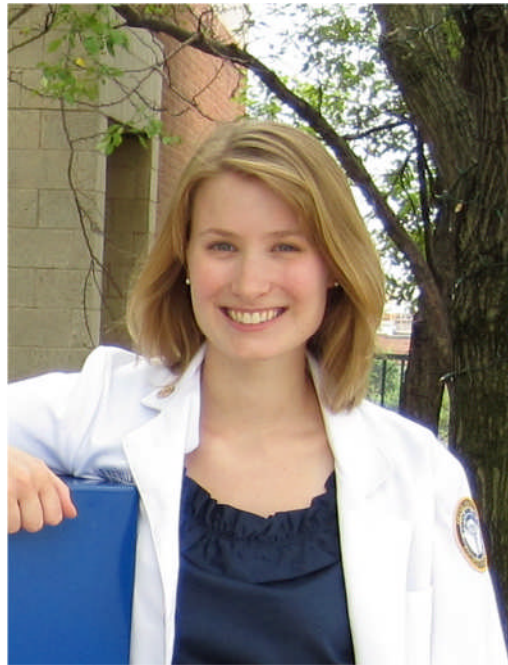


Sophia Estella "Stella" Philippopoulos



My interest in medicine evolved over many years, starting at Emmaus High School, Emmaus, PA, with my intense interest in science. The thought of pursuing medicine developed the summer of my junior year when I attended the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in Philadelphia. At The Pennsylvania State University I then pursued a degree in Life Science with a minor concentration in Biological Anthropology. I chose summer jobs and activities connected to the medical field; I assisted in oral surgery, became EMT certified, and performed clinical research. In particular, my internship at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pennsylvania opened the doors for insight into the doctor's world. Researching for two separate departments at LVH, the AIDS Activity Office and Center for Healthy Aging, I personally conducted surveys of geriatric HIV/AIDS patients to examine their level of functionality during day-to-day activities. Through this experience I learned the fundamentals of clinical research and was exposed to a variety of clinical settings.

After graduating in 2008, I spent a year at Hershey Medical Center researching ubiquitin-mediated proteolysis and its connection to cancer development and progression. I also spent time working as a "companion" in Assisted Living at Luthercare in Lititz, PA. My time at Luthercare further exposed me to geriatric care and enhanced my interest in geriatrics.

Along with the rigors of medical school I acted as President of Drexel's American Medical Women's Association 2010-11 to foster and enrich women's role in medicine. I am also a member of the Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia. I spent the summer between first and second year performing research at Johns Hopkins University along with the NIH on the effect of anemia on the level of energy and performance in the geriatric population. I presented my research at Drexel Med's Discovery Day 2010 and during the Presidential Poster Session at the American Geriatric Society's annual scientific meeting in National Harbor Maryland this May.

I look forward to working in the hospital the next two years of medical school. I hope to solidify my interest in internal medicine or family medicine as a specialty. As evidenced by my activities I also have a great interest in the geriatric population.