

Olivia Burns

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EDUCATION

University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

B.S. Biology, Pre-Vet Track, December 2016

- **Related Courses:** Oceanography, Environmental Policy, Wildlife Management, Organismal Biology, Wildlife Ecology, Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, Ethical Biology, Swahili, French
- **Honors & Awards:** Achieved Dean's List four consecutive years, Received USD Alcalá Merit Scholarship, Member of the Honors Program
- **3.8 GPA**

School for Field Studies, Rhotia, Tanzania

Fall 2015

CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE

Climate Change and Biodiversity, School for Field Studies Student, Rhotia, Tanzania September 2015-December 2015

- Directed a group as their elected leader through a research project on human responses to climate change and the responses' effects on biodiversity, sponsored by World Wildlife Foundation
- Designed and executed environmentally-mindful research techniques to obtain data and personal narratives
- Shared research results and collaborated on possible solutions with an audience of 200 that included Tanzanian government officials, Karatu District officials, WMA leaders, fellow researchers, and residents

Switchgrass as a Sustainable Biofuel, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

January 2016-May 2016

- Examined switchgrass, a contemporary biofuel, and its resistances to various stresses
- Designed, executed and presented a sideline research project on switchgrass salt tolerance to aid a professor's current exploration of the plant's uses as a sustainable biofuel

Conservation Guest Speaker, Holy Family Catholic School, ID & Gonzaga Preparatory High School, WA

Winter 2015

- Presented on my experience in conservation research to middle school and high school students
- Advocated for early ownership of and action to better our impact on the environment

TEACHING/TUTORING EXPERIENCE

Athletic Tutor, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

September 2014-Present

- Instruct 4 students a semester in biology, chemistry, and philosophy introductory and upper division courses
- Teach and challenge athletes to fulfill high academic standards of the USD student-athlete community

Teaching Assistant Organic Chemistry Lab, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

Spring 2016

- Assisted 16 students in laboratory procedures, techniques and concepts

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Pi Beta Phi Sorority Member, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

February 2015-Present

- Serve as New Member Educator, mentoring and guiding 30 new members on the values of our organization
- Active member of the Arrow Board, which works on morale and member satisfaction through programs and events
- Partake in philanthropy events centered around improving literacy and actively performing community service
- Build relationships with the community based on core Pi Beta Phi values of integrity, honesty, and friendship

Retreat Leader, Monte Marie, Tijuana, MX & University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

April 2013-Present

- Plan and coordinate the annual fall freshman retreat which assists 70+ first year students in transitioning to college
- Lead the annual summer mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico supervising and mentoring 15 high school participants
- Build relationships with retreat team members and freshman throughout the year

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Veterinary Assistant, Mountain View Vet Clinic, Coeur d'Alene, ID & Companion Pet Clinic, Salem, OR

Summer 2011-2016

- Assisted doctors with patient care for routine check-ups and surgeries
- Built relationships with both owners and patients
- Maintained clean and organized facilities

Lifeguard, Ray and Joan Kroc Center, Coeur D'Alene, ID

Summer 2012 & 2013

- Ensured complete safety and quality service for patrons
- CPR, AED, First Aid certified

ACTIVITIES

Triathlete and Marathoner, Coeur d'Alene, ID & Seattle, WA

May 2011-Present

Women's Crew Athlete Division I, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

August 2013-May 2014

Mortar Board Member Honors Society, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

March 2015-Present

Chapel Choir Member, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

January 2016-Present