



Lisette Jenkins

Laboratory Research Fellow

“During my three-month research experience in Sao Paulo, Brazil, I really got to see the discrepancies between healthcare systems around the world. I realized then that I wanted to join a global health research effort, which would give me an opportunity to improve people’s quality of life, as well as improving my personal integrity.”

Lisette Jenkins is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry with minors in Chemistry and Japanese Studies

at Clemson University and will graduate in May, 2020.

Lisette’s memory of her mother, who died suddenly when Lisette was only nine years old, is the inspiration guiding her future. Knowing that her mother would have wanted her to succeed, Lisette considers success her only option.

Though she plans to become a cardiothoracic surgeon, Lisette does not want to give up working in research. As a physician and scientist she would like to concentrate on research to develop inexpensive novel drugs that could potentially help impoverished people around the world. Lisette is currently involved in antibiotic drug development research and worked in Brazil during the summer of 2017 through a summer research abroad program where she focused on better tumor biomarkers in the early treatment of cancer.

As a Laboratory Research Fellow Lisette hopes to gain a holistic understanding of global health. She does not want to be confined to being knowledgeable in just one field, and as a physician and scientist in the future wants to be able to help in all the aspects of global health including vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, devices, and system and service innovations.

Lisette feels that the greatest challenge for her generation is accelerating innovation without disregarding tradition.