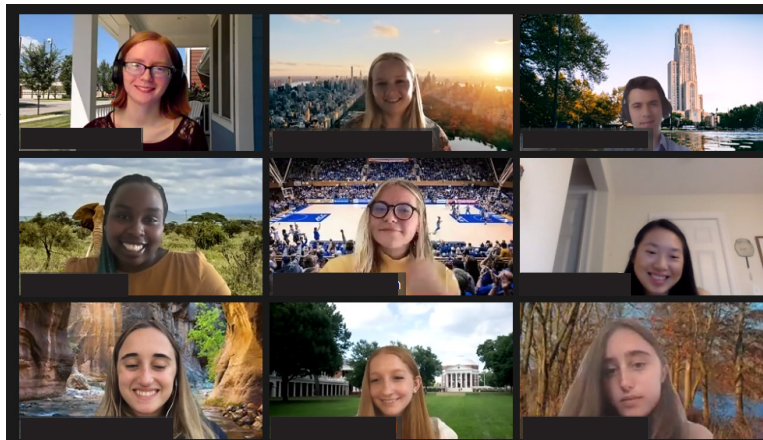




Quantitative Sciences Undergraduate Research Experience

## Highlights from Summer 2021

This summer, we were delighted to welcome the 2021 QSURE cohort to the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics for a 10-week virtual program! Each of the 9 students was paired with a faculty mentor with whom they worked on a research project in either biostatistics, computational oncology, epidemiology, or health outcomes. In addition to the many seminars given by departmental faculty, the QSURE students also attended talks given by external speakers, including Dr. Roger Peng, Professor of Biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Dr. Megan Price, Executive Director of the Human Rights Data Analysis Group; and Dr. Laura Le, Lecturer at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Notably, the students participated in a book club discussion on *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, about the person behind the immortal HeLa cells and issues of health equity. The program culminated in the annual QSURE Symposium where the students presented on their summer long research projects. Lastly, we would like to thank all members of the department for their hard work and support, without which the QSURE program would not be possible.



## Calling all Applicants!

Interested in taking the next steps towards a career in the quantitative sciences?

Look no further than QSURE! Our 10-week paid internship is ideal for undergraduate students looking for mentored research experience in biostatistics, epidemiology, health outcomes and computational oncology. For more information and to apply, please visit [mskcc.org/QSURE](http://mskcc.org/QSURE).

### Important dates!

January 12th: Applications are due

May 30th: First day of program

August 5th: Last day of program

## Follow QSURE on LinkedIn!

Find our page at [linkedin.com/company/qsure/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/qsure/) and stay up to date on all things QSURE! To our Alumni: if you have any personal achievements or updates, please notify us at [bstqsure@mskcc.org](mailto:bstqsure@mskcc.org)



## PFACQ Discussion

This summer featured a unique opportunity for the QSURE students to speak with two members of MSKCC's Patient and Family Advisory Council for Quality (PFACQ), Abdullah Abdulkareem and Tarlie Townsend. PFACQ, founded in 2015, is made up of current and former patients, their families and MSK staff; their mission is to give voice to MSK patients, family and caregivers and incorporate their perspectives into patient care. Abdullah and Tarlie, who both have careers in quantitative health sciences, spoke about their experiences as MSK patients and why they felt compelled to join PFACQ. We thank Abdullah and Tarlie for being so candid. It was an invaluable reminder to our students that the work they do, often behind a computer screen, has positive effects for patients at MSK and elsewhere.

## Alumni Highlights

Congratulations to these alumni on their recent accomplishments!

- Nicholas Hartman, class of 2018, received a Student Paper Award from the Risk Analysis Section of the American Statistical Association.
- Amelia Tran, class of 2020, received an Electronic Undergraduate Summer Research Presentation award, as well as a Five College Statistics Prize, presented by the UMass Amherst, Amherst College, Hampshire College, Smith College, and Mount Holyoke consortium, for making an outstanding contribution to statistics and/or the statistics community.
- Breanna Richards, class of 2020, was also awarded a Five College Statistics Prize for making an outstanding contribution to statistics and/or the statistics community. Additionally, Amherst College presented Breanna with The Walker Award in Mathematics and Statistics for demonstrating initiative, creativity, perseverance, and achievement in Mathematics and Statistics.
- Sarah Szvetcz, class of 2018, recently published the following paper with her colleagues in *Nature*: PAX8 lineage-driven T cell engaging antibody for the treatment of high-grade serous ovarian cancer
- Hannah Fuchs, class of 2019, recently published the following paper with her colleagues in *Nutrition & Cancer*: Vitamin B12 supplementation and vitamin B12 blood serum levels: evaluation of effect modification by gender and smoking status

## QSURE at ICEC 2021

This year, five QSURE students presented at the 2021 International Cancer Education Conference. The students submitted abstracts to ICEC based on their summer research project. Congratulations to our students for the following presentations!

- "Association Between Fish Oil Supplements and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)"
- "Predictors of AML patient response to 7+3 induction chemotherapy"
- "Associations Between Insulin Resistance-related Traits and Breast Cancer Risk by Molecular Subtype: a Mendelian Randomization Study"
- "Benchmarking Allele-Specific Copy Number Methods on Single Cell Whole Genome Sequencing Data"
- "Characterization of treatment-associated genomic changes in rectal cancer patients treated with neoadjuvant therapy"

For more information, please visit:

[www.mskcc.org/QSURE](http://www.mskcc.org/QSURE)

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