

UCSD student Lara Diane Hutson receives prestigious National Fellowship

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UCSD STUDENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

University of California, San Diego student Lara Diane Hutson is one of this year's recipients of the highly prestigious National Science Foundation Fellowships.

Hutson attended Los Alamos High School in Los Alamos. She intends to pursue graduate level study in the field of neurosciences at the University of Washington.

The National Science Foundation is an independent agency of the federal government, established in 1950 to promote and advance scientific progress in the United States. The mission of the NSF is accomplished primarily by competitively awarding grants for research and education. The NSF research fellowship is awarded annually to students who demonstrate outstanding academic ability, and is intended for pursuit of graduate study in the life sciences, physical sciences, behavioral and social sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

The NSF fellowships provide an annual stipend of \$14,000 for the cost of full time graduate study. In addition, a \$7,500 annual cost of education allowance is granted, in lieu of all tuition and fees at U.S. institutions. Fellowship recipients may attend any appropriate non-profit institution of higher education. Each fellowship is awarded for three years of graduate study. However, the fellowships may be used over a five year period, in order to allow the recipients to incorporate research or teaching assistance into their educational experience.

Applications for the fellowship were submitted by 7,723 individuals nationwide. Fellowships were awarded to 740 students, six of whom are UCSD students. Awards were based upon merit, after an evaluation of the applications by a panel assembled by the National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences. Of the 740 fellowships awarded, 290 were awarded to women. The distribution of fellowships by scientific discipline was: 250 in engineering, 42 in mathematics, 32 in computer science, 47 in physics and astronomy, 47 in chemistry, 19 in earth sciences, 161 in biological sciences, and 142 in the social sciences and psychology.

Written by Molly Heekin

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