

**API Laboratory Scholars United By Desire to Serve Others**

**Traverse City, MI** – A strong desire to serve others unites the winners of the 2015 American Proficiency Institute (API) scholarships. Five medical laboratory science students, struck by the power of a diagnosis, are eager to pursue careers in the laboratory field.

“Whether serving active duty in the military or by experiencing difficulties with the birth of a child, these students have an overwhelming desire to give back to the community,” said Daniel C. Edson, President of API. “Once exposed to medical laboratory science and its interesting coursework, these students chose the laboratory profession as their route for giving back.”

API awarded \$2,000 scholarships to: Tori Baragiola, a senior at St. John’s Hospital School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences; Michelle Bruns, a senior at Wright State University; Sharie Mae David, a senior at Stevenson University; Jennifer Pemp, a junior at Texas State University, San Marcos; and Jessie VanderLann, a junior at Michigan State University.

Awardees described how their career goals would serve society. “I want to repay my gratitude,” said Ms. Baragiola. “Ultimately, it was good lab results that allowed my husband and me to bring my son home from the hospital. Medical laboratory scientists are true heroes.”

“Through this occupation, I know I will improve the lives of others,” added Ms. Bruns. “My ultimate desire is to set up a clinic in Africa, where patients can be evaluated and treated for their diseases.”

“We are proud to support the future of the laboratory profession through these API scholarships,” said Edson.

The American Proficiency Institute is one of the largest proficiency testing providers in the world, serving nearly 20,000 laboratories. API offers innovative solutions and technical excellence for the proficiency testing needs of hospital laboratories, physician offices, clinics, and point-of-care testing sites.

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