One of the biggest struggles that Christine had to overcome were her feelings of self-doubt. These feelings initially stopped her from being active on campus and made her second guess her success as a student. Christine has engaged the Binghamton University community as a tutor, a teaching assistant, and by holding leadership positions on campus organizations. Christine values tutoring students because she understands the importance of being a resource to others. As a teaching assistant for Chemistry III, Christine has the ability to teach students Chemistry in a manner that is quickly and easy understood. Lastly, in an effort to uplift other women of color, Christine joined the Powerful United Ladies Striving to Elevate (P.U.L.S.E.). This organization aims to uplift and support women of color in regards to issues important to them. She previously held the Fundraiser Chair position for this organization. Currently, she is the Fundraiser Chair for Pretty Girls Sweat, a national organization that is trying to become SA chartered on campus. Although Christine has accomplished so much on this campus, the encouragement of her friends, family, mentors and SSS staff helped Christine overcome these obstacles.

During her study-abroad experience, Christine noticed that hospital patients in Costa Rica were being treated ineffectively with medicine. This experience helped Christine determine that she wanted to pursue a career in biomedical research. Due to her experience, she wanted to find new effective ways to treat chronic issues that patients faced daily. Through the Nathan Schnaper Internship program, Christine was able to focus on cancer research. The program also gave her the ability to have a mentor to assist her in her research project. Through her mentor, Christine was able to learn about the array of research positions she could start her career in. This insight and guidance helped her understand that she valued developing treatments more than being a medical doctor.

Christine doubted her ability to go to graduate school. Overwhelmed with the idea, Christine was reluctant to apply because the task seemed enormous. Although she doubted her own ability to strive and obtain more, her mentor believed in her when she did not believe in herself. With the help of her mentor, Christine was able to be connected to people whom she could discuss graduate school with, and help prepare her for graduate school. Furthermore, through the support and encouragement of her friends, Christine has engaged the Binghamton University community in ways she did not imagine when she entered college.

Currently, Christine plans to join a Post-BAC program aimed to help students prepare for graduate school in the biomedical sciences. Although thoughts of self-doubt appear infrequently, Christine receives encouragement from her peers and family to continue on her journey.

Please congratulate Christine for being selected as our fourth Student Spotlight award winner. Congratulations Christine!