

## 2016-SARAS Student Feedback

Dear Dr Srini,

Being a part of the SARAS program was very fun and educational. I learned a lot about the careers and fields of science and research. Most of the experts were very teen-friendly and made the lectures easier to understand and more entertaining with cool pictures and interesting videos.

I would like to say that the lunch was very good and I thought it was cool that we picked our own meal for the Chinese food that you ordered.

Most of the labs that we did were very interesting and a fun application of science that was relevant to the earlier lectures and about how the career functions. The interludes between lectures were classic and your personality really spiced up the entire program. Overall, it was an enjoyable 3 weeks of heavy science material. Thank you Dr. Srini! Regards,

Eshan

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Dear Srini,

I enjoyed being part of the SARAS program. I learned a lot more about science and research than I had expected to learn coming into the program. I never thought I would learn about the specific fields of medicine in these classes during the three weeks, but I was wrong. I was introduced beyond what I thought was possible to different procedures that surgeons have to give and situations they had to encounter. I also learned a lot about how to get started with a research assignment and how to turn bad ideas into great products. I got to meet many new friends at the campus during the program. There were many times in the program that wee fun as well as educational. The food was awesome, too. Thank you for a great three weeks!

From,

Vedant

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

Around April, I had been rejected by the only Science Camp I had signed up for. However, I stumbled upon the SARAS Program while researching my dad's college, Stony Brook University. Immediately, the calendar appealed to me with its different professionals and workshops over the course of three weeks. As a matter of fact, it was so appealing that I ended up buying a plane ticket from San Francisco to JFK to attend the SARAS Program. Every Monday to Friday for three weeks, various professionals from different branches of the Medical field came to teach students in the hospital and occasionally we had a workshop. On Fridays, students could either choose to have SAT tutoring or a talk with a Medical student. In addition to learning from professionals, I stayed in a dorm on campus and really got a feel of college lifestyle, which was really fun even though I did not know anyone at first. I learned so much from the program, I went back to California, diagnosing my mom with sleep apnea and even altering my own hygiene after a professional came to talk about bacteria. If you are unsure about joining the program, I highly recommend it.

Sincerely,

Alvin

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

I really enjoyed my three weeks at SARAS. I previously new almost nothing about medicine and know I have learned so much. There were many interesting lecturers and subjects but, I think the most interesting lectures were the ones about the lifestyle required for different medical fields or the ones about new medical developments. Overall, I am really grateful I had this opportunity.

Samuel

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

Hi, this is Rebecca. I thoroughly enjoyed SARAS. Many of the lectures were quite interesting, and I liked the balance between lectures by practicing physicians and researchers. SARAS has made me realize that I would rather pursue a career in medical research rather than working with patients.

I really enjoyed the workshops where we were able to work hands-on, and I would have loved to do more. However, I see how it is hard to organize workshops for so many students and still make sure everyone can participate.

I enjoyed lunch very much. The food was very tasty!

Thank you for everything!

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Dear Dr. Srini,

The past 3 weeks has been a wonderful and enriching experience for me. As an aspiring pediatric Pulmonologist, these few weeks have opened my mind to all the other elements that play a part in a hospital environment. I found each and every speaker to be extremely interesting and I'm so grateful that they took time out of their busy schedules. I was able to acquire knowledge not only on the medical aspects of each job, but the social and economic aspects. Every speaker was able to provide me with new information that has helped me become a well-rounded person. My favorite speaker was the Respiratory Care Therapist; I have shadowed in a Pulmonology clinic and was able to relate to the presentation he gave. I would like to express how thankful I am that this program is so successful and that I was able to partake in it. I have been able to make so many new experiences, as well as friends who I plan to stay in contact with. Thank you once again and I hope you have a great rest of the summer.

Devika

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From the bottom of my heart, I can say that I had one of the best summers. I was able to learn a lot from this program and I have gained a lot of knowledge as well as friends. I'm not sure if it's because we had a lot of anesthesiology presentation but I've acquired an interest toward that field. In addition, I hope that I will be able to conduct my own research projects like the other talkers were able to. The staff at stony Brooke was very welcoming and nice and the food was good every day. I especially enjoyed the sat prep sessions because I learned a lot of new skills and techniques. I truly had an amazing time there and would definitely recommend this program to my friends. Thank you so much again and have a great year!

Sincerely,

Sona

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The overall experience of SARAS taught me a lot of things, mostly about medicine, but there was a lot on research. I enjoyed the program very much. I particularly enjoyed the workshop with the forensic scientist. The lecturers were mostly engaging and allowed us to ask many questions.

Kindly,

Maheen

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My overall impression of SARAS was it is a great place to learn many new things. I really enjoyed going to this camp because I got to learn first-hand from professionals. Another thing that made SARAS so great was students were allowed to ask questions after the presentation. Eventually one question would lead to another starting a chain reaction allowing multiple people to participate. I believe this summer camp will continue to progress successfully in the future due to the great impressions it leaves on the campers from all the excellent information sources and food.

Karen

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

I want to thank you very much for the opportunity to hear from medical professionals and to be exposed to science and medicine through interactive workshops. The SARAS program was amazing and I feel that I have learned a great deal from it! Before the program, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with my future. But after the program, I feel confident in my decision to try and become a doctor. Everything about the program was great! I loved the food, meeting new friends, and learning new things everyday while I was there. My favorite food was definitely from the Curry Club. I want to thank you again for everything and I hope you enjoy the last couple weeks of summer!

Maria

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Dr. Pentyla

I greatly appreciated the opportunity to attend the 2016 Saras Program at Stony Brook Hospital. All the interesting speakers, labs, and activities allowed my interest in the medical field to grow. I was very fortunate to get a glimpse at different types of medical fields. Besides the educational aspect of the program, I enjoyed making new friends and eating delicious lunches. I will definitely recommend this program to friends and family who are also interested in a career in medicine! Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this wonderful program and I truly believe that it will greatly benefit me in the near future as I choose the right career path in the medical field.

Zach

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Hi Dr. Pentyla,

SARAS genuinely was one of the greatest experiences in my life. Before entering SARAS I never realized the different branches of medicine and how science can be incorporated in many different occupational fields including business. SARAS helped bring out my hidden passion and desire to go into the science field in the near future. Not only did I learn academically at SARAS but I also learned to socialize and interact with other people my age with the same ambition and drive as me. By surrounding myself with determined peers made me more determined to achieve my future goal of receiving a PhD and hopefully researching cancer cells. My favorite part of SARAS was the labs and workshop activities. By doing hands on procedures it helped me understand the profession more in depth. Thank you so much for giving me motivation for the future and insight for the future! This experience is something I will always cherish and look back to!

Aria

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This is Monishka and this is my overall impression of SARAS:

SARAS overall was definitely one of the most inspiring programs I have ever done, I never had so much insight in this field of science ever. Making new friends was great as well, I still talk to many of the friends I made at SARAS. Everyday I looked forward to getting on the train on our way to lecture hall 5 to see the new things we were going to learn about that day. And I especially looked forward to the workshops we did after lunch. My favorite one was the simulations we did.

Thank you so much for an opportunity to participate in something this insightful, inspiring, and amazing

Best,

Monishka

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Hello, my name is Krishna and these are my final comments/feedback. I have enjoyed the SARAS program very much and I think that it was a good way to lead me into the different career paths that interest me. I enjoyed the lectures and I loved the different speakers, labs and projects. Because of the SARAS I have also started volunteering at the hospital, as a junior volunteer learning about different stuff in the medical field. The questions for a gift strategy works and keep doing that. I loved the food and staff too. I overall enjoyed the 3 weeks of the program and hope to do something like it again.

Thanks for the experience.

Krishna

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I thought the SARAS program was very interesting and at times fun. One good part about the camp was the lunch. I feel that they were pretty good for a camp and served as a good break after hours of lectures.

Dalton

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Hello Dr. Pentyla,

So far my experience in SARAS has been none like any other. It was truly a unique experience which helped me decide which medical field I want to go into. I've also learned many things that will be quite useful in the long run. Thanks for everything

-Nina

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I had a great experience at SARAS this summer participating in all of the lectures and workshops each day. My love and interest in medicine grew as well as my understanding for what a profession in the medical field will bring to my future. I made so many friends and had a wonderful experience staying in the dorms at Stony Brook. I'm so grateful to you and to all of the staff at SARAS and all of the speakers that came. Thank you so much for this experience!

Sincerely,  
Christina

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Hi! This is Alexa! I really enjoyed the SARAS program! The program allowed me to discover what I am truly interested in, health care. After the program I became extremely interested in Ophthalmology and respiratory therapy. The program also confirmed the career path I wish to pursue, nursing. The day when the nurse came in really helped me learn what it is that a nurse does! SARAS also encourage me to begin volunteering at Stony Brook Hospital and I absolutely love it! I was exposed to so many interesting topics through this program and I am so thankful that it exists. I also met so many different people with so many different interests. Not only did the program show me what I want to do but it also assisted me in learning what I do not have interest in. I appreciate this program and all that you have done!

THANK YOU!!!

Alexa

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Hi Srini Uncle,

I loved SARAS it was so much fun. They doctors were very inspiring and at the same time fun to listen to. I also enjoyed the food and the variety of the food over the three weeks. Frankly, I think it is an awesome program.

Thanks,  
Shree

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Dear Srini,

SARAS is a program I'll honestly never forget. I applied for the program as I wanted to get a more in depth view about the medical field. I thought I knew what I wanted to do, but the program made me realize I don't have to stick to just one part of the medical field. I learned about surgeries, bones, organisms and just in a matter of 3 weeks. I still remember most of I learned even after all the weeks that have passed. The knowledge I have learned can be used in further conversations about becoming a doctor and even in medically based classes I'll take in the near future. I appreciated all of the professionals that came in to talk to us in all the 3 weeks we were there. Furthermore, this program allowed me to meet such wonderful people and make great friendships with them. Without SARAS, i would not have opened up so easily to that many people. Not only did this program make me more knowledgeable, but it also made me more social able. Also shout out to Srini for making this the best summer program I've ever been to.

Yelena

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Hi Dr. Srini,

I truly did enjoy all three weeks of the camp. The speakers you brought in definitely inspired me in many ways. They opened my mind to different fields, some of which I've never heard of, and some of which I never thought would ever be interesting. The interactive workshops everyday were the best part as I enjoyed being hands-on and learning what it feels like to be that sort of profession. I was definitely most intrigued by the Gynecologist/Robotic surgeon because her presentation was very informative about the field of gynecology and had many detailed videos of surgical operations. SARAS was one of the best experiences I've ever had. I met many new people, quite a few of which I've still been keeping in touch with, and was exposed to an absolutely breathtaking side of the science field. Now, instead of mindlessly answering, "Doctor" or "scientist" whenever someone asks what I want to be, I can answer a plethora of options, such as a maxillo-facial surgeon, oral

biologist, anesthesiologist, or even a nurse! I'm lucky that I was able to go to this camp and have the amazing opportunity to meet and become close with people of different professions. Thank you for the amazing experience!

Kenneth

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Hi Dr. Pentyala,

I had a great experience at SARAS. I learned many things that I did not know before while having fun at the same time. I will always remember SARAS as a memorable experience for me because it gave me an introduction to every aspect of medicine. Everyone who helped make SARAS possible was very friendly and I appreciate them especially Dr. Pentyala for making this program possible for students. I feel as if the best part for me was all of the workshops we got attend and how we were able to do hands-on work.

Soham

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I had a great time at SARAS with you and my friends, learning about different fields of medicine. I think that SARAS is a great program and should continue to go on. I thank the doctors/ surgeons that came to us, taking time out of their busy day, and spoke to us about medicine.

Japeshwar

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I truly enjoyed SARAS because it exposed me to different aspects of medicine and all the options there is. SARAS is a great way to inspire and educate students that will pursue in the medical field. SARAS taught me as well as my fellow SARAS classmates that medicine has great benefits both morally and scientifically. I learned so many new things such as knowing how to detect a stroke, blood clot, and a heart attack and what to do to a patient who is in distress. My favorite lecture was about gynecology. I had some idea about it but I was not aware of the different opportunities that this field contains. I know now that I aspire to be an OBGYN and be a great one that will help and inspire other as the SARAS program did. I also met people and can happily say that we are still in connection and hope we can go to Stony Brook together. Dr. Pentyala is a great mentor and educator who has a great sense of comedy. He makes students want to learn about medicine. I am grateful I was able to experience the SARAS program and hope other will too. I came in with limited ideas about medicine and left with a whole world full of possibilities.

Anik

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My overall impression of SARAS was that it was a great program. I got a broad exposure to all the future possibilities I have in medicine. I have also made many new friends. I had fun learning about new things as well. I also enjoyed many of the lectures that were given by professionals as well. I think this was a great program to help me develop mentally and socially as well. I also loved the little games we played on certain days. It was a fun way to get all the kids involved. I loved this program. It was a fun thing to do and also an amazing thing to place on my transcript. I also wanted to say thank you for giving me this opportunity. I thoroughly enjoyed this program and hope it continues for other to enjoy as well.

Thanks

Rachel

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Joining SARAS was definitely one of the best decisions I have ever made. Each and every day of the three week program I was excited and ready to learn. I looked forward to each day despite needing to wake up early for the 1.5 hour train ride every day which took me to stony brook. All of the lectures were very beneficial to our young curious minds exploring different aspects of the science and medical fields. SARAS helped expose us to these different professions and helped guide our minds on a track we think we would most likely like to pursue in the future. Personally, I loved the lecture about orthopedic surgery. I found it so interesting how orthopedic surgeons repair broken bones in the way that they do. This lecture helped me see that orthopedic surgery is definitely something I would like to consider for my future. My favorite part of the learning aspect were the labs at the end of each day. I love to be able to see and do things hands-on and these labs gave me the opportunity for that. SARAS also had a very nice balance between lectures/labs and down time. I liked how almost every day there was a time period other than our lunch where we got to relax for a while. Whether it was

performing chair aerobics or watching Bollywood videos, I think it was a good idea to put these small things in our day which lifted our spirits of being there. It helped make SARAS feel like more of a fun place to learn rather than how it feels to be at school every day. The hour long lunches were all amazing. I found the food to be great and it was perfect how the cafeteria was so close to the lecture hall. I also really liked how we were able to go upstairs to Starbucks if we pleased and get food/drinks from there. I did e-mail a lot of the food sponsoring places and thanked them for their delicious meals. Thank you very much, again, forgiving me the ability to join such an amazing program like SARAS. I hope the program stays as successful as it was this year!

Megan

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

My name is Michael and I was a student at SARAS. My overall impression of the SARAS program is that not only was it a fun and enriching program, but it made my summer extremely memorable and allowed me to meet many new friends. I think that you should continue giving eager students the opportunity to attend this program because each day I went, I was exposed to several new topics. Over the course of three weeks, my knowledge of biology increased significantly. In general, I think that the SARAS program was extremely valuable to me because I was able to have fun and learn about biology topics I had never even heard of before from the most qualified people who could teach me. I thought that learning from you and the other experts really differentiated this program from other programs because only professors and researchers specific to the topics they presented could do as good of a job as you guys did. All in all, I found SARAS to be an extremely terrific program and I thank you, the experts, and the caterers for all that you have done.

Michael

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Hi, Dr. Srinivas! My overall impression is that the SARAS camp was amazing. During the first week of the camp, some of the lectures were amazing. Later on when I got home after the SARAS camp was over, I started watching this Korean drama called, "Doctors", which is a romance drama on neurologist, I was impressed by myself that I understood what the actors (playing as neurologist) were talking about when taking the scene at the hospital. I really want to thank you and everyone who gave us lecture that I now know what I want to do as my career and it was an amazing 3 weeks camp I've ever had in my life. Thank you and hope you continue with this camp for the others who wants to have career on the medical field.

Vivian

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Hello Dr. Pentyala,

I really enjoyed the course, and I also got to learn a lot of very interesting things that will help me on my future career path as a medical scientist. It was fantastic to be able to meet up with each and every professional and to learn from them about what they do, how they make an impact, and what their day-to-day life looks like. I especially enjoyed hearing about your personal research and about the technology that you have developed. It was great to watch the movie "Screenagers," as it taught me about the positive and negative effects of technology on the young and developing mind (Fun fact: Dr. Ruston is my next door neighbor). Even the food was fantastic. I can honestly say that I came out of this course a much happier and more knowledgeable person than I was previously. Thank you very much for being so kind, informative, and funny.

Thank you very much,

Isaac

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Dear Dr. Pentyala,

The SARAS program was truly a wonderful experience. I did not expect to learn so much from only three weeks of exposure to lectures and talks. I still learned new things from some of the questions asked by other students. Some of my favorite lectures included the respiratory, urinary, and lab safety ones. Another great part of the program is now having the ability to enter labs after receiving the certificate. In addition, on a social level I stayed over at the dorms for housing and met a ton of friends. Both in the program and at the dorm the kids were friendly and willing to socialize. Overall the SARAS exposed me to what many professional doctors do during their work and they told us a bunch of information about their jobs. The program was a great experience

and I learned a lot of science and about doctors in three weeks and highly recommend attending SARAS. Thank you to Doctor Pentyala and the Department of Anesthesiology for organizing this program.

- Dustin

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Being in the SARAS Program this summer was an experience I will never forget. I would like to thank all the professors and physicians that took their time off to come talk to us about what they do every day. Each talk was different and gave off plenty of info for us to further think about. By listening to the several talks each day I learned a lot about the different diseases, bone fractures, vital signs and much more that helped me find a further interest in science and medicine. Not only did I get to undergo various medical practices or labs, I also was introduced to Bollywood and the amazing dances and songs that India had to offer. When the program came to an end I volunteered for the SARAS got talent show. Though I was very nervous and it was my first time performing in front of a crowd, I was delighted to play the piano for such a warming group of professors and SARAS students. One of the students I meet at SARAS became very close friends with me and I am glad that I meet her especially when we lived so close to each other without knowing it. Therefore, my journey in SARAS was an educational yet fun experience. Thank you for letting me participate in one of Stony Brook's finest summer programs.

Katrina

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Good afternoon Dr. Pentyala. I would like to thank you for this amazing experience which I was very fortunate to be a part of. When coming to SARAS I wasn't sure of what to expect. This would be the first time I would be attending such a summer program and I was a bit nervous. However, arriving to lecture hall 3 on the very first day I was instantaneously amazed to see you-someone with a great number of accomplishments in the field that I'm interested in-Science Research. I enjoyed your very informative lectures along with those of the other experts that visited us. I also enjoyed lunchtime since I was able to taste the foods of different cultures such as the delectable Indian and Greek cuisine we received the opportunity to try! Overall SARAS was an experience that I'm never going to forget. The program introduced me to different fields within the expanding field of Medicine which I didn't even know existed and it expanded my knowledge on various different topics which are all relevant to the modern world. Once again I would like to thank you Dr. Pentyala and I would like to thank the experts who took time out of their day to converse with us, your students, and the custodial staff for an experience of a lifetime.

Regards,

Makaeel

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The SARAS program was something very unfamiliar and new to me. Not only meeting new friends but being in a new place with unfamiliar fields of medicine. Going into the SARAS program I never thought I could learn so much about so many different things in the medical field let alone in three weeks. Overall I feel that the SARAS program was a great experience for me because it has opened my eyes to so many different fields of medicine that I never would have considered until I got this new perspective from experts on the fields themselves. I believe that this experience will help me to decide my career later in life. And if not, at least it has shown me that there's so much that the medical field has to offer that there are plenty of new and exciting research opportunities and areas always advancing that you can never be bored in the medical field. I was amazed by how many and how knowledgeable each of our speakers were. The knowledge that they had to offer was endless and so rich. And Dr. Srinivas Pentyala himself was an extremely intelligent mentor throughout the entire program that never stopped guiding us on our mission to learn and grow in our interest in medicine. I don't believe that any other program could have offered such a diverse and rich education in three weeks and the one offered through the SARAS program and its thorough thoughtful organization and thoughtful selection of speakers and labs.

Kassidy

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Dr. Pentyala,

I am very thankful to have been able to participate in the SARAS program as I was able to gain knowledge and grasp an idea of what I wanted to do in the future. Through SARAS I have learned about numerous professions in the medical field, some that I didn't even know to exist. I also learned about what the future holds for science and how we will soon be advancing with new technology that some may not have ever thought to be possible, such as printing organs. I walked in on the first day skeptical about the program, thinking "Why did I choose a medical program this summer," as I already knew that I did not want to become a doctor, and despite still not wanting to become any kind of doctor, I am thinking about different career choices introduced to me by SARAS. For instance, I am now thinking about the professions, clinical lab scientist and clinical researcher. Although I may choose not to become either of those in the future, it is still beneficial to me now to simply know that I have more choices to add to my growing list of potential professions as I advance through high school. I would like to say thank you to both you and your team for running the program that has enabled me to learn so much and interact with so many experts in the short span of 3 weeks. So, I would like to let you know that I am grateful to have participated in the SARAS program, and I will surely remember it as one of the best programs I have attended so far.

Best regards from your student,

Kathy

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I think that SARAS was a great program to participate in this year. It really gave me a much greater exposure to the world of health sciences. I think it was incredible to be able to meet and listen to such esteemed experts. This program really opened my eyes to the vastness of the medical field. Before SARAS I knew that there were many career paths that one could take in the field of medicine, but I just never truly understood the complexity of each job and the complex nature of the health care field as a whole. The exposure I received in SARAS to the many fields including gerontology, anesthesiology, cardiology, and neurology, just to name a few, was invaluable. It gave me a clearer idea about which fields interested me, and which careers I would like to pursue in the future. Throughout the program I also made friends with like-minded individuals, and enjoyed myself while doing so. Overall I think that SARAS was a incredible summer program to get involved in.

Nigel

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Dear Dr. Srini,

(I thought the Veteran's Home assignment was the only homework!) I have to say, my experience at SARAS was a pleasant one. For example, I learned many new things. I was also able to utilize information I leaned in Biology Honors class. I knew a lot of the things during the action potential and synapse lecture beforehand. I also learned many new things during the lecture and other ones too, like the neurosurgeon one, digestive system one, and anesthesia one. Also, the lunch was great. The Bollywood shows were comical, and the random pushup and memory events were fun. I liked the whole question-award procedure. I also had one in a lifetime experiences, such as speaking to and hearing the stories of a veteran face to face All in all, I had a great time at SARAS. Thank you!

Benjamin

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Participating in the SARAS program this summer has been a very enjoyable experience. Through this program I was able to meet new people and make new friends. The program had a great variety of speakers. I was exposed to many facets of the medical field I had not even considered looking in to. This program was extremely enjoyable. Dr. Srini Pentyala and his graduate students were fun and informative. The workshops in this program were extremely interesting and they were often my favorite part of the day. I enjoyed the many lectures from the experts.

Deanna

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Well frankly I had a great time, I've been kind of engaged in science since I was a toddler. I had interest in it but never knew what it was about. Frankly, SARAS helped me open my eyes and show me what the medical world really is about. I learned so much in the time at SARAS, about all fields of medicine. What makes the program even more interesting is the program's main administrator, Dr. Srinivas P. He is a very respectable man (pretty chill too). I had trouble understanding his accent at first but eventually I got used to it. I also loved the 3d printer instructor; he's actually my favorite administrator at SARAS. Maybe something about his accent and the way he presents his presentations. I just like him very much; I wish him the best at Ecuador! The SARAS program had its fun. One of things I learned from SARAS is self-control. Of course, I learned a lot more at SARAS just from self-control. Each summary about each medical field was valuable and each head of their department gave the speech. One of the things I'll remember the most is our trip to the retirement home. First of all the food was pretty good (like every day, personally I like the curries more), second of all, the speech about taking care of the elderly was great, it actually got me interested in the field of medicine specifically treating the elderly, and third of all, the story of each veteran just broke my heart. The stories really touched me therefore I cried like a little girl☺. I would do this all over again, SARAS has been a great program and I enjoyed it very much. I made so much new friends and seen a load of new things I've never thought of before. Thank you SARAS, friends and the staff! It's been a great summer! I hope you all the best!

-Good luck <3

Jonathan

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I had a lot of fun at SARAS because I got to make new friends and meet some from my school and I also learned about the different professions in the medical field. For example, I thought that I would really enjoy being a cardiac surgeon, but when I saw the lecture for that, I realized that I do not really enjoy the things they do in that field and that I became more interested in cataract surgery. I also got some great contacts and references that I will be able to go to in the future if I ever need help. SARAS was a great experience for me and hopefully for the other students too. Another part of SARAS that helped me was the SAT prep sessions. They helped me learn some new tricks that I can use on the actual SATs that will help me go through quicker and more efficiently. Overall, I think SARAS has helped me a lot, in many different ways, and I think I would recommend this to other students

Shivani.

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Hi Dr. Pentyala,

Before the SARAS program I knew I wanted to pursue a medical profession in the future, but I just wasn't sure which one. There were countless options. (Clearly proven throughout the time of SARAS) The program really opened my eyes of the different fields one could get into, as well as introducing me to those I have never heard of. We learned a lot in the three weeks from fracture healing to maxillofacial trauma. Even watching videos of live surgeries during many of the lectures made me feel like I was in the operating room. Not only has the SARAS program given me a better sense of direction in the medical field, but also it has given me the chance to meet so many amazing people who feel the same about the sciences. I was skeptical that the program was going to be all work and all day lectures but it wasn't like that at all. Of course you will have lectures throughout the day, but we also had a lot of fun from push up and pizza contests to random Bollywood breakouts. ... And as you say in your color-coated emails, one cannot forget about the delicious food!!! I want to thank you again for this amazing experience and I hope to stay in touch!

Sincerely,

Priyanka

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It was an honor being part of the SARAS program. I learned several interesting things, notable were action potentials, spinal taps, lucid dreaming, robotic surgery, and the significance of 3D printing. I found it fascinating how the robots were able to perform surgery efficiently on the patients. Furthermore, I was amazed how 3D printing can save peoples' lives by creating organs that are specifically made for them with accuracy. Although 3D printing couldn't replace complex organs such as the heart, I am still astonished by how much technology and knowledge we have gained throughout these years. I also enjoyed the trip to Long Island Veteran's Home and the Bollywood dances and songs. I would like to thank the faculty members and Dr. Srinivasa for the educational and learning experience and making the summer so enjoyable.

Ron

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The time I spent in SARAS was, simply put, incredible. I learned many new things about the different fields of medicine that I will consider throughout the rest of my three years of high school. I really enjoyed the lectures that were given, especially Dr. Woo's lecture on neurosurgery as that really interested me. SARAS gave me the unique opportunity to learn about different types of programs that are available at Stony Brook, and the vast expanses of medical research that can be done in Stony Brook labs. The many trips that we took from the lecture hall to the lab enabled me to get a glimpse of what researching at Stony Brook would feel like and the great opportunities that could come from being a science researcher or even continuing on the path into practicing medicine. The SARAS program influenced me to consider Stony Brook as a college that I might want to go to in the future as it showed me the numerous amounts of research programs available at Stony Brook and the different fields of science that I can major (and minor) in during my time in college. The BS/MD program at Stony Brook that Dr. Pentylala discussed greatly interested me. It seems extremely difficult to get into, but the opportunities that arise from doing this program at Stony Brook are endless. All in all, my time in SARAS was beneficial, exciting and definitely the most interesting thing I will do in the summer. I'm extremely grateful that I had the chance to attend SARAS. Plus, the food was incredible!

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Throughout the three weeks with the SARAS program I was able to gain a lot of knowledge in the field of science and medicine. I thought that the lectures were all very interesting. In particular, I found the labs and hands-on activities to be the most enjoyable in this experience.

Varsha