Advice
I advise students who are considering getting involved in research or a creative activity to not be afraid to reach out to professors or ambassadors for help. It is important to realize that everyone at Chapman is more than willing to assist you in finding out what interests you. You should put yourself out there and reach out to the people who are in your field of interest to help guide you to success! This also applies to students wanting to apply for a prestigious fellowship/scholarship, the center for undergraduate excellence is more than happy to assist you with the process.

Current Research
My research focuses on developing a vaccine that can both prevent and treat cancers caused by the carcinogenic Herpes Virus known as Epstein Barr Virus (EBV). EBV infects more than 90% of the human population and is the leading cause of infectious mononucleosis. EBV is likely to cause cancer in infected subjects with a suppressed immune system. Developing a vaccine for EBV entails the use of molecular cloning to allow us to genetically modify a virus known as Modified Vaccinia Virus Ankara (MVA) so that we may inject it into humans and cause our immune cells to become infected by the MVA. As a result the immune cells release virus like particles (VLP) that elicit an immune response to EBV therefore granting the human immunity to EBV and its carcinogenic factors.