for new directors typically are held in March, and the Board is looking for new people who want to get involved. Contact the Board at info@spe-pnj.org if you are interested or have questions.

It appears that virtual meetings will be the new normal for now, but Board members are hopeful that a virtual forum might allow some to reconnect who wouldn’t normally make the drive to a physical meeting. Details for our fall virtual section meeting will be sent out as soon as we figure it out.



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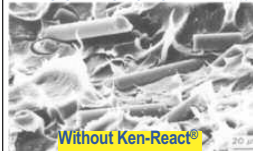
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