

June 3rd, 2007

2007 Society of Women Engineers, Sacramento Valley Section Scholarship Program  
Scholarship Chair, Society of Women Engineers, Sacramento Valley Section  
663 A Street Davis, CA, 95616

Dear SWE Sacramento Valley Section, Scholarship Award Selection Committee,

First off, I would like to thank you for the invitation to the 2007 Society of Women Engineers, Sacramento Valley Section Dinner event. My family and I unfortunately can not attend due to time and financial constraints. Since I cannot be there to personally describe how grateful I am to be receiving this scholarship, I would at least like to tell you about that unforgettable day.

May 16<sup>th</sup> was like any other ordinary day. I went to school, ate lunch with my friends, listened in my classes; the usual. Everything was like it had always been. My grandmother gave my twin sister and I a ride home from school. We arrived at our house and sat in the family room to relax a bit. We chatted for a while and I had an after-school, pre-dinner snack. I told her how excited I was to go to college and how I hoped everything would work out; the cost of attending UC Davis that is. She simply smiled and told me that God would always take care of me. I hoped so. Then I went into my bedroom and turned on the computer so that I could check my e-mail. After logging in, I glanced at my new messages. And there, between two other messages was one from Dianna Jensen; the subject reading: 2007 SWE Scholarship Award. *Oh, it's probably going to thank me for applying and tell me who the winners are*, I thought to myself. Upon opening the email, I read the first three lines, blinked unbelievably and reread them. I could not believe what I had just read. I was the recipient of a \$500 scholarship award! Immediately, I jumped up and sprinted to the family room where my grandma and sister were, screaming, "I just got a \$500 scholarship from SWE!!! I just got a scholarship!!!" My grandma initially wide-eyed and astonished, cheered with delight, while my ecstatic sister gave me the strongest hug I had ever felt yelling, "You did it! You did it!!" All I could do was laugh happily.

I will always remember that day not because of the monetary award that I had been chosen to receive, but the unforgettable feeling that sung through my body when I realized that

my dream of going to college wasn't simply a dream anymore but a tangible reality. And I have all of you to thank for that. All of the gracious words in the world would not even begin to explain how grateful I am to all of you and to all of the generous donors who made this scholarship possible. Thank you all *so* much for your trust in me and rest assured that your scholarship award will be used to achieve my goal in chemical engineering!

Warmest Regards and with the Deepest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francine Yvonne Jaramillo". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large, sweeping initial 'F'.

Francine Yvonne Jaramillo

William S. Hart High School Senior