

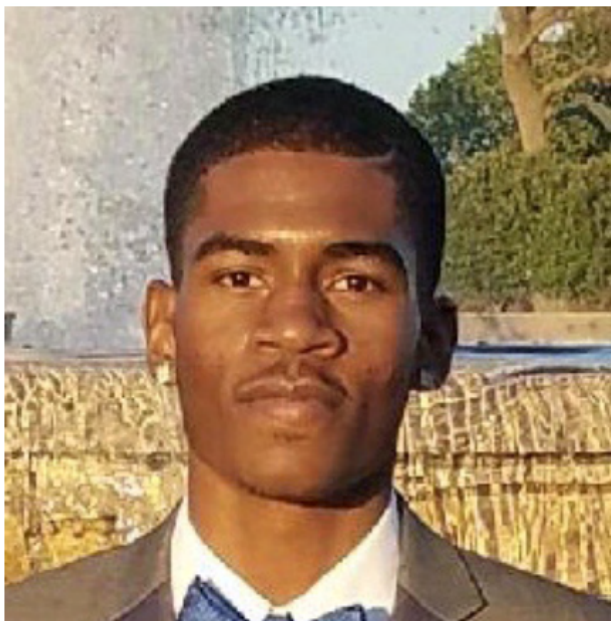
# STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

## 2020-2021

**SIU** SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
CARBONDALE UNIVERSITY  
HONORS PROGRAM

*Get to know our Honors students, their  
journey at SIU, and their goals and  
aspirations.*





# MARTICE ARRINGTON

## Communication Studies

Martiece Arrington is a senior obtaining his degree in Communication Studies. He is currently the President of the Honors Assembly, a student-led organization built as the embodiment of the University Honors Program.

As the current President, his main focus is ensuring the success of the Assembly while honoring the organization's motto, "We Learn to Lead by Serving."

Over the summer, Martiece was a part of McNair Scholar where he underwent vigorous research by conducting a neo-Aristotelian rhetorical criticism of Barack Obama's 2008 Victory Speech.

With impressive academic knowledge and experience, he plans to be a public speaker, motivating the youth and help those in need. Keep up the good work Martiece!

(08.24.2020)



# KALLIE COX

## International Relations

Kallie Coz is a senior majoring in political science with international relations, and journalism. She is passionate about writing and telling people's stories.

Kallie is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Daily Egyptian, and her goal is to help serve and inform the Carbondale community. In the upcoming editions of Daily Egyptian, they hope to cover the 2020 election, the Black Lives Matter movement in Southern Illinois, and around the state. She wants to keep folks up to date on any news regarding the pandemic.

"If anyone is interested, the DE is hiring reporters, designers, and photographers," Kallie said.

Other than keeping us well informed, she spends her spare time writing horror and science fiction stories.

Kallie is involved in the SIU scuba club and the climbing club!

Her goal after graduation is to become a reporter. And she wants everyone to wear a mask -- we couldn't agree more Kallie!

(08.31.2020)



# EMMA LANLEY

## Psychology

Chemistry and East Asia Civilization

Emma Lanley is a senior studying Physiology with minors in Chemistry and East Asia Civilization. She is the Vice President of Philanthropy for Alpha Gamma Delta- Beta Eta chapter on campus. And we are so proud of her philanthropy work!

For the past three years, Emma has been in Dr. Rader's microbiology research lab, and she has been involved with Partners in Reading for the Carbondale Public Library. Emma also has been involved with LeBonheur Children's Hospital as a volunteer in Memphis, TN.

Over the summer and past few weeks of school, she has sewn and donated over 220 masks to friends, family, and SIU faculty. And she's been preparing a batch of masks for the SIU health center as well.

Currently, she is volunteering as a COVID-19 screener at SIU health center and a resident assistant for SIU housing. And she's applying for medical school next year!

(09.08.2020)



# ALYSSA ROIMISER

## Communication Studies

### Marketing

Alyssa Roimiser is a senior majoring in Communication Studies and minoring in Marketing. She currently serves as the President of Student Alumni Council and the Vice Executive Director of Student Programming Council.

Other RSO's she's involved with include Saluki Entrepreneur Corps and Transfer Transition Leaders. Also, Alyssa works as a Peer Mentor at the First Saluki Center!

Alyssa has received multiple scholarships, but what drives her the most is giving back to the community. Throughout her time in college, she has volunteered with many organizations including food pantries, an animal rescue, a children's foundation, The Boys and Girls Club, The Women's Center, Keep Carbondale Beautiful, and many more.

When she is not volunteering, she is either at the gym or riding her motorcycle.

(09.14.2020)





# NICOLAS TORRES

Physiology/ Chemistry

Nicolas Torres is a sophomore studying physiology and chemistry. He is currently a member of Saluki Science Ambassadors and an officer for the Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity on campus.

As a hobby, he likes playing intramurals with his fraternity in the Fall and Spring. Also, he enjoys volunteering at local events such as the annual For Kids' Sake 5K run and at the animal shelter.

He is passionate about microbiology and physiology of the human body. Having family members impacted and battling cancer, Nicolas aspires to be an oncologist, to help others who are going through the same adversity.

(09.21.2020)



# **CELESTE DRISCOLL**

## **Physiology/ Chemistry**

Celeste Driscoll is a freshman majoring in Physiology with a minor in Chemistry, she is on the pre-med track. Celeste is currently involved in InterVarsity on campus and looking forward to joining more RSOs and communities at SIU.

She is passionate about volunteering and excited to help out with the community here in Carbondale. Her family is her motivation to do what she loves and they are her number one fans!

(09.28.2020)



# **YANCY ALVARENGA**

## **Criminology & Criminal Justice/ Psychology**

Yancy Alvarenga is a junior, she double majors in Criminology and Criminal Justice, and Psychology. One of her proudest achievements is maintaining her Dean's list status and receiving the Dean's Scholarship. Previously, she worked for the SIU Foundation which taught her a lot about nonprofit and fundraising to support current Salukis who need financial aid.

During high school, Yancy managed to study abroad in Latvia and her last trip to China made her realize her passion for traveling and experiencing new cultures. She participated in a three-week program with the University of Texas at Austin and her next goal is to participate in another study abroad program in Spain.

Yancy's parents are her biggest inspirations, seeing her parents' perseverance to provide a good life for their family motivates her. And she loves the Vampire Academy series!

(10.05.2020)





# CARLOS DANIEL ZARATE

## Linguistics

Carlos Daniel Zarate is a third-year Linguistics major in the pre-professional health track in Physician Assistant Studies. He goes by “Danny” and he is a first-generation Guatemalan student. He is originally from San Fernando Valley, located in the city of Los Angeles.

Danny is passionate about giving back to the community, he has volunteered for Carbondale Springs, African American Museum of Southern Illinois, and have been a translator for multiple new student orientations and open houses for parents who only speak Spanish.

He is a member of Lambda Theta Phi Latin and through the fraternity, he was awarded a plaque for outstanding academic achievement across the Midwest in the Spring of his freshmen year!

He interned at Unity Point Consolidated school district 140 and worked with ESL students that needed extra language support. Currently, he strives to research new unorthodox rehabilitation methods for assisting in recovering drug addicts.

After he graduates from SIU, his goal is to attend a high-ranking PA school and eventually head home to LA so he can work for Cedar Sinai Medical Center or at the UCLA Medical Center. Fun fact, Danny DJ around Carbondale and go by “Flix.”

(10.12.2020)



# PAYTON MORRIS

## German Education

Payton Morris is a junior majoring in German Education with an English Endorsement. She has been active in SIU's German club since the fall of 2018 and currently serves as Vice President of the RSO. She enjoys volunteering at Dayempur Farm, especially during the fall season. She is very interested in sustainable living and Primatology. Her passion includes the Black Lives Matter movement and institutions like the Human Rights Campaign. Her biggest motivator is her partner, Anna, who continuously inspires her to pursue challenging things in life. Payton's ambition is to become an educator and make education more accessible to everyone while having fun doing it. She encourages everyone to get registered and go vote! And fun fact, her favorite film is The Sixth Sense.

(10.19.2020)



# ALLENA HEALY

## Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Healthcare management

Allena Healy is a junior in the diagnostic medical sonography program with a minor in healthcare management. She became interested in sonography after personal experiences and has since grown to love the field as she continues her learning. She is very grateful for the program at SIU and hopes to continue her education after undergrad.

As a first-generation college student, Allena wants to make her family proud. She is very eager to take advantage of the study abroad opportunities at SIU since she hopes to study in Ireland or Costa Rica.

Allena is involved in the Scanning Salukis RSO, which allows students to learn more about the field of sonography and make connections and build relationships with underclassmen. One of her passions is sports, because of the ability it has to bring people together. Her competitive nature in sports has influenced her motivation to do her best academically as well. Her biggest inspiration is her parents because of their work ethic, and dedication to providing for their family.

She has a golden retriever named Payton after the football player Walter Payton and her favorite movie is The Sandlot.

(10.26.2020)



# **VERONICA CAHILL**

## **Radiologic Sciences**

Veronica Cahill is a Chicago native and senior studying Radiologic Sciences in MRI/CT. She graduated with her Associate's degree in May, allowing her to work as a frontline X-ray technologist during the pandemic.

When she is not working, she tutors students and cares for displaced pets at Wrightway Animal Shelter. She is currently a proud member of Lambda Nu, a National Honors Society for Radiology students.

Prior to her junior year, she was Vice President of Pause for Paws and raised cancer awareness through Love Your Melon. With her motivation to help others, Veronica excitedly looks forward to jumping into her career in the medical field with a coffee in one hand and a diploma in the other.

(11.02.2020)



# **DANIELLE COOKSON**

## **Radiologic Sciences MRS/CT**

Danielle Cookson is a senior majoring in radiologic sciences, specializing in MRI/CT. She always knew she wanted to be in the medical field and when doing research and job shadowing, she discovered radiology and fell in love. Since then she has been through two sets of clinicals, where she found a passion for interacting with patients and their loved ones.

Danielle is Vice President of the Lambda Nu Honor Society for radiology students. Lambda Nu is a national honor society for radiology and imaging sciences students. They support members by offering tutoring and creating a productive space/community for studying. She is also a member of the Student Leadership Honor Society on campus.

She is committed to giving back to the community by volunteering wherever needed. She has volunteered with her fellow members in Lambda Nu, as well as on her own. One of her favorite places to volunteer is the African American Museum in University Mall, where the owner displays his own family collection as well as commissions others.

She has enjoyed her time at SIU and is sad for it to be coming to an end soon. However, the memories she has made will never be forgotten, nor the professors.

(11.09.2020)





# EMILY DURAN

## Plant Biology

### Environmental Sustainability

Emily Duran is a junior studying Plant Biology and a minor in Environmental Sustainability. She is a member of the SI Bridges program researching the conductive tissue of moss. Her greatest achievement is receiving the Excellence in Biology Award from John A. Logan.

Emily's favorite thing to do is go hiking. She has a love for nature and a passion for plants and mushrooms. One of her biggest inspirations is Paul Stamets, a leading mycologist. His excitement for mushroom research has inspired Emily to go to graduate school for mycology. Her goal is to become a researcher in an area that will have a positive environmental impact.

(11.16.2020)



# DAVID HERNANDEZ

## Zoology

Theatre and Spanish

David Hernandez is a sophomore majoring in zoology and minoring in theatre and Spanish. Having a passion for wildlife and their evolution since childhood, he is interested in working on Conservation and Population Genetics as well as Phylogenetics of marine animals. He has plans for going to graduate school abroad to do research and earning his Ph.D. in zoology or related fields. Along with research, he also hopes to consult urban development of future sustainable cities.

David volunteers as an undergraduate assistant in Dr. Kamal Ibrahim's population genetics lab. He plans to start his own research project comparing the genetic diversity between populations of captive and wild gazelles. He hopes to also apply the communication and social concepts from studying and working in theatre towards presenting his research in front of audiences and supplement those communication skills through his fluency and study in Spanish.

Joining both his freshman year, David currently serves as the Academic Chair of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Incorporated and will be serving as the recruitment chair of the newly formed Zoology Fraternity, Zeta Theta Omega. He also works with the Project Evaluation team for Engineers Without Borders and is the Safety Officer for the Medieval Combat Club.

One of his inspirations is the multidisciplinary work of renaissance Artist and Inventor Leonardo Da Vinci. His other passions include gaming, travel, and learning about other cultures around the world through their traditions, music, and cuisine. Planning to continue a project that began in Dr. Kapur's Sustainability and the Collective Imagination class, he and two other of his classmates will be working on organizing and performing in an eco-theatre and arts festival on Earth Day this coming semester.

Between all the writing and planning for classes and scholarships, David will be binge-watching shows and documentaries on Netflix and Hulu as well as keeping in touch with his friends near and far.

(11.30.2020)



# MAKAYLA SMOTHERS

## Exercise Science

### Psychology

Makayla Smothers is a Senior majoring in Exercise Science and minoring in Psychology. She transferred from John A. Logan College to SIU last year. “It has been one of the best decisions I’ve ever made!” Makayla said.

She has been a part of the University Honors Program, Strong Survivors, the AmeriCorps program, and the Transfer Transition Leader program. She participated in several RSO’s such as the Organization of Sports & Exercise Science (OSES) and the Pre-Health Profession Association (PPA). Makayla has received several awards and scholarships.

“SIU has made such an impact in my life and has helped push me towards my #1 goal of becoming a Physical Therapist.”

Recently, Makayla was accepted to the University of Evansville’s Doctor of Physical Therapy Program! She is so thankful for her friends, family, the Kinesiology Department at SIU, Strong Survivors Program at SIU, AmeriCorps Program, and the University Honors Program for helping make my dreams a reality – Makayla, it has been an honor for us!

Her goal is to graduate from UE’s DPT program and come back to Southern Illinois either working in a Rehabilitation Facility, Cancer Survivor environment, or working as a teacher or volunteer.

Makayla will start her program in May and in three years we will refer her as Dr. Smothers! Her best advice to her peers is “Give it all you got! Life may be hard right now, but you have to remember why you started the journey in the first place.” We are so proud of you Makayla!



# EMMA RICKETTS

## Automotive Technology

Emma Ricketts is a sophomore from Memphis, Tennessee who is majoring in Automotive Technology. She has always been fascinated by vehicles and how they work, despite not growing up working on them.

She is a member of the Automotive Ambassadors that provides tutoring, tours, and any help at the Technology Education Center for the Automotive program. She is also on the s-10 build team which is a part of the RSO, Automotive Technology Organization (ATO), and a member of WATT, the Women in Automotive Transportation Technology group.

When she can, she enjoys volunteering at the St. Francis Animal Shelter to help with any cleaning and dog walking they have. She loves to create whenever she can. Whether it is music, art, or building a project, she enjoys seeing and learning from her different successes and failures. When the weather is nice, she likes to explore outside and find fun places to boulder and climb with friends.

Emma will be spending this upcoming summer in a Quality co-op with Toyota at their headquarters in Texas. She hopes to gain a lot of knowledge and meet many new people during the co-op and looks forward to the experience. When she graduates, she hopes to get a job with an automotive company and eventually work her way up to being on a design team for the company.

(02.08.2021)





# SECILIA HO

## Electrical Engineering & Pre-PT

Chinese, Mathematics, and Computer Science

Secilia Ho is a Sophomore majoring in Electrical Engineering, Pre-PT, and minoring in Chinese, Mathematics, and Computer Science. Her goal is to get into PT school to become a physical therapist.

Her ambition to become a physical therapist stems from her strong passion for helping others. She wanted to major in engineering to stand out in her physical therapy school applications and as a backup, in case she decided to change her career plans down the road.

Secillia's parents are from Guangzhou, China, which inspired her to learn Mandarin as a way to connect with more people when traveling abroad.

Math has always been her favorite subject growing up and she has always wanted to learn how to code.

She is on the SIU Women's golf team, was a keyboard player for the Intervarsity worship team, heavily involved with Vine Church, the Society of Women's in Engineering, and WeSTEM. Also, Secillia was involved with Bioimaging research with Dr. Ada Chen.

Her golf team motivates her to become the best player she can be. She looks up to her grandparents, dad, and sister. "They worked so hard to immigrate over here to the US for a better opportunity for my sisters and I, so I'm incredibly inspired and grateful for them. I'm also lucky to have great mentors at my job and Vine Church who pour so much into me" Secillia said.

Secillia is the Chancellor Scholarship Recipient, Honors Student, Dean's List, and promoted Branch Manager opportunity internship experience for this summer. Her goal is to become her own hero within the next five years so she can help, inspire, and grow others.

Her favorite food is pho and her favorite drink is boba tea!

(02.15.2021)





# **AMELIA ANDERSON**

## **Aviation Flight and Aviation Management**

### **Criminal Justice**

Amelia Anderson double majors in Aviation Flight and Aviation Management and pursuing a minor in Criminal Justice. This is her second year of college, but she earned enough credits while in high school to be a junior.

She didn't always want to fly, the summer when she was a rising senior, her science teacher and coach encouraged her to learn more about the NASA Wings Camp opportunity at SIU. NASA Wings Camp is a weeklong experience for students interested in NASA's missions-which includes aviation. They had two discovery flights during the week: a cross-country flight and a local flight. Amelia had the opportunity to fly over her house and by the end of the week she was sold; she wanted to be a pilot.

Amelia has been active in Pep Band and the Marching Salukis. She's excited to be practicing for the home game on the 27th! She is also on the SIU Flight Team and a member of the Sociology Club.

When she's not on campus you can find her out hiking the surrounding areas with friends. She volunteers part-time this spring to replace boot-brushes at trailheads to help prevent the spread of invasive species.

(02.22.2021)



# LOREN KOENIGSTEIN

## Agribusiness Economics

Loren Koenigstein is a sophomore from Columbia, Illinois, a third-generation SIU student and 6th generation agriculturalist majoring in Agribusiness Economics.

She is a member of the AgBassador Association, the Treasurer and Acting Secretary of the Horticulture Association, a Collegiate Farm Bureau Member, an IAA Top Scholar, and Marching Salukis Clarinetist (go dawgs!).

She plans to seek her Master's Degree to pursue a career as a loan officer, where she would have the privilege of working with small businesses, farms, and rural families, helping them achieve their financial goals and making their communities a more prosperous place.

The first semester of her Freshman year, she was lucky to have taken an honors class titled The Global Political Economy of Food taught by Dr. Wanki Moon. "The class," she recalls, "really got me excited about my major, and I met my future suitemate there; the class expanded my world view to think about agrarian practices around the world, got me thinking about the fight to feed 9 billion people by 2050, and emphasized US Agriculture's ties to the global economy."

In her free time, Loren enjoys volunteering at the TIC Greenhouse on the University Farms and with her home church youth group. She also enjoys hiking and rock climbing, reading, and taking care of her "mini rainforest" of plants. She has two guinea pigs, named Peaches and Oreo.

(03.01.2021)



# KATE HELD

## Finance and Pre-law

Environmental Studies, Spanish, & Political Science

Kate Held is a sophomore from Springfield, Illinois studying Finance and Pre-law with minors in Environmental Studies, Spanish, and Political Science. She aspires to capitalize on her finance and environmental interests as an attorney.

She is a member of the SIU Women's Soccer team, an analyst for the Saluki Student Investment Fund, and the Alumni Chairman for Delta Zeta Sorority. Kate also works for the SIU Office of General Counsel.

Kate is very grateful to the honors program for bringing the outside world to the classroom. "I have learned so much from each honors class that I have taken so far. The experiences from honors classes link together various disciplines and real-world life experiences".

Recently, Kate has been attempting to self-teach the ukulele and guitar. She also enjoys anything outdoors but especially sailing and paddleboarding. She has visited over 20 national parks and is still counting.

(03.08.2021)



# DIAMONEEK GREEN

## Political science

Diamoneek Green is a senior from Cairo, IL. She is studying political science because she is passionate about policy and equity. She finds strength in working to represent the needs of underrepresented groups. Her idol is Illinois Lieutenant Governor Julianna Stratton.

"Her passion and service inspire me to be the change I want to see in the world," Diamoneek said.

While at SIU, she has been a Political Science Ambassador, Paul Simon Public Policy Ambassador, Campus Election Engagement fellow, and an intern for state and local government organizations. In the summer of 2020, she became a McNair Scholar.

"As a McNair scholar, I conducted an undergraduate research project on race and public opinion."

In her free time, she enjoys mentoring local youth and volunteering with the Hospice of Southern Illinois. After completing her undergraduate studies, she plans to pursue her master's in public administration degree.

A fun fact, she has a teacup Yorkie!

(03.15.2021)



# RIFAH CHOWDHURY

## Criminal Justice and Criminology

### Forensic Science

Rifah Chowdhury is a senior studying Criminal Justice and Criminology with a minor in Forensic Science.

She plans to pursue a career in criminal justice, but she is open to all opportunities. Rifah is a member of Alpha Phi Sigma and the Bhakti Yoga Club. Also, she used to volunteer at St. Francis animal shelter before the pandemic.

She took Dr. Tigerlily's Yoga for Harmonious living UHON class last semester and discovered her love for yoga and meditation. For this semester, she enrolled in the Yoga for Self-Realization class and has been loving her yoga and meditation journey.

Rifah is a Sagittarius. Her interests include painting, makeup, crochet, and drag. She has a cute tuxedo cat named Ravioli.

(03.22.2021)





# ELISE RATCLIFF

## Forestry

environmental studies and art

Elise Ratcliff is a senior graduating this summer from the program with a specialization in Wildlife Habitat Management. Elise has a double minor in environmental studies and art. The focus of her art studies is small metals. She works as a park ranger in the summers teaching environmental programs to kids, which sometimes includes bringing snakes and other critters for them to meet!

Elise loves nature and was always the nerdy kid in school who read field guides for fun, so forestry was a perfect fit for her. It paid off, and she is going to be working for the US Fish and Wildlife Service at Waubay National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota once she graduates.

She is going to be doing avian and vegetative surveys, which means she is getting paid to do two things she already loves doing for fun – birdwatching and identifying plants.

Also, Elise is very active in the Southern Illinois Dance Company. She is a member of its governing board and choreographing her second piece for the company this semester. She has a passion for metalsmithing, and her art minor actually started as repeatedly taking metals classes for fun until the professor convinced her to minor in it. Elise had a piece featured in a show in the university museum once, which was really exciting for her as a non-art major.

A personal fact about Elise is that she sells a line of vintage clothing on the side called Beaucoup Betty Vintage at a business in Carbondale called Electric Larry's!

(03.29.2021)



# AMELIA BLAKELY

## Journalism and Philosophy

Amelia Blakely graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in May 2020 with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Philosophy. Blakely is originally from Anna, Illinois. She transferred to SIUC in 2017 from Shawnee Community College. While attending SIUC, Blakely was a reporter.

First, as a reporter and editor for the Daily Egyptian. In 2018, Blakely started reporting for WSIU Public Radio and continued to do so until graduation. Since then, Blakely has completed a reporting fellowship with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and a communications internship with the Office of U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth. Her most recent reporting project, a digital feature published by WBEZ Chicago Public Radio and supported by the Pulitzer Center, compared how Brownfield remediation affects white communities and communities of color.

She is now exploring careers in public service and educational opportunities. She is also a contributing writer for the Gateway Journalism Review. Before graduation, it was always a comfort to know she could seek guidance and encouragement from the Honors Program, Blakely said. After finishing her degree and entering the job market in a pandemic and a precarious economy, Blakely said the Honors Program's continued support has been helpful in staying motivated with her professional aspirations.

(04.04.2021)



# JESSICA GRYGUS

## Microbiology

Chemistry, American Sign Language, and Physiology

Jessica Grygus is a second-year student studying Microbiology with minors in Chemistry, American Sign Language, and Physiology. She hopes to use the knowledge she has gained during her undergrad to become a pathology assistant.

Currently, Jessica is one of the Vice Presidents for Saluki Ambassadors, an RSO on campus involved with giving tours to prospective students. On the executive board, they manage nearly 50 campus tours a week! Through Saluki Ambassadors, Jessica has had the opportunity to meet incredible students and share the same love for SIU.

For the past two years, She has been an undergraduate lab assistant in the microbiology department working for Dr. Bethany Rader's lab. She first started as a volunteer learning basic techniques, but now she has her own project, funded by the REACH Award.

Jessica's project focuses on using site-directed mutagenesis to alter the serine active site of alkaline phosphatase, an LPS detoxifying protein found in *Euprymna scolopes*, also known as the Hawaiian bobtail squid. She will be presenting her findings at this year's Research and Creative Activities forum.

Jessica is so grateful for all the opportunities SIU has made available to her and cannot wait to see what the future holds!

(04.12.2021)



# **OLUBUKOLA KEHINDE**

## **Biological sciences**

### **Chemistry**

Olubukola Kehinde known as Tinu is a senior majoring in biological sciences and minoring in chemistry. She had always enjoyed biology since she was young and she aspires to be a physician. Tinu's motivation to be a physician is to help others heal and inspire young black girls to follow their dreams.

Tinu was born and raised in Lagos, Nigeria. Her family moved to America when she was 12 years old. She is a first-generation student and hopes to make her parents proud. She has been working as a Resident Assistant (RA) for three years with the University Housing.

Throughout her undergraduate career, she has been on the dean's list multiple times, accepted awards from the Department of Mathematics, and the University Honors Program. She used to be a member of the Minority Association of Premedical Students (MAPS), the SIU African Student Council, and an EcoRep for the Sustainability Department.

Before the pandemic, Tinu used to volunteer at nursing homes during major holidays and used to shadow doctors at Southern Illinois Hospital and Herrin Hospital.

Currently, Tinu is spending her time learning about fashion designing and sewing!

(04.19.2021)



# MORGAN MCDONALD

## Economics

Spanish, and Psychology

Morgan McDonald is a senior majoring in economics, minoring in Spanish and psychology. She is currently working as a casework intern for the Office of U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth.

She is passionate about helping others, particularly those in economically disadvantaged areas. They hope to continue their employment with the Senator's office or find work as a research assistant. She is currently the co-president of the economics club. She will be graduating magna cum laude this May.

Morgan's long-term goals are to continue helping others in whatever area that may be. One day she hopes to open community gardens and a coffee shop. She loves hiking and camping in her free time and owns over 50 houseplants. She hopes to continue to grow her small indoor jungle.

(04.26.2021)





# **SARAH MCINTYRE**

**Animal Science - Pre-veterinary  
Medicine Specialty**

**Chemistry**

Sarah McIntyre is a non-traditional senior graduating this May from the College of Agriculture with a major in Animal Science - Pre-veterinary Medicine Specialty and a minor in Chemistry. She is Treasurer on the SIU Shooting Team and enjoys meeting up with them every Sunday afternoon at the SIU shooting range. She also enjoys hiking, long-distance running, and working out at the SIU Rec Center. In her downtime, Sarah enjoys watching horror movies with friends and is a big Star Wars fan.

She hopes to become a large animal veterinarian, working with dairy cattle. After graduation, she will be attending Purdue University pursuing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree.

(05.03.2021)



# JACLYN YOUNG

## Physiology and Pre-medicine chemistry

Jaclyn Young is a senior graduating this May. She is pursuing her bachelor's in Physiology with a minor in chemistry, her major area of study is pre-medicine. Following graduation, Jaclyn will be taking a gap year before going to medical school. During this time she plans to work as a health care technician at Carle Foundation Hospital in Champaign!

Jaclyn currently works in the ER at Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and has been there for a year and a half. She loves being able to work in such a fast-paced environment and getting the chance to interact with so many different patients each day.

Outside of work, she is involved in the honors program, the pre-health professions association, Saluki science ambassadors, and volunteers weekly at the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Illinois.

Jaclyn has a passion for healthcare and is motivated by working alongside extremely talented students/peers! During her undergraduate career, she has been able to achieve high academic honors each semester, as well as receive recognition for her performance in various classes such as statistics and abnormal psychology.

Also, she has been selected as a recipient of the Tommy Yau Undergraduate Award. Her ultimate goal is to work either as an ER physician or as a gastroenterologist!

A personal fact about Jaclyn is her favorite author is Stephen King!

(05.03.2021)