Ted Braun and Julia Maxson, husband and wife research team, are both ARCS Scholar Alums. With the help of their ARCS Awards, Julia and Ted have successfully pursued their dreams—completing their doctoral degrees, gaining postdoc positions, and now leading innovative new research initiatives.

Julia became an ARCS Scholar in 2006 when she began her PhD. Ted became an ARCS Scholar in 2009 when he began his MD/PhD. Now, Julia, an assistant professor in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at OHSU and the Knight Cancer Institute, runs her own research group where she continues working on blood cancers.

Ted, a physician-scientist, received a fellowship in hematology and oncology at OHSU and is in the fortunate position of collaborating with his wife, Julia. Ted is focused on understanding how leukemia begins.

By the time Ted completes his fellowship at OHSU, he will have spent more than 30 years in school; Julia has invested over 28 years in her education. Today, they are motivated to identify interventions that slow or prevent blood cancers.

ARCS Oregon supported Julia and Ted at a critical time in their careers. The path to achieving a PhD is challenging, financially stressful, and can be all consuming. Many PhD candidates ultimately leave research before they earn their degree.

Ted and Julia both say, "Without the financial support from ARCS during this critical time in our careers, it is quite likely that one or both of us would no longer be in science. Knowing that ARCS Oregon members were behind us also provided motivation for us to continue forward."