

## Senior Profile

# Meet your president

By Mary Lewe  
Editor in Chief

Student government association president and senior women's soccer captain Audrey Cardwell has been active on Brevard College's campus since her arrival as a freshman. From her work with the Brevard College Dimensions Club, known less formally as the math club, to her service as a student ambassador for three years, Cardwell seems to have a knack for just about everything, but you wouldn't know it based on her humility.

Her first year on campus, she anticipated taking an intro course in mathematics, but somehow her schedule was changed to include Calculus II. "It was the first class I ever stepped into at college," Cardwell said, "it was terrifying."

Despite her initial fears, she was successful and is now double majoring in math and environmental studies. She has even worked as a tutor for high school students struggling with topics in math.

While Cardwell's math major came to her as a result of that scheduling mishap, her environmental studies major was born out of a trip to Costa Rica with professor Maureen Drinkard. The brief experience studying abroad helped her to find a passion for learning about nature, but it did not satisfy her desire to learn

in other parts of the world.

"That [studying abroad] has been a goal of mine since I came to college, even in high school I knew I wanted to study abroad," Cardwell said. She is currently in the late stages of planning a study abroad experience during this coming spring semester, during which she would live and work on a sailboat collecting climate data between New Zealand and Tahiti.

As student government president, Cardwell's main goal has been to increase student involvement with SGA. "We have a lot of committees doing small things to boost morale around campus," she said. "One thing we're working on is having someone play music on an Aux cord in the dining hall on Saturday nights to try to encourage people to stay on campus during the weekend."

Cardwell had her start with SGA by serving as Speaker of the Clubs for two years prior to her acceptance of the presidency. "Each year we had a different president, so I got to see two different styles and formed my own ideas and goals for what I would want to do as president," Cardwell said.

When she's not on the field with the women's soccer team, or in a meeting for SGA or the Dimensions Club Cardwell has been working on her senior project, which combines aspects

of both of her majors to investigate honey bee foraging and graph theory.

"Essentially, honey bees are known to be very efficient in many parts of their lives," Cardwell said, "from the structure of their hives to their caste system in which they have worker bees and a queen bee."

"I was curious to see if, given the chance, would they forage in the most efficient way," she said.

Like all great scientists and artists, Cardwell has suffered for her work, and was sporting a red patch on her arm from a honeybee sting during her interview.

"It doesn't hurt," Cardwell said. Always showing her toughness and perseverance, Cardwell also listed her experience during Voice of the Rivers in May 2018 as an important and formative experience during her time at Brevard College. "I made some of my best friends, people I probably wouldn't have met otherwise," she said about her VOR experience.

Despite having a variety of interests, Cardwell has maintained a high standard for herself in all areas of life. With academic achievements, leadership roles and big dreams for her future, Cardwell displays the characteristics of not just a great leader, but also an excellent athlete, caring classmate and loyal friend.



Courtesy of Audrey Cardwell

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Cardwell (right) with teammate and friend Erica Zuffery.