

“While we are still working on refining the estimates, it is very interesting to see how parental involvement can affect the academic performance of K-12 students. Eva and Olivia were students in my Economics of Education course last semester, and both of them expressed interest on pursuing their research over summer. Since both had coincidentally chosen a similar topic for their research papers last semester, we decided to work together over summer to further explore the topic and to write a paper together. Mentoring Eva and Olivia on this paper, and working with them as a co-author, was a rewarding experience. I enjoyed seeing their research skills grow over the summer. We hope to publish this paper in a peer-reviewed journal soon.” *Professor Chandini Sankaran.*

“Doing research with Professor Chandini Sankaran has been such an incredible and rewarding opportunity. I have had the ability to research and publish a paper with Professor Chandini and Eva on the effects of parental involvement on childhood academic performance. This is a topic that I am very passionate about, as not only does it spread awareness to parents on how much of a positive impact that they can make by being involved in their child’s academics, but it is also beneficial to schools that should encourage parents to help out and provide more opportunities for involvement. In our research, we found how volunteering, attending a PTO meeting, being on a committee, or even telling an elementary school aged child to read has a significant, positive impact on the probability of a child receiving mostly A’s in school. It is amazing to think that doing something as simple as telling a young child to read can impact their overall academic success, and that a parent becoming more involved in a child’s education can potentially make a lasting effect on that child’s life. I really enjoyed being able to increase awareness and add more research to this area!” *Olivia Sorrentino*

“It has been so rewarding working this summer as an Undergraduate Research Fellow for Professor Chandini Sankaran. Olivia and I both are passionate about parental involvement in K-12 education, and Professor Chandini approached us about working on a joint paper for publication. While the process was fast paced and extensive, it is so rewarding to publish something that I am so passionate about and has implications to students right now. Often, it is easy to get caught up in the BC life and the classes that you are taking but each student at BC has a passion. This summer I was able to explore mine through being a URF and continuing BC’s mission of being a woman for others!” *Eva Hernandez*