

Shazia Ali



High School: Wauwatosa West High School

Projects that you worked on with SMART Teams:

GPIIbIIa and Neonatal Alloimmune Thrombocytopenia with Dr. Peter Newman and Dr. Debra Newman, RAS and NF1 with Dr. Bob Deschenes, and Collagen with Dr. Francoise A. Van den Bergh

College: Marquette University

Major: Biological Sciences

Current Career plans:

While I am undecided as to the career I would like to have, I am currently focusing on completing my undergraduate degree in Biology. From there I hope to enter a professional or graduate program and use my love for science to help others.

What impact SMART Team had on you:

SMART Teams has had a significant impact on my life. First and foremost, it made me realize that science was a dynamic and changing field with many unanswered questions while giving me a glimpse as to what someone in the research field actually does. Furthermore, the program gave me the ability to visualize proteins and better understand how they interact and behavior in a cell. As a visual learner, this has been a very valuable skill in helping me better understand the concepts I am learning in my current undergraduate science classes. It was also through the SMART team program that I was able to get a position at the Blood Research Institute in the Newman lab. The real life experience I have gained working has been just as valuable, if not more, as the information I have learned in class.

Your favorite memory of being on a SMART Team:

My best memory would have to be our groups final presentation during my sophomore year of high school because I "picked a fight" with my friend in order to show the differences between the leucine and proline amino acids in our molecule. I also enjoyed attending one of the teachers conferences right here in Milwaukee. We were able to explain our model and the SMART team program to a really large audience which was great.