

A REAL AND LASTING DIFFERENCE

# The J. Franklin Hyde Scholarship

The goal of the Hyde Scholarship is to help gifted college students become chemistry teachers who will inspire their students to also become science teachers who will, in turn, inspire their students ... for generations to come. And it's working!

Established in 1992 by the Dow Corning Foundation and contributing Dow Corning employees and retirees, the Hyde Scholarship is a tribute to J. Franklin Hyde, Ph.D., a former Dow Corning senior research scientist. It is awarded to an outstanding Michigan State University student who plans to teach chemistry at the secondary level. Recipients are chosen for their superior academic achievement, their demonstrated aptitude for their chosen subject area, and their sincere interest in and talent for teaching.

The scholarship (currently \$7,666 per year) is awarded in the student's junior year and continues through graduation from MSU's five-year teaching program. There are always three students receiving the scholarship at any given time – a junior, a senior and an intern (fifth-year student). When one student graduates, a new Hyde Scholar is chosen.

## DANIEL DENNIS WAS THE FIRST

Dan Dennis, who received the very first Hyde Scholarship in 1992, currently teaches Chemistry, Advanced Placement (AP) Biology and International Baccalaureate Biology at West Ottawa High School in Holland, Mich. Dan is "profoundly grateful" for the help the scholarship gave him in pursuing his teaching career. We'd say Dan's students have plenty to be grateful for as well. In his 16 years as a high school chemistry and biology teacher, Dan has shared the joy he finds in solving complex scientific puzzles with nearly 3,000 young people – many of whom have gone on to pursue careers in engineering, medicine, research and, yes, teaching! In fact, two of the math teachers Dan works with today are his former students.

▼ *The First Hyde Scholar*  
High school chemistry and biology teacher Daniel Dennis



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT PLUS REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

In addition to scholarship support, the Hyde Scholars also have an opportunity to work as interns at Dow Corning during the summer before their senior year. Michelle Mertz, director of development for MSU's College of Education, tells us this real-world experience is the program's greatest value and is what sets it apart from other scholarships the university offers.

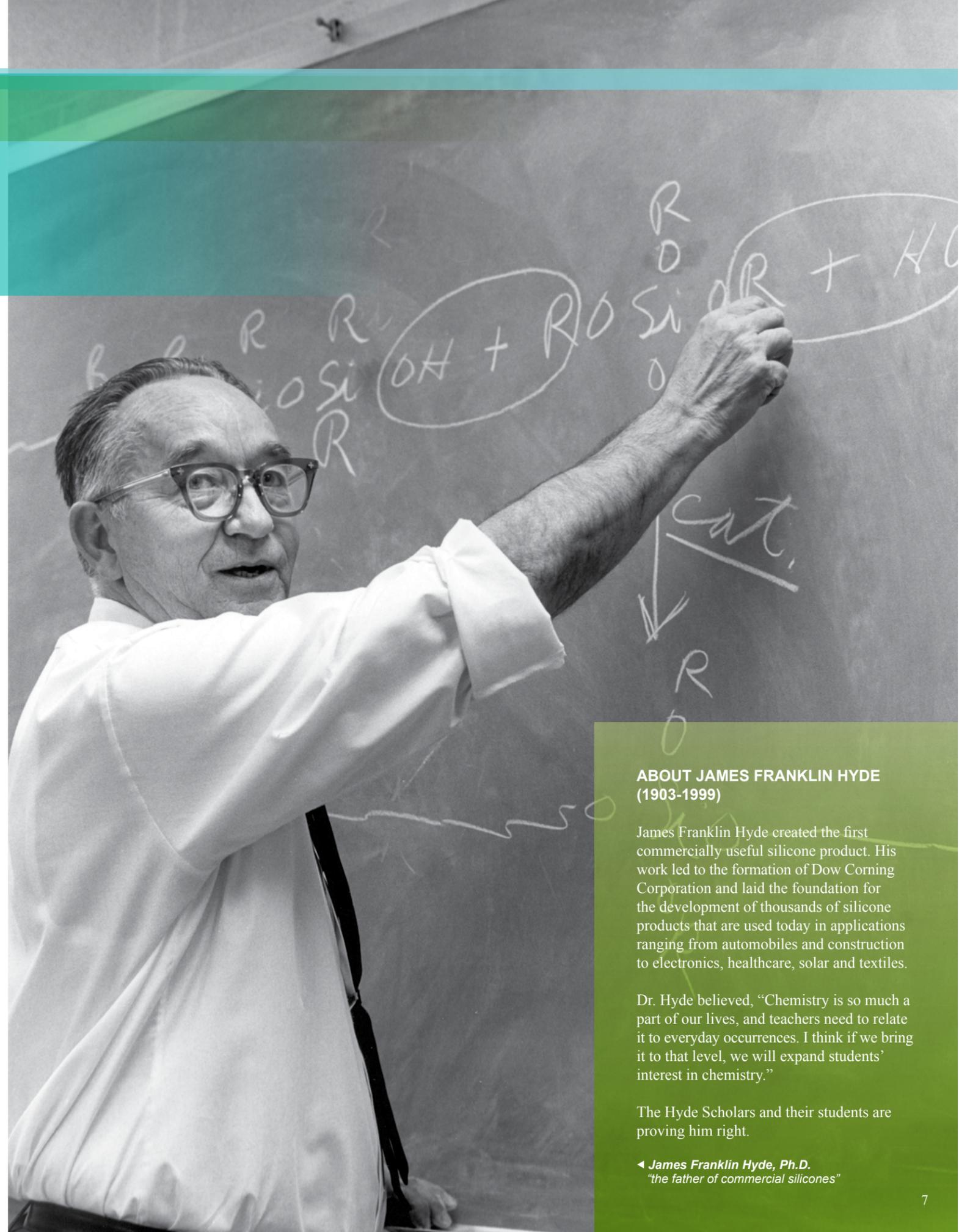
Yasmeen Youngs, who became a Hyde Scholar in 1998 and teaches AP Chemistry and Honors Chemistry at Grand Blanc High School in Grand Blanc, Mich., agrees. "I loved my internship at Dow Corning!" Yasmeen participated in a research project focused on finding a silicone-based alternative for lead-based solder in electronics applications. "You do research in college, but my internship gave me more of a hands-on perspective. It was a very positive experience that I could use as an example with my students to say, 'Look at the opportunities that are out there!'" Yasmeen says many of her students have pursued careers in chemistry.

## PAYING IT FORWARD

Yasmeen's former student Beverly Bell is an excellent example of how the Hyde Scholarship program makes a real and lasting impact ... not only on the Hyde Scholars themselves, but also on the lives of their students. Beverly, an MSU senior who will begin student teaching in the fall of 2012, plans to teach chemistry and math at the high school level.

"Mrs. Youngs created a comfortable learning environment for us where science could be fun and exciting rather than scary, as it often has a reputation to be," Beverly says. She believes the best part about teaching chemistry is when "the lightbulb goes on in their heads and they realize this is something they can do; this isn't scary – it's fun and exciting!"

Since 1992, 30 MSU students have received the Hyde Scholarship and, as a result, have gone on to positively influence the lives and futures of tens of thousands of high school students across the country. We think that's a pretty impressive return on investment (ROI).



## ABOUT JAMES FRANKLIN HYDE (1903-1999)

James Franklin Hyde created the first commercially useful silicone product. His work led to the formation of Dow Corning Corporation and laid the foundation for the development of thousands of silicone products that are used today in applications ranging from automobiles and construction to electronics, healthcare, solar and textiles.

Dr. Hyde believed, "Chemistry is so much a part of our lives, and teachers need to relate it to everyday occurrences. I think if we bring it to that level, we will expand students' interest in chemistry."

The Hyde Scholars and their students are proving him right.

◀ **James Franklin Hyde, Ph.D.**  
"the father of commercial silicones"