

2015-SARAS Participant's Feed Back

Dr. Srini,

I am sure that you heard over and over again that this program was a great and unique experience. I learned a lot over these three weeks from regenerating organs, to gunshot wounds to the face, to the origin of anesthesia and so on. I feel like I was exposed to a little bit of everything in science and medicine. Many of these topics were new to me and I found them to be incredibly intriguing. I discovered certain topics that really interested me that I had no idea existed! Aside from the educational aspect, I made friends from all over the country! It was rewarding to see students joining together for our love of science. And as you said in your emails, the food everyday was amazing! I think that this program is so successful because of your passion in directing it. It's evident to see that you love and believe in this program which made all of us love and believe in it too! In three short three weeks I literally encountered so many different skills and facts that will shape my life in some way. Thank you for making this program an unforgettable experience, I am so grateful I was able to participate! I will see you again next summer!

Adriana

p.s. If you are ever looking for a SARAS assistant, I would be more than happy to help!

My last three weeks was dedicated on a medical program in the stony brook university, which is SARAS. We had practical and theoretical classes. Most of the practical's happened in the lab, and the theoretical sessions in the classrooms. We learned about all aspects of medicine, the body systems, microbiology, nursing, physiotherapy, dentistry, among others. SARAS gave me the certainty that my future job will be related with science. Biology has always been my favorite subject in the school. I am sure that because this was organized by great people and an incredible director, SARAS was one of the best experiences of my life.

Alexandra

Dear Dr. Pentyala,

During the month of July, I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the SARAS program. Every day was filled with interesting speakers and labs that allowed my knowledge and interest of the medical field to grow and flourish. The experiences the SARAS program allowed me to have was spectacular. Whether I was learning how to check vital signs, or cultivating bacteria in a petri dish, the SARAS program always kept me engaged and involved. In addition, by choosing to stay on campus while the program was going on gave a feel for college life as well as made me grow and mature as a person. Over all everything was fantastic, I couldn't have chosen a better medical camp to attend.

-Alexis

Dr. Srini,

I attended SARAS this past July, and it was one of the best experiences I've ever had. I previously knew I wanted to go into medicine in college, but this program deepened my interests. Being exposed to all of the different types of medical fields is not something you get to do every day, but I'm lucky to say I did. You made this program a fun and very memorable experience (when it easily could have gone in another direction). The program was an overall great experience and I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to my friends. Thank you for everything you do!

Sincerely,

Aliya

SARAS was a great program to be a part of, and I will remember it for a very long time. I loved the opportunity of being able to interact with scientists of different professions. It was an honor and privilege to listen to these scientists discuss their work and research, and I really liked how the students were able to ask them questions. Each presentation was very interesting and engaging, and they really opened my eyes about all of the options for careers in science. Before SARAS, I had no idea that some of the presented careers existed, and now I have so

much knowledge about all kinds of scientific careers. I especially enjoyed the workshops after lunch, as they were really interactive and entertaining. The program was extremely well organized, and all of the lunches were delicious. SARAS also had an excellent balance between seriousness and fun. I truly had an amazing time at SARAS, and my gratitude goes out to all of the professionals who gave us their time, especially Dr. Pentyala who really brightened up the program and made it so enjoyable. SARAS really is a wonderful program that is informative, interesting, and definitely fun.

Sincerely,
Allison

I had a great time at SARAS. Before I came one of my friends in the previous SARAS year told me to be prepared. So I took it upon myself to make the time at SARAS a little fun, so I made some great friends. On the first day I answered about half of the questions that were asked. Then I started calling out and making jokes which made SARAS even more fun. My favorite part was lunch, I liked that we had different lunches every day. My favorite lunch was the pasta days. The pizza eating contest was really fun and funny. Some of the lectures were too deep and others were really interesting. My favorite was the lecture given on pace maker made from stem cells. I was so fascinated with his lecture that I actually emailed the professor and got a position researching in his lab. Another thing I liked was the Starbucks in the hospital, I and my friends went every day. The train rides were so much fun, actually my favorite part of the whole SARAS, because I was on the train with all my friends. On the train we played games such as truth or dare and spyfall. On the last day of SARAS I was happy and sad, I was happy about no more lectures but sad that I would be leaving my friends. So I had "the end of the SARAS party", at my house and planning to have SARAS reunion party. As my overall opinion of SARAS, I thought it was great and I already recommended it to a few friends. Thanks for the amazing 15 days

Aman

Hi Dr. Pentyala, the SARAS program was a really valuable experience and the experts taught me a lot. This program helped me learn about interesting topics and research. SARAS also helped me narrow down my field of interest. I also made a lot of new friends and the food was great. You were really helpful and nice. Thanks a lot!

Amber

SRINI UNCLE,

I AM REALLY GOING TO MISS SAYING THAT TO YOU - SRINI UNCLE. I had a blast with you and the rest of your students. We even made nicknames to some of them. Thank you for making SARAS the most memorable moment of my life. I will never forget the countless number of friends I made and all the food I consumed. Plus thank you for organizing this amazing program for students like me who learned quite a lot from the brilliant speakers. You are absolutely right when you said "have fun when you have to, but now it's time to be serious". I totally agree with you and that's something I will never forget. I will never forget you, your students, or any of my new friends. Thank you soooooo much for everything. I can never thank you enough for your involvement. Please thank all of your students and the rest of the staff. Tell them I convey my appreciation to them for the countless number of hours they spent to organize a splendid program like this. I don't know what else to say. If I say more. I might start crying. But to finish it off. Thank you soooooo much for everything. I will surely come back a visit you once.

Amith

Dear Dr. Pentyala, Thank you for everything that you have done. The SARAS program was very fun to attend and it introduced me to new areas of science and medicine that I was not aware of before attending the program. One of the lectures that I really enjoyed and learned a lot from was the expert's view lecture given by the neuro surgeon about strokes and aneurysms. I also enjoyed the lecture given by you on patenting and protecting your intellectual property. The combination of medical and "business" lectures helped me consider – differently and more completely than I had before - how important it is to keep your body healthy and your ideas/work safe and secure. I hope that the SARAS program continues to go to the Long Island State Veteran's Home. It's a great opportunity to interact with people who've helped keep our freedoms and rights available, to learn about the medical specialty of geriatrics, and to

get a view of practical considerations for a family member who may need to be placed in an assisted living facility. I really admire all of your leadership and determination, because without it, the SARAS program would not be as organized, fun, and good as it is. I have found it so amazing that in just 11 years the SARAS program went from 14 students to 120 students and growing. I want to personally thank you for helping sort out some of the problems that had occurred earlier in the program with the housing department and staff. I have already recommended the program to many of my classmates and family members! And I hope that the SARAS program is able to help educate future students about the different areas of medicine and research. Through SARAS, I have learned about different doctors and researchers that allow high school students to work/shadow them, and I look forward to reaching out to them to potentially do work with them next summer. SARAS has opened my eyes and made me excited about the possibilities ahead. Thank you! Sincerely,
Andrew

Hi Srini Uncle,
SARAS was a great time and I really really enjoyed it. You were very bright and funny every day and kept us laughing the whole time. Additionally, though they were long, the lectures really helped me decide what I want to do when I grow older. Before SARAS I knew I wanted to do something in science/medicine, but after SARAS I know that I want to do research. Seeing all the different things that one can do in research, as well as the difference you can make was really interesting and inspiring. I hope to someday have my own research lab, doing work I enjoy rather than a typical 9-to-5 job. Thank you so much,
Anjali

Srini Uncle,
The past three weeks have been amazing for me and allowed me to learn many new fields of science that I can pursue in my future. I made many friends and have grown closer to people I already knew. When I started this camp I thought I knew you pretty well, but I have learned so much about you also! For example, I now know you like to cook. SARAS changed my mind on what I want to do in my future and helped me understand many concepts that I didn't understand before, such as stents. SARAS is an amazing program and I would easily recommend it to anyone who is interested in learning new things! Thanks for an amazing time,
Anjuli

Even though I couldn't stay at SARAS the whole day, I had a lot of fun while I was there. It gave me a better idea of what a medical school environment would be like. I felt like I was exposed to a little bit of every medical specialty and I was intrigued by all the things I learned there. Personally, my favorite parts of the program was getting to talk to the medical students and find out their experience and using their advice for us in the future, the CPR training, the germ lecture, the bug lecture, the Indian food of course and the talent show. Also, Thanks to Dr. Srini, I am very glad that I had the opportunity to participate in the program and meet new friends and learn new things.
Anoo.

Dear Srini Uncle,
Thank you so much for organizing this camp and giving us (the kids) such a great opportunity to learn about many different possibilities in the clinical fields! Becoming friends with kids of my age group, who shared the same interests as me, was a great experience! I enjoyed a majority of the lectures. However, for some of them, I felt that I would've had to hear them again to gain a better understanding of the topic. The interactive sessions with the experts were a lot of fun, especially when we split into smaller groups because it was more hands on and easier to learn! Last, but definitely not the least, I enjoyed all the food and will miss having such nice lunches every day! Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to all the people that have made this SARAS program possible, you being on top of the list! I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and thank you again for everything! Best Regards,
Anushka

Hello Srini,

This year's SARAS program was a very eye-opening and interesting experience for me. I am very pleased to say that I did it. I learned a lot of information that I wouldn't have learned if I hadn't have gone to this program. I got to experience various procedures done in the medical field through the intriguing workshops that were presented to us. Not to mention the food was always something I was looking forward to. Although some of the lectures were too complex, most of them were very interesting. They gave me new perspectives on the different occupations in the medical field. I have also made many new friends as a result of this program. Thanks for making this program a memorable experience for me. I would definitely recommend this program to anyone who is interested in the medical field. Thank you,

Arthur

I'm glad that I signed up for SARAS. Before SARAS I had no idea which field of science I wanted to go into. SARAS has given me a better idea of what I want to do in college and in life. All of the experts and professors seemed like very nice people. I enjoyed listening to their experiences and what they do for a living. I'm also glad that I stayed in the dorms at Stony Brook. I made a lot of new friends and had a great experience from dorming in Stony Brook.

Batuhan

My time at the 2015 SARAS program was wonderful. I came to the SARAS program interested in science and the medical field, but I did not know about all the professions that one could pursue. During my 3 weeks at Stony Brook, I found many careers that sparked my interest that I could research even more. I also was able to experience a beautiful college campus and meet many friends who I will be keeping in contact with. Overall the SARAS program was awesome and I am definitely going to recommend it to my friends who are interested in science.

Brandon

Hello Dr. Srinivas,

The three week program of SARAS passed by rapidly. At first, I longed for the day to finish, but at the end I wanted the program to continue forever. The program itself was amazing, interesting, fun, remarkable, etc. I can't describe this program in one word. SARAS gave me the opportunity to meet new people who are similar to me that also want to pursue a medical career. The labs and lectures that were presented were fascinating. I never knew that we would be working in labs doing all kinds of fun activities. And of course, the day ended even better with dorming. The experience was amazing. It was really fun with daily night activities and roommates. SARAS widened my knowledge of how many medical careers are out there, and it was definitely worth it to participate in this program. Thank you, Dr. Srinivas for this opportunity!

Sincerely,

Carol

The SARAS program was very educational. I was enlightened about many different fields of medicine. The program opened up my mind to a lot of different things to do for college. I especially liked the lectures on maxillofacial trauma, anesthesia, respiratory care and orthopedics. I enjoyed the workshops we did in the lab. Also the food was pretty good.

I loved the penne ala vodka, Caesar salad and garlic knots. I would definitely recommend and encourage other people to take the program because it opens many "windows" to explore.

Caitlyn

Dear Srini,

When my mom signed me up to the SARAS program, I was a little apprehensive about going to Stony Brook University for 3 weeks with people I did not know. Well, all I have to say is that I am so glad she signed me up. I had such a great experience with so many different aspects of the program. Let me start with all the experts that we were so fortunate to hear from. They opened my eyes to areas of medicine that I never knew existed. But, also most importantly they reaffirmed my desire to become a doctor. I also got to meet so many great kids, some of whom I know will be lifelong friends. My favorite activity was "Battling the Bugs" because I learned how lab workers stained microorganisms and the final results of the experiment were very interesting. Also the lunches were off the charts! Thank you for such a memorable experience.

Best Regards,
Christopher

Dear Mr. Pentyala,

I thoroughly enjoyed the SARAS program and learned a lot from listening to the lectures. I gained a comprehensive exposure to the occupations in health science and can now make a more educated decision in what I want to major in. I thoroughly enjoyed the SARAS program. It was nothing like I'd imagined it would be like. I appreciated that the experts lectured us on a high knowledge level instead of treating us like babies. Though I had completed the recommended prerequisite science courses, some lectures were still way above my level of understanding. However, I enjoyed those particularly advanced lectures - they allowed me to challenge my brain a little bit. I was truly inspired by the work that all of these scientists are doing, and I am very grateful that they took time out of their busy schedules to speak to us. I thank you for your energy and perseverance in dealing with us rowdy, salad-hating high school students. (I was actually one to take a lot of salad every day)

Best wishes,
Dana

I really enjoyed SARAS. I learned so much about the different science fields and made a lot of friends and the food was great, too. It was a really great experience and I would recommend it to anyone who is interested in science. Thank you so much to everyone who helped set up this program. It was really an amazing experience.
Emily

I loved the SARAS program, it was a great opportunity and it really opened my eyes to the different careers in medicine. Some of the lectures were way out of my league, but I found most of them very interesting, especially the workshops. I met a lot of amazing people and I definitely want to continue in medicine.

Thank you so much,
Emma

This program exposed me to the wonders of medicine and the numerous careers surrounding it: after three weeks of exploration, I have a much clearer idea on what I want to pursue in college and after it. I made a lot of friends and had a ton of fun listening to experts every day. It was very interesting to hear about their respective careers from their unique perspectives and I learned more about the inner workings of a hospital or a research lab. The lunch was really good too and is one of the many things I'll miss. The program was enlightening and the people I met, including Srini, made everything fun and enjoyable. Thank you to everyone who joined the effort to make this program possible to enhance the scientific awareness and enthusiasm for all the students involved!

Erin

Hi Dr. Srini,

My name is Ethan, a rising high school sophomore. I attended your recent SARAS summer program and I enjoyed it a lot. I'm sorry that I am sending this to you at a very late time. I took a nice long break after you bombarded me with emails (don't worry, I enjoyed it). Anyways, getting back to the main idea of this message, I am very glad that I attended your summer program because I learned a whole lot. I was highly educated on the different fields of medicine, met and kept in touch with a lot of awesome professors (especially you), and I am aware of what I might consider when I start thinking about my future occupation. You gave me a great college level

experience with your funny but serious lectures and because of your great program, I am more inclined to pursue something in the medical field and attend medical school. You offered me a lot of different selections on what I could do when I grow up and I greatly appreciate it. Thank you so much!!

Ethan

Dear Srini,

I believe that SARAS was a great experience. I learnt a lot of medical information that I hope will be able to help me further my education in the medical field. I also learned about various specialties that seem really cool. For instance, ophthalmology was a field I rarely thought about pursuing, but recently I have started considering it as a specialty. I probably would've kept on searching for a different specialty had I not went to this program and met with an ophthalmologist who showed us videos and photos of various surgeries that they perform every day. I also learnt about the fields that don't interest me at all. However, at Stony Brook I learned how to make friends. I use to be socially awkward, but now I have built up enough confidence to walk up to strangers and introduce myself. So, this program has taught me more about myself and my interests as well as given me friends and social skills.

-Farah

When my mother told me that I would be attending a science camp for three weeks, I am not going to lie, I thought it would be horrible. When I got the email of all the names of the soon to be SARAS students I saw that some of my friends from school were attending as well, so I didn't feel as bad. When I walked into the Health Science Center I imagined myself as a college student going to a lecture. After the first few days I made many new friends with kids from all over the Island and we still keep in contact. I really enjoyed all the lectures given. I also enjoyed getting to know about many different medical professions. The SARAS program was a really life changing experience. I narrowed down what I wanted to be when I get older, which is a gerontologist. When I sat down with the veterans something in me just clicked. I fell in love with the profession rather instantly. I hope to start volunteering at the Long Island Veterans Home soon. Thank you very much Dr. Srini for putting the SARAS program together and for dealing with us!

Filomena

When I first heard about SARAS I was so excited and knew that I needed to go. I've wanted to go to Stony Brook since I was 4, so being the program was there, made it even better. When I saw the schedule and saw that most of the program was lectures I thought 'wow how can that be fun?', but after the first day I knew the next three weeks would be so much fun. I learned so much from both the lectures and the workshops. All the experts were very knowledgeable and easy to talk to, and they made their lectures fun to listen to. Within the first week I already felt like I went to medical school. One particular presentation was very interesting, especially learning about how stem cells could be used to treat diabetes and other diseases in the future. I also learned that if I ever need brain surgery, the neurosurgeon at Stony Brook who talked to us is the man I would go to. He showed that he knew everything there is to know about brain surgery and he seemed to be passionate about his job and research. Every day I would come home and tell my parents everything that I learned that day and they couldn't believe how much I knew. Everyone who worked to put together this program did a great job and I will definitely be back next year for this amazing opportunity.

Gabrielle

Dear Srini (Uncle),

It is my pleasure to inform you that my time spent at the Science and Research Awareness Series at Stony Brook was surprisingly fun, interesting, and a good use of my time. I do now admit that I was originally reluctant about coming to attend your program, but you organized it so well and made it so much fun that one could not help but enjoy themselves. Of everything you and your colleagues presented to me, my two favorites were Tissue Engineering/Regenerative Medicine, and ophthalmology. In the near future, I will certainly consider these fields as possible lifelong professions. As a matter of fact, I will consider all of the careers your colleagues presented to me. As I continue to head down this path of

science and medicine, I will remember what you and your colleagues and students (as well as your boss) have done for me. I also made a surprising number of friends at the camp, and even exchanged a few phone numbers, so I can't help but thank you for those connections as well. Overall I was beyond pleased with your program, and I would recommend it to my peers. Sincerely,

Jack

I personally enjoyed SARAS because of all the interesting lectures and workshops. I learned a lot about research and medicine. I inspire to be a MD and save people's lives. The food was delicious and all your minions were very nice. I loved how you made the program funny and interesting. Thank you for this wonderful experience. I will always remember everything because I took notes. Also I will remember the friends that I made in this program. -Thank You

James

Thank you! SARAS was an amazing experience, one that I will never forget. I made new friends that are all interested in future medical professions just like me! All of the experts and professors gave me so much insight into what they do, and how they have become who they are today. I am deeply grateful for this experience because now I know what I would like and what I would not like to do in the future. I highly recommend this program to all of my peers who are interested in Science and Research professions. Thank you again for this opportunity!

-Jasmin

I had a very good time at SARAS. The lectures were very informative and the workshops were good hands-on experience. I went into the SARAS program with one friend from my town I came out with three more friends that will be valued contacts in the future. Overall, it was a great experience.

Jeevan

SARAS, was defiantly an amazing experience and I'm grateful that I had the chance to participate in such a program. Being a kinesthetic learner however, I found the labs to be very interesting and I enjoyed figuring out things for myself and learning through hands on experiences.

Jessica

I attended 3 weeks of SARAS program in Stony Brook University. It was really great to see scientists and learn new cool things every day. Before this program I had no idea what I was going to be in future, but after listening to scientists in different majors, I started to have interest in science. I am very thankful that I went to this program, as I got to get along with great scientists and learn about things I never heard of. I really liked this program.

Jihye

My three weeks at SARAS were very unique. I went in hoping to find a field of science that would captivate my interest, yet I came out learning much more. Although some speakers were a bit tedious, the ones who were good were amazing. And although it seems tedious spending a hours a day on Science, Dr. Pentyala's humor always kept us laughing.

As many "science geeks" spoke, I found myself particularly interested in the fields of Stem Cells and Bio-Technology. Being able to create human body parts out of what would be nothing otherwise caught my attention. Whether it was the science of it as a whole, or just the fact that it is a fresh field and unusual to my curiosity.

Aside from finding what I'm interested in, SARAS taught me I could make new friends without anyone by my side. As my friends declined to come, I was there on my own. However after the first week, I found myself socializing and making new friends. And after the last week, we said our goodbyes. My experience at SARAS is one I will never forget in the years to come.

Jonathan

Dear Dr. Pentyala and the SARAS Team,

I am truly grateful for haven been given the privilege of attending SARAS this summer, and I cannot thank you all enough for everything you have done-all of the time, energy and hard work you have put in-to make this program possible. Your dedication to enriching the minds of prospective physicians, surgeons, and researchers is nothing short of admirable. I really am indebted to you. I am also extremely appreciative for the commitment of not only the Department of Anesthesiology, but also all of the experts who took the time out of their busy schedules to come down and speak to us.

The exposure to all of the various different fields of medicine that this program provided was truly unique, and something that us students would not have received anywhere else. SARAS allowed us to examine medicine from every single angle imaginable- research, laboratory operations, therapies and pharmaceuticals, surgery, specialties (cardio, neuro, respiratory, maxillo-facial, ortho, gastroenterology, etc.),- we were even introduced to the business and legal side of medicine! SARAS really opened my eyes to all of the different careers and opportunities in medicine (some I had never even realized existed.)

I had always known from a young age that I wanted to pursue a career in medicine, but I had so many questions regarding what would lie ahead with schooling and career choices and research opportunities, and SARAS was able to answer every single one of them. However, I think the most important thing the program gave me was confidence and reassurance... A career in medicine is no easy pursuit and naturally, I had always wondered if I myself was right for it-if I had what it takes. The lectures and hands-on workshops really gave me a taste of what I would be experiencing throughout college, medical school, and even my future career in medicine, and it made me realize, that I can do this; I am ready to take on whatever comes my way.

Being able to interact with people who are actively involved in the field was such a fascinating, enlightening and above all valuable experience. Listening to many of the speakers discuss their research involving new therapies, pharmaceuticals and techniques, was honestly so exciting-I really can't wait to see what the future holds for medicine. In addition, to any student that is involved with a science research program at their school, SARAS provides numerous opportunities to converse with and even work closely with experts in numerous fields. Many of the experts were more than happy to have students come and work with them in their labs.

One of the best parts of SARAS was that it took place at a beautiful and accredited university. As a rising senior, I am very seriously considering Stony Brook University, and will be applying in the fall.

Again, I would like to thank Dr. Pentyala for conceiving such an extraordinary program. I can assure you that I will remember my three weeks at SARAS for many, many years to come. Believe it or not, I was excited to get up each morning and head to the program and see what was in store for us all each day, and I couldn't wait to come home and share with my family and friends what I had learned. I wish you and your team the very best in the future. I am confident that each and every student who enrolls for SARAS will not be disappointed. I am sure without a single doubt in my mind, that they will enjoy the program as much as I did.

With admiration,
Kaitlyn

Hey Dr. Srin!

This year's SARAS was definitely a positive experience for all. I definitely enjoyed meeting all the experts and it definitely helped me distinguish between the paths that I want to pursue and the other fields in medicine. I really appreciated the generous efforts you have put in for this program. It gave me an opportunity to meet new people and further expand my knowledge of medicine. I miss coming to this program very much!! Thankyou!!!!
-Karthik

Dear Mr. Srin

I wanted to thank you for allowing me to be part of the SARAS group, it was an amazing experience, it give me a feel for what is would be like to attend Stony Brook. Stony brook is my dream school and being part of SARAS lead me to learn more about different career arrears in the science field. The workshops in SARAS are amusing when I was participating in them. I realized that pursuing a career in science wasn't an interest anymore it was more like a passion. I learned so much and never will I regret spending 3 weeks of my summer on this program. Also, SARAS opened my interest towards research. I would love to do research on cancer that would honestly be

my dream. to find the cure of cancer. Thank you so much for everything and I wanted to wish you luck with your research and I know you'll SARAS program will just get bigger and bigger.

Kat.

Thank you for having me in SARAS, it helped me find something I'm interested in. I found microbiology to be very interesting. I find biology to be fun and informing but I didn't know what I wanted to major in. The SARAS program helped me to see what it is like to work in a lab. Also I had fun with my new friends at stony brook.

Elias

Throughout these three weeks, it has been a very intellectual journey. Not only did I learn so much about the different fields of science, but I got to experience college life by living on campus. All the different speakers and labs that we got exposed to, showed me what field of science I didn't like or the ones I was interested in. I would recommend this program to many of my friends who are interested in science. Thank you for letting me participate in this spectacular experience.

Kena.

I think that SARAS was a great program. There were a lot of lectures and I enjoyed all of them. Each day was different and it was cool to learn from different departments of Stony Brook Hospital. I will recommend this to some of my other friends.

Kate

SARAS was exciting. I learned a lot about the different fields in Healthcare and this will make me think more about what I want to pursue after finishing college. It was a great 3 weeks and I liked the hands on workshops the best.

Kris

Dear Dr. Pentyala,

Hello! It's Kristal. I hope you had an enjoyable summer since the closing of SARAS. I just wanted to say thank you so much for giving me and all of the other SARAS students an opportunity to be a part of your phenomenal program! This summer at Stony Brook was truly memorable. I learned so much, from the importance of patents to the complex procedures done by a neurosurgeon. I also had the experience of talking to inspirational veterans during our "field trip" to the Long Island State Veterans Home. In addition, I also discovered that I didn't necessarily need to become a doctor to contribute to the medical and science fields. Now I know that I have a variety of occupations in science and research to choose from. During the course of SARAS, I was always looking forward to class and ended up taking the early train every day! Going to the labs was a nice addition from the day of lectures. (I also liked how we had breaks to have some fun silly things such as kid aerobics and creative essay writing.) I remember my classmates and I really enjoyed having fun with them. Other than that, SARAS with all of Dr. Pentyala's humorous and inspiring talks, was impeccable. If you ever have any other programs/opportunities, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you again,

Kristal

Dear Dr. Pentyala,

I want to thank you for putting together the SARAS program. I really enjoyed every single day. I was worried that I would be wasting my summer doing this, but I think this ended up being one of my most well spent summers. Before coming to SARAS, having career in medicine not really what I wanted. I thought that I wanted a job dealing with nothing but chemistry. After attending SARAS, I realized that what I truly was made to do is help people with their health directly and immediately. I considered nursing before but kept it in the back of my mind, but SARAS helped me see the great that I would be doing as a nurse. I am still keeping my options open about whether or not I want to attend medical school, but at this point, any career in medicine would fulfill me. At

this program, I made a ton of friends who are on the same track as myself, and it's encouraging to all share a similar future. I truly value all of the lessons that I learned these past few weeks. This was certainly a summer I'll never forget. Thank you!

Kristina

I am genuinely appreciative for all the things that I have learned in the SARAS program. The benefits of this experience are obviously plentiful in terms of academics but also in terms of life skills. Interacting with professionals and students and learning about topics that I was unfamiliar with is something that I really enjoyed. I now have a clearer understanding of the many opportunities available to me in the field of medicine. There were so many that I didn't even know about. As a result of attending SARAS, I feel that I have a good sense of the direction I would like to go in the future. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity and learning experience.

Kylie

July 6 of 2015 was the first day of one of the best experiences of my life. It was the beginning of a Science and Research Awareness program run by the top anesthesiology department at Stony Brook University Hospital. We were greeted with breakfast by Dr. Srinivasan and his students along with the other students participating in the learning experience. It was amazing to listen to all of the contributions in lectures and asking interesting questions and comments. The professionals who lectured throughout the three weeks of this program made the whole thing worthwhile. The first day of the first week at SARAS we were introduced to the man in charge of it all at the hospital. He taught us all about from bedside to board room. The rest of the day was fun filled with facts about respiratory and different careers involved. The experts performed a very intriguing workshop that showed us different ways to breathe when your body has a hard time doing it on its own. Some people have diseases that malfunction their respiratory system, and that's when doctors help them. The vest and old oxygen tanks were so interesting to watch work. The rest of the first week was packed with more interesting days that involved aerobics, learning about the spinal cord, and also being introduced to a new field known as Regenerative Medicine which was presented by an outstanding speaker (my favorite topic). I had never been so intrigued by the world of regenerative medicine until this doctor taught us new things like 3D printing and teaching manmade kidneys how to work. The ophthalmologist was another doctor that made me become very interested on his topic about the human eyes. Later on that day our very own Dr. Srinivasan showed an interactive PowerPoint involving optical illusions. We ended our first week with learning about social media which really interested all students considering it has become such a major part in our lifestyle.

The second week of SARAS we were taught by many skilled doctors who work on the heart. An interventional cardiologist taught me something new about stents and how they worked to help the heart. It was beneficial to learn because many people in the world have heart problems so stents are becoming a common thing seen in the medical field. The operating Room Director introduced himself and his topic on being cool under pressure. I was drawn to this topic because of how relatable it was and how interactive the speaker was with his audience. He taught us many helpful tips on staying cool under pressure that can help in everyday life. After learning from him we took part in my favorite activity that was done in these three weeks, and that was visiting the Veterans home. I met one of the greatest men, Fred, there who told my friend, Esmerelda, and me all about his journey as an island hopper in the World War II. I took pictures with Fred and asked tons of questions. He was a happy elder, and it warmed my heart when he told us how much it meant to him that we visited. I wouldn't have traded this experience for the world, and I can't thank SARAS enough for giving it to me. That was the highlight of my stay at Stony Brook, but there were many other things that contributed to the experience. We learned about MRI tests, surgery free fracture healing, and even did SAT practice tests. I'm preparing to take my SATs one more time in October, so the practice testing really helped and taught me many helpful tips I'm going to use. The second week of SARAS came to an end quickly, and it felt like the program was unfortunately flying by.

My final week at Stony Brook University was the fastest week of the program, and I think that's because I didn't want it to end. I learned so many great facts about stem cells and the amazing medical discoveries with them. I learned how the cells are transformed to act as other cells in the body, and it reminded me of why I love science so much. Also, later on in the week we had a whole day filled with lectures on the GI tract and cannabinoids. We fulfilled many workshops this week including becoming familiar with simple hygiene in health care. Eventually we performed workshops that were based around physical therapy. It was interesting to watch my fellow classmates blindly guide each other around the lecture hall. The final day of SARAS was the saddest as we ended our program with a great lunch, an even greater talent show, and definitely the greatest awards ceremony. It was an honor to listen to Dr. Pentyala's lectures all week and his funny jokes, but unfortunately we had to end the program. It was a great feeling to know what I had accomplished my summer after junior year and to think about what more I would accomplish in my life. The SARAS program really reassured me that I want to pursue a career in healthcare so I can provide that medical attention and help people for the rest of my life. I couldn't thank the doctors and lectures enough along with everyone involved in the program for making this experience the one that will positively stick with me throughout my life.

Maggie

The SARAS program at Stony Brook was a great way for high school students like me to develop a further interest in science, as well as have a greater desire to become more involved in the different branches of this subject. Through exciting workshops and informative lectures, I had the chance to learn more about different occupations in the medical sciences and the research that has been conducted/planning on being done for the betterment of our society. The three weeks spent at the program seemed to have passed by in the blink of an eye, definitely faster than I originally expected for them to, as I spent around six hours of my day to learn about the different careers in medical science and how they do their job. SARAS definitely helped for me to pass the time quicker, as well as learn more about scientific research and studies without feeling like I was stuck in a place where I didn't want to be and would do anything to get out of. I feel that the program was a much more interesting way for me to get involved in science rather than by reading from a textbook or watching a video. The thought of being able to speak with people who actually specialize in these positions definitely beats out sitting in science class and reading textbooks or watching videos regarding that subject.

Mahnoor

Hey Dr. Srinj,

The SARAS program was definitely a positive experience for me this year. I never knew I could learn this much in such a short span of time-- just 3 weeks!! The experts and doctors that came in to inform us about medicine helped me learn about the different branches of medicine and it also helped me decide which fields of medicine I would want to pursue. Before SARAS, I wanted to become a neurosurgeon or cardiothoracic surgeon. But, SARAS made me realize what I would really enjoy doing, which is either become a maxilla-facial surgeon or an ophthalmologist. In addition, the food at SARAS was amazing. I had the chance to experience all different types of cultures through the food. I'm so glad I came to SARAS this year because I had the chance to meet so many amazing people who I will never forget and I further expanded my knowledge on medicine. Thank you for making SARAS an unforgettable experience Dr. Srinj!!

-Megha

What can I say...SARAS was not a bad choice! Summer has always been a fun and special time for me, and I think that SARAS was a great choice out of all the other camps possible. Srinj was also a very enthusiastic individual that helped others to also appreciate science☺. Most importantly however, was the sheer amount of information about the medical field that was just handed out to me. Luckily, I took some notes on the interesting ones. I would definitely recommend this program to others looking into it; it is a lot more interesting than expected, and making friends is basically guaranteed. Oh, and one last thing to anyone reading this: the food is amazing!!!

-Michael

Dear Dr.Pentyala,

Hi it's Myla, I just wanted to update you on my general experience at SARAS. I really enjoyed all the workshops and took notes on most of the lectures. I wanted to sincerely thank you for what you allowed me to take part in. This truly solidified my decision on going to school for one of the harder sciences, specifically microbiology. The toys rewarded are all being donated to charity, I hope that's okay, it was something I made a promise to do from the beginning. I have to admit they were hard to part with. My favorite workshops were the microbiological ones and to say it lightly that was so exciting, it made my week every with micro-lab done. The talent show was a really fun thing to be a part of and the crowd was excellent. It was so interesting to see the mixture of all these different cultures coming together. This is an experience that I will never forget and I thank you for your time and effort put into this. You were a pleasure to meet and hopefully I'll be seated at a Stony Brook Lecture Hall sometime soon. Wait uh...I just got your email. Was this meant for me? I'm not trying to be rude but if it is I'm assuming it's regarding the talent show if I'm not mistaken... Wow, this really... I really really really appreciate this! Either way thank you so much for being a part of this or being such a figure to look up to.... You're awesome! Thank you for being so awesome! (I'm sorry i wrote the lines "Ginny Weasley didn't do any of that Avada Cadvra crap..." in the harry potter essay thing I didn't think too much into the importance that we were handing it in...) Um... I'm trying to see if I forgot anything, oh yeah! I didn't know the student that was helping you throughout the program was your daughter, that's pretty cool! And uh... Have a nice.... life? (wait am I really saying have a nice life? that sounds so depressing...) Have a... nice night and uh.... wait I think it's around 1am now... uh.... Good Morning? I don't know, I'll miss you Sрни, you really made an impact.

-Sincerely

Myla Parry

Dear Sрни Uncle,

I have to say I loved almost everything about SARAS except for when I kept either missing the shuttle or train and even both. SARAS gave me a new experience to learn more about what researchers do and how to be successful in the medical field. To be honest, before SARAS I told myself that going into the medical field would not be the right choice for me. But you worked with us through the three week journey where we learned so much and got to see the excitement from the professional's view. I speak for the whole group of SARAS students when I say, thank you for all of the good cuisine and endless laughter at lunch. Coming to SARAS has made me realize that there are many great people in our society today who are destined to change the world with science. I would really like to thank you for showing me that there is so much that can be done in the medical field to help society. I have made some very unforgettable friends as well as many memories here at SARAS. You showed me a path to become successful in the future. Even though you say all good things have to end, I plan to prove you otherwise that it is possible that good things can last forever. Thank You So Much Dr. Sрни/ Sрни Uncle/ Professor Pent(yala)!!! A great summer with a great professor.

Nandini

Dear Dr. Sрни Uncle,

I learned a lot at this SARAS camp along with meeting new people and seeing witch career path I might want to take. This camp also provided me with new opportunities to interact with professionals who may guide me in the future. I also like when you give prizes to the people who ask questions, as this makes students more motivated to ask questions. Overall, this was a very good experience and I greatly appreciate all your efforts to make this camp a success. Thanks for everything!

Nandita

I am very grateful to have been able to be a part of this program. I had so much fun learning about the different medical fields and I felt that the best part was the workshops. Seeing exactly how to perform a lumbar puncture or seeing how respiratory therapy equipment works was amazing. Not only did this program allow me to see how the different medical fields function but it also allowed me to open up and make new friends which I thought was the most important part. Thank you again for this opportunity, it truly helped to guide me towards what I want to do in the future.

Olias

Hello Dr. (Uncle) Srimi. I had a wonderful overall experience of SARAS for the past three weeks. I was satisfied that I was able to obtain a lot of information about anesthesiology and different types of medical research from you and your fellow contemporaries in your department. I was also inspired by your patent talk. I think to myself that maybe one day I could have several patents myself that would make me rich. I was also intrigued with the fact that you showed us how to have fun. You kept us entertained with Bollywood songs, workout videos, and especially toys for those who asked questions. You showed us that learning is not always boring. I was also attracted to the wonderful lunch. Thank you for all that you have done to help us and guide us on our paths. You have inspired me to follow my passion and you have made me gain more interest in the medical field.

Shivesh

Hello Srimi,

It was a great pleasure meeting you and I really enjoyed SARAS. I learned a lot of new stuff and I got to know a lot of new people. I especially liked the food because I tasted a lot of new foods which I never had before.

Poorna

Dr. Pentyala,

I really enjoyed the SARAS program. I found many of the sessions very interesting and I learned a lot from the different experts and workshops. In fact, the program solidified my interest in the medical field and made me realize that I want to become an anesthesiologist. These last few weeks have been very educational and I'm very glad I got to participate in the program.

Rachel

Hello "Uncle" Srinivas,

The SARAS program was interesting and comical. Us "SARASers" knew when to be serious and conduct ourselves during the lectures, but that didn't mean we couldn't have fun. I was exposed to different experts and their careers. Also, the lectures were so convincing that I might want to pursue a different career psychology instead of dentistry or endodontics. What I found interesting, besides the diverse food served and lunches (just kidding), was the interactions between the Veterans and motivation speeches. It inspires individuals, like us, to overcome the largest obstacles and have a different outlook and perspective on life. If I wasn't interested in the topic or the career, I still learned something about that career and facts I didn't learn in school that made me interested. In pursuing my career, the SARAS program will give me an edge in education, in dentistry or psychology, and a feel on college-based lectures. I learned so much from you Uncle Srinivas, especially your patents. Thank you, sincerely,

Nick

I believe that the SARAS program was a good program to introduce people who are unsure about what they want to do in the future to multiple occupations. I learned a lot in the different sessions with the experts. I liked the interactive parts the best however. Doing the spinal tap and using the agar plates were probably my two favorite interactions. I really liked visiting the veteran home also. It was very interesting listening to the veterans' stories. I made a few good friends in this

program that I was sad to leave on the last day but we will stay in touch. Thank you very much for hosting the SARAS program.

Rhianna

Dear Dr. Srinivas,

I enjoyed my SARAS experience very much. The lectures were really interesting, and I became more knowledgeable about both the medical field and what I may want to practice when I'm an adult in the near future. Many practices I was taught during these lectures are also applicable to me today such as the hand washing lecture. Now I always wash my hands after I use the restroom! In addition to the lectures, the lunches were amazing! I also made loads of friends at the camp that I will almost certainly keep in touch with even after the camp. I also appreciated how much you cared about the well-being of your students/children as you emailed us every day and gave us adorable plush toys after either asking an expert a question or after completing a fun activity. All the best to you. Sincerely,

Rohan

Hello Dr. Srini,

Thank you very much for the opportunity of attending such an insightful program. I found SARAS to be a very helpful program, as it covered many medicinal fields and gave children a wide variety to explore. I am grateful for participating in many of the activities, such as being the team leader and joining the push-up contests. I am very interested in ophthalmology and the presentation by the eye surgeon was very helpful and interesting. SARAS was an amazing experience and I am grateful that I went. Thanks again. Sincerely,

Ruth

Dr. Pentyla!

Participating in the SARAS program was a great learning experience. I learned about many things such as, sleeping disorders, the importance of nurse anesthetists, the necessity of aerobics in our lives and how you have to have a patent, basically for everything. This program has impacted my future drastically. For example, before starting the program I knew I wanted to do something in the medical field and work with children, ever since I was a child I've had my mind set on being a Neonatologist. SARAS opened my eyes to a whole new world of possibilities. This program showed me that there is so much more than just being a Neonatologist, because of SARAS I have decided I want to be a nurse anesthetist. In the end, I've always wanted to take care of people, make them feel better inside and out. SARAS has brought me so much knowledge, experience, laughter, and most of all a new outlook on my future. Thank you Dr. Pentyla!

Esmeralda

"This is going to be awful." "Why do I have to be here?" "These next three weeks are going to be so boring." These were all things that I said before SARAS. All three of those things were completely wrong. I had a great time, I meet great new friends, and learned amazing new that I could not learn anywhere else. I had such a great time, I am so glad that I spent those three weeks at Stony Brook.! The best part about SARAS was that everyone was working so hard to give us a great experience. Everyone, whether it was a lecturer or a student, was very easy to talk to. Also, it wasn't all about lectures, we had labs, we did exercise, watched Indian dances, ate great food, had contests, got toys, and had time to socialize. There was a perfect balance of everything needed at an educational camp like this one. Another great aspect of this camp was that everybody was willing to learn. Nobody was there just as a distraction to the other students. I would like to thank Doctor Srini and for organizing the entire program. He took out three weeks of his time just to educate us. He really cared about each and every one of his students. He had a great sense of humor and some great business ideas. Without Doctor Srini pulling this entire camp together, the 119 students that he got wouldn't have been able to

get this great experience. Many of us were inspired and I'm sure that when we are applying for colleges, we will realize how much the hard work of Doctor Srini making this camp will be a benefit for us. Also, I would like to thank everyone who made the food, gave a lecture, or in any way helped make SARAS a success. None of us would have been able to meet such successful people in their fields without the help of SARAS.

Samir

Hi Dr. Pentyala,

I wanted to start off by thanking you for running the SARAS program and for all of the hard work you and your staff did to make the camp such a wonderful and educational experience. Overall I really loved the program. It was a perfect opportunity to be exposed to various fields of science and medicine, and also to learn about some of the newest and most advanced projects that people at Stony Brook are working on. The SARAS program also helped me greatly with finding out what areas of science that I am interested in and would potentially want to do research or work in. Thank you again for this great experience and knowledge. Sincerely,

Sarah

I found SARAS to be a very enriching program that truly helped me clarify my future career in the medical field. Up until this program, I knew I wanted to go into something in medicine but I wasn't sure what area. SARAS helped me realize all my different interests by providing lectures of experienced professionals from various areas of science. I liked the idea of hearing from someone who is actually in a field and has experience with their specialty better than relying solely on the facts you'd find in a textbook or on the internet. A real life lecture gives more of an insider perspective and an individual's unique point of view on the topic. Also, hearing about research being conducted helped to put everything in perspective and provide a real life application of everything that was taught. Other than the thought-provoking lectures, I really appreciated the atmosphere of being in a hospital, the people, and the provision of free lunch daily, which really helped keep the focus be on learning alone. The workshops helped to really balance out learning with hands-on activities to help keep the program engaging at all times. My favorite of these was the lumbar puncture (spinal tap). During this workshop, there was a moment where I could truly envision myself doing this as a medical doctor in the future. Even aside from the academic side of SARAS, I enjoyed being around students like me who had a similar mindset and enjoyed learning, unlike in school where this is not always true. I learned of your many interesting research projects during your lectures on intellectual property and developing marketable ideas. I am very interested in your research, including your creation of a diagnostic test for Cerebral Spinal Fluid and the role of the test in identifying injury and quickly treating it, your work with osteoporosis and creating a stronger bone that reverses the effects of the disease, as well as your development of a product that treats nausea. I spoke to you during the program regarding working with an expert and was wondering if I could possibly observe your research or work with you, as a high school student, on any of your research projects? Overall, I really enjoyed SARAS not only for the informative yet engaging lectures but for the experience, the people, and all the fun I had while discovering the field of medicine.

Olufisayo

Dear Dr. Srini,

I had an incredible three weeks in the SARAS program. It was amazing to hear from experts themselves about their fields. They answered questions in ways that we could all understand, for which I am appreciative. SARAS also helped to introduce me to all the different realms of health care. I found out that I was interested in a lot of them, especially respiratory therapy! The interactive workshops were especially helpful. I'm proud to say that my first ever CPR training came from SARAS! If I'm being completely honest, it was my favorite workshop. I learned so much in my three weeks in SARAS as well as made a lot of new friends. I also got to imagine what it is like to be a Stony Brook student. It was a phenomenal experience. Sincerely,

Selene

Hi Srini!

The SARAS Program overall was very interesting and I enjoyed it a lot. You remind me a lot of my dad because you're very enthusiastic about teaching so thank you so much for all your time and effort and I will definitely recommend this camp to all my friends. I had a great time!

Shailee

Overall, I feel that the SARAS program has exposed me to many different careers in medicine and biology. It has taught me many different topics in biology and certain implications that are needed to pursue a career in medicine. The dorming experience was a pleasant part of the program. The lectures were very informative. The SARAS program was very enjoyable.

Shemar

Dear Dr. Srinivas Pentyala,

I really enjoyed the SARAS program and so glad I attended. My favorite lecture (besides your own talks) was definitely the regenerative medicine. His discussion of progression of artificial organs was very fascinating. I would say that my favorite workshop involved the clinical simulations where we practiced intubation and spinal taps. While I was shadowing in the ICU at Southside I actually got to see these procedures done in person which was pretty cool. Overall I had a lot of fun and made some great new friends. You and your aerobics friend kept me laughing and engaged. Thank you for an informative yet enjoyable summer experience that I will definitely recommend to my friends in the future!

Thank you again!

Kaitlyn

Dear Srini Uncle,

Thanks for the wonderful learning experience at this summer camp. I especially enjoyed the free food and toys. However, my favorite were the Indian music videos. They exposed the non-Indians to Bollywood music-not the everyday junk on the radio. Thanks,

Sucheta

Srini-

Thank you for everything you have done this summer to make the SARAS program a success. I know that it did an excellent job in keeping me busy for this past month while keeping me interested and entertained at the same time. I hope that the new things I have learned from it will help me in the future as I possibly prepare to enter a medical career. I know already that it has helped to expose me to a variety of possibilities for fields that I can be a part of in the future. In specific, hands-on work in labs and medical simulations further confirmed in my mind that I would like to work in medicine. I hope that I will continue to learn in hands-on experiences that relate to the biomedical sciences in the future. Thank you again for everything and I hope that you can now enjoy some rest!

T.J.

Hello Srini,

I had a great three weeks, I had so much fun and I learned a lot. I am really so thankful that you and your colleagues (and your minions) so graciously donated your time. All of your friends in the hospital inspire me to do great things. I will miss the camp for sure! I will also miss the food - haha. The video on the last day was very moving as well, it was incredible to see what the human spirit is capable of. Thanks for everything again!

-Vinny

Dear Srini,

This has been by far the best summer due to SARAS. I have been informed on many aspects of the medical and health science world. It has been interesting to learn about professions that I never knew about before. This program made me more open to possible career paths, such as ophthalmology, regenerative med. engineering, neurology, physical therapy, and lab research. Because of this program, I had the amazing opportunity to meet some of the best physicians and surgeons, as well as a certain inventor who created the dipstick. I have also been exposed to the bio-med engineering world as well as the business/economy world. I will never forget about SARAS and the experience I had.

Vivian

I type this hours before I leave for China, where I will spend the rest of the summer. While the latter half of my summer will be spent binge eating Chinese food, the former half was defined by SARAS. While previously I had dismissed a medical profession, now it becomes more of a possibility and something I would like to explore further. I was one of the few who didn't raise my hand when asked who wanted to go into a medical field, but the program opened my eyes to the wide diversity of careers available and the experiences it can grant. I made friends, some of whom I will remember for a long time. I ate way too much food than I've had in my entire life. Everybody there seemed cheerful and love what they do, and their enthusiasm cut through even my glazed, sleepy mind. The talent show was great; you should do it every year! I know that when I choose my college and eventually my career, SARAS will in some way affect my decisions, whether I know it or not. Thanks for the great experience!

Xinyi

Going to SARAS was a great experience for me. Before I came to this program I thought it was going to be boring and dull. However this changed within the first two days of the SARAS program. Everyone was really nice and cool, and some of the lectures were really fun. During this program I learned that I want to be an orthodontist. I want to be an orthodontist because I realized that you can make people better. During this program I made a lot of friends. I am very thankful that I got to be a part of this amazing program. I really want to thank all the staff and the professors who helped run this program. Also I want to give special thanks to doctor Srini. Thank you all for having me.

Yoonho

Hi Dr. Srini,

First, I just want to say thank you so much for giving me the wonderful opportunity to participate in SARAS. I had a great time. I learned so much about such a wide variety of topics in the health field. Before this program, I was leaning toward becoming an engineer because I thought medicine was all about memorizing biology and would be boring. But now, I know that it is so much more than that and I am considering becoming a doctor. I never realized how fun and interesting it could be. Hearing you talk about your research and patents got me excited for what I can do in the future. Hearing lectures from experts in all different types of health care professions was also very interesting. It helped me learn what I like and what I don't like. Even though some lectures went over my head because they were too complex, I still learned something from each one. This program also made me want to go to Stony Brook. Before, I took it for granted because it is a state school and I live so close to it but now I know that it is a really good school that will give me a great education. Hearing about your research made me realize that it also has very good research opportunities. If I end up coming to study there next year, you can guarantee I'll knock on your door!! Thank you,

Misha

Dear Uncle Srini,

I thought that the SARAS program was extremely informative and helpful in discovering new fields of sciences. Although that I didn't want to give up 3 weeks of my summer, it was worth it. It made me think about the possibility of attending Stony Brook in the future. I was thinking of becoming an RN or maybe more. I loved

being in the hospital and seeing what goes on. The lectures, were extremely educative and sparked some curiosity, including the 3D bio-printing and the nursing lecture. I thought the future of bio-printing could be extremely beneficial and shows how far science has come. Also the nursing field seems very promising for me. I love the idea of clinical interactions with patients and the way you help people. One of my favorite days of the program was visiting the nursing home, and talking to the veterans. The veteran, Vincent, was funny and had some good stories to tell. Overall I thought that the SARAS program was a very good experience. Learning more, making friends from different places, discovering new things, and of course meeting the humorous Dr. Srinu were all things that made the camp entertaining. Your toys and jokes definitely made the extra 3 weeks of school a lot more pleasurable and amusing. Thank you for everything that you did. From your SARAS student,
Kelsie

Over the summer, I attended the SARAS program at Stony Brook University in New York. At SARAS, we got to experience the everyday life of a college student and listened to lectures from various experts in different medical fields. Over the three weeks we were there, we learned something new every day. Whether it was about eye surgery, brain surgery or even your sleeping patterns. When I was first introduced to SARAS, I really didn't think I was going to like it. However, after meeting new people, the lectures, the hands on experience in the lab and visiting the veterans, each day was great. Overall, SARAS was a great experience and I made so many new friends from many different places. Thank you to Dr. Dr. Pentylala and the team of individuals that put this program together.

- Noah
