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. Featured is a brief biography of Dr. Yaping Tu and interviews with two of our participants: Fatiha Iqbal and Hawa Shatta.

**Undergraduate Student of the Week**  
**FATIHA IQBAL**  
**Mentor: Dr. Yaping Tu**

“Whatever happens, happens.”

Fatiha Iqbal is a junior at Creighton University majoring in Biology. She is taking part in the Summer Research Institute at Creighton University to develop her research skills. Fatiha is working with Dr. Yaping Tu at the School of Medicine for eight weeks this summer. Her research focuses on discovery of a small molecule compound treating pulmonary fibrosis.

**What are your strengths?**
I am able to do things on my own time and independently which has allowed me to learn more about how I work and who I am and also to find new opportunities for myself.

**What do you do to relax?**
I like to watch movies, read books, and talk with friends.

**What is your favorite book and why?**
My favorite book is *Harry Potter* because I grew up with the series.

**What is your favorite school subject and why?**
I really enjoy Physiology because I like to learn about how the body works and different things that can go wrong with our bodies.

**What are the four most important things in life you cannot survive without?**
I cannot live without my family, my phone, my bed, and my water bottle.

**Ten years from now you will be...**
Hopefully, I will be working as a physician in the Midwest.

**What motto/advice do you live by?**
“Whatever happens, happens.”

**What is something that amazes you?**
What amaze me are animals in the wild such as tigers or sharks.

**What is your favorite place to dine-out?**
I like to eat at places that have Italian food.

**How and where do you prefer to study?**
I prefer to study in the library or coffee shops if they are quiet.

What is something that amazes you?  
What amaze me are animals in the wild such as tigers or sharks.  
What is your favorite place to dine-out?  
I like to eat at places that have Italian food.  
How and where do you prefer to study?  
I prefer to study in the library or coffee shops if they are quiet.

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Fatiha Iqbal is a junior at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

**What motivated you to participate in the program?**
I wanted to have more experience before I apply to medical school. I wanted to improve my lab skills and critical thinking which will help me in the future.
Yaping Tu, PhD., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at Creighton University School of Medicine. Dr. Tu’s laboratory research focuses on the regulation of the interaction among G protein coupled receptor (GPCR), G proteins and RGS (regulators of G Protein Signaling) proteins in cardiovascular disease and prostate cancer.

Dr. Tu joined Creighton University as an Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology in 2003. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2008. Dr. Tu is also an affiliated member of Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

HAWA SHATTA is a junior at Central High. Her interest to pursue a career in the health field moved her to apply to the Creighton University – CPHHE Summer Research Program. She is doing a six-week Community-Based Participatory Research with North Omaha Health Area Clinic under the mentoring of Mr. Ira Combs, North Omaha Area Health Clinic Executive Director.

What are your strengths? And how have they helped you in your life?
I am a great communicator which helps me get my point across and to make friends.

What do you do to relax?
I relax by sitting on my couch with a soft blanket and watching Netflix. On a stressful day, I go on a run first (it makes everything ten times better).

What is your favorite school subject and why?
My favorite school subject is Art because it is a class with no rules (there are some rules), but there is not a limit to the imagination.

What is your favorite book and why?
My favorite book is The Great Gatsby because it is written beautifully and crazy.

What are the four most important things in life you cannot survive without?
I cannot live without my family, phone, a good book to read, and sweat pants.

Ten years from now you will be... in ten years, hopefully I made it out of medical school and started my passion.

What advice do you live by?
A motto I live by is, “Do not count the days make the days count.” Muhammed Ali.

What is something that amazes you?
People amaze me. The way their minds work, to be more specific. The decisions they make and reasoning behind is interesting.

What is your favorite place to dine out?
My favorite place to dine-out is Pitch because the atmosphere is amazing and their food is even better.

How and where do you prefer to study?
I like studying at my desk with food and frequent breaks.

What is your favorite place to dine out?
My favorite place to dine out is Pitch because the atmosphere is amazing and their food is even better.

What is your favorite town or city? Why?
My favorite city is Cairo because the food and buildings are amazing.

What motivated you to participate in the program?
I joined the research program because I wanted to learn more about the different aspects of health. I want to go into the health field, but I was not sure where I would fit in.

TIMELINE ACTIVITIES FOR SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, July 22</td>
<td>Draft of Poster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, July 29</td>
<td>Final Posters for Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 4</td>
<td>Mock Presentations</td>
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<td>Friday, August 5</td>
<td>SRI Colloquium</td>
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<td>Skutt Student Center, Rm 105</td>
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UPDATES ON HS-MACA ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, June 6 to Friday July 29</td>
<td>Post-Bac Summer Diagnostic Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 31 to Friday July 15</td>
<td>Pre-Med Pre-Matric</td>
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HS-MACA http://healthsciences.creighton.edu/hsmaca