

About the Authors



Matthew Chopp is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Occidental College. As an undergraduate, he conducted research on Alexander Hamilton’s political thought as a Ray Allen Billington research fellow and served as a research intern at VoteSmart. After graduation, he will study for a Master's in Political Theory at the London School of Economics and eventually attend law school.



Valerie Warkins graduated magna cum laude from Tulane in December 2021 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Neuroscience and will be completing her Masters in Neuroscience at Tulane by December 2022. Although her undergraduate research spanned many topics, her main research interests include the neural mechanism of sleep and attention disorders. Alongside research, Valerie is passionate about science communication and uses her free time to create content that showcases her research process via YouTube.



Ning Xi is a member of the graduating class of 2024, where she is pursuing a double degree in English and History with a minor in Sociology. She is a recipient of the Tulane University Merit Scholarship and is a member of the NTC University Scholars Program. Ning plans to attend graduate school after she completes her undergraduate studies.



Eshan Damle is a rising junior from Plano, TX majoring in Neuroscience and minoring in Psychology, Philosophy, and Cell & Molecular Biology in the Tulane Pathway to Medicine program at Tulane University. After graduation, he plans to attend medical school and engage in clinical research. He currently serves as the President of The Research Ambassadors and is passionate about increasing access to research and pre-health shadowing opportunities for undergraduate students. Eshan has been recognized at Tulane University for his scholarly work, having been awarded several NTC Dean's Grants and the Tulane Research and Innovation Award (TRIA), and for his leadership, having been awarded the 2022 Crest Emerging Student Leader Award.



Meenakshi Vijayaraghavan (supervising faculty for Damle et al.) is a Senior Professor of Practice at Tulane University who teaches Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology, Genetics, and Molecular Biology of Cancer. She offers service-learning options in her Intro course in the fall semester and Genetics course in the spring semester. She is a recipient of the Suzanne and Stephen Weiss Presidential Fellow Award, the Community Enrichment Award as well as the NTC Mussafer Faculty Partner Award. She enjoys drinking chai, listening to music, and reading good crime thrillers.



Nicola Anderson (Damle et al.) is a rising junior from Seattle, WA studying cell and molecular biology with minors in environmental studies and economics. Her involvements on campus include being a part of a cell and molecular biology research lab and serving as a campus ambassador through the Green Wave Ambassadors program. After graduation, she hopes to attend graduate school pursuing healthcare or environmental studies.



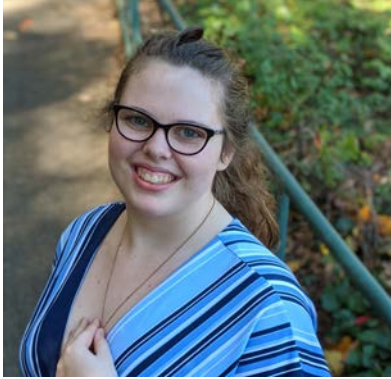
William Bai (Damle et al.) is a rising Tulane junior from San Jose, CA majoring in Cell and Molecular Biology. William currently works on evaluating biomarkers of the vaccine adjuvant dmLT in the Norton Lab at the Tulane Department of Microbiology and Immunology. As part of the group behind “Environmental Disasters and Water Quality: A Multifaceted Look into the Effects of Anthropogenic and Natural Disasters on Water Quality Metrics in Coastal Louisiana,” he organized and analyzed data taken from water samples after Hurricane Rita. His work yielded a model timeline for recovery of normal salinity levels in bayous following hurricanes.



Ysabelle Broderson (Damle et al.) is a rising junior at Tulane University, where she is pursuing a Bachelor's in Cell & Molecular Biology and Public Health. Following her graduation, she hopes to continue exploring infectious disease research and tropical medicine as a MSTP trainee. Currently, Ysabelle is studying Chagas Disease, a neglected tropical disease endemic to Central and Latin America. Additionally, she is a program coordinator for Trop-G, a consortium of research institutes in North and Central America that aims to control and eliminate neglected tropical diseases.



Lindsey Friedmann (Damle et al.) is a junior Honors student with a major in Public Health and minor in Liberal Arts Management. She plans to go to Physician Assistant School after college and work in emergency medicine.



Jordan Godfrey (Damle et al.) is from Maryville, TN. She is majoring in Cell and Molecular Biology with minors in Chemistry and Classics. She is also on the pre-med track.



Meagan Kelly (Damle et al.) will graduate in May 2023 with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering. At Tulane, she is a member of Phi Delta Epsilon Medical Fraternity and the Translational Biophotonics Laboratory. During her senior year, she will serve as Co-Captain of Tulane's Shockwave Dance Team and will work as a Teaching Assistant in a cadaver lab. After graduation, Meagan plans to attend medical school.



Yasmin Maurice (Damle et al.) is a rising junior from Phoenix, AZ. As a recipient of the Tulane Research and Innovation Award, she assists in biomedical engineering research for the Tissue Engineering and Microphysiological Systems (TEMPS) laboratory. She is majoring in neuroscience, and enjoys hiking, walking her 3 dogs, and traveling in her free time.



Grace Qian (Damle et al.) is a rising junior from Baton Rouge, LA, majoring in Neuroscience with minors in Anthropology, Music, and Psychology. She plans on attending medical school after graduation.



Sharhana Shrestha (Damle et al.) is a rising junior at Tulane University from Omaha, NE. She is majoring in Neuroscience on the pre-medical track.



Arjun Yusufji (Damle et al.) is a rising Tulane Junior from Shreveport, Louisiana. He is pursuing a Cell and Molecular Biology Major and a Strategy, Leadership and Analytics minor. Currently, Arjun works as a student researcher and volunteers with various organizations across New Orleans. He hopes to use the knowledge and opportunities he obtained from Tulane to give back to his home state of Louisiana.