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API Awards Ninth Year of Medical Laboratory Science Scholarships

Traverse City, MI – An appreciation for scientific advancements flows strongly among the winners of the 2016 American Proficiency Institute (API) scholarships. Five students enrolled in medical laboratory science programs across the United States won the awards to further their education.

“Now in our ninth year of awarding API Scholarships, I continue to be impressed with the caliber of students entering the medical laboratory science profession,” said Daniel C. Edson, President of API. “This year, a number of the scholarship winners are non-traditional students. They began their studies and careers in other fields, but found the clinical laboratory enticing enough to switch course.”

API awarded \$2,000 scholarships to: Brittany Isaac, a senior at the University of Alabama-Birmingham; Craig Kleeamer, a senior at Indiana University; Emily Matthys, a senior at Marshfield Labs Medical Laboratory Science Program; Ellen Panetto, a junior at the University of Massachusetts – Lowell; and Ariel Tompsett, a senior at the Nebraska Methodist Hospital Medical Laboratory Science Program.

With a personal interest in nutrition, Ms. Panetto earned an associate degree in dietetic technology, but changed her pursuit of a career as a dietitian. “I found the challenge of my science classes and the excitement I felt doing lab work to be a great breakthrough,” she explained.

Ms. Matthys, who began her career as a field biologist, discovered the laboratory is where she excelled. “I think one of the most urgent issues clinical laboratory professionals will face is the spread of multi-drug resistant microorganisms,” she noted. “It will be rewarding to help identify and diagnose these infections to help inform treatment.”

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