

“I came to Marshall because of its diverse student body. There were people around me that understood my culture and that made me feel comfortable. While also being in a small university, this gave me the great experience of interacting with professors and joining many organizations that I might have not had the chance to do anywhere else,” said Sara Alasttal of Jerusalem, Palestine.

Majoring in biology with a pre-med emphasis, Sara expects to graduate in the fall of 2020 and hopes to attend the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. She is excited to learn as much as she can about biology because it is her favorite subject, and said that Dr. Kenneth O’Connor, associate professor of chemistry, is her favorite because of the help he provides his students, even after they have completed his courses.

Sara’s favorite place on the Huntington campus is the Memorial Student Center because it is lively with students and activities. She describes it as “the heart of Marshall,” and believes campus is special because of its beauty and proximity to various locations.

“Campus is unique from any other campus because of our beautiful Memorial Fountain made to honor the lives lost in the tragic plane accident,” said Sara. “Marshall is so intertwined with the community of Huntington, making the students feel they are a part of something bigger than just their university. I love how involved Marshall is with everything that happens in the town and the history of Marshall is truly unique, making it a place proud to be in.”

Actively involved on campus, Sara is a member of the Muslim Student Organization, where she serves as secretary. She is a senator in the Student Government Association and recently joined the sorority Delta Zeta.

According to Sara, alumni should give back to help improve the opportunities they had and to keep their alma mater strong for future generations.

“Hopefully the campus will have even more programs to recruit students through and have a large, diverse student body. I see Marshall as the same beautiful campus, but with new technology and more areas for students to spend time together, like the Memorial Student Center.”



Fun Facts

Name: Sara Alasttal

Class of 2020

Hometown: Jerusalem, Palestine

Major: Biology with a pre-med emphasis

Favorite color: Purple

Textbooks or eBooks:
Textbooks

Favorite thing about Huntington: My favorite thing about Huntington is how tightly knit the community is. Everyone is willing to help other people. The city itself is small and beautiful. It felt like home away from home when I first moved here.

Favorite spot off campus:
Pullman Square