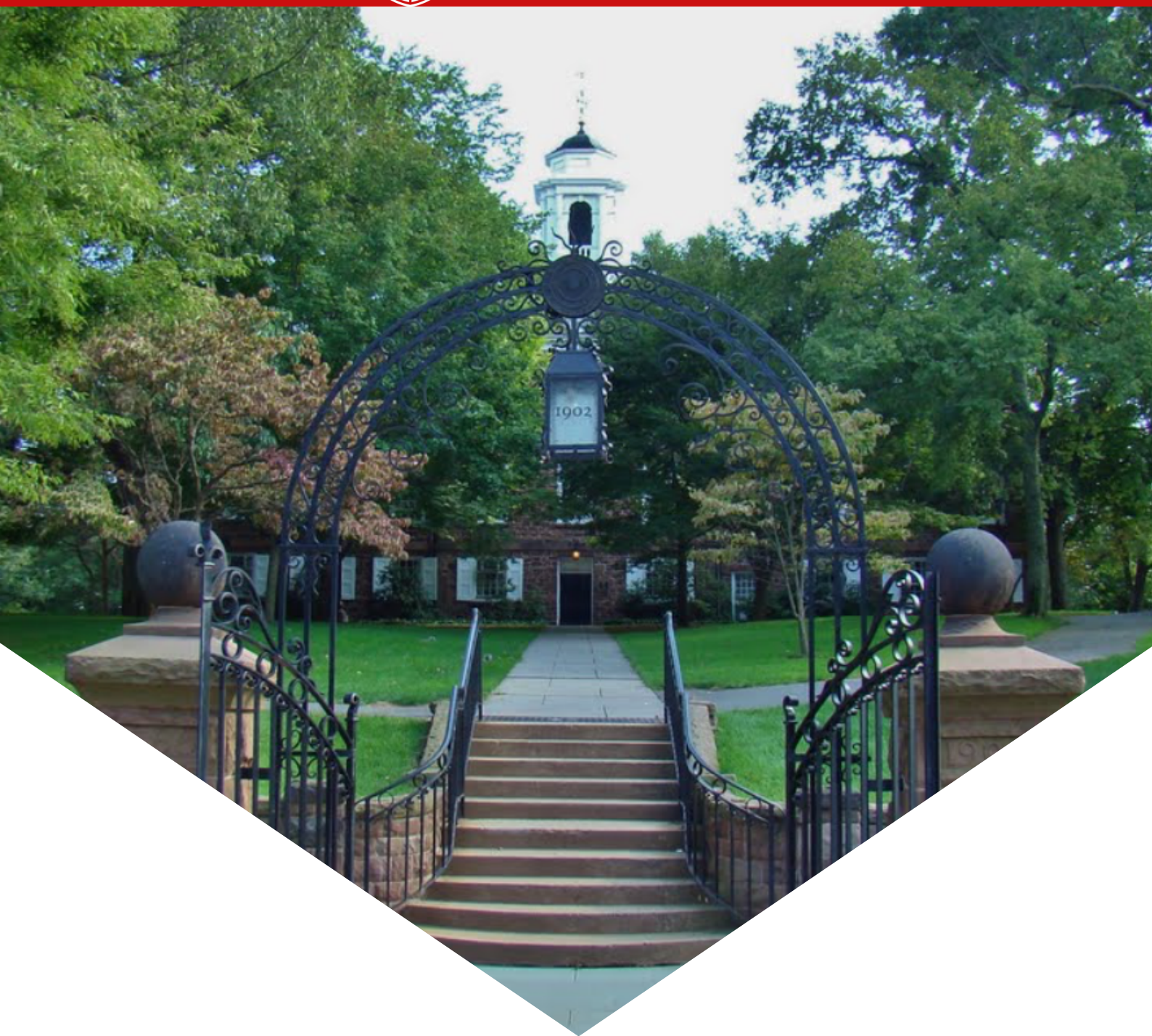




RUTGERS



LSAMP Program at Rutgers-New Brunswick

*PRESENTING THE
CLASS OF 2021*

LSAMP

Class of 2021 Facts



The Rutgers New Brunswick LSAMP program is designed to increase the interest, retention, graduation, and success of students from racial and ethnic groups that are historically underrepresented in STEM fields. Let's take a look at what our seniors from the class of 2021 have to say about LSAMP.

Our Students Have Big Goals

We asked our seniors what they expect to earn as their highest degree.

Bachelor's



8%

Master's



27%

Doctorate



61%

How Have We Helped These Goals?



75% of students received financial support from LSAMP such as travel funding, book stipends, GRE test vouchers, or research funding.

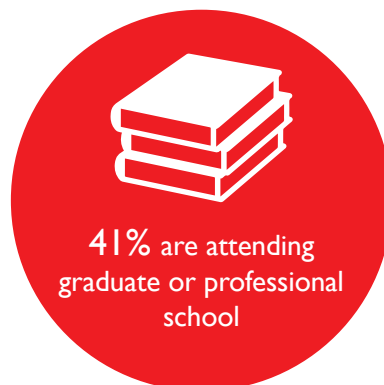
68% of students have conducted research, internship, or co-op experiences, at or outside of Rutgers.



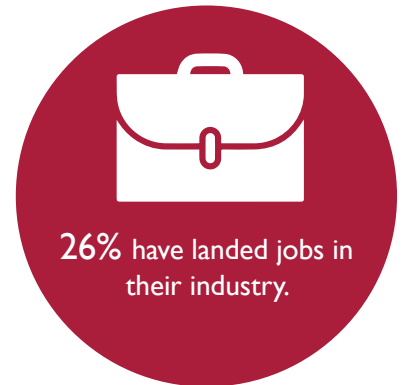
The Futures of our Scholars

67%

of our seniors are continuing their studies or working immediately after graduation



41% are attending graduate or professional school



26% have landed jobs in their industry.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Victor Abril majored in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is a scholar in the School of Engineering Education Opportunity Fund (SOE-OEF) program and the Ronald E. MacNair program, where he completed the Summer Institute to prepare him for his graduate education. He has conducted research in jamming and anti-jamming signals, and autonomous vehicle communications. He also interned at WINLAB, where he helped develop a self-driving car algorithm for a virtual city environment. Victor will continue his studies at Rutgers in Fall 2021 as a graduate student for a Masters degree in Engineering. Victor plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Wireless Communications. Victor ultimately wants to become a professor, so he can inspire and guide students who wish to pursue a STEM career.



Alejandra Aguilar majored in Environmental Policy, Institutions, and Behavior with a minor in Sustainability. She is passionate about Environmental Justice issues and Environmental law and ensuring that minority communities have access to adequate environmental resources. She completed the Summer Institute for Pre-Legal Studies at the Seton Hall University School of Law and took various introductory law courses. At Rutgers, she's a SEBS-EOF scholar and served as the Vice-President of the MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Fields) Chapter. Serving as an undergraduate RA under Dr. Rachel Shwom in the Human Ecology Department, her research consists of developing strategies and analyzing data to implement in the Rutgers Climate Action Plan to achieve carbon neutrality. She hopes to obtain a Juris Doctor (JD) degree.

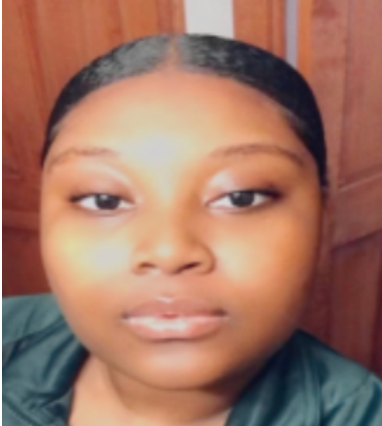


Oluwami Akinmade completed her B.A. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Africana Studies. During her time at Rutgers she established a close relationship with the organization The Minority Association of Pre-Health Students. She has served on their executive board as their Planning Committee Chair, Secretary, and served as President. Olawumi also helped start their mentor program to help bridge the gap between minorities in science within the Rutgers community. After graduation she plans on taking a gap year to do research or obtain a hands-on experience job. Then she plans to eventually go to graduate or professional school and ultimately serve for underrepresented areas.



Samuel Almodóvar is a first-generation Latino student who majored in Exercise Science with a minor in Spanish. During his time at Rutgers, he was involved in various activities in Student Affairs. He served as a Resident Assistant for 3 years for first-year students, was an Orientation Leader during Summer of 2019, and conducted workshops as an AOD Peer Educator for H.O.P.E. He was fortunate to study abroad in Spain which sparked his passion to travel and learn other languages. He completed the NERA MedPrep III research course with New Jersey Medical School during Summer of 2020 and plans to complete the Bridging the Gaps Summer Research Program with Keck School of Medicine this summer.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Anne Andre majored in Environmental and Business Economics. She was involved in various organizations which include serving as president for the Haitian Association at Rutgers University, treasurer for Wanawake, and a Douglass woman. She conducted research in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics whereby she produced a marketing plan to export roses from Kenya to Qatar and Dubai that may be used by Kenyan-based horticultural exporting businesses. This marketing plan comprises a 60-page document that analyzes the cultural and economic intersectionalities of Kenya to form viable marketing strategies that will allow Kenyan exporters to source the growing middle eastern horticultural market in Qatar, and Dubai. She will continue her studies at Rutgers for a M.S. in Food and Business Economics.



Juan Angel is from Colombia and came to the United States 5 years ago. He completed an Associate Degree in Biology at the County College of Morris (NJ). Juan transferred to Rutgers University in 2019 and majored in Cell Biology and Neuroscience. Juan intends to pursue medical school or a M.D/Ph.D. program. He is interested in research opportunities in neurodegenerative diseases, inflammation, and neuroscience. He participated in EOF, LSAMP and ODASIS programs at Rutgers. He also conducted research with RiSE. These programs enabled Juan to meet students with similar background, motivation, and interests in different fields of science. Juan is the first in his family to complete a college degree. He will work as a full time Lab Technician at Rutgers.



Rachel Antwi-Boasiako completed her B.S. in Biological Sciences with a minor in psychology. Her interests include writing/performing spoken word poetry, giving back to Black and Brown communities. She served as the community service chairwomen for MAPS, co-public relations chairwoman for the Douglass Student Recruitment Network, a member of Rutgers Slam Team and volunteered at Saint Peter's University Hospital. She has completed research with Project Super (2020), Rutgers Psychology Child Development Center Externship (2019), and conducted research on Understanding Relational Events in Undergraduate Mathematics Courses (2017-2018). She aspires to go to Optometry School and continue to use her voice and other mediums to support and uplift underrepresented communities.



Jose Gerald Aragon majored in Biological Sciences. His academic interests include anatomy and physiology, cellular biology, economics, genetics, and psychology. His recreational activities include swimming, running, weight training, sketching/drawing, and gaming. He served as a Roosevelt Elementary School Tutor, HPO Office Tutor, and volunteers at Elijah's Soup Kitchen. He interned as a patient care associate in Community Medical Center where he cooperated with nurses and other employees during patient care and charted and distributed necessary PPE. He also completed research as a Community Research Assistant at Rutgers.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Aaliyah Bangura completed her major in Forensic Chemistry. She served as a Douglass Welcoming Ambassador for the Douglass Residential College, and the RU4Kids Chair for Sigma Kappa Sorority. She served on the Research Advisory Board for Douglass Residential College. She has conducted research in forensic entomology, where she helped develop two artificial diets and compared the growth development of blowfly larvae to an all meat diet. She hopes to attend graduate school to earn a PhD and eventually work for the FBI as a forensic scientist.



Aelee Bayomi completed her B.S. in Nutritional Science in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. She is a Douglass woman, and a SEBS-EOF scholar. She is a participant of Student Support Services (SSS). She hopes to become a registered dietician and give back to her community.



Chaahat Bindra majored in Chemical Engineering. She has conducted research with the Chemical Engineering Department at Rutgers since her sophomore year, researching emulsion stability. Throughout her time at Rutgers, she had two professional opportunities to work in industry. Her first internship was at Premio Foods in Hawthorne, NJ as an Engineering Intern. The summer before her senior year she worked at Procter and Gamble as a Manufacturing Process Intern in Greensboro, North Carolina. On campus, she is a part of the Douglass Residential College as well as the EOF program in the School of Engineering. She has also been involved with the Minority Engineering Educational Task (MEET), LSAMP, and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). After graduation, Chaahat will continue at P&G as a Manufacturing Process Engineer and hopes to pursue an MBA in the future.



Ashley Binns finished her B.A. in Biological Sciences in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. While at Rutgers, Ashley has acted as a Leadership mentor for first year students studying biology, which aided in her development in leadership and interpersonal skills. In addition, she has worked for Rutgers University Cell and DNA Repository learning the process of nucleic acid extraction. As someone who values experiential learning and growth, with her ability to adapt and problem solve she hopes to enhance her knowledge in the field of science to explore the unknown.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Yisel Breton majored in Information Technology & Informatics (ITI) with a minor in Statistics. She is a first generation college student and an SAS-EOF scholar. Yisel became a member of the second cohort of female students in the Douglass-DIMACS Computer Science Living Learning Community. She served as the co-president of the DDCC(Douglass-DIMACS Computing Corps)/Girls Who Code College Loops chapter at Rutgers University. She's also involved in the Society of Hispanic Engineers(SHE) and Women in ITI (WITI) as a general member. Yisel has conducted research in the Spring semester of 2020 in the Cyber-Physical Systems Lab in the School of Engineering, and recently researched at the Behavioral Informatics Lab in the School of Communication and Information. She will work as a Business Analyst for Chubb.



Michael Cantatore completed his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering and Psychology. During his time at Rutgers, he participated in the Rutgers Master of Science and Business (MBS) Externship Exchange Program, and conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. David Shreiber (during his senior year) and Dr. Tomie's Social and Emotional Learning Lab (his sophomore year). In Fall 2021, Michael will continue his studies as a graduate student for a Master of Business and Science degree with a concentration in Biomedical Engineering. He is interested in neuroscience and regenerative medicine. Michael hopes to be a role model for his younger sister and cousins to show them that hard work and passion towards what one does can open doors to great opportunity.



Yahia Chahine majored in Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology. He served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador. During his time at Rutgers, he has also served as a SEBS EOF Peer Mentor, Rutgers General Psychology TA, Rutgers Odasis Biology Instructor, and a Rutgers OIT Help Desk Consultant. Starting in June, Yahia will be starting his Doctorate Of Physical Therapy program at New York Medical College. Yahia enjoys sports and physical activity and hopes to complete a Sports Clinical Specialty upon graduation from his DPT program.



Chinwendu Chukwu completed her B.S. in Biomedical Engineering. She's a part of the Douglass Residential College as well as the Reilly Douglass Engineering Living-Learning Community and the BOLD Empower Program. Within the Douglass College, Chinwendu participated in the Project SUPER research program, and served as a peer mentor for students in the Intro to Scientific Research course. She also conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Joseph Freeman in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. She is also a member of MEET, for which she was the former Treasurer and Career Fair Chair Representative. She interned at Revlon Inc. in 2019 in the package testing department and at Merck in summer 2020 in its biologics department. Chinwendu will begin her studies as a PhD student in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Washington.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Drue Clark completed her B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Linguistics. Since transferring to Rutgers in 2018, Drue has enjoyed exploring all that Rutgers has to offer. From 2018-2020, she was a member of the Asian American Identities and Images Living Learning Community. In Spring 2019, she was a junior intern at the Asian American Cultural Center. Drue served as President and co-dance coach for the Rutgers Belly Dance Troupe. Since summer 2020, she served as a research assistant for the Rutgers Business School studying non-verbal behavior in communication, and through the Aresty Research Center she conducted research where she helped to develop an intervention for middle school students with ADHD who are navigating virtual learning. Drue plans to take a gap year and join a research lab studying cognitive psychology.



Jeffery Delva majored in Applied Science Engineering with concentrations in both Computer Engineering and Systems Engineering and completed a minor in Leadership Skills. Through LSAMP, he had the opportunity to conduct research on predictive models and analysis of offshore wind turbines with Dr. Ahmed Aziz Ezzat. He was also a counselor in the SOE-EOF program. In summer 2019, he had the opportunity to intern with General Motors as a Manufacturing Engineering intern. And in the summer of 2018, he interned with Northrop Grumman as a Systems Engineering intern. His biggest goal post-Rutgers is to have the opportunity to pursue a career in engineering and be able to bring his critical thinking and problem-solving skills to the industry. He will work as a full time Image Science Engineer for L3Harris.



Amro Dewedar majored in Computer Science and is an SAS-EOF scholar. He was born in Egypt and grew up moving to many places until settling in the United States at the age of sixteen. He conducted independent research with Dr. Kannan Sudarsun in the Department of Computer Science. During his senior year, he conducted research through LSAMP with Dr. Jingang Yi, in the department of Computer Engineering. He plans to take a gap year, and then plans to pursue my PhD in computer science. His areas of interest are mainly robotics, augmented reality, and artificial intelligence.



Sena Dzirasa completed her B.A in Mathematics with a minor in Economics. She's an SAS-EOF scholar, and a member of the Tau Sigma Honor Society. As of summer 2018, she was an engineering major in community college and participated in an LSAMP sponsored research project called "Interfacing a Motorized Wheelchair with a Gyroscope" at Rutgers-Newark. A year later, after realizing engineering was not for her, she was offered a Data Analysis Research Assistant position with Rutgers-Newark's MrLab headed by Dr. Rosenberg-Lee. There, she was part of a team that analyzed the math performance of college students. This opportunity led her to discover new career possibilities and built her interest in Data Science, a field she now intends to pursue. She will work as an Audit Associate through the Management Rotation Program at Capital One.

Class of 2021 Cohort



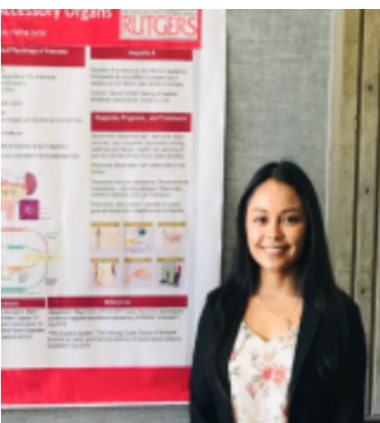
Issam Eljitan majored in Exercise Science with a minor in psychology. His interests revolve around exercise/ physical activity as an alternative form of medicine to not only physical disabilities, but mental disabilities as well. He served as the President of the Rutgers Kinesiology and Health Club, a Class Lab Assistant for Functional Human Anatomy, and work as a Research Assistant in the Rutgers Exercise Psychophysiology Lab. Issam currently served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador. In Fall 2021, he will continue his studies for a doctorate in the Physical Therapy at the University of Delaware.



Kevin Ezema completed his B.S. in Exercise Science with a minor in Nutrition Sciences. Outside of the classroom, Kevin served on the E-board of the Health Occupational Student of America (HOSA), and the Rutgers club basketball team. He is also a member of Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences (ODASIS), and the kinesiology club, among others. Kevin has conducted research with Rutgers through the Aresty Research Center, and also at the University of Maryland, in the field of psychology and exercise physiology respectively. After graduating, Kevin will be taking a gap year before applying to medical and graduate schools.



Juliana Felix is from East Newark, NJ. She completed her major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Psychology. She is proud to be a first-generation student, a SAS-EOF scholar, a Douglass woman, and a part of ODASIS. During her time at Rutgers, she had the opportunity to gain research experience through Project SUPER. She spent 6 months at the Rutgers Cancer Institute working in Dr. Ganesan's lab and created two research posters. After research, she became a RAB peer mentor. She has served as a Student Manager at the Rutgers Geology Museum and PR Chair for the Rutgers Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Society. After graduating, she will be getting her Masters in order to become a Physician's Assistant. She is very thankful for her amazing support system at Rutgers and at home.



Jhoana Garcia completed her major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Spanish. Since 2017, she served as an interpreter for Spanish speaking patients and English speaking healthcare providers at the New Brunswick Community Interpreter Project (NBCIP) at the Eric B. Chandler Clinic. She participated in NERA III Summer program in summer 2020. As a group in the NERA Program, she studied the many racial biases that lead to potential health disparities, focusing specifically on Obesity: Evaluation of Adherence to USPSTF Guidelines and potential Biases. In summer 2019, Johanna participated in the BCP Summer Research Program at RWJMS, where she studied the functions of the Accessory Organs of the Digestive System and presented her research work at a symposium. She also served as a translation intern at the Puerto Rican Action Board (PRAB) in New Brunswick where she assisted clients in properly completing necessary paperwork.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Christopher Garrick majored in Biological Sciences with a minor in Marine Science. During his time at Rutgers, Christopher has been an ambassador for ODASIS and has chaperoned for their Strategic Plan Program for matriculating freshmen. He also served as a Problem-Solving Instructor for ODASIS to aid students in General Chemistry 162 and as an AVID Tutor for New Brunswick Middle School. Christopher volunteers at HOPE Clinic in Plainfield, New Jersey as an interpreter to facilitate medical examinations and counsel. With his identity and involvement in underserved communities, Christopher was able to connect his experiences to his Quality Assessment/Quality Insurance research centered around obesity prevalence in Newark, New Jersey. He will be attending Medical School at Sidney Kimmel Medical College in Fall 2021.



Morteza (Morty) Hagh is a part of the Engineering Honors Academy and completed his degree in Civil Engineering. On campus, he was involved with Engineers In Action, a non-profit organization that aims to design and build footbridges in developing countries. He is also a member of American Society for Civil Engineers (ASCE), NASTT, and other professional organizations. He had the opportunity of joining Aresty Research Program to study Simulation-based Optimization in Transportation systems as well as conducting projects in Structural Health Monitoring for the George Washington Bridge. He plans on pursuing his graduate studies with a focus on smart infrastructure and construction automation. Morty will begin his MS/PhD studies in Structures at the University of California, Berkeley in Fall 2021.

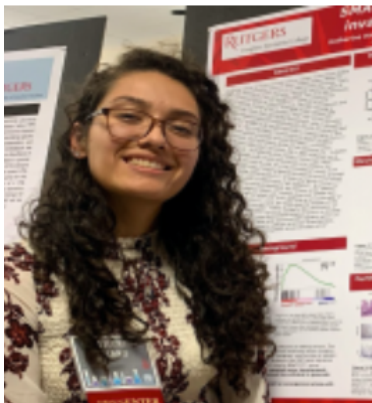


Lucas Hall completed his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Ten years removed from his first attempt at earning his degree, he returned to Rutgers with a renewed vigor, passion, and appreciation for higher learning. In the interim, Lucas gained hands on technical and management experience as lead technician and project manager for an IT firm. He immersed himself in those roles, acquiring valuable skills and exposure to workflows, business development, training, and client relations. Since his return to Rutgers, Lucas participated in the Master of Business and Science (MBS) Externship Exchange program, and has conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Assimina Pelegri. He will work as a Systems Application Engineer for Schneider Electric. He plans to pursue an MBS with concentration in Packaging Engineering at Rutgers.



Siani Harding majored in Biology with a minor in Nutrition. During her time at Rutgers, she volunteered at Robert Wood Johnson University and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. As a member of the NERA III program at New Jersey Medical School, Siani served as a research assistant. There she performed a QA/QI investigation on potential health provider biases against patients of various demographics and potential health provider deviances to USPSTF guidelines due to those biases. Continuingly, Siani has worked as a lab assistant at the Physics Lecture Hall, an AVID tutor for high school and middle school students, and an SAT Tutor for ODASIS. She will be attending Medical School at Sidney Kimmel Medical College in Fall 2021.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Katherine Haro completed her B.A. in Genetics and a minor in Society and Health. She's a member of Douglass Residential College and was a part of the Research Advisory Board who mentor students that are involved with the Douglass Project's Project SUPER, along with being a part of the Douglass Welcoming Association. Katherine studied BRAF-driven Serrated Colon Cancers under Dr. Michael Verzi. In the summers, Katherine received fellowships with the Douglass Project STEM Summer Stipend Research Experience, the Human Genetics Institute of New Jersey, and the MacMillan Cancer Genetics Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship to continue her ongoing projects. Katherine will continue her studies as a PhD student in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Virginia.



Amber Haynes majored in Electrical and Computer Engineering. As a rising Junior, she created a computational method of diagnosing brain disorders through her Computational Neuroscience research through LSAMP, receiving an award for Outstanding Research in October 2019. As a rising Senior, she developed a Machine Learning model that predicted the price of bonds, nearly as well as the model produced by the Intercontinental Exchange, as an intern at the Royal Bank of Canada. During her senior year, through LSAMP, she conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Jorge Ortiz. As a tutor starting in her Sophomore year, she helped her peers perform well in their Math and Physics classes. After graduation, Amber seeks to use her passions in some way to create a positive impact, likely through becoming a researcher and/or a software developer.



Obehioye Iselele majored in Biological Sciences with a minor in Health and Society. She is an Honors College Scholar, and served as a Chemistry Teaching Intern. She is a member of ODASIS, Douglass Residential College, First Love Organization, and LSAMP. She researched the effect medical bias has on immunization adherence rates in Newark clinics through the NERA program at New Jersey Medical School. Her research experience and minor in Health and Society have inspired her to work to reduce racial injustice in healthcare. She will be attending Medical School at Sidney Kimmel Medical College in Fall 2021.



Jordan Konrad completed her degree in Biology with a minor in Psychology. Outside of the classroom she is an active member of her sorority AOE and currently runs a youth program called New Brunswick Youth Promotores. In summer 2020, she participated in the NERA program at NJMS as well as SURE at KECK graduate institute.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Esther Lawal completed her B.S. in Environmental and Business Economics. She's a Douglass woman, a participant of Student Support Services (SSS), and she served as an ambassador for SEBS-EOF and LSAMP. During her time at Rutgers, she worked as a student assistant and research assistant in agricultural economics both through Project SUPER and LSAMP. She presented her research at the DRC Project Super symposium and the annual LSAMP research symposium. she worked as a Development Intern for Junior Achievement-NJ, a non-profit she volunteered at as a High School Hero teacher of business and STEM for 5th graders in elementary schools across her hometown of Plainfield, NJ. Esther has received numerous recognitions through scholarships and awards like the Senior Leadership Award (2021) from the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics.



Mengyao Liu majored in Exercise Science and completed a minor in Psychology. During her time at Rutgers, she was the fundraising chair for Community of Students Involved in Education (COSINE) and served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador. She was involved in various organizations, including Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Science (ODASIS), and SEBS-EOF Peer Mentor Program. Outside of the classroom, she worked as a tutor at the New Brunswick Public Library and on campus at the Asian American Cultural Center. Off-campus, she worked as an Emergency Medical Technician in her town and as a Patient Care Technician in Children's Specialized Hospital in New Brunswick. Mengyao will attend New York Medical College for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.



Dariya Lizanets is from Clark, NJ. She completed her B.S. in Biomedical Engineering with a certificate in Packaging Engineering. She is primarily interested in working in tissue and molecular engineering. During her time in LSAMP, Dariya conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Kristen Labazzo. She served as the Mission and Survivor Chair for the Club of the Rutgers Relay For Life Chapter. She is fluent in Ukrainian and Russian, and she enjoys volunteering at her church. In Fall 2021, Dariya will attend Georgia Tech for a Master's in Biomedical Engineering.



Lily Lumkong majored in Biotechnology. She's a member of Douglass Residential College and has worked as a mentor with the Douglass Research Advisory Board, and on the executive board for Douglass Welcome Ambassadors. She also had the opportunity to work as a peer leader for international students for RU-FIT and be a mentor for incoming students identifying as Asian as an Asian-American Cultural Center mentor. She conducted research through the Douglass Project SUPER program. She hopes to attend graduate school for a Master of Business and Science program.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Leonardo Luna is a first generation student. His parents are both of Ecuadorian descent. He completed his degree in January 2021 in Electrical/Computer Engineering. He enjoys learning how all components in electronics work in unison to bring about a device people can use to connect with one another. He's interested in the field of Consumer Electronics, Energy Management, Digital Automation, Signal Processing, Low Power Optimization, and Hardware Design. During summer of 2020, he was a participant of Schneider Electric's North American cohort where he learned about their business model and culture, networked with top leaders and actively participated in career development workshops. He currently works as an engineer through the Digital Engineering Development Program at Schneider Electric.



Lindsay Marin majored in Microbiology. He served as President for the SEBS Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Society and the Rutgers' Foundation for International Relief of Children (FIMRC) Chapter. As a work-study position, he served as an interpreter to help Spanish-speaking patients communicate with their healthcare providers at the Eric B. Chandler Health Center. During summer 2019, he participated in the Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) at University of Nebraska Medical Center. During the summer of 2020, he interned at Bristol Myers Squibb for the Pharmacodiagnosics team where he gained valuable experience working with cross-functional teams such as in Bioanalytical Sciences as well as commercial and business development. After graduation, he plans on attending graduate school for a Master's degree.



Ashley Marion completed her B.A. as a double major in Biology and Africana Studies. She's a member of the Douglass Residential College (DRC), Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences (ODASIS), School of Arts and Sciences Educational Opportunity Fund (SAS-EOF), and Student Support Services (SSS). She looks forward to continuing her studies at the graduate level during this Fall semester.



Rebecca Mulwa majored in Biological Sciences with a minor in History. She's a part of the SAS honors program, as well as a member of ODASIS, LSAMP, and Douglass College. During her time at Rutgers, she served as a volunteer at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, an instructor for AVID at the New Brunswick High school, a calculus instructor for ODASIS, a mentor for the Douglass Residential College Research Advisory Board, and an intern at the Home Care and Hospice Association of NJ. Rebecca participated in research through Project SUPER and the RISE-IMSD summer research program where she studied the anti-inflammatory effects of Moringa Oleifera on skin cell lines. She plans to attend New Jersey Medical School for her MD.

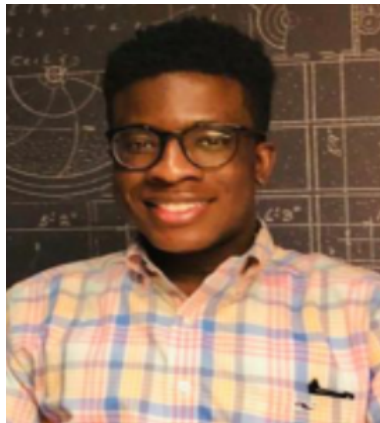
Class of 2021 Cohort



Oghogho Notemwanta completed her B.A. in Computer Science. She is interested in combining technology, science, and healthcare together in order to improve her community and patients' lives. During her time at Rutgers, she was involved with the Health Profession United Club, Liberated Gospel's Praise Dance Group, and a new organization she co-founded called Rutgers' Step Team. She is a Douglass woman (DRC) and an SAS-EOF scholar. In Summer 2020, Oghogho interned at Beth Israel Hospital at Newark where she worked as a pharmaceutical technician. There she assisted and gathered medications for pharmacists to verify and deliver to nurses and automated medical dispensing cabinets. She delivered necessary medication throughout the hospital to ensure patients were more than satisfied with their service.



Chioma Nwanonyiri majored in Psychology with a minor in Biological Sciences. She worked as a medical scribe at a Trinitas Hospital ER in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Outside of academics, she's a Tutor at the writing center and an Information Specialist at Life Options Counseling Services. She completed a virtual internship at RWJMS through psychiatrist, Dr. Tobia, where examined the process of inpatient care that those with psychiatric disorders receive at the hospital. After graduating she would like to work, travel, and hopefully take part in a research lab that focuses on pain management and therapy. Along with this she will be applying to graduate school to obtain a doctoral degree.



Oluwadamilola (Olu) Olorode completed his B.A. in Mathematics with a minor in Economics. He is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa and Tau Sigma honor societies. Before transferring to Rutgers in the fall of 2019, he participated in an REU at Michigan State University where he conducted a study on combinatorial games on graphs. The following summer, he completed an independent study on the representation and character theory of finite groups. During his senior year, he conducted independent research under the mentorship of Dr. Daniel Krashen. When he is not thinking about mathematics, he sings in an a cappella group called The Gold Dynamic and volunteers in the young adults group at Princeton Alliance Church. Olu will begin his PhD journey in Mathematics at Cornell University.



Lauryn Onkendi majored in Public Health with a minor in International and Global Studies. In the field, she has specific interests in emergency preparedness and communicable diseases. Lauryn has conducted research on testing fish oil capsules and electronic cigarette liquids for chemical discrepancies by using gas chromatography. She served as the President of RU Sister2Sister, a breast cancer awareness organization on campus, the Marketing Director of Rutgers PDAOA (Prescription Drug Abuse and Overprescription Awareness). She will begin her studies for an MPH at Rutgers University in Fall 2021.

Class of 2021 Cohort



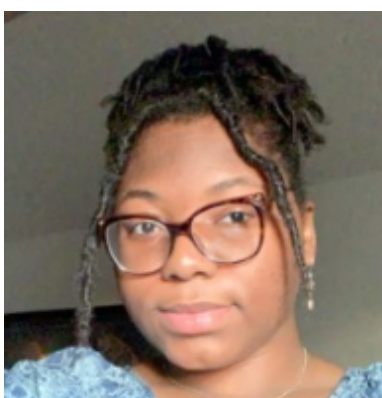
Akosua Opoku-Agyemang is a student athlete on the Women's Track and Field team at Rutgers. She completed her degree in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in energy. She's a member of the Minority Engineering Educational Task (MEET) organization. She was born in Brooklyn, NY and raised in Union NJ. In the future she hopes to be a corporate leader at a major energy or technology company! When she's not on the track or trying to understand thermodynamics, she spends her off-time cooking, baking, taking in the arts, and spending time with friends and family. In June 2021, she will begin her full time position as a Technology Analyst at Accenture Federal Services.



Olisemeka (Olise) Oputa majored in Biology. He served as one of the leaders in Rutgers' ROAR (Reach Out and Read) organization which aims to promote literacy in the New Brunswick community. During his time at Rutgers, he conducted research with the Aresty Research Center, the Center for Community-based Research and Service, and ODASIS. He worked in the Geology Department to help build a comprehensive graph that correlates temperature changes with the Atlantic Ocean under Dr. Lauren Neitzke Adamo. He is a participant of Student Support Services (SSS). He will continue his love for research as a full time research assistant at the Rutgers Keck Center. He hopes to obtain an MBA and MD.



Janiya Peters is a Rutgers Honors College student who completed her degree in Cognitive Science with a concentration on the Mind, Machines, and Computations. She's a Ronald E. McNair scholar and LSAMP scholar. In summer 2020, Janiya completed a virtual externship through the AT&T Summer Learning Academy. She worked as a research assistant in the Decision and Economic Sciences Lab at Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science. Her past research addresses learning disparities in introductory computer science curriculum. Her proposal was featured in the Union County College Undergraduate Research Journal and won first place in the Minority Access Inc. National Conference's Math, Engineering & Simulation category. She will begin her PhD in Information Management and Systems at the University of California-Berkely.



Aaliyah Phillips completed her B.A. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Women and Gender Studies. Over her undergraduate career, amazing programs like LSAMP and ODASIS have allowed her to not only grow as a student, but a person as well! She was the Peer Academic Leader Mentor for the Bunting Cobb DOCTORS STEM Living Learning Community. She was also involved with the North American Disease Intervention organization. She completed a summer program at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She plans to incorporate her learned experiences at Rutgers into a medical profession. She will be attending Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School to further her interests and continue to advocate for the groups that inspire her most.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Jason Phu completed his B.S. in Exercise Science. In April 2019, Jason received the SAS Excellence award in recognition for his excellent academic record and strong record of service to the university and/or the community for the 2018 - 2019 academic year. During his undergraduate career, he conducted research with the Aresty Research Center and the Center for Community-based Research and Service. He also worked with the Rutgers Psychosocial Process and Health Laboratory, Cardiac Neuroscience Laboratory, and Equine Exercise Physiology Lab. Jason plans on obtaining a PhD in the near future.



Jayanne Pierre was born on a French Caribbean island called Dominica. She completed her degree in Cell Biology and Neuroscience. She's a participant of ODASIS. She began conducting research in neurology since her first semester as a first-year student at Rutgers. Her research in the McGann lab has dealt with operant condition, a psychological learning method. One study was to analyze the long-term effects of aversive olfactory stimuli on the olfactory bulb and other regions of the brain. Research has taught her the importance of being detail oriented, and the benefits of team collaboration. She will be attending Columbia University College of Dental Medicine for her doctorate.



Alla Rahama majored in Biological sciences and completed a minor in Africana Studies. During her time at Rutgers, she served as a Scarlet Knights Leader, an associate at the Rutgers Zone, the community service chair and event allocation specialist for Sisters With Values and a member of Collegiate 100. She was also a member of MEET, ODASIS, and Student Support Services (SSS). As a first-generation African woman, she plans to be a part of a change in the healthcare system in terms of serving her community here but also influencing the healthcare system abroad. She plans on getting a masters degree in Global Public Health.



Joseph Salguero majored in Biomedical Engineering. He was a participant of ODASIS, SOE-EOF, and served as a member of MEET. During his time at Rutgers, he completed two co-ops at Johnson & Johnson Ethicon Endo-Surgery where he worked as a R&D Design Engineer in Cincinnati, Ohio. Joseph has been named a recipient of LSAMP conference and research funding. He served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador. He will begin his full time position as an Automation and Digitization Engineer at Merck.

Class of 2021 Cohort



Meghna Sen majored in Mechanical Engineering. In 2018, she conducted research with the Mechanical and Aerospace department on elastomeric robotics. After conducting research, she completed a co-op at Panasonic Corporation in Newark, NJ as a Quality Assurance Engineer. Afterwards, she spent 2 summers at Lockheed Martin Space Systems in Sunnyvale, CA as a Systems Engineering Intern. She is an SOE-EOF scholar, and served as a counselor for the Engineers of the Future Summer Institute, and a School of Engineering Ambassador. Additionally, she actively participated in MEET organization for which she served as the secretary, external vice president, and president. She served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador. Meghna will work as a Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin.



Victoria Stiritz is an Honors College student who completed her degree in Biological Sciences with double minors in Psychology and Health Society. She served as a 2020-21 LSAMP Ambassador, and a SEBS Ambassador, welcoming new/prospective students to the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences (SEBS). She conducted research at the W. M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience and the Brain Health Institute with the Aston-Jones Lab. During her senior year she participated in the G. H. Cook Project: an honors thesis studying the role of dynorphin in opioid withdrawal under Dr. Jen Fragale. She also participated in the Correctional Health Summer Program offered by Rutgers Behavioral Health Care. She will continue her studies at Rutgers-Newark as a PhD in Biomedical Sciences.



Zaira Zaidi completed her B.A. in Cognitive Science with a minor in Psychology. She served as an executive board member of the Rutgers Ahlul Bayt Student Association and also a board member of the Rutgers Pakistani Student Association. In summer 2020, she interned for the company EasyEventPlanning as a graphic designer. Aside from schoolwork, she is a tutor for the Rutgers Livingston Writing Center. She has conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Alan Leslie. In the future, she plans on working in the field of human-computer interaction before she pursues a PhD in Clinical Psychology to achieve her ultimate goal of becoming a Cognitive Behavioral Therapist.

Not Pictured

Assad Abdul-Hamid majored in Mechanical Engineering. While at Rutgers, he was a member of the Minority Engineering Educational Task (MEET). He conducted research at Union County College, and completed an internship with Northrop Grumman. He will continue his studies at Rutgers in Fall 2021 as a graduate student for a Master's degree in Engineering.

Evelyn Acevedo majored in Animal Science. She's a School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Educational Opportunity Fund (SEBS-EOF) scholar. She will work as a Veterinary Technician at Ridgefield Park Animal Hospital.

DeAnte Acosta majored in Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology. He's a SEBS-EOF scholar.

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Sabbathina Agyei majored in Electrical Engineering and completed a minor in Mathematics. She served as a member of MEET, Student Support Services (SSS), and a scholar in the School of Engineering Educational Opportunity Fund (SOE-EOF) program. She also completed an internship with PSEG.

Kofi Awa majored in Mechanical Engineering. He's a SOE-EOF scholar and served as a member of MEET. He will continue his studies in Fall 2021 for a Master in Mechanical Engineering.

Zaineb Aziz completed a major in Exercise Science. She's a Douglass Residential College (DRC) woman. She served as an undergraduate research assistant under the supervision of Dr. Nicole Wodzinski through Project SUPER.

Jesus Benites completed his B.A. in Biology with a minor Health and Society. He was a member of the School of Arts and Science Honors program and participated in the ODASIS program. In Fall 2021, he will begin his journey as a medical student at New Jersey Medical School.

Beverly Boateng completed a major in Applied Sciences in Engineering with a minor in Africana Studies. She's a member of the MEET organization and a SOE-EOF scholar. She conducted research as an undergraduate research assistant in the biomedical Engineering Department and completed a co-op at with NeoStrata (Johnson & Johnson).

Ceasia Brown completed her B.A. in Biology. She's a Douglass women, and a participant of ODASIS. As a member of LSAMP she received funding to complete a summer research opportunity at the University of Pennsylvania under the supervision of Dr. Krystal Hill. After graduation, she will work as a Direct Support Professional at Bancroft.

Steven Calalpa completed his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering.

Erik Castro completed his B.S. in Computer Engineering. He's a member of MEET and the Society of Hispanic Engineers (SHE), and a SOE-EOF scholar. He completed internships as a Software Engineering intern at Qualcomm and Microsoft. He will work as a Software Engineer for Microsoft in Summer 2021.

Andrea Cordova majored in Animal Science and is SEBS-EOF scholar. She will work as a Veterinarian Technician at Nautilus Avian and Exotic Veterinary Specialist.

Carlos Coronado Guzman completed his B.A. in Biology with a minor in Nutrition. He's a participant of ODASIS, and a scholar in the School of Arts and Sciences Educational Opportunity Fund (SAS-EOF).

Daniela Cruz completed her B.S. in Applied Sciences in Engineering. She's member of MEET, Student Support Services (SSS), and the Society of Hispanic Engineers (SHE). She participated in internship and co-op experiences at Mondelez International, and J&J Neutrogena.

Phong (Erik) Dang majored in Environmental and Business Economics, and is a SEBS-EOF scholar. In Fall 2021, he will begin his studies for an M.S. in Food and Business Economic

Viktor Diaz completed his B.A. in Biology and Linguistics.

Laurie Ferreras completed her B.S. in Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources. She's a Douglass woman. During her time at Rutgers, she conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Kimberly Russell through the G.H. Cook Scholar Program. She will work as a Summer/Fall LRCC-SLA member for the Lake Region Conservation.

Marina Garcia majored in Public Health and is a SEBS-EOF scholar. In Fall 2021, she will attend Boston University for her M.S.

Luis Gasca majored in Environmental and Business Economics. He's a SEBS-EOFscholar. In Summer 2021, he will start his full-time position as a Financial Analyst for JP Morgan Chase & Co.

Irvic Gondor completed his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. During his time as Rutgers, he was a member of the MEET and a SOE-EOF scholar.

Class of 2021 Cohort

Jada Green completed her B.A. in Sport Management with a minor in Africana Studies.

Steven Jeanty looks to continue his family tradition by completing a degree in Plant Science with a minor in Agriculture and Food Systems. Farming has been in his family for over three generations. Steven's father grew up on a farm on the island of Haiti and spent his young adolescent life studying crop management and plant disease prevention. At Rutgers, he's a SEBS-EOF scholar, an Assistant Grower at one of the world's first indoor vertical farming facilities. There, he helped grow leafy greens such as Arugula and Kale without soil, or sun. He looks to use his experiences to help develop new technologies to develop crops. This Summer, he will conduct research in field crop management, and will work as a Head Grower in Agriculture. He will continue his studies at Rutgers for a master's degree in Agriculture.

Justice Jubilee completed his B.S. in Computer Engineering. He's a member of MEET and a SOE-EOF scholar. He will work as a Software Engineer for American Express.

Kosisochukwu Mbah majored in Electrical Engineering and served as a member of MEET. He will continue his studies as a graduate student in the School of Engineering 4+1 program.

Aushenay McNeill majored in Biology with a minor in Health and Society. She's a participant of ODASIS. In Fall 2021, she will begin her studies as a medical student at the New Jersey Medical School.

Tania Minor majored in Animal Science and is a SEBS-EOF scholar. She will work as a Veterinary Technician at a clinic.

Olukemi Ogunraku completed her B.A. in Biomedical Science with a minor in Africana Studies. She's a Douglass woman, a member of ODASIS and Student Support Services (SSS). In Fall 2021, she will begin her graduate studies at Rutgers-Newark for a master's degree in Biomedical Sciences.

Jesutomisola Onafowokan majored in Public Health with a minor in Biological Sciences. She's a participant of ODASIS. In Fall 2021, she will begin her medical studies at the Jefferson University Sidney Kimmel College of Medicine.

Cyanna Padmore completed her B.A. in Biology with a minor in Education. She's a Douglass woman and participant of ODASIS. During her time in LSAMP, she conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Karen Schindler.

Carlos Pareja completed his B.S. in Biology and is a participant of ODASIS. He will continue his studies as a Medical Student at New Jersey Medical School.

Dhruvkumar Patel majored in Industrial Engineering. He's a member of MEET organization, and a SOE-EOF scholar.

Summer Pierce completed her B.S. in Zoology. During her time at Rutgers, she completed an internship at a law firm. She hopes to obtain a J.D.

Jose Prado completed his B.S. in Animal Science. He's a SEBS-EOF scholar, and member of ODASIS.

Rimsha Saeed majored in Neuroscience with a minor in Business Administration. She's a Douglass woman, an SAS-EOF scholar, and a participant of ODASIS and Student Support Services (SSS).

Adesola Sanni-Thomas majored in Environmental, Policy, Institutions and Behavior, and is a SEBS-EOF scholar. She will work in Quality Assurance at Freshly.

Katelyn Seperac her degree in Biological Sciences. She will work as a Shift Supervisor at Promenade Beach Club.

Rahul Sharma completed his B.A. in Physics and is SAS-EOF scholar.

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Leonela Smith majored in Landscape Architecture with a minor in Green Technology and Environmental Planning. She's a SEBS-EOF scholar. She will continue her studies at Rutgers University for an M.S. in Architecture.

Saleh Tahir completed his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering. He will work as a Naval Aviation Test Engineer at Booz Allen Hamilton.

Chelsea Toribio completed her B.S. in Nutrition Sciences with a minor in Health Administration. She's a Douglass woman and SEBS-EOF scholar. During her time at Rutgers, she conducted research through ODASIS and Project SUPER.