Minnesota State Mankato Sophomore Awarded McGowan Summer School

Minnesota State sophomore Lauren Hesser (Biomedicine, ‘19) was recently awarded a position in the 4th Annual Regenerative Medicine Summer School at the McGowan Institute. Lauren will spend a week at the University of Pittsburgh, participating in lectures, hands-on laboratory activities, and social and networking events.

The Summer School’s objective is to provide national and regional students with a didactic and experiential learning experience addressing the science and engineering related to the multidisciplinary field of regenerative medicine. The program addresses tissue engineering, cell-based therapies, medical devices, clinical translation and commercialization, and more.

In addition to her Biomedicine major, Lauren is pursuing Mathematics and Chemistry minors in the hopes of continuing on to an M.D./Ph.D. program in biomedical or neural engineering. She applied to the McGowan Summer School because she has a strong interest in regenerative medicine and stem cell research. Her long-term goal is to contribute to a cure for paralysis or other traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries. She said the Summer School “is a great opportunity to really help me fine tune my ultimate career path”.

Lauren is a member of the Honors Program, the National Society of Leadership and Success, and is Historian for the honor society Beta Beta Beta. She has been part of Dr. David Sharlin’s research lab since her freshman year. She also volunteers with Special Olympics and the Blue Earth County Humane Society, works in various group homes, and tutors for Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial High School.

Lauren utilized resources in the Office of University Fellowships in her pursuit of this award.

For more information on the Office of University Fellowships at Minnesota State Mankato, see www.mnsu.edu/fellowships.

For more information on the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, see http://www.mirm.pitt.edu/professional-development/summer-school/.