

November 2, 2007

To: Division of Physical and Biological Sciences  
From: Stephen Thorsett, Dean

### **Announcement: Staff Scholarship Winners 2007-2008**

I am very pleased to announce the winners of this year's Physical and Biological Sciences Staff Scholarship Award. This annual scholarship was established to provide assistance to the children of non-probationary career staff members currently employed within the division. Undergraduate students who are actively enrolled full-time in an accredited post-secondary institution are considered eligible.

Academic achievement and financial need are considered when giving the award. All three of our winners have maintained good academic standing while juggling very active college schedules which include full course loads, travel, athletics, community service, and other extra-curricular activities such as part-time employment.

This year's winners are:

#### **Nicolas Victor Kucharski**

Nicolas is a senior at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, studying Electrical Engineering. He is the son of Basia Kucharska who works at PISCO.

#### **Joseph Charles Concialdi**

Joseph is a senior at Loyola Marymount University, majoring in Applied Mathematics, with a minor in Physics. He is the stepson of Michael Kenner who works in the Institute of Marine Sciences.

#### **Smita Mascharak**

Smita is a freshman at Stanford University. She is interested in Biological Chemistry. She is the daughter of Nandini Bhattacharya who works for the ACE program.

Please join me in congratulating these winners and their parents. We are proud of their accomplishments and look forward to hearing about their future successes.

The Staff Scholarship Committee asked me to convey the difficulty of arriving at this final decision given the number of worthy applicants. The competition was particularly close, and we were not able to make awards to all applicants. This is a relatively young endowment with limited funds.

If you are interested in helping to grow the endowment fund, so that future scholars might benefit, please contact Jeffrey Kongsli in our Development Office. He can be reached at [kongsli@ucsc.edu](mailto:kongsli@ucsc.edu). Let him know you are interested in making a donation to the *Natural Sciences Staff Scholarship Fund*, Designation Code: **NA002ENDF**.