



## **Renewable Energy student earns Straubel Engineer of the Future Award**

Ashley Scholes, liberal arts transfer and Honors Program student, received the \$2,000 Straubel Engineer of the Future Award.

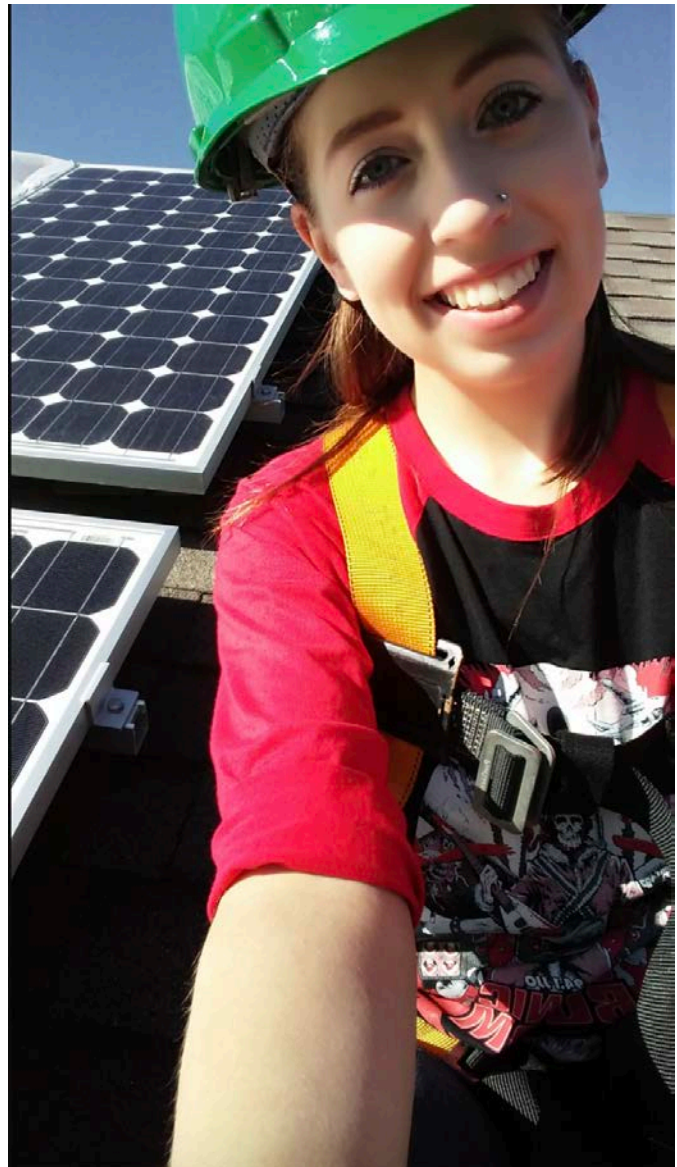
Scholes is working on an Honors Program project with Ken Walz, Ph.D., chemistry and engineering instructor, that involves applying nano material to solar panels to improve their self-cleaning capabilities and efficiency. Her goal is to become a mechanical engineer.

“Ashley approaches her engineering studies with interest and vigor and has established herself as a leader among her teammates,” said Walz. She will also be representing the college at the National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education Conference in October.

Because of the award, Scholes was able to take courses full-time and reduce her work hours.

“I am happy that with their help I can focus more on my studies than waiting tables this semester,” she said. Scholes hopes to complete her education without student loan debt.

The Straubel Foundation, named for J.B. Straubel one of the founders of Tesla. It is focused on sustainability, education, and science.



Published October 16, 2017

*Ashley Scholes, future engineer*