October 2020 Undergraduate Student Spotlight

10/29/2020

Samantha Corbridge & Christopher Long

Summer 2020 Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities (URCO) grant recipients

Faculty Advisor: Chris Dakin, Assistant Professor

(1) What do you like about being a student in the KHS Department?

Samantha Corbridge: I love the opportunities to gain hands on experience with the material I’m learning, both through labs and research.

Christopher Long: My favorite thing about being a student in the KHS department is being surrounded by like-minded individuals who share a passion for health and fitness.

Samantha and Christopher were awarded a team URCO grant to investigate: Mobile device use’s impact on handrail grasp and fall avoidance strategies. In this project they will examine factors that affect our ability to recover from a stumble, such as how close the nearest handrail is and whether distractions are present (e.g. mobile device use).

(2) How did you become involved in this study?

Samantha Corbridge: I saw on the faculty page of the KHS website that Dr. Dakin does neuromuscular research and emailed him asking if he had any research opportunities for undergraduate students.

Christopher Long: I became involved in this study when a former instructor suggested my name as someone who would be interesting in a URCO grant project.

Both Samantha and Christopher, see this project as a way to gain valuable experience and understanding in how research is conducted and knowledge generated as well as an important step towards achieving their long-term goals:

(3) What are your long-term goals?

Samantha Corbridge: I am excited to pursue a career in occupational therapy and plan to attend graduate school in the next year or two. I look forward to applying my knowledge of kinesiology, psychology, and physiology to help individuals expand their autonomy.

Christopher Long: My long-term goal is to become a professor of kinesiology. I hope to conduct meaningful research related to injury biomechanics and rehabilitation. I also hope to promote health and fitness in the community through my role as an educator.

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Dakin (chris.dakin@usu.edu).