

NOTES

FROM DEAN CLARK

April 4, 2016

Dear members of the Hajim School community:

Madeleine Laitz '16 of Chemical Engineering never took calculus or “sciency stuff” in high school. “That was not really my interest,” she says. “I didn’t feel I was good at it.” **This fall she will head to Imperial College in London, UK, on a Fulbright Scholarship** to design ultra thin, flexible fuel cells and pursue a master’s degree in green chemistry. Her journey to a Fulbright was propelled by her willingness to “dive into” new opportunities — and by a vote of confidence during her freshman year from **Prof. Eldred Chimowitz**, her faculty advisor. Click [here](#) to read more about Madeleine and how **she has taken advantage of the "full spectrum" of opportunities available to Hajim School students.**

The team of students who secured a [Davis Projects for Peace grant](#) last year, led by **Rose Mbaye '16** of Biomedical Engineering, has **received an additional \$10,000 grant** from the U.S. Embassy in Senegal to continue exploring **educational alternatives for children who are forced to work as beggars** in the West African nation. **Boubacar Diallo '16** of Mechanical Engineering has joined the team, which also includes **Mame Coumba Mbodji '17**, a business major, and **Eyram Adedze '17**, an economics and psychology major. “Based on the accomplishments and experiences we had last year, we are able to expand on what we did last year, addressing more of the root causes of why there are so many child beggars in Senegal and involving more of the community into taking actions to solve this problem,” Rose says. The group will be **working with 500 children from 20 boarding schools, with the help of 100 local university volunteers.**

Congratulations as well to **Daniel Nikolov**, a PhD student in Optics, for being **selected for a prestigious Link Foundation Fellowship in Modeling, Simulation, and Training** for the 2016-17 academic year. Daniel, who works with Prof. Jannick Rolland, is **developing a computation and visualization tool for optical simulations** called Eikonol+. "This software has the potential to enable the design, manufacturing and testing of a new generation of optical systems," Daniel explains. "For instance, Eikonol+ could be used for a design of a compact spectrometer for medical imaging or an augmented reality head-worn display." The Link awards were created to foster advanced level research, to enable Ph.D. students the freedom to work on their research full time, and to disseminate the results of that research through conferences, journals, and other publications.

Nominations for our Dottie Welch Student Enrichment Award, named in honor of BME's outstanding former undergraduate coordinator, will be **accepted through April 14**. The award is given annually to a Hajim School faculty or staff member "whose performance and dedication enriches the student experience" in the tradition exemplified by [Dottie](#) during her 25-plus years of service. Send nominations to mperry11@ur.rochester.edu. All nominations will be compiled onto **an electronic ballot that will be made available April 18-28.**

Scott DeGhetto '86, an Electrical Engineering alumnus who is now managing director of Moelis &

Company global investment bank and a member of the Hajim School Dean's Advisory Committee, **will lecture on investment banking at 4:40 p.m. Thursday, April 7, in Schlegel Hall S207.** His lecture is sponsored by the Simon School's Career Management Center and Investment Banking Club.

As always, keep me updated, and have a great week.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Clark
Professor and Dean



HAJIM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER