

Recipients come in many varieties



Kristin Mohary with third-graders Mercedez Mitchell and Jayson Williams

One of tomorrow's teachers

For **Kristin Mohary** of Pennington, majoring in education at TCNJ was a natural choice. She has been baby-sitting since the age of 13, "and every job since then has included working with kids," she said. Last fall, she worked as a field hockey referee.

Mohary is the first recipient of a scholarship established by **Dena Dodson '42**, which is designed to support a TCNJ student who is a graduate of Hopewell Valley Central High School and who intends to be a public school teacher.

"I thought it might be some one-time \$500 for books or something," she said. "I was never expecting that kind of generosity!" *Kristin Mohary*

Upon completing her application and essay, Mohary was awarded \$5,000 a year toward her education, a sum that shocked her. "I thought it might be some one-time \$500 for books or something," she said. "I was never expecting that kind of generosity!"

After graduation in 2008, Mohary would like to work in an elementary school, though her math-science-technology major grants certification in high school math. The number of science credits she is taking will also certify her through middle school.

An experienced people person

Growing up in Vineland and Rosenhayn, NJ, family life was always important to **David Gonzalez III**. "I have one brother and one sister; both are older than I am, but I have always had foster kids in and



David Gonzalez on the job in New Residence Hall

out of my house," he said. For most of his life, his parents have raised a great many children who were wards of the state due to disabilities of one type or another. Three of them were formally adopted by his parents.

With such an unusual family situation, Gonzalez was probably better prepared for the role of community adviser in New Residence Hall than most college students whose job it is to build community and keep the peace in a building full of sophomores.

Gonzalez, who graduated from Cumberland Regional High School in Seabrook in the top three percent of his class, attends TCNJ on a **Harcourt Foundation** scholarship that supports talented students from unusual and challenging home situations. At TCNJ,

he is majoring in information systems management "as a result of my lifelong interest in computers and technology," he said.

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Headed for biomedical engineering

Mafuja Begum came to the U.S. from Bangladesh at the age of seven with her mother and four siblings, to join their father (who had been living in Paterson, NJ, until the rest of the family could travel). Her father had been a high school math teacher and principal, and her mother had been a physician, so diligent



Mafujah Begum and a particle imaging velocimetry machine

study ran in the family. Begum graduated fourth in her high school class of 256 and has been a strong student in her college mathematics and engineering classes.

A devout Muslim with a winning smile and many extracurricular interests, she would have majored in biomedical engineering if it had been available when she enrolled, but she still took biomedical courses and eventually founded and headed the student chapter of the Biomedical Engineering Society. Now a senior, her special interest is cardiovascular medicine, and she loves working with the department's particle imaging velocimetry machines to learn in detail how blood flows.

After a year spent earning money to reduce over \$30,000 in college loans, Begum plans to attend graduate school to pursue biomedical engineering. Her scholarship assistance has come from **Blossom Kornbluh Frankel Brodsky '55**.

Marching to his own drumming

"Percussion has always been in my blood," said **Jason Price**. "My grandfather was a drummer, and my father played for a while, too, so it was inevitably bound to happen."

A drummer since the sixth grade, Price decided in junior high school to pursue music as a career. As a music education major with a concentration in percussion studies, he plans to teach in high school and to perform and give lessons on the side. He's already giving private lessons to teenagers and serves as a drumline instructor at Steinert High School in Hamilton Township. A Langhorne, PA, resident, he also plays with the Philadelphia Jazz Orchestra, a group composed of some of the top high school and college musicians in the Philadelphia area.

Along with four other TCNJ juniors and jazz enthusiasts, Price has formed a band called "Retrograde," which performs at local events to raise money for charitable causes, such as a recent campus gig that raised \$530 for the Salvation Army of New Orleans and a performance to benefit the Trenton Community Music School's scholarship fund for needy piano students. His scholarship was made possible by **Barbara Meyers Pelson '59**.



Jason Price sits amid some kettle drums

Following a family tradition

When **Lauren Chormanski** received word last summer that she was the recipient of the Shane J. Funcheon scholarship, she was extremely surprised.

The award is sponsored by **Maureen Reilly Funcheon '84** and **John Funcheon '83** in support of a rising senior in nursing who has displayed both passion and exemplary academic achievement in the area of perinatal nursing care (i.e., care at the time of birth).

Chormanski's success has been influenced by her mother, aunt, and



recipients



Lauren Chormanski with an intravenous feeding unit.

grandmother—all nurses. “I didn’t want to be a nurse at all until halfway through my first semester here,” she admits, but eventually chose this career path “because I wanted a job in which I can use math and science and be in an environment that always changes.” She has two younger siblings, one in college. “The scholarship helps so much, since my parents have two more educations to pay for,” she said.

Chormanski plans to work in perinatal care or surgery upon graduation in May and hopes to get her master’s degree after some work experience.

He enjoys using science to learn about people and wants a career in which he can do research and help mentally ill patients find a better life.

Jeremy Grey

A psychologist in the making

Jeremy Grey says he enjoys using science to learn about people and wants a career in which he can do research and help mentally ill patients find a better life.

Grey’s father and older sister both are police officers, so conversation in their Lumberton home often dealt with other people and their troubles. “They’re both keen observers of others,” he says. A psychology course in high school, exposure to more serious issues in college, and involvement in research studies have made clinical and research psychology an intriguing career path.

A scholarship and TCNJ have enabled Grey to study a wide variety of troubles, including analyzing obesity among Trenton teens and using brain wave data to measure stress. Grey has volunteered weekly with the Mercer County Crisis Hotline, talking with folks suffering from severe depression, psychoses, loneliness, and post-traumatic stress disorder, a problem he expects to grow in a world full of war and disaster.

Jeremy Grey and an electrode cap used to collect brain waves.

