

GNLD Scholarship Encourages Tomorrow's Researchers Today!

The 8th annual GNLD-Arthur Furst Undergraduate Scholarship was awarded to University of San Francisco student Brett Sharp in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement in the field of Biology.

Raised in Boulder, Colorado, and benefiting from a bilingual education, Brett speaks fluent Spanish. Her work experience varied from medical assistant to construction worker before she found her way to the University of San Francisco.

In seeking a well-rounded lifestyle, Brett performs volunteer work as a medical assistant and pursues outdoor fitness. As comfortable in the mountains as she is in the laboratory, Brett excels at snowboarding, hiking, and rock climbing. In addition to volunteering and pursuing rigorous academic goals, Brett finds time to be an officer of the USF Ski and Snowboard Club.



Brett Sharp



SAB Founder and honoree, Dr. Arthur Furst, Brett Sharp, and GNLD International Vice President of Science, Technology and Marketing John R. Miller.

Brett's academic achievements include Dean's List Honor Roll and acceptance into the Alpha Sigma Nu honor society for outstanding academic performance and community service.

In a Senior-level Research Techniques course in Cell Biology, Brett's assignment was to design and execute an original laboratory research project. A daunting task for some, but Brett embraced the challenge, combining procedures learned in class and those discovered from current research papers. Her focus was the defense of antioxidant alpha and beta-carotene against metal toxicity.

Using earthworms as a test model (a technique originally developed by SAB member Dr. Arthur Furst), Brett demonstrated that beta-carotene increased the survival rate of the worms in short term acute toxicity tests. She is hoping that these results, which show the minimization of DNA damage, will eventually be considered a prevention against cancer.

Brett exceeded her professor's expectations by pursuing her results through several methods. Applying

state of the art techniques, she found that the earthworms produced a significant amount of metal binding protein, suggesting the ability to develop protection against toxins.

Brett earned the only A+ in the course.

Following this outstanding work, Brett was accepted into the Honor's Thesis Program in Biology. Brett hopes that her research will continue as she pursues a career in medicine, emphasizing research on the physiological effects of alcoholism.

"GNLD is proud to help tomorrow's researchers make new discoveries that can help

change the face of health care," states John Miller, Scientific Advisory Board Member and GNLD International Vice President of Science, Technology & Marketing. Brett Sharp clearly demonstrates the superior work ethic and scientific excellence sought in this prestigious annual award.

Created in 1995, the GNLD-Arthur Furst Undergraduate Scholarship honors an undergraduate science major at the University of San Francisco for



demonstrating remarkable academic ability and the talent for making discoveries to advance science and human understanding.