

Tarun R. Sontam

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EDUCATION

- Texas A&M University, College Station, TX** Aug 2019 - May 2022
Biology Major; Business Minor 4.0 GPA
- One of 45 students in the Class of 2023 selected for Craig and Galen Brown Scholarship, awarded to students who were recognized as National Merit semifinalists in high school
 - Current student in University Honors and Biology Honors Program

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Dulin Lab, College Station, TX** August 2020 - Present
Undergraduate Researcher (2020 - Present) 15 hours per week
- Under the Dulin Lab, study the molecular mechanisms that allow "dorsal horn-like" domains to assemble in vivo and in vitro following NPC transplantation into injured spinal cords, with a specific emphasis on Notch signaling.
 - Learning techniques such as embryo dissection, immunohistochemistry, and cell culturing

- Launch Undergraduate Research, College Station, TX** August 2020 - Present
Undergraduate Research Scholar (2020 - Present) 20 hours per month
- Completed undergraduate thesis "Investing molecular mechanisms of dorsal horn assembly in neural progenitor cell grafts" under the guidance of Dr. Jennifer Dulin that is awaiting approval to be published in Texas A&M OAKTrust Repository
 - Presented research at Baylor Heart of Texas Undergraduate Research Conference as part of URS program

- Houston Methodist Research Institute, Houston, TX** June 2020 - August 2020
Summer Research Intern ~40 hrs per week
- Researched under Dr. Dimitry Sayenko in the neurosurgery department
 - o Attended weekly lectures and participate in case study discussions with content that supplement the hands-on learning in the laboratory
 - o Completed literature reviews pertaining to TENS and ESS neuromodulation and motor control

PRE-MEDICAL AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- JAMP Summer Internship, College Station, TX** June 2021 - Present
Summer Undergraduate Intern ~40 hrs per week
- Attend virtual clinical preceptorships with practicing physicians in a variety of fields (OBGYN, transplant surgery, rural medicine, etc.)
 - Enrolled in medical school level gross anatomical sciences and histology courses
 - Complete virtual patient simulations with medical school professors and students

- CHI St. Joseph Emergency Department, College Station, TX** June 2021 - Present
College Volunteer 3 hrs per week
- Round on patients and serve as customer service liaison
 - o Tasks include providing resources to patients and families, relaying concerns to healthcare team, taking vitals
 - Assist in triage, discharges, restocking/cleaning rooms, and maintaining a safe, orderly, and professional environment

- Virtual Shadowing, Dallas, TX** August 2020 - Present
Student Shadow ~3 hrs per week
- Attend "up close" virtual shadowing sessions with practicing clinicians to learn about challenges in medical practice, patient examination techniques, and clinical cases
 - Study clinical cases and practice core competencies outlined by Association of American Medical Colleges

Texas Orthopedic Partners, Frisco, TX August 2018 – June 2019
Doctor Shadow/Researcher ~4 hrs per week, 200+ total hrs

- Assisted orthopedic surgeon Dr. Sean Haslam MD as he completes clinical and surgical tasks
 - Interpreted x-rays and MRIs, roomed patients, helped administer cortisone and Euflexxa shots, scribed during appointments, assisted during surgeries (notably total knee/hip arthroplasties and arthroscopies)
 - Worked on a city-wide research project documenting musculoskeletal and neurocognitive among high school football players under the surveillance of Dr. Haslam

Legacy Orthopedics, Frisco, TX Feb 2018 – June 2018
Doctor Shadow ~ 4 hrs per week, 100+ total hrs

- Assisted orthopedic surgeon Dr. Chris Miller MD as he completes clinical and surgical tasks
 - Interpreted x-rays and MRIs, roomed patients, helped administer cortisone and Euflexxa shots, scribed during appointments, assisted during surgeries (notably total knee/hip arthroplasties and arthroscopies)

EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS

American Medical Students of America, College Station, TX August 2019 – Present
Active Member (2019 - Present) 25 hours per month

- Part of national chapter established at Texas A&M University
- Volunteered at concession stands during football games, served as a peer tutor, and involved in global health committee

Sports Management Society, College Station, TX August 2019 – Present
Member and League Commissioner (2017 - Present) 20 hours per month

- Organization that helps members network with sports professionals and executives through volunteer opportunities and fundraisers
- Help organize league meetings and socials as commissioner

The Student Perspective, Frisco, TX June 2020 - Present
Founder (2020 - Present) ~3 hrs per week

- Record podcasts and YouTube videos highlighting the different aspects of student life in high school and college
- Offer virtual seminars and one on one sessions regarding college applications and academic tutoring

WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic Success Center, College Station, TX August 2020 - Present
SI Leader (2020 - Present) 15 hours per week

- Work as an SI Leader for CHEM 227 (organic chemistry)
- Attend assigned course lectures, hold SI review sessions, and effectively refer students to appropriate campus resources

Department of Physics and Astronomy, College Station, TX January 2021 - Present
Recitation Leader (2021 - Present) 6 hours per week

- Work as an Recitation Leader for PHYS 202 (electricity and magnetism, light)
- Attend assigned course lectures, hold three recitation sessions each week to review practice problems and exam material, and effectively refer students to appropriate campus resources

HONORS

Brown Scholarship, College Station, TX Fall 2019 - Present

President's Endowed Scholarship, College Station, TX Fall 2019 - Present

Dean's Honor Roll, College Station, TX Fall 2019 - Present

University Honors and Biology Honors, College Station, TX Fall 2019 - Present

Perfect Scores on ACT, SAT Biology and Chemistry Subject Test Exams, Frisco, TX High School 2018