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Contact:

Lucy Mink, media@aauw.org

202.785.7738

Daisy Bourassa, Bourassa@gatech.edu

Doctoral Candidate Daisy Bourassa at the Georgia Institute of Technology Receives AAUW American Fellowship

WASHINGTON – The American Association of University Women (AAUW) awarded a 2015–16 American Fellowship to Daisy Bourassa. She is a doctoral candidate in Chemistry at Georgia Institute of Technology.

[American Fellowships](#), AAUW’s oldest and largest funding program, date back to 1888 and support women scholars who are completing doctoral dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research, or finishing research for publication.

“It is such an honor to be recognized as an AAUW American Fellow. AAUW’s mission to empower women leaders and increase the presence of women in STEM fields is truly inspiring and I am so proud to be included.” – Daisy Bourassa

Daisy Bourassa is a 5th year doctoral student in the Chemistry & Biochemistry Department at Georgia Institute of Technology in the lab of Dr. Christoph Fahrni. Bourassa's primary research explores the redistribution of transition metals, primarily zinc, during cell division and embryogenesis. Using multiphoton fluorescence microscopy and synchrotron x-ray fluorescence microtomography Bourassa studies the redistribution dynamics of labile zinc pools and total zinc content in both a cell culture and zebrafish models.

Bourassa also mentors undergraduate women at Agnes Scott College, a small all women’s college in Decatur, Ga. She has worked in the Office of Residence Life as a Graduate Hall Director and coached the cheerleading squad for over 4 years. Bourassa hopes to one day teach at a women’s college and encourage women to become strong leaders in the STEM fields.

“These awards have a long history of expanding opportunities for women scholars,” said Gloria Blackwell, AAUW vice president of fellowships, grants, and global programs. “The AAUW American Fellowship is unique because its funding allows women to cover living and child care expenses. This

empowers women to complete their graduate studies when they otherwise may not have the opportunity.”

For the 2015–16 academic year, AAUW awarded a total of \$3.7 million to 241 scholars, research projects, and programs promoting education and equity for women and girls through six fellowships and grants programs. AAUW is one of the world’s leading supporters of graduate women’s education, having awarded more than \$100 million in fellowships, grants, and awards to 12,000 women from more than 140 countries since 1888, and the AAUW Fellowships and Grants program is one of the oldest and largest in the world exclusively for women.

Read [AAUW’s announcement](#) about this year’s awards. To find out more about this year’s exceptional class of awardees, [visit the online directory](#). To reach an award recipient, call 202.728.7602 or e-mail fellowships@aauw.org.

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The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Our nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and more than 800 college and university partners. Since AAUW’s founding in 1881, our members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Learn more and join us at www.aauw.org.