

**Vincent L. Hawkinson Foundation
for Peace and Justice**

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Special to Engineers Without Borders

Ryan Schweitzer receives peace and justice scholarship

Ryan Schweitzer, 26, a Peace Corps volunteer and graduate student in environmental engineering, has received a 2006 Hawkinson Foundation scholarship in recognition of his peace and justice activities with Engineers Without Borders and other organizations.

In 2003, Schweitzer spent several months in Chile and Argentina, where he volunteered with an AIDS outreach organization. In July of 2004 and 2005, he volunteered in Peru with Engineers Without Borders on projects to improve life in rural communities. He recently completed masters coursework at Michigan Technological University (MTU) in Houghton, Michigan, and is currently a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic as part of the university's Peace Corps Masters Program.

"The educational and experiential training of the Peace Corps Masters Program will provide me with the background to be a successful agent of change in sustainable development and institute responsible solutions to world issues," said Schweitzer, a member of the MTU chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

Selected annually by the Foundation, the Hawkinson scholarships are aimed at furthering the commitment to peace and justice of the late Rev. Vincent L. Hawkinson, who served as pastor of Grace University Lutheran Church in Minneapolis for 30 years.

The Hawkinson Foundation was founded in 1988 to honor the Rev. Vincent L. Hawkinson, pastor of Grace University Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, from 1955 to 1985. He died in 2001 at age 86. Aimed at furthering Pastor Hawkinson's commitment to peace and justice, the scholarship program has awarded more than \$54,000 to 54 students since 1988. Schweitzer is one of six students receiving the 2006 scholarship awards, designated for students from or attending schools in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North and South Dakota

"Throughout his life, Pastor Hawkinson vigorously advocated peacemaking and racial equality and stood up for the poor, the oppressed and the powerless," said Stan Jacobson, St. Paul, a member of the Foundation's board of directors. "These scholarship recipients are following in his footsteps, and it is our hope that the awards will encourage and inspire them to continue on their paths as peacemakers and social activists working for a better world."

In addition to scholarships, the Foundation presents lifetime achievement awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to peace and justice. Peace activists Marie and John Braun of Minneapolis and Ralph and Kay Hilgendorf of St. Paul will receive the 2006 honorary awards at the Foundation's annual program on November 12 in Minneapolis.

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