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AFRL Wright Scholars graduate at the top of their class

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WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The Wright Scholar Research Assistant program has resumed for its third summer, ushering intelligent, motivated high school students and recent graduates into Air Force Research Laboratory, Air Force Institute of Technology, and Aeronautical Systems Center. Of the 30 Dayton-area students admitted into the program, 11 recently graduated at the top of their class.

The Wright Scholar Research Assistant program is a 10-12 week paid internship in which high school juniors and seniors have the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with scientists and engineers base-wide. This highly competitive program attracts both local and national applicants. The recent top-ranking graduates from the Dayton area are:

Irene Brockman, valedictorian of Troy High School, is currently in her first year of the Wright Scholar program working in the power division superconductivity lab of the Propulsion Directorate as an engineering aide.

Carroll High School's valedictorian, Daniel DeBrosse, graduated as his school's math department award winner and as the student voted "most likely to succeed."

Irene Duke, valedictorian of Kings High School, is a first-year Wright Scholar in the find, fix, track and identify branch of the Sensors Directorate, where she is using MATLAB interactive programming software to conduct image registration.

Amanda Hong graduated as valedictorian of Beavercreek High School. She is a second-year Wright Scholar, working in the Propulsion Directorate fuels branch identifying and quantifying reactive and non-reactive sulfur-containing compounds in jet fuel samples.

Sarah Hubbard of Greeneview High School graduated valedictorian in her class. She is a second-year Wright Scholar who does technical writing for the Plans and Programs Branch of the Propulsion Directorate and assists in brochure design for the Sensors Directorate.

Miamisburg High School valedictorian David Kapka is in his first year of the Wright Scholar program. Employed in the energy



Wright Scholar Amanda Hong prepares fuels for testing at AFRL Propulsion Directorate's fuels branch. She is one of 11 Dayton area graduates in the Wright Scholar Research Assistant program to graduate at the top of her class.

storage and thermal sciences branch of the Propulsion Directorate, he is experimenting on the efficiency of heat pipes.

Salutarian Andrew Mizener graduated among the Lehman Catholic High School Class of 2004. He is currently in his third year of the Wright Scholar program working in the design and analysis methods branch of the Air Vehicles Directorate with adaptive structures and morphing aircraft designs.

Michael Ooten, a second-year Wright Scholar, graduated from West Carrollton Senior High School as valedictorian of his class. He works in the design and analysis methods branch of the Air Vehicles Directorate testing the joined-wing aircraft.

Alter High School valedictorian Amanda Reeber, a second-year Wright Scholar, works in the Human Effectiveness Directorate conducting research involving centrifuge studies and data collection.

Brent Stahlman, Fairborn High School salutarian, is a second-year Wright Scholar in the flight mechanics branch within

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the Engineering Directorate of Aeronautical Systems Center. He produces and analyzes graphs related to flight performance and aerodynamics.

Carlisle High School salutatorian, William Von Hagen, works at the Air Force Institute of Technology electrical and computer engineering branch as a lab technician. A first-year Wright Scholar, he is working within the microelectronics lab with microelectro mechanical systems.

If you are a high school junior or senior who would like to experience research in the Air Force, applications will be available this fall for the 2005 summer work period. The official announcement and application will be posted on the AFRL Propulsion Directorate home page, www.pr.afrl.af.mil. If you are a military or government employee and are interested in becoming a Wright Scholar mentor, contact Shelley Rich, program coordinator, at 255-1870. @

Sarah Hubbard contributed to this report.