CURIOUS 2025

Audio	Video
[Music]	Purple graphic Text: CURIOUS Cardiovascular Unique Research Initiative for Undergraduate Students
Dr. Stokes The CURIOUS program, which is the Cardiovascular Unique Research Initiative for Undergraduate Students	Young blonde woman with hair pulled back into a ponytail wearing a white lab coat (Ona) loading vials into a machine
is an eight week long program where undergraduate students can come in and do eight weeks of research in a cardiovascular related area.	Woman with glasses in a lab coat in front of a microscope in a lab (Dr. Stokes) Text: Karen Stokes, P.H.D. Assistant Director Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences
And these students also are provided with enrichment opportunities,	Young, dark complected man wearing a lab coat (Tylor) pipetting in a lab
including things like learning a little bit more about cardiovascular disease and cardiovascular anatomy,	Students around a table in a conference room as a faculty member in a white coat explains the anatomy of the heart
as well as some professional and career development opportunities.	Students in a classroom listening to a faculty member at the front of the class
This year, we have seven students in the Curious program, and they're from all over the country.	Young woman with dark hair tied back from face (Riley) working under a lab hood
[Riley] One of the major things that attracted me to this program is I am planning to become a physician. And I thought that this program would give me a really good opportunity to kind of	Riley wearing a white lab coat, standing in front of a microscope Text: Riley Nazario Junior, East Carolina University
experience the methodology, the mindset, the techniques and the skills that are kind of necessary at looking into why certain clinical situations happen. And I figured that this program would be the perfect way for me to kind of explore that.	Various shots of Riley as she changes media and feeds plates of cells under a lab hood
[Tylor] As a first generation student, I always like to seek opportunities outside of my comfort zone.	Tylor seated at a bench in a lab pipetting liquid into cells on a tray

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And cardiology is something I'm really interested in, and I see a future in it for me. And once I seen this program in Shreveport, Louisiana, a place I've	Tylor seated in front lab bench Text: Tylor Miller Junior, Tennessee State University
never been. I've lived in Miami my whole life. So it was a no brainer. I applied, prayed, and grateful to be able to be here right now.	Shots of Tylor seated at a lab hood has he prepares to feed a plate of cells
[Ona] At Smith College, I do some research into cardiovascular disease risk,	Ona seated at a lab hood feeding cells in a plate
and so I was curious to learn more and maybe do more of a focus on that type of research. And I saw that it was happening here and in particular in the lab that I'm working in now, we're focusing a bit on	Ona seated at a lab bench with flasks behind her Text: Ona Pranevichius Junior, Smith College
gasotransmitters, which, I had heard about and read about but didn't fully understand. So I thought that this would be a good chance to sort of deepen my understanding in this more narrow field.	Hands working under a lab hood as they fill a vial and pipe the contents onto a plate
[Riley] So far I've learned so much from this program. Specifically, even just with the hands on technical skills within the lab. So many very foundational	Riley pipetting under a hood, piping red liquid into onto a plate
skills and methods that are super useful in again, a lot of biomedical research or clinical research.	Riley beside a microscope addressing camera
Beyond that, within this program, I've learned so much about effective communication in science	Riley in front of her research poster talking about her findings
and being able to effectively communicate with other people, or even just my findings, or again, even in the future. Possible diagnosis is a really important skill that I think has really gotten me far, and something that I've learned a lot from this program.	Ona, Tylor, and other CURIOUS students explaining their research posters to interested attendees
[Tylor] In the lab here I've been learning a lot of things, especially with my mentor Syrine, who teaches me every day. And it's a great learning curve.	Tylor and his mentor at a computer discussing graphic on screen
Meeting new people allowing to meet mentors, gain connections. It's incredible.	Tylor seated in the lab, addressing the camera

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[Ona] I'm currently debating if I want to go to med school or if I want to further pursue research. So this is also a great chance for me to see what research as a real 9 to 5 full	Shot of Ona as she removes liquid and refills plates under a lab hood
workweek might look like, and see if that matches what I want, for at least for the five years or so with a P.H.D. program.	Ona on camera
[Riley] This program has also opened my eyes to a lot of other areas in science and things that I didn't even know existed	Rile working with cell plates under a lab hood
and it is definitely something that I would recommend to people. It's not a super, super long program, but it's just enough for you to get those skills, make those connections, and have a lot of fun doing science and learning new things.	CURIOUS students, including Riley and Tylor, in a poster sessions discussing their research with faculty, staff and other students