FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Julie Magallanes-Guevara
Manager of Public Affairs
(213) 435-9934 (C)
(323) 262-0997 Ext. 628 (O)
jmguevara@greatmindsinstem.org

Great Minds in STEM™ Announces Class of 2014 HENAAC Scholars

GMiS Awards Over $300,000 in College Scholarships

Monterey Park, CA, September 1, 2014 – Now in its 26th year of promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to underserved and underrepresented communities, Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) is pleased to announce the 105 students of its Class of 2014 HENAAC Scholars. This class of awardees represents the outstanding scholastic achievements of some of the nation’s most technically-talented underserved students. Over 800 qualified applications were received for this scholarship competition.

GMiS awards these merit-based scholarships in three categories: Corporate/Federal Agency-Sponsored Scholarships; Special Recognition Scholarships; and In Memoriam and Personal Tribute Scholarships. Additionally, GMiS presents two special leadership awards to the top graduate student and undergraduate student who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and technical talent as an emerging STEM scholar in the classroom, in their research, and in the Hispanic community.

The recipient of the HENAAC Undergraduate Student Leadership Award is Mr. Ernesto Covarrubias, a senior mechanical engineering student at California State University, Los Angeles. Ernesto has been a Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program student conducting research and represents the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology on the university’s Associated Students Incorporated Board of Directors. Marlene Patino, an aerospace engineering doctoral candidate at the University of California, Los Angeles, is the recipient of the HENAAC Graduate Student Leadership Award. She has performed cutting-edge research in plasma physics in the application of propulsion devices at both the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. Outside the classroom she is involved with the community and is an active ballet folklorico dancer. Both of these students shine as outstanding role models for the Hispanic community.

In addition to the scholarship, GMiS subsidizes close to $1,000 in travel, registration and hotel accommodations costs for each scholar to attend the 26th Annual HENAAC Conference, in New Orleans, from October 2 – 4, 2014. Scholars will be honored during the Student Leadership Dinner, on Saturday, October 4, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans.

Following is a listing of the Class of 2014 HENAAC Scholars. Please visit the GMiS website for additional updates.

If you are interested in supporting the Great Minds in STEM HENAAC Scholars Program, please contact Dr. Gary Cruz at gcruz@greatmindsinstem.org.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

HENAAC/Undergraduate Student Leadership Award
(Sponsored by The Chrysler Foundation)

Ernesto Covarrubias
Mechanical Engineering
California State University, Los Angeles

HENAAC/Graduate Student Leadership Award
(Sponsored by Ray and Carmela Mellado)

Marlene Patino
Aerospace Engineering
University of California, Los Angeles

CORPORATE-SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

HENAAC/Booz Allen Hamilton

Wigberto Maldonado-Rodriguez
Computer Engineering
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

HENAAC/Cummins, Inc.

Paulina Almada
Mechanical Engineering
University of Texas at El Paso

Amanda Montoya
Materials Engineering
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

Jorge Ramirez
Mechanical Engineering
University of Texas at El Paso

HENAAC/Dow Chemical

Mark Alvarez
Mechanical Engineering
California State University, Los Angeles

Ramiro Brigueda
Chemical Engineering
University of Oklahoma

Austin Cruz
Chemical Engineering
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Adrian Ramirez
Mechanical Engineering
University of Texas at El Paso

HENAAC/EMC Corporation

Arnold Cespedes
Computer Engineering
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

Karen Fernandez
Computer Science
Florida International University

Esther Rios-Lopez
Computer Engineering
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

Alexander Padin
Computer Science
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

Kathia Torres
Computer Engineering
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

HENAAC/Lockheed Martin Corporation

Roya Edalatpour
Electrical Engineering
University of Texas at El Paso

Keishly Fernandez
Electrical Engineering
University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

Alan Gonzalez
Electrical and Computer Engineering
California State University, Los Angeles

Carlos Martinez
Electrical Engineering
University of Southern California

Martin Sandoval
Electrical Engineering
California State University, Los Angeles

Neel Shah
Computer Engineering
Northeastern University

Randall Van Why
Computer Science and Mathematics
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

HENAAC/McAfee

Triana Carmenate
Computer Science
Florida International University
HENAAC/Najera Consulting, Inc.

Alberto Magana  Civil and Environmental Engineering  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Noemi Salazar  Mechanical Engineering  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

HENAAC/NASA Johnson Space Center

Eric Chaidez  Electrical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Stephanie Chavez  Aerospace Engineering  California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Griselda Coreas  Computer Engineering  Texas A&M University
Jessica Escobar  Electrical Engineering  University of Texas at Austin
Emanuel Estrada  Computer Science  University of Nevada, Reno
Manuel Retana  Mechanical Engineering  University of Nevada, Reno

HENAAC/NASA Langley Research Center

Laurence Garcia  Chemical Engineering  Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Kaitlyn Masiak  Biology  George Mason University

HENAAC/NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Dulce Castro  Electrical and Computer Engineering  University of Florida
Michael Chavez  Mechanical Engineering  University of California, Santa Barbara
Karina Quintana  Electrical Engineering  Florida International University
Ivan Ramirez  Aerospace Engineering  Georgia Institute of Technology
Victor Rosario-Melendez  Mechanical Engineering  University of Puerto Rico

HENAAC/Northrop Grumman Corporation

Kelsey DeJesus-Banos  Computer/Electrical Engineering  Florida Institute of Technology
Francisco Garcia-Salas  Electrical Engineering  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Francisco Lopez  Computer Science/Symbolic Systems  Stanford University

HENAAC/Rockwell Collins

Karla Leyva  Electrical and Computer Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Eduardo Miranda  Mechanical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Jessica Montes  Electrical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso

HENAAC/Southern California Edison

Michell Aranda  Mechanical Engineering  California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Anthony Becerril  Electrical Engineering  California State University, Long Beach
Gabriela Bran  Mechanical Engineering  University of California, Los Angeles
Guadalupe Cortes  Civil Engineering  California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Frank Garcia  Electrical Engineering  California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Cody Gonzalez  Mechanical Engineering  University of California, Riverside
Gema Loera  Civil Engineering  California State Polytechnic University,
Alexander Sosa  Electrical Engineering   California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Samantha Sotez  Mechanical Engineering   California State University, Los Angeles
Carlos Torres, Jr.  Electrical Engineering   University of California, Los Angeles

HENAAC/The Chrysler Foundation

Christian Cabrera  Electrical Engineering   California State University, Los Angeles
Joselyn Cardenas  Mechanical Engineering   University of Texas at El Paso
Ernesto Covarrubias  Mechanical Engineering   California State University, Los Angeles
Christian Gomez  Mathematics   University of California, Los Angeles
Maria Medina-Alva  Industrial Engineering   California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Patrick Sellas  Mechanical Engineering   California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

HENAAC/Union Pacific Railroad

Bryan Leon  Electrical Engineering   University of Texas at Austin

SPECIAL RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIPS

$10,000 U.S. Navy STEM Scholarship  
(Sponsored by NAVSEA & SSP)

Aida Arellano  Biomedical Engineering   Florida International University
Elizabeth Berry  Civil Engineering   California State University, Fresno
Thomas Castanon  Chemical Engineering   Texas A&M University – Kingsville
Giselle Castillo  Biology   University of Texas at San Antonio
Matthew Dorman  Engineering Physics   University of New Mexico
Tania Diaz  Physics   University of Puerto Rico
Elizabeth Favela  Engineering   University of Texas at El Paso
Jonathan Galaviz  Computer Engineering   California State University, Long Beach
Joachim Lohn-Jaramillo  Mechanical Engineering   New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology
Victor Mendez  Engineering   University of Texas at San Antonio
Shirin Mesleh  Chemistry   University of Puerto Rico-Campus Rio Piedras

Brianna Morales  Biomedical Engineering   University of Texas at San Antonio
Andres Ramirez-Cuellar  Mechanical Engineering   City College of New York, CUNY
Alejandra Soltero  Chemical Engineering   University of Texas at El Paso
Hugo Tejeda, Jr.  Civil Engineering   California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Great Minds in STEM Future STEM Leaders Scholarship

Rudolf “Monty” Montiel  Mechanical Engineering   Arizona State University
Jessica Bermudez  Bioengineering   The University of Pennsylvania

National Football Hall of Fame – San Gabriel Valley/Pasadena Chapter Scholarship

Christian Clark  Kinesiology   Occidental College
Adrien Perez  Kinesiology   Whittier College
Jose Robles  Aerospace Engineering  California State University, Los Angeles

GMiS STEM Showdown™ Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Shell Oil Company)

Ricky Guidry  Secondary Education Biology  University of New Orleans
Susan Nguyen  Math  University of New Orleans
Brandy Vann  Secondary Biology Education  University of New Orleans

HOLA at NASA Kennedy Space Center Scholarship  
(Sponsored by the Hispanic Outreach & Leadership Alliance)

Brandon Lopez  Aeronautical Engineering  University of Central Florida
Jair Reich  Chemical Engineering  University of South Florida

IN MEMORIAM AND PERSONAL TRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

HENAAC/Amezcua Family Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Robert and Debbie Amezcua)

Leslie Prat  Mechanical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Rodolfo Aguirre  Electrical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso

HENAAC/Ann Seki Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Chevron)

Logan Davidson  Chemical Engineering  University of Southern Colorado
David Perez-Aguilar  Chemical Engineering  University of California, San Diego

HENAAC/Davila-Treviño Memorial Scholarship

Edward Castillo  Electrical Engineering  University of Texas at San Antonio
Armando Contreras  Industrial Distribution  Texas A&M University
Kim Dominguez  Industrial Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Roberto Garcia  Mechanical Engineering  Southern Methodist University
Lluvia Herrera  Mechanical Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Nohemi Mora  Environmental Engineering  Southern Methodist University
Kymeri Morales  Forensic Chemistry  Sam Houston State University
Arturo Ortega  Biochemistry  University of Texas at El Paso
Federico Salinas  Mechanical Engineering  University of Texas at Austin
Alicia Sanchez  Biology & Mathematics  St. Mary's University

HENAAC/Jose R. Silva Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Raytheon)

Jacquelyn Trevino  Computer Engineering  Texas A&M University

HENAAC/Leticia S. Montiel Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Rudy Montiel)

Ana Guzman  Civil Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
Lisa Haisan  Civil Engineering  University of Texas at El Paso
HENAAC/Ray & Carmela Mellado Scholarship

Pearl Ortega  Industrial Engineering   Texas A&M University
Marlene Patino  Aerospace Engineering   University of California, Los Angeles

HENAAC/Victoria Alegría Tracy Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. John Tracy)

Liliana Montes de Oca  Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering California State University, Los Angeles
Leticia Santana  Mechanical Engineering   California State University, Los Angeles

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ is an education, national 501(c)3 nonprofit, whose vision is to be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting science, technology, engineering and math careers especially in underserved communities. Now, in its 25th year, it remains the only national entity, which has consistently recognized the esteemed technical achievements of STEM role models through a selective, peer-reviewed process. For more information on the event, please contact Julie Magallanes-Guevara, Manager of Public Affairs at (213) 435-9934 or (323) 262-0997 ext. 628 and visit the Great Minds in STEM™ website at www.greatmindsinstem.org.

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