



## SCIENCE & MATH:

*Major Success!*

Michael J. Auerbach, Dean



COLLEGE of  
CHARLESTON

SCHOOL OF SCIENCES  
AND MATHEMATICS

### 3 STUDENTS NAMED GOLDWATER SCHOLARS

Biochemistry major Alexandra Schwartz and chemistry majors John Cobb and Alyssa Johnson were among 240 undergraduates to be honored by the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation for their studies. The one- and two-year scholarships cover the cost of tuition, fees, room and board and books up to \$7500. The College was one of just a handful of schools around the country with three or more honorees.

Professor Pamela Riggs-Gelasco, the chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, says that having three Goldwater Scholars in chemistry is testimony to decades of dedication to creating and sustaining an environment where undergraduates can thrive doing research.

Read more at [The College Today](#).

### COMPUTER SCIENCE TEAM WINS CYBERSECURITY COMPETITION

The College's Cybersecurity Club took home the top prize at the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition. This year's event included teams from Clemson University, the University of South Carolina in Columbia, The Citadel, Claflin University, Trident Technical College, Charleston Southern University, and ECPI University.

The competition tasked teams with protecting a small network from hacker attacks from an opposing team. Each team was scored for accomplishing tasks and maintaining a normal network service such as mail, databases and web servers while also detecting and responding to the hacking threats. Dr. **Xenia Mountroudou** was one of the mentors for the team. She says the contests teach students how to respond to threats under pressure.

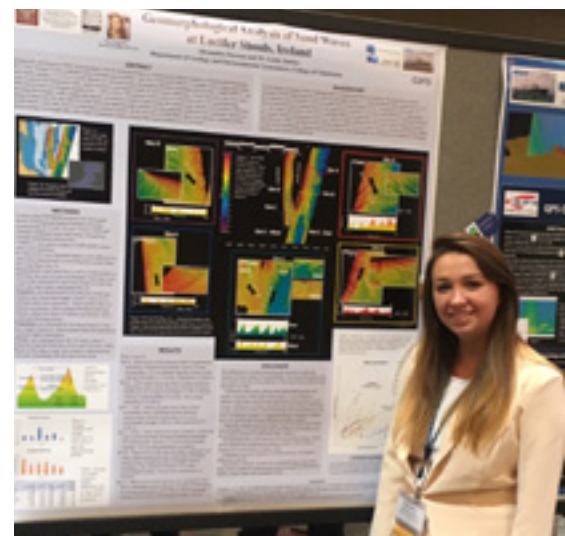
Read more at [The College Today](#).

### BEAMS STUDENTS SWEEP US HYDRO AWARDS

Once again, undergraduates of the College's Benthic Acoustic Mapping and Survey Program (BEAMS) were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in the Academic Poster Session of the 2017 US Hydro Conference, the bi-annual meeting of The Hydrographic Society of America. Alexandra Dawson, pictured below, and William Howard were also recipients of the 2017 US Hydro Conference Student Outreach Award.

J. Ryan Hawsey was awarded The Hydrographic Society of America Student Scholarship and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute's Summer Student Fellowship.

Read more at [The College Today](#).



## **9 NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES**

Catherine Dadmun, Chemistry; Erin Day, Chemistry; Katherine Duchinski, Biology; Alec Esper, Biochemistry; Sondrica Goines, Chemistry; Christian Hawkins, Physics; J. Ryan Hawsey, Geology; Katelynn Huneycutt, Math and Physics; Caroline Oliver, Data Science

## **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

Jasmin Graham, Marine Biology

## **GEOLOGY MAJOR WINS 2017 GeoCUR AWARD**

Geology major Michael Shahin won the 2017 GeoCUR Award for Excellence in Student Research. Michael is working on a NASA funded project to study the physical environment of coral reef in the U.S. Virgin Islands using new generation satellite sensors.

## **PHYSICS, MATHEMATICS STUDENTS WIN TOP AWARDS AT THE SOUTH CAROLINA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE ANNUAL MEETING**

Physics major Ashley Rice was awarded Best Oral Presentation. Ashley's research with Drs. Ana and Sorinel Oprisan focuses on iron oxide nanoparticles, which are becoming an increasingly important factor in the biomedical industry.

Katelynn Huneycutt, a double major in math and physics, was awarded Best Poster Presentation for her research pertaining to aeroelastic flutter, a self-excited instability which can occur when a thin elastic object is immersed in a fluid flow.

## **FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM GRANT SEMI-FINALIST**

Sarah Wiegrefe, Data Science

## **3 GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS**

Jordan Carter, Biology; Hayley Drennon, Marine Biology; Hillary McLaurin, Computer Science

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE S.M.A.R.T. SCHOLARSHIP FINALIST**

J. Ryan Hawsey, Geology

## **FULBRIGHT SUMMER INSTITUTE**

Jasmine Shabazz, Biology

## **NEUROSCIENCE MINORS PRESENT AT SYNAPSE**

At the Symposium for Young Neuroscientists and Professors of the SouthEast (SYNAPSE) student talks are chosen competitively based on abstract submission. Winners also receive travel awards. This year **four** of the **five** selected talks were presented by College of Charleston neuroscience minors. The reputation of the College's neuroscience program and students is rapidly growing throughout the southeast.

## **HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EXROP)**

Alyssa Johnson, Chemistry