



### **My Summer as an Intern for STRIDE**

I didn't know what to expect when I came to STRIDE. I'm a rising junior studying chemical engineering, have only taken one chemistry lab course in college, and never had a job related to my field of study. Yet, throughout this internship, I developed practical experience and a deeper knowledge about the opportunities chemical engineering has to offer. Starting off, my responsibilities included preparing samples, running analytical tests on materials, and analyzing the results at UD's AMCL. Doing these tasks taught me how to characterize materials and evaluate their various properties. Ultimately, I was able to take the lead on one of STRIDE's new projects, which involved making and testing polymer films. Taking part in each step of this process, I gained valuable experience in method development, film casting, and the analysis of polymer films. This internship will be invaluable upon graduation due to the skills and knowledge I gained. Additionally, the network of professionals with whom I worked will provide excellent resources as I search for a job upon graduation.

-Jacqueline L.