

Dear Donors from the Class of 1955,

My name is Brittany Barnwell and I am writing to thank you for your generous contribution that has helped me to participate in BMB 485: Problems in the Bahamas. It is your support of Cornell scholarships that has allowed me to further my education here and gain experiences that will last a lifetime.

I am a third-year student from Denver, Colorado. I graduated from Northglenn High School and chose Cornell for the personalized experience and small class size so that I wouldn't be a small fish in a big sea like at most universities. The only thing that allowed me to actually choose Cornell was the financial aid and scholarships that I obtained. I have declared my major in Biochemical/Molecular Biology, and currently participate in many on-campus clubs and activities, several of which I am seen as a campus leader.

The opportunity that you have helped me gain was going on the off-campus course to the Bahamas for the 400-level course offered for my major. I can tell you now that the opportunity was life-changing and I will fondly remember it. I saw the most spectacular sights and encountered many interesting creatures during the snorkeling trips in the crystal clear waters - we even saw a hammerhead shark! I watched the most beautiful sunset from a pale pink beach and jumped off a 25-foot cliff into the ocean; I interacted with a culture different from my own, and grew to appreciate the slow, laid-back lifestyle of the Bahamas. I learned more than I can mention, and found peace away from the hustle and bustle of college life. It was exhilarating and inspiring and I cannot thank you enough for the help to gain such memories.

For the future, I aspire to be a Biomedical Engineer. This 400-level course helped me learn more about myself and what I want out of life, but also fueled my passion for science even more. The Gerace Research Station in San Salvador, Bahamas, allowed me to do field and lab research all at once, and I hope to find a career that is as exciting as my time at the station.

Again, I cannot thank you enough for what your contribution has helped me achieve. I truly appreciate it!

Thank you,

Brittany Barnwell