



## Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Presidential Scholar Award presented to Sierra Tackett**

MADISON – The Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation has named Medical College of Wisconsin student Sierra Tackett its 2019 Presidential Scholar. Tackett received the prestigious award from Foundation President Claudia Reardon, MD, during its Annual Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction in Madison on April 5.

Funded by current and past leaders of the Wisconsin Medical Society (Society), the award is presented annually to a student entering his or her fourth year of medical school who has exemplified the attributes, skills and desire to become a leader in the medical profession in Wisconsin. This year, the award was given in honor of past Wisconsin Medical Society President John Riesch, MD.

Tackett, who received an engraved award and a \$3,000 scholarship to assist with educational expenses, serves on the Wisconsin Medical Society’s Opioid Task Force and served on the Committee on Legislation and Advocacy for the AMA-Medical Student Section. Through a Foundation Fellowship, she completed a pilot study to characterize Prescription Drug Monitoring Program use by emergency physicians, which will eventually help establish best practices for the tool.

“The issue of opiate addiction is one that I intend to fight throughout my career,” said Tackett. She is highly interested in policy, advocacy and mentoring and plans to continue to work in health policy through involvement with the Society.

“Ms. Tackett is a motivated and caring medical student,” said mentor Amy Zosel, MD, MSCS, Department of Emergency Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin, in her letter of support for Tackett’s application. “She understands the importance of local physician advocacy.”

The [Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation](#), chartered in 1955 as a charitable organization, works to advance the health of the people of Wisconsin by supporting medical education and public health initiatives across the state.

With physician members statewide dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the [Wisconsin Medical Society](#) is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.

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