

SPRI

Travis Turnbull, Ph.D., who serves as the Deputy Director/Sr. Engineer/Scientist for the SPRI Department of Biomedical Engineering shared a few observations about these two students: "Langley and Carlotta were excellent teammates and they conducted themselves very professionally during their entire year with the SPRI Science Club. During the Fall semester, they were leaders on their respective teams of students from other area high schools. For their independent project during the Spring semester, both students worked very hard to put together an excellent study of shin splints. Carlotta's laser-focus was combined with Langley's excitement for advanced analyses and the team finished their year very strong with a professional report. We know that Carlotta and Langley have a bright future ahead of them!"

Carlotta and Langley shared what this valuable clinical orthopedic experience meant to them: Carlotta states "The experience of helping a patient through every step of an injury was super realistic and exciting. We were able to walk through every step and engage in things such as diagnosis, surgery, and rehab. With the constant support and help from all the SPRI mentors, the process was engaging while still being a great learning experience. Through the SPRI program, I learned more than just medicine. I learned that working together is very important and is necessary for accomplishing things successfully. Everyday medical professionals from all different fields work together and communicate as a team to solve a problem. Every component of a team brings different skill sets and ideas that lead to better outcomes and overall success. Through this experience, I gained more insight and learned about all the fields of medicine. I have always been interested in medicine and this helped me discern which aspects of medicine interest me the most and which parts may not be for me. This has definitely influenced my potential educational goals and career plans in a positive way and has pushed me even more towards pursuing medicine in my future."

Langley states "I loved working with our SPRI mentors and learned a ton about Excel and biomotion. I specifically loved the study of how pressure and foot strikes could affect shin splints by analyzing the data and creating graphs. The mentors were amazing and helped me grow in my passion for medicine, confirming my interest in surgical studies in the future. I became pretty proficient in excel which has been super important in enabling me to understand the intricacy of statistical analysis. I also learned to collaborate better which was a new and interesting experience for me. I have always had a passion for medicine, intending to become a pediatric surgeon. However, as I studied and worked along with the SPRI mentors, I learned that I had a strong interest in orthopedics and research. I plan to look into research programs and possibly become a medical researcher. I also explored the orthopedic field, finding that I had a fascination with the interworking of the human body in the skeletal and muscular systems. I will carry this passion with me into college and bring a more experienced knowledge of what I would like to do with my future."