

# Drexel's First Truman Scholar Passes on a Love for Science



Environmental science student Vincent O'Leary was named Drexel's first-ever recipient of the Truman Scholarship, which would come as no surprise to his fellow students and professors.

When Vincent O'Leary, an environmental science student in the College of Arts and Sciences, and a C.R. "Chuck"

and Annette Pennoni Honors College student, was named a 2017 Truman Scholar, a prestigious and highly selective national honor supporting future public service leaders, he was surprised by the good news in a meeting with none other than President John Fry. But for the students, co-op employers and professors who taught O'Leary in class (or, in one case, taught a class co-designed by O'Leary), the honor probably came as no surprise at all. O'Leary has spent his time at Drexel volunteering through the Lindy Center in West Philadelphia classrooms and after school science activities, as well as through co-ops with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. That professional experience marked his first as a government employee – with many more to continue, no doubt. [Learn more about O'Leary's longtime, infectious passion for science.](#)