



SIPES FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dallas, Texas – The SIPES Foundation, administering the scientific, educational and charitable programs of the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists, is very pleased to announce that eight outstanding earth science students have been selected to receive scholarship awards this year. Applications were accepted from upper-division or graduate students in any field of earth science who had a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Receiving \$2,000 awards from the Marvolene Speed Bennett and Carleton D. Speed, Jr. Endowed Fund, the Stephen E. Collins Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Edward A. McCullough Endowed Fund are **Michael B. Lichtenwalter**, a master's degree student in geology at Wichita State University; **Lauren E. Seidman**, a master's degree student in geology at Baylor University; and **Matthew D. Boyce**, a master's degree student in geology at the University of Oklahoma.

\$1250 scholarship awards were presented to **Jennifer D. Eoff**, a Ph.D. candidate in geology at the University of Oklahoma; **David Joseph Hansen**, a Ph.D. candidate in geology at Texas A&M University; **Daryl A. Lederhos**, a master's degree student in geology at Wichita State University; **Renee L. Vardy**, an undergraduate student in geology at Wichita State University; and **Shelby L. Walters**, a master's degree student in geology at the University of Kansas.

Since its establishment in 1981, the SIPES Foundation has awarded scholarships to more than 151 promising earth science students. Funding for the 2006 awards was made available through donations from SIPES members; a bequest from the estate of Marvolene Speed Bennett, widow of the society's founding member, Carleton D. Speed, Jr.; the Stephen E. Collins Memorial Scholarship Fund; and the Edward A. McCullough Endowed Fund. The SIPES Foundation also conducts and films educational seminars, contributes funding to earth science publications and continuing education programs, and also maintains an extensive library of earth science films.

The Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists is a national organization of more than 1250 self-employed geologists, geophysicists and engineers engaged primarily in domestic energy exploration and development. SIPES has fourteen chapters located in oil and gas centers of the United States.

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