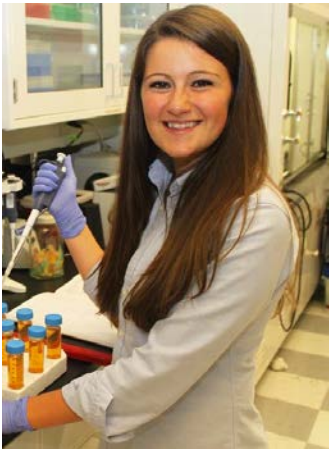


## Laurie Bracaglia

### AY 2015-16 All-S.T.A.R. Fellow

A. James Clark School of Engineering  
Fischell Department of Bioengineering  
Fourth year doctoral student, TA



Ms. Laura (Laurie) Bracaglia is a PhD student working on tissue engineering cardiovascular prosthetics under the mentorship of Dr. John Fisher. Laurie's research has led to 4 conference presentations, an invention disclosure to the University, and a first author paper for which she was awarded The Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. Outstanding Student Award. Her proposal to continue this research was since selected by the Women's Committee of the Washington DC Chapter of the American Heart Association for a Predoctoral Fellowship.

Laurie also served as a teaching assistant for the bioengineering undergraduate Modeling Physiological Systems and Laboratory course. She led the re-design of the laboratory portion of the class, by establishing new, hand's-on labs, and writing laboratory assignments, associated lectures, and modeling exercises. She was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award for her efforts during this first semester. The following semester, Laurie worked to design and teach the department's first educational live-animal experiment to model signal transduction and muscle contraction. The impact of these labs is described in student evaluations, "Labs from BIOE340 is probably the best and only way I learned how to use MATLAB, even though we have to take a class on [MATLAB] second year." Finally, Laurie acts as key ambassador of the graduate program to recruit students for bioengineering graduate study, and serves as a Vice President on the Bioengineering Graduate Student Society. Based on her success in research and teaching and her contributions to the department, Ms. Bracaglia exemplifies the concept of a Graduate All-S.T.A.R. fellow.