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Academic Excellence

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Academic Excellence

04.13.2010 | Students, Engineering, Research

A University of Dayton chemical engineering student can count herself among a group that includes top undergraduate scholars from Harvard, Princeton and Yale.

Julia Faeth, a 21-year-old junior from New Riegel, Ohio, has been awarded one of 278 Barry M. Goldwater scholarships.

She won a one-year scholarship that will cover tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

Faeth currently is conducting research in the University of Dayton Research Institute's sustainable environmental technologies group to more accurately predict the useable oil content of algae species.

"My career goal is to obtain a Ph.D. in chemical engineering to conduct research in sustainability and teach at the university level," Faeth said.

Faeth is the second Goldwater scholar from the University of Dayton in the last three years.

Congress established the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program in 1986 to honor the late Arizona senator. The program's purpose is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

The Goldwater scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields, according to Patricia Hart, director of the University of Dayton's University Honors Program.

Goldwater scholars have gone on to win prestigious Rhodes scholarships, Marshall awards and Churchill scholarships.

This is the second time this academic year the University of Dayton chemical engineering department has been on the national stage.

The National Materials Advisory Board named chemical engineering department chair Charles Browning to its committee on materials needs and research and development strategy for future military and aerospace propulsion systems. Only seven faculty members from the nation's universities serve on the 12-member committee.

According to its Web site, the board is the principal source of objective, independent and informed scientific, technological and policy assessments of materials, processes and applications for use by U.S. industry, government agencies and universities. The board strives to focus on materials and systems issues that have the greatest importance to the nation's security, health and welfare.

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