

***Anna Louise Hoffman Award for Outstanding Achievement in  
Graduate Research***  
**Heather D. Agnew**  
**California Institute of Technology**



Heather Agnew, a 5th year graduate student, is a remarkable young scientist whose graduate research spans chemistry, biology and physics. She has distinguished herself in developing new technologies to measure protein biomarkers under the guidance of Professor James Heath. She employs in situ click chemistry as a platform for developing antibody-like protein capture agents. Her work is a wonderful example of transformational science that promises to be game changing for in vitro diagnostics, making earlier cancer detection possible. The impact of this work is that lives will be saved. For her research, Heather needed to learn a variety of methods not common to her research group. Heather has a host of very impressive and highly competitive awards and distinctions. For example, she has an NSF graduate research fellowship and has also been awarded a P.E.O. Scholar Award and a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. Heather was also invited to speak at a National Cancer Institute Meeting, where she was the only speaker at the main session who was not an invited faculty member. In addition to research, Heather also gives back through outreach programs for K-12 kids. Heather Agnew clearly shows great potential and promise as a career scientist.