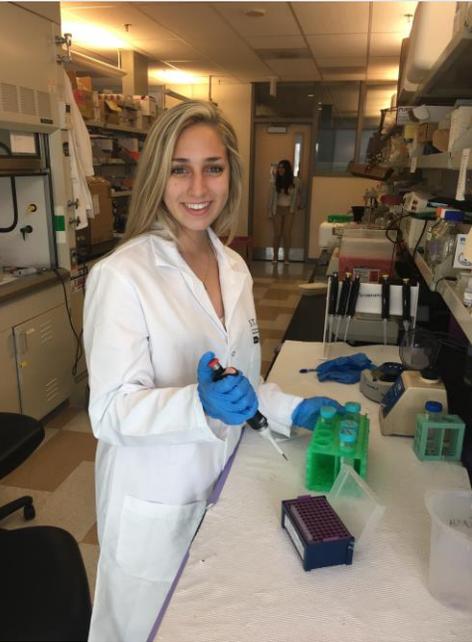


Lauren DeLong



Research Project(s):

- Isolating, Identifying, and Characterizing Local Wild Yeasts for Use in Fermentation
- Verification of a Desensitization Mechanism in Cardiomyocytes Overexpressing AC8 and Assessment of HL-1 cells as an *in vitro* model for AC8 upregulation
- Characterizing the immunotoxic effects of arsenite on macrophages through differential gene expression and DNA methylation

Research Mentor(s):

- Dr. Les Erickson, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University
- Dr. Edward Lakatta, Laboratory of Cardiovascular Science, National Institute on Aging
- Dr. Jennifer Nyland, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University

Publication(s):

- "Isolation, Identification, and Characterization of Local Wild Yeasts for Use in Fermentation"

Conference(s):

- Experimental Biology, ASBMB Annual Meeting, April 2017 and April 2018
- UMBC Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Chemical and Biological Sciences, October 2016 and 2017
- National Institute of Health, Summer Research Day, August 2017
- National Institute on Aging, Summer Poster Day, August 2017
- National Conference on Undergraduate Research, April 2017
- Salisbury University Student Research Conference, April 2016 and 2017
- Honors/ President's Club Gala of Salisbury University, November 2016

Grant(s):

- Henson Research Grant \$500
- USARA \$355
- ASBMB Chapter Award \$500

Award(s):

- Educator of the Year Award, May 2017
- Tri Beta Biology Honors Society, April 2017-Present
- Salisbury University Presidential Scholar, August 2015- Present

Major(s): Biology

Minor(s): Chemistry and Mathematics

Career Goals: Obtain a Ph.D. in molecular biology and become a professor with my own research students.

How has engaging in undergraduate research impacted your academic success?

Engaging in undergraduate research has taught me how to communicate effectively as a scientist, integrate my courses into an interdisciplinary project, and work with all types of people. Through my various research experiences, I have presented research at national conferences such as the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Memphis, TN, Experimental Biology 2017 in Chicago, IL, and Experimental Biology 2018 in San Diego, CA. I have also been able to apply all of my knowledge from research in the SU biology department to my summer internship with the NIH, where I presented a summer research project at the NIH Bethesda Campus. It has inspired me to study abroad in Roatan, Honduras, where I learned about Coral Reef Biology and Costa Rica, where I will learn about tropical biodiversity. It has also led me to apply to nationally competitive fellowships that may allow me to pursue unique research experiences in countries like Germany or Taiwan. By participating in research, I can constantly apply the skills I learn from courses such as Statistics, Bioinformatics, Cell Biology, Microbiology, Vascular Biology and more.

How has Salisbury University helped you to achieve your academic and professional goals?

The faculty of the biology, chemistry, and mathematics departments at SU have provided endless support and personal mentorship to me through my two and a half years here. Dr. Les Erickson, especially, has taken me under his wing since my freshman year, teaching me how to conduct research, write like a scientist, communicate science to various audiences, and develop myself professionally. His mentorship along with the bioinformatic skills I learned from Dr. Philip Anderson, statistical ability I acquired from Dr. Barbara Wainwright in the Math Department, Cell Biology course I took with Dr. Patti Erickson, and professional advice from Dean James Buss of the Honors College helped me immensely to land a summer internship with the National Institute on Aging last summer. Fulfilling my dream of working under the National Institutes of Health taught me how to better formulate my own ideas, and it gave me insight as to the type of research I would like to enter. Interested in biomedical research topics, I now work with Honors thesis mentor Dr. Jennifer Nyland of the Biology Department studying the immunotoxic effects of Arsenic on macrophages. My newest research project on top of the recent research-based Vascular Biology course I took with Dr. Victor Miriel of Biology and the constant encouragement and support of the Honors College are preparing me for graduate level research that I hope to pursue after Salisbury University.