

I am a junior Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering student serving as an interdisciplinary researcher with Dr. Siyuan Zhang. Our exciting work intersects fields of cancer biology and biomedical engineering by developing methods for medical imaging of the HER2 breast cancer tumor microenvironment that will ultimately aid in our society's fight for developing effective drug therapies against metastatic disease. There was a pivotal series of moments in my early Notre Dame career in which I came to believe in the value of applying my engineering studies to the medical field as a means of embodying our University's mission, namely to be an optimal, positive force for good in a world broken and in need of healing. The generosity of CUSE to support my research interests is allowing my inspired vision to become a reality. I am now realizing that my love for both exercising my faith through ministry to other souls as well as exercising my mind through innovative scientific discovery do not have to be mutually exclusive. Rather, I have confirmed that the desire for uniting my greatest joys can be realized by pursuing this call through graduate studies in biomedical engineering.