

# Summer Research Institute

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY



## CENTER FOR PROMOTING HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUALITY (CPHHE)

The Summer Research Institute SRI provides research opportunities to undergraduate and high-school students. These students come from different backgrounds and locations. The Center for Promoting Health and Health Equality, through Creighton University researchers, provides guidance and mentorship to these students. In this newsletter, we feature a brief biography of Dr. Devendra Agrawal and interviews with two of our participants: Ola Akintelure and Nancy Chung.

### Undergraduate Student of the Week OLA AKINTELURE Mentor: Dr. Shashank David

#### What are your strengths?

My greatest strength is the fact that I always take the first step and lead. It has helped me to develop a more diverse way of leading and making connections with different people. This is important in life because many things require teamwork despite there being a leader; you have to know how to copulate ideas and always have great communication skills and understand the importance of maintaining that relationship.

#### What do you do to relax?

I enjoy either sleeping or running.

#### What is your favorite book and why?

My favorite book is Purple Hibiscus and half of a yellow Sun by Chimamanda Adichie. I just admire Chimamanda as a feminist and she remarkably shows what women represent and are capable of in her books.

#### What is your favorite school subject and why?

My favorite subjects are anything criminal justice or anatomy related.

#### What are the four more important things in life you cannot survive without?

My family, my phone, food, and my best friends.

#### Ten years from now you will be....

Fulfilling my dream of becoming a doctor and helping others.

#### What motto/advice do you live by?

Faith is taking the first step when you do not see the whole staircase. Always take that leap.

#### What is something that amazes you?

The amount of technology this generation is exposed to.

#### What is your favorite place to dine-out?

Upstream.

#### How and where do you prefer to study?

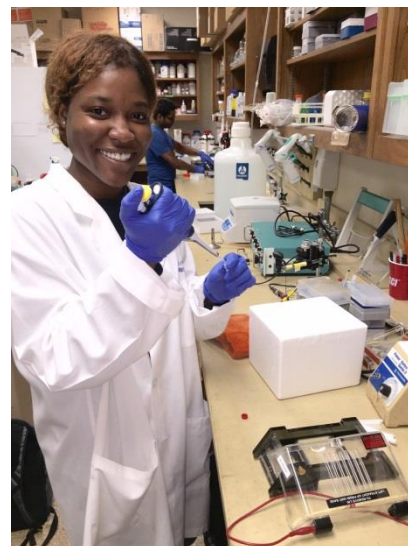
In my room with light music playing in the background.

#### What is your all-time favorite town or city? Why?

Washington D.C.- it is always alive.

#### What motivated you to participate in the program?

I wanted to spend my last year of college in a lab learning skills that I knew would help me throughout my endeavors in the science field. It is also important to me to have a program that provides minorities with the opportunities that this program has been able to provide, it does everything capable to help its participants succeed and I envy that.



Ola Akintelure is a junior at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. She is performing research with Dr. Shashank David.



**Devendra Agrawal, PhD.**, is a Professor in the Biomedical Science Department at Creighton University School of Medicine. Dr. Agrawal holds a master's degree in chemistry and a doctorate in biochemistry from Lucknow University in India; a doctorate in medical sciences from McMaster University in Ontario; and master's degrees in business administration and information technology from Creighton University. Dr. Agrawal has served/is serving on editorial boards of several journals, including J. Immunology, American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology, and Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology. Dr. Agrawal has authored/co-authored more than 240 original papers in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. He has co-edited three books in the area of Allergy. His major research interests have been in cellular, molecular and

immunology of pulmonary and vascular diseases which are funded by NIH. He has trained 36 post-doctoral fellows and 34 MD-PhD/PhD/M.S. students in cellular, molecular, and immunology of diseases. This summer, he is mentoring in his lab Nancy Chung, a sophomore at Omaha North High.



**NANCY CHUNG** is a sophomore at Omaha North High. She is performing lab research at Creighton University under the mentorship of Dr. Devendra Agrawal.

**What are your strengths? And how have they helped you in your life?**

My strengths are being motivated to try new things because I am able to join clubs and programs without hesitation.

**What do you do to relax?**

Play video games.

**What is your favorite school subject and why?**

Physics because it gives a different perspective on life.

**What is your favorite book and why?**

My favorite book is the Hunger Games because it almost reflects today's society.

**What are the four more important things in life you cannot survive without?**

Family, knowledge, happiness, and food.

**Ten years from now you will be...** I will be a medical student.

**What advice do you live by?**

The motto I live by is, "Go big or go home."

**What is something that amazes you?**

The brilliance of scientists.

**What is your favorite place to dine out?**

I like Kona Grill.

**How and where do you prefer to study?**

I prefer to study in my bedroom with quiet music.

**What is your all-time favorite town or city? Why?**

Chicago because there is so much to do there (entertainment).

**What motivated you to participate in the program?**

What motivated me was the opportunity to work in a lab at Creighton University and the resources that are offered.

#### **TIMELINE ACTIVITIES FOR SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

**Friday, July 22**

Draft of Poster

**Friday, July 29**

Final Posters for presentation

**Thursday, August 4**

Mock Presentations

**Friday August 5**

**SRI Colloquium**

Skutt Student Center Rm 105

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

#### **UPDATES ON HS-MACA ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2016**

**Monday, June 6 to Friday July 29**

Post-Bac Summer Diagnostic Session

**Tuesday, May 31 to Friday July 15**

Pre-Med Pre-Matric

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