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ASM UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

Washington DC – December 6, 2016— The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) has selected **Fiona Buchanan** from **Michigan State University** as a 2016 award recipient of the ASM Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

This fellowship is aimed at highly competitive students who wish to pursue graduate careers (Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.) in microbiology. Fellows have the opportunity to conduct full time summer research at their home institution with an ASM mentor and present their research results at the 2017 ASM Microbe Meeting (*formerly known as the ASM General Meeting*) in New Orleans, LA if their abstract is accepted.

Each fellow receives up to a \$4,000 stipend and funding for travel expenses to the Microbe Academy for Professional Development and ASM Microbe Meeting.

This year, eighty-five applications were received and forty-two were awarded. Of the forty-two awardees, thirty students are from research and doctoral granting universities and twelve students are from undergraduate and masters' granting institutions.

Dr. Lee Kroos from **Michigan State University** is Fiona Buchanan's mentor. The title of the research project is: Defining the Interaction of SpoIVFB and Amino Acid Variants with Sporulation Sigma Factor Pro-sigma k in *Bacillus subtilis*.

The American Society for Microbiology is the largest single life science society, composed of over 48,000 scientists and health professionals. ASM's mission is to promote and advance the microbial sciences.

ASM advances the microbial sciences through conferences, publications, certifications and educational opportunities. It enhances laboratory capacity around the globe through training and resources. It provides a network for scientists in academia, industry and clinical settings. Additionally, ASM promotes a deeper understanding of the microbial sciences to diverse audiences.

Please visit <http://www.asm.org/urf> for more information on the ASM Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program.

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