



Congratulations!

2012 Ferguson Scholar

CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS

North Carolina State University

Raleigh, North Carolina

Class of 2015

Biomedical Engineering Major

Christopher finished his freshman year at North Carolina State University with an overall GPA of 4.0 for the year. Christopher was a 2011 Ferguson Enterprises Scholarship alternate. He graduated as an AP Scholar with highest honors from Franklin Academy Charter High School in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Christopher has managed to devote many hours to serving his community and participating in school activities while maintaining perfect grades in both high school and at university.

Christopher has volunteered for many community services including the Special Olympics of North Carolina. He writes in his essay about how working with the disabled athletes at the Special Olympics gave him an understanding and perspective of the difficulties that they face daily and has made him realize that he wants his research to someday help people live better and save lives. Christopher has also been involved in many local service organizations volunteering at North Carolina State University blood drives, participating in service Raleigh, events with Habitats for Humanity, and many other on-campus volunteer opportunities. He is currently involved in an extension and engagement committee through the University Honors Program that supports a main cause as well as bringing in other service opportunities to the honors program. As part of Engineering World Health, he has participated in several build days building electrosurgical testers and other medical devices for developing countries.

Christopher has had extensive community and school involvement in both high school and college. Helping his community is important to Christopher as he has devoted many hours to the local library and peer mentoring. He has been a volunteer for the Rock-a-thon, the Art fair, and the Wake Forest Christmas Parade during his high school years. He was the National History Club Committee Head in high school as well as the Chess Club vice president. At NC State University, Christopher is in the Biomedical Engineering Club, the Engineer's Council, the Cultural Exploration Committee, and the Global Health Council. He has been recognized as a National Merit Commended Student and AP Scholar. At NC State University, Christopher won the Freshman Engineering Design Day, a competition in which all engineering freshman were required to participate. Christopher is currently an honors program ambassador and has been on the Dean's List for each semester.

Christopher was accepted into the Cell Mechanics Laboratory at NC State University this past year. The Cell Mechanics Laboratory investigates the effects of mechanical, electrical, and chemical stimuli on adult stem cell function with the long term goal of engineering musculoskeletal tissues that can withstand the biomechanical and biochemical demands of the *in vivo* environment. Christopher is currently working on a tensile strain bioreactor. He would like to publish and present his research and ultimately find a job in biomedical research when he graduates.

Christopher enjoys photography. He works part time as a photographer for student media and has been published many times in both the *Technician* and the *Agromeck*.

Christopher's very proud parents are Michael and Kathryn Phipps. Michael is the Inside Sales Manager at Branch # 1437.

Best of luck at North Carolina State University,

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Christopher Phipps