Melissa was on her own when it came to planning her academic future. Fortunately, she discovered the American Chemical Society and its ACS Scholars Program, which provided funding, professional guidance and personal support.

“The mentors that ACS provides and the opportunities to network were so important because I didn’t have anyone else to tell me, ‘You can become a chemist and here’s how we can help.’ I am grateful to the ACS Scholars Program for that,” Melissa says.
As a retired professor of chemistry and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wyoming, Dr. E. Gerald Meyer has dedicated his life to promoting education in the sciences.

Still active in this pursuit at the age of 95, Gerry knows that passing the torch to a new generation of scientists requires professional and financial support from current members of the American Chemical Society.

“You’ve got a responsibility to see to it that there are capable people who study chemistry to take your place when you’re no longer able to do the work,” he says.

Gerry has served ACS in many capacities throughout his 76-year membership. One of his most meaningful accomplishments was forming a group of local sections in the Rocky Mountain region. Regional meetings give students an opportunity to network and present papers.

“*The future of chemistry, ACS and a viable society is getting able, young people into the field.*”

—Dr. E. Gerald Meyer

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**Learn How You Can Make a Difference**

If you want to help current and future members of ACS but don’t know where to start, our FREE guides can help. *6 Easy Ways to Support What You Love Today* features ways to make an immediate impact, and *Ensuring a Future for Chemistry Discovery* explores scholarships and endowments. Return the enclosed survey for your copies.
“I feel I’ve made a number of contributions to ACS in various ways,” Gerry says. “I’d never thought about a monetary contribution.”

When Gerry learned the ACS Scholars Program needed funding, he felt compelled to make a gift. Gerry decided to include the ACS Scholars Program in his estate plans by leaving a gift in his will. Also known as a bequest, Gerry’s gift will endow the E.G. Meyer Family Fund at ACS.

The fund will provide four scholarships—two scholarships will go to students living east of the Mississippi River and two will go to students who live west of the river. The scholarships will enable the students to attend the public college or university of their choice.

“Being an academic and seeing the value of scholarship and the range of kids that wouldn’t otherwise have the opportunity to get a good education made me believe [ACS Scholars] was the right program to give to,” Gerry says. “The future of chemistry, ACS and a viable society is getting able, young people into the field.”

Please contact Mary Bet Dobson at (202) 872-6210 to discuss ways that you can make an impact on the lives of future scientists through a gift in your estate plans. Return the enclosed survey to let us know that you’ve included ACS in your estate plans.
When applying to colleges, Melissa knew she wanted to attend a research institution where she could gain hands-on experience in a lab. Her first choice was the University of Pennsylvania. A scholarship from the ACS Scholars Program gave Melissa the support and freedom to attend, despite the expenses.

Thanks to ACS, Melissa will graduate from the University of Pennsylvania in spring 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry; she plans to attend graduate school with the goal of obtaining her doctorate in organic chemistry.

Now an ACS member, Melissa appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with mentor and ACS colleague Gary Molander, Ph.D., whose lab she works in at Penn.

“The ACS Scholars Program makes it possible for students to get a science education regardless of economic status, and it provides networking opportunities that other scholarships do not,” Melissa explains. Soon to be the first in her family to graduate from college, Melissa credits ACS with being a major factor in her success.

“The ACS Scholars Program is an investment in chemistry—in the growth of the field,” she says. “There’s a need to diversify the field because, ultimately, that’s going to foster more creativity and collaboration among chemists from different backgrounds. There’s so much potential in the underrepresented groups. We just need the resources to succeed.”

Visit www.acs.org/legacy to learn how you can help promising chemists like Melissa.