**KEVIN MURPHY**  
Oregon Health & Science University

**Degrees:**  
B.S., Psychology, Eastern Oregon University

**Scholar Donors:**  
ARCS Foundation Portland Chapter

**About the Scholar:**  
Kevin is investigating the chemistry of the dopamine system of the brain. He utilizes synthetic chemistry to develop novel compounds that address how dopamine and other dopamine-like molecules interact with their receptor protein. He is particularly interested in the development of therapeutic compounds that not only optimally interact with dopamine receptor proteins in a highly targeted manner, but that are also characterized by efficient absorption and distribution in the body. Kevin enjoys reading and playing tennis.

**Benefits to Society:**  
Parkinson's Disease is a neurological disorder characterized by a deficiency of dopamine in the brain. Therapeutics function to replenish dopamine, but lose effect over time. It is therefore important that further medicines be available in the pipeline to substitute following their decreased effect. Kevin's molecules are directly designed to serve this function. His research may also have implications for other dopamine-related diseases, including schizophrenia and drug addiction.

**Awards and Honors:**  
NIDA Training Grant

**Publications and Posters:**  
