CMRR Schultz Prize Winners

Liane Matthes, is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Liane working under the supervision of Professor Frank Talke. Her primary research interest is in the area of tribology (the study of wear, friction, and lubrication) and controls applied to hard disk drives. Most of her Ph.D. work is experimental in natures and focuses on the interface between the recording head and the magnetic disk. Liane’s overall research objective is to improve the reliability of hard drives and further reduce the head-disk spacing to achieve larger storage capacities. In June 2012, Liane was awarded the outstanding teaching assistant award; one year later she was awarded the best paper award and graduate student fellowship at the Information Storage and Processing Systems (ISPS) conference. In April 2014, she received the Katie Osterday Best Poster Award in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. In 2015 Liane will be completing her degree. Congratulations Liane!

Phi Khanh Nguyen, is a recent CMRR Ph.D. graduate. During his time here at CMRR, Phi was working under the supervision of Professor Ami Berkowitz. At UC San Diego Phi was majoring in Material Science and Engineering (MSE). Phi’s graduate thesis focused on the Development of Thermoelectric and Permanent Magnet Nanoparticles for Clean Energy Applications. Phi graduated summa cum laude from Rutgers University in New Jersey with a B.S. degree in MSE. Phi has spent a year abroad at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom where he worked on synthesis of semiconductors and optical properties of electrochromic materials. Currently he is touring Asia and will be returning to the U.S. in a few months to begin looking for a position in his preferred field. Congratulations Phi!