“...I have been interested in animals for my whole life and when asked, ‘What do you want to be when you grow up?’ in second grade, I already knew I wanted to be a zoologist. When applying to college, I looked at many universities, but something about MSU struck me and my decision was made. My undergraduate experience has been enhanced by the opportunity to do research which makes me feel like I’m getting the absolute most out of my time at MSU.”

SARAH MACLACHLAN
Zoology ’16
A conversation with Sarah...

What is the societal impact of your research: We hope to understand complex cooperative behavior and how emotions and communication are involved. Once we thoroughly understand the behavior in the hyena model, we can apply our knowledge to help create therapies for people with cooperative, communicative or emotional problems.

How has your undergraduate experience been impacted by this research opportunity: My undergraduate experience has been enhanced by my experience in research. I'm learning many hands-on skills that will be useful for the future. My research makes me feel like I'm getting the absolute most out of my time at MSU.

What is something you never expected at MSU: I never expected to make so many friends and meet so many wonderful people outside my major.

Coolest gadget: Anything from Apple.

Book you'd recommend: Welcome to the Monkey House by Kurt Vonnegut.

Person who inspires you: All women in science who are successful and are helping to open up the field of science to women are inspirational to me.

Favorite food: Indian food!

Person you'd most like to meet, living or dead: Jane Goodall.

Major research breakthrough of the next decade: Human cloning.

What are some of your favorite MSU memories: Football games and winning the Big Ten championship as well as winning the Rose Bowl!