

THE ACADEMY
OF NATURAL SCIENCES
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103



ALL
WINS

Member's Night - Friday, September 12th, 5:00pm to 9:00pm
Low & High Ropes Team Building at College Settlement Camp
Friday, September 20th - 9:00am to 4:00pm
Holiday Get-Together - Wednesday, December 17th - 4:00 to 6:00pm

Dates to Remember

WINS I

First Day of Fall Session
Wednesday, September 10th:
4:00pm to 5:30pm

Field Trip! Bronx Zoo
Saturday, October 4th - Meet at the
Academy at 8:00am, back by 7:00pm

Field Trip! Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Saturday, November 1st - Meet at the
Academy at 8:00am, back by 4:00pm

**Field Trip! America Museum of
Natural History**
Saturday, December 6th - Meet at the
Academy at 8:00am, back by 7:00pm

WINS II

**Workshop - EPA: Who are we and
what do we do?**
Thursday, September 18th
4:30pm to 6:00pm

Workshop - Going to College
Thursday, October 9th:
4:30pm to 6:00pm

Botany / Chocolate Exhibit
Saturday, October 11th OR
Sunday, October 12th
10:00am to 5:00pm

College Tour! New England
October 23rd to 26th
Thursday 5:00pm to Sunday 6:00pm

**Workshop - Biomimicry or "How can
a butterfly help you charge your cell
phone?"**
Thursday, November 20th 4:30 to 6:00pm

WINS Newsletter

Editor
Betsy Payne

Contributors
Kiambi Bruce
Monique Edwards

**Send your comments or
questions to:**
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All activities are
rain or shine!

Please let
Ms. Betsy know
if you cannot
make it to an
activity
beforehand.

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**Women In Natural
Sciences (WINS)** is an
innovative and successful
science enrichment
program conducted by
the Academy of Natural
Sciences of Drexel Uni-
versity in collaboration
with the School District
of Philadelphia. Since its
founding in 1982, WINS
has been providing
female public school
students with hands-on
science classes, scientific
literacy and skill-building
activities, and opportuni-
ties for personal growth
in a uniquely nurturing
setting.

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WINS Newsletter

VOLUME I I ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 2014

Conference opportunity

I love that WINS gives every girl in the program the opportunity to travel to places and do things we wouldn't have done on our own. Last summer I got to intern with Ned Gilmore who works in the vertebrate zoology department. During my time working with Ned I tagged and cataloged specific amphibians and reptiles. Because of the internship, I was given the opportunity to travel to Chattanooga, Tennessee to attend the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists along with another WINS Intern, Mary-Janat Kamagate, who worked in the Ichthyology department.

When I first thought about going to this big conference full of graduate students, professors and people with more than a general knowledge of fish and reptiles I was a little frightened. Each talk was about 15 minutes and I didn't think

that was enough time to explain an entire research project. I knew we had to attend a lot of talks and I did not know if I was going to understand what people were presenting to us.

For me, the most interesting talks were about how different reptiles or amphibians adapted to different environmental or predatorial changes. There was one talk presented by a couple who conducted research on the responses of anoles to different species of fire ants and it was one my favorite talks. I also enjoyed hearing the pros and cons of long distance translocation for different snakes. One speaker concluded that for an endangered rattlesnake translocation is the best way to keep that animal safe. On the other hand, another speaker concluded that translocation for bamboo pit vipers is not a reliable source to keep the snake safe. While moving through different sessions I found the more complex talks were about fish. Sometimes researchers had to start with embryos and the projects were long term. Some speakers had special programs to analyzed their data with and if you were not familiar with it you wouldn't understand it.

But overall I am glad I got to experience a conference like this. It gave me insight to what people in the ichthyology and herpetology field actually study and how it can sometimes relate to our everyday lives.

Kiambi Bruce, WINS II Senior

Kiambi Bruce (left) and Mary-Janat Kamagate traveled to the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologist in Chattanooga, TN as part of their WINS Internships.



Meet the WINS Coordinator

Kimberly Godfrey joined the WINS family in July of 2014 as the new WINS coordinator. She received her Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL. For the past ten years, she coordinated and instructed various education programs for the Philadelphia Zoo, including teen programs and summer camps.



Kimberly Godfrey, the WINS Coordinator, enjoys exploring and learning from the Academy's vast collections of specimens.

Kimberly was born and raised in Philadelphia, but was sent to Milton Hershey School in 7th grade to complete her education in an environment away from family and neighborhood struggles. During her high school years, she interned with the Hershey Park Aquatheater and the former Camden Aquarium. Upon graduation, she went to Florida to pursue her dream of becoming a Marine Biologist, where she participated in local manatee and dolphin research programs. While her love for marine critters is still evident, it turns out she enjoys teaching youth just as much.

She is proud to be a Philly girl (come by and check out her Phillies-themed desk sometime!) and wants to inspire young Philadelphia women to strive for success in whatever path they choose. "There may not be a more perfect place for me to be right now than the WINS program. As a Philadelphia native, I was completely unaware of these local opportunities until someone opened my eyes to the possibilities. I want to do the same for these young ladies, using nature as my tool. I am excited by the possibilities my new position has to offer, and I look forward to the opportunity to truly make a difference in the lives of so many promising young adults!"

Betsy Payne, WINS Manager

Alumnae - Let's WORK IT!!!

Career Wardrobe has joined WINS to present a day of activities about networking for alumnae that are about to graduate, are out looking for a job, or are in transitions between jobs. Join us for **Work it!**

in December 2014 and learn about networking and how to present yourself in a professional manner. There are only 25 spaces available - so stay tuned for details in our next newsletter!



September

1st - Gere Johnson
2nd - Barana Jean
6th - Daysha Davis
10th - Imani Jackson
28th - Cecile Smith

October

2nd - Alicia Vazquez
5th - Grace James
5th - Bunga Octaviano
19th - Amna Al-Sulaimani
30th - Hanaa Belgrave

November

7th - Sandy Tang
17th - Kajae Pannell
18th - DaiJzanae Martinez
18th - Ti'anna Cooper
22nd - Naignae Starnes
30th - Jewel Walker

Happy Birthday!

Beyond WINS

Before starting my freshman year of college, I was already thinking about applying for summer internships. Since I am a Biology/Pre-Med major, I wanted something that was science-related instead of just a regular 9 to 5 job. I wanted an opportunity to gain new experiences during the summer as well as give me a head start before going back to school.

I applied to the Biology internships on the announcement boards, but most of the internships were in D.C., Maryland, Atlanta, and Texas. It was already a big adjustment being in the South where the pace is slower and the culture is different, so I wanted to be close to home for the summer. As weeks went by, I started receiving emails back asking about my interest in the internships, but honestly, due to location, I wasn't interested at all. I spoke to my advisor and told her about this great internship I had at the USDA through the WINS program in 2012. She advised me to look into internship opportunities there, so I did.

That day I received an email from Ms. Betsy, the WINS manager with a link to the USDA for summer internships. I thought, "This is perfect timing." I applied to them and then I contacted Dr. Moreau, my mentor from 2012, as well as Dr. Paul, who is in charge of the WINS-FWP (Federal Women's Program) outreach program. I got a response from both of them within that same day. I was beyond thrilled because I haven't stopped thinking of getting back to the USDA since my internship ended.



Monique Edwards working on seed germination as part of a study at her internship at the USDA in summer 2012.



Monique Edwards, sitting under the sign at the USDA - ERRC along with this year's USDA interns (counter clockwise from top left) Mahogany Davison, Betty Louis, DaiJzanae Martinez and Jada Parris.

This summer I worked with Dr. Paul in the Dairy and Functional Foods Research Unit (DFFRU) where we were working to overexpress and isolate the protein BlpU (which is a potential bacteriocin, a kind of antibiotic). I have learned to work with bacteria like *Streptococcus thermophilus* and *Escherichia coli*, and learned techniques like sub-cloning genes, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), making and running DNA and protein gels, and making media for growing bacterial cultures.

Overall this was a truly educational and exciting experience. I feel like I've accomplished so much being here and by being given certain assignments by Dr. Paul. I've gained more confidence in the lab because she trusted me with tasks like running gels and columns to purify proteins, etc. I feel like I will be a help to my peers as well when I have labs during my next semester at school because of the all experiences I had.

I am excited to go back to school to continue my journey to a rewarding career. But I am sad that my internship had to end; I always enjoy my time at the USDA. I am so grateful to the WINS program for providing me with the opportunity to work at the USDA in high school and for continuing to send me opportunities now that I am an alumna. I look forward to returning in the future for more research opportunities.

Monique Edwards, WINS Alumna