The Winners of the 2015 Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship are Caitlin Cavanagh and Barbara Wood Roberts

The Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund committee has selected two winners for 2015. They are Caitlin Cavanagh of the University of California, Irvine and Barbara Wood Roberts of Idaho State University.

Caitlin Cavanagh’s research focuses on the overrepresentation of Latino youth in the juvenile justice system. To understand the mechanisms of support that may differ among Latino and non-Latino youth, it is necessary to investigate the primary support system for youth on probation: their parents. In an effort to improve how the juvenile justice system works with families toward youth probationary success, Ms. Cavanagh’s study examines justice system treatment, offending trajectories, and how the youth-mother dyad dynamically responds to justice system contact for Hispanic/Latino families. Using a sample of first-time youth offenders and their mothers interviewed longitudinally, Cavanagh’s goal is to develop a cultural framework around which to create recommendations for policy makers.

Cavanagh received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Rochester and is currently in her final year of the PhD program in developmental psychology at The University of California, Irvine.

Barbara Wood Roberts’ research explores whether culture has an impact on the accuracy of perspective-taking and pain perception in a healthcare setting. Roberts’ project will illuminate the scientific community and the public about the differences in how we listen to each other in one of society’s most important relationships: the patient/provider dyad. Adding to the body of information about the ways that cultural interactions effect healthcare disparities means the results of this study can possibly play a role in the reduction and eventual elimination of such disparities.

Roberts’ said she is especially humbled to receive the Michael Sullivan Diversity scholarship, “I’m so delighted to have been selected; this is an important achievement for our lab. Thanks to opportunities like the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship, important research is made possible.”

Roberts’ received her Bachelor of Humanities from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Barbara is currently a second year PhD student in Experimental Psychology at Idaho State University.

This is the eighth year for the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship. Past winners are:

2014 Calia A. Torres of University of Alabama, and Jeremy J. Eggleston of Fordham University
2013 Jim Kim University of California-Davis and David Luck, University of California-Los Angeles
2012 Marisa Franco and Anahi Collado-Rodriguez of University of Maryland
2011 Ana Fernandez of Long Island University/Brooklyn Campus
2010 Ariz Rojas of University of South Florida
2009 Sangetta Parikshak of University of Kansas
2008 Janelle Hines of University of Cincinnati

About the Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund

This scholarship supports research/training and community projects in the area of diversity/multiculturalism. Awards up to $500 per recipient will be granted once a year and the winner will be announced in March. Grants are to be used to support or assist applicants in covering expenses related to their projects or research. The deadline for submission is the second Friday in January. The award application must be submitted electronically to the chair of the review committee by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the deadline.

The Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund is supported by generous gifts, grants and contributions from individuals and organizations who seek to honor Dr. Sullivan and advance important diversity initiatives or research in states, provinces and territories.
Your Donation Supports the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship

The Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund was created to provide financial assistance to support graduate student research projects in honor of Dr. Sullivan’s work with the American Psychological Association, state, provincial and territorial psychological associations and his commitment to diversity and inclusion. It has been funded by gifts, grants, contributions and bequests that have been made in honor of Dr. Sullivan over the years since he retired from the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Michael Sullivan served as the Assistant Executive Director for State Advocacy at the American Psychological Association. In this position, he managed the Practice Directorate’s program of making resources available to 60 affiliated psychological associations in every state and several Canadian provinces and U.S. territories. A fellow of APA, Dr. Sullivan has been a strong supporter of state psychological association involvement as a means of promoting diverse and multicultural leadership in psychology and positively impacting communities.

Additional information about the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship is available at www.ohpsych.org/visitors/foundation. Call for applications for the 2016 Scholarships begin in the fall of 2015.

Donation Form: Support the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Today!

Donations can be made online at www.ohpsych.org/visitors/foundation, or by completing and returning this form to:

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