You will find a problem you can't wait to solve, *and it will keep you up some nights.*

For sophomore **SWETA KARLEKAR** that means developing a computer program to analyze patients' speech and detect lost vocabulary words, an early sign of Alzheimer's disease. As a part of Professor Mohit Bansal's research team, Sweta hopes her program will one day help identify and treat Alzheimer's disease earlier.

Detecting lost vocabulary words is the focus of your research. What's the one word you'd never want to forget?

My parents have been calling me "sona" since I was a child so it holds a special place in my heart. Sona is the Hindi word for gold, but it's also used as an endearing term toward the people closest to you. To me, it holds the meaning of family, which I hope to always remember.

We know that 60% of Carolina undergraduates conduct research. How did you find your opportunity?

I got in touch with Dr. Bansal to ask a few questions about his research and our conversation turned into my job interview. Being mentored by Dr. Bansal has been challenging and rewarding. My first semester was full of trial and error on how to balance everything. Dr. Bansal reminds me of the impact of my research – how every project I work on opens doors to graduate school and future job opportunities.