

### **SNUCMAA-NA Progress Report**

SNUCMAA-NA's support and investment into my education have been invaluable in my personal and academic growth. With the generous scholarship, I have been able to invest more of my time into classes and activities that I am passionate about. Recently, as a part of Global Medical Missions Alliance, I went on a mission trip to Honduras with 28 students and 4 medical professionals. We visited various schools and remote villages to provide medical care and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. We set up primary care clinics and saw up to 300 patients in one day. At the clinics, students helped to take vital signs and write down patient history as the medical professionals treated acute illnesses, such as abdominal parasites and skin rashes. We also performed dances, body worship, and skits with the children at the schools. It truly was a blessing to have been a part of a mission team that cared for the physical and spiritual well-being of others. The trip reignited my passion for medicine and for helping people, especially those in underserved communities. Without the scholarship from SNUCMAA, I would not have been able to participate in such a rewarding and enriching experience.

The scholarship money that I received from SNUCMAA has also allowed me to buy textbooks and other materials for my classes, providing me with the resources to succeed. In addition, last semester was a particularly difficult semester for me. I injured my ankle during a flag football game and was on crutches for a month. During that time, it was very challenging to move around and to go to my classes. I had to forgo many extracurricular activities and was not able to work. If it were not for the scholarship, this past fall semester would have been an especially grueling time. Through SNUCMAA's generous support, I did not have to worry about

the financial burden of college. I was able to focus on getting better and seek treatment for my ankle, and persevere in my academic studies. I cannot thank SNUCMAA enough for being such a light during that difficult time.

Going forward, I will continue my studies in Neurobiology in pursuit of going to medical school and becoming a physician. I hope that one day I will be able to return to Honduras and serve as a medical professional in clinics like I have witnessed the medical professionals do on my recent trip. The compassion that the physicians and physician assistants had for the patients was so inspiring. I will never forget how one of the physicians asked a nervous little boy about the cards that he had in his front shirt pockets. In asking the boy to point out his favorite card, the little boy's eyes lit up with so much excitement. For the rest of the examination, the boy was smiling ear to ear and was at ease as the doctor proceeded with the physical examination. Through little ways, the medical professionals displayed such care and love for the patients. As I pursue a career in medicine, I hope to be at the frontlines in treating those in less fortunate circumstances and serve with compassionate heart.

