

Dear SNUCMAA-NA,

Upon becoming a recipient of the SNUCMAA-NA Taewoong Kim, M.D., and Mrs. Jungwha Kim Scholarship 2025 in October, I have had wonderful opportunities towards my career in serving others through medicine. The financial support has been a huge factor in allowing me to take these opportunities and ignite my interests in both overseas missions and clinical research.

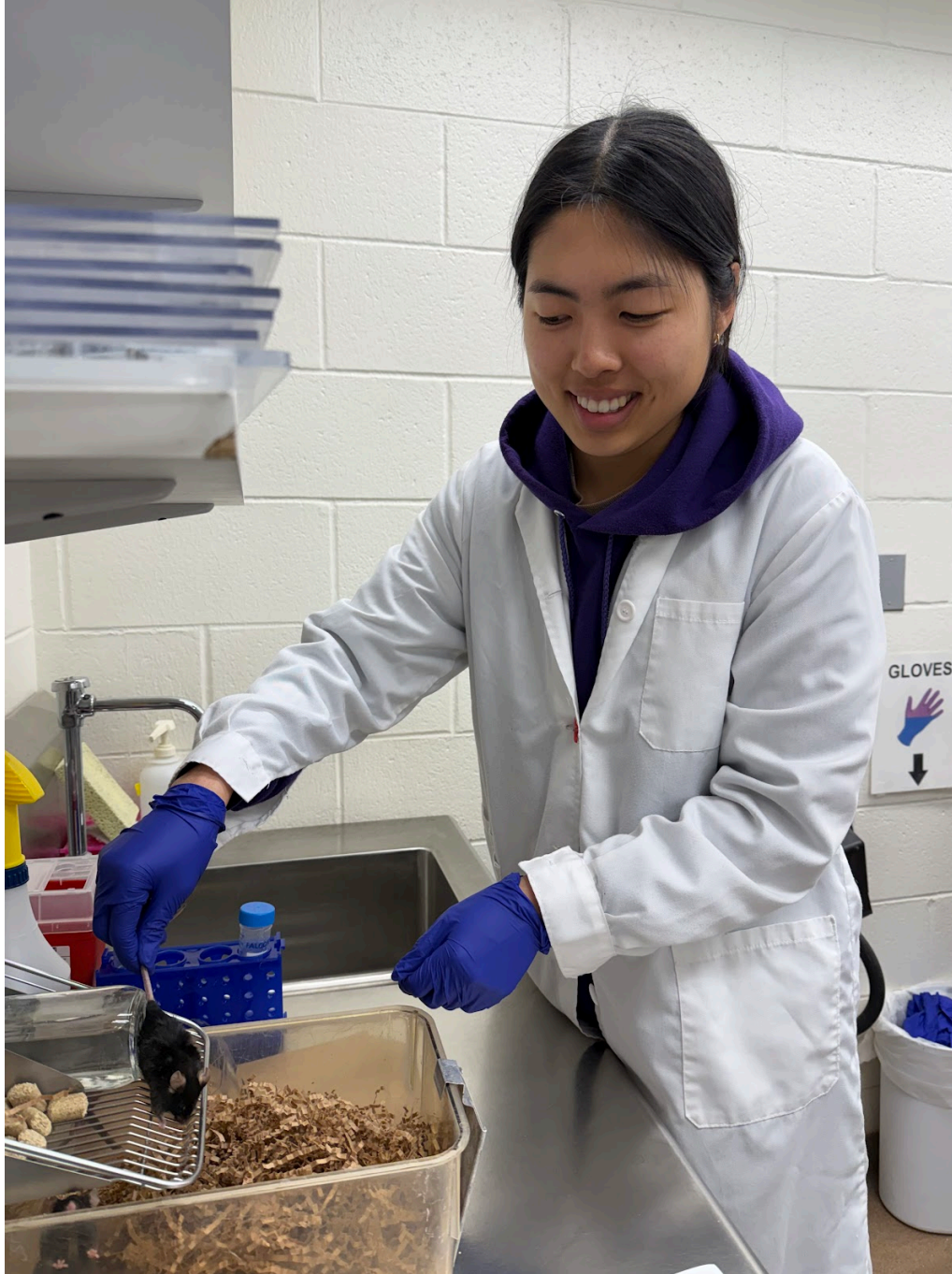
The scholarship money was used in several ways to help pay for the Urbana conference, my research experience, and MCAT studying. The Urbana conference is a national conference located in Phoenix, Arizona, that focuses on global missions. I listened to doctors sharing their stories serving across the globe and received resources, networks, and opportunities to serve under-resourced populations. I was able to connect with larger organizations like Christian Community Health Fellowship, which is a network of healthcare providers wishing to serve the most vulnerable and poor. I am now interested in working one clinical rotation overseas in rural medicine and attending medical missions trips. The scholarship was also used to pay for a flight back to campus during my January-term so that I can work full-time for my biology thesis. I conducted research studying portosystemic shunt in mice, a vasculature abnormality that bypasses blood flow in the liver, and its effect on tryptophan metabolism in the body. This can potentially lead to clinical applications in humans with the same vasculature disease in their livers. Lastly, the scholarship money was used to purchase an MCAT appointment in September 2026. With several months ahead, I have been slowly learning and studying for the test through flashcards, practice questions, and video strategies. Looking forward, the rest of the scholarship would be used to purchase MCAT third-party resources and pay for medical school applications.

After attending the Urbana conference, it became even more clear that I want to help others in need through healthcare. After hearing from multiple speakers from various careers, the testimonies of global doctors and their services excited me most as I envisioned myself serving under-resourced communities across borders. I have also reached out to Williams alumni who have worked at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which are community-based clinics supported by government grants to provide comprehensive services to underserved populations, regardless of ability to pay. I envision myself working at an FQHC during my gap years as a medical assistant to provide care for people often coming from low-income backgrounds, limited status, and little to no healthcare. Additionally, I also see myself helping others locally, such as making and distributing care packages for daily workers with Love Hope Together Organization, during my gap years while studying for the MCAT.

Once again, I am so grateful for your trust and confidence in me as a recipient of the SNUCMAA-NA Taewoong Kim, M.D., and Mrs. Jungwha Kim Scholarship 2025. This scholarship both encourages me and keeps me accountable for the long journey ahead. Reminded of this wonderful Korean community, it gives me strength to persist during the challenging or mundane parts of life. Thank you so much again!

Sincerely,

Pauline Kang



Handling a mouse to prepare for an intraperitoneal injection