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**Rebecca Carlson nominated for highly competitive STEM scholarship**

Michigan State University has nominated two of its outstanding undergraduate students for the Churchill Scholarship – a nationally competitive science, technology, engineering and mathematics award that pays for graduate school in the United Kingdom.

MSU’s nominees are Rebecca Carlson, an Honors College senior in chemical engineering and Alana O’Mara, an Honors College senior majoring in neuroscience in Lyman Briggs College.

She has participated in and led research both on and off MSU’s campus. A 2015 Goldwater Scholar, she is a research assistant in an applied biomolecular engineering lab and also a student ambassador for the Undergraduate Research Office.

Carlson was named an Evergrande Scholar, earning the opportunity the work at Harvard Medical School’s Evergrande Center for Immunologic Diseases. She is also a member of the Red Cedar Undergraduate Research Journal Student Editorial Board.

Carlson is from Rockford and graduated from Rockford Senior High School.

“I hope to use my interdisciplinary training in engineering, computational biology and immunology to better model autoimmune disease onset and progression in different genders and ethnicities as a professor at a major research university,” Carlson said. “I will also focus on mentoring young women in their research careers.”

Established in 1959, the [Winston Churchill Foundation’s Scholarship Program](http://bit.ly/2emEHJb) offers 14 American students of exceptional ability and outstanding achievement the opportunity to pursue graduate degrees in engineering, mathematics or the sciences in Churchill College at the University of Cambridge in England.

MSU has produced 18 Churchill Scholars. For more on MSU’s Churchill Scholar nominees, visit: [http://bit.ly/2emEHJb](http://bit.ly/2emEHJb)
Carlson is also one of MSU's nominees for the Marshall Scholarship, which provides support to approximately 40 of the most outstanding undergraduates in the U.S. to study at any university in the United Kingdom. If selected as a Marshall Scholar, she plans to study bioinformatics and theoretical systems biology.

Related Website: Story courtesy of MSUToday. Carlson nominated as Marshall Scholar by MSU. Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek

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