“\nI have always been drawn to the sciences and so it was the unparalleled opportunities for undergraduate research that succeeded in luring me from Florida to Michigan. It turns out that I made an excellent choice. I now feel confident in my ability to pursue a career researching treatments for diseases, thanks to the knowledge, skills and experience that I’ve gained at MSU. \n”

JACOB GIBSON
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology ‘16

College of Natural Science
2014-15 Dean’s Research Scholar
A conversation with Jacob…

What is the societal impact of your research: Biofilms-based infections are tolerant to antibiotics and difficult to eradicate. The compounds that are identified in this research will greatly improve treatments for chronic infections and wounds associated with biofilms such as those prevalent among diabetics and cystic fibrosis patients.

How has your undergraduate experience been impacted by this research opportunity: My research experiences are definitely the highlight of my time at MSU. I have been able to learn so much and I feel much more prepared for graduate school and my future career as a result of them.

What is something you never expected at MSU: Even on this huge campus with tens of thousands of students, you run into people you know surprisingly often.

People who have inspired you: My parents have always been a great inspiration for how I live my life. Their encouragement and support throughout my life has made me the person I am and gotten me to this point.

Book you’d recommend: I would recommend The Clan of the Cave Bear by Jean Auel. This is a great fiction book about cave people and their society.

Best invention: Airplanes are the best invention because I love to travel and I can’t imagine having to take days, weeks or months to get somewhere that you can fly to in hours.

Favorite food: My favorite food is salmon, no question. I would eat salmon every day if I could.

Person you’d most like to meet, living or dead: I think it would be awesome to meet a rider in the Tour de France to ask what it’s like physically and mentally to perform at that level.

Major research breakthrough of the next decade: I think that organ transplant patients will be able to have organs grown specifically for them.

What are some of your favorite MSU memories: Most of favorite MSU memories probably take place in the lab, doing something really cool and hanging out with fellow lab members.