

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: MR. ANDREW HASLEY



My name is Andrew Hasley and I am a 2003 recipient of the SEE THE FUTURE Scholarship Fund.

In 2007, I graduated Cum Laude with College Honors from Albion College (Albion, MI), majoring in Biology and completing a concentration in Mass Communication. I went into college planning to apply to veterinary school. During my time at Albion however, I found a genuine passion for scientific research and many experiences really pushed me toward graduate school. I like the puzzles research presents, and I like communicating science.

I ended up choosing to enter the Genetics Ph.D. Training Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I hope to complete my Ph.D. a year from this August. Currently, I'm using the zebrafish as a model system to study how early development of vertebrate embryos is effected by factors like the number of chromosomes in each cell and cell shape. I'm especially interested in what this research can tell us about the evolution of vertebrate development, and its implications for human health. I'm also engaged in a project exploring new ways that cellular biology and genetic techniques can aid in biodiversity conservation efforts.

I've also participated heavily in a seminar called, "Teaching Evolution." This seminar focuses on identifying successful methods for teaching evolutionary biology to various age groups. This and other outreach opportunities in which I've participated, has nurtured my interest in science communication.

Lastly, I am currently President of the Guiding Eyes for the Blind Graduate Council. Guiding Eyes for the Blind is the school that provided me with my guide dog, Fletcher.

I again thank the STF Fund and all of its donors for helping me "start my path" to what I know will be a successful career.