

THE ACADEMY
OF NATURAL SCIENCES
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103



Dates to Remember...

ALL WINS

“Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel - Thursday, March 19th 4:00pm to 6:00pm
Senior Farewell - Wednesday, May 27th 4:30pm to 6:30pm

WINS I

Field Trip! - Spring Recess trip to Delaware Aquatic Education Resource Center
Tuesday, March 31st at 4:30pm to
Friday April 3rd to 12:00pm

Field Trip! - Lady Maryland
Saturday, May 2nd 7:30am to 6:00pm

Field Trip! - “Cape to Cape” overnight camping trip
Saturday, May 16th from 7:30am to
Sunday, May 17th at 4:00pm

WINS II

Field Trip! - College of Physicians
Saturday, March 7th 9:45am to 1:00pm

Field Trip! - Marine Mammal Stranding Network & Aqua NJ Facilities
Saturday, April 11th 8:00am to 4:00pm

Workshop: Intern Presentations
Thursday, April 16th 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Field Trip! - Stroud Water Research Center
Saturday, May 9th 9:00am to 4:00pm

WINS Newsletter

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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 University 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 opportunities for personal growth in a uniquely nurturing setting.

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Betty Louis

WINS Newsletter

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

MARCH 2015

Senior Trip 2015



Betty Louis (left) and Mary-Janat Kamagate (right) bundled up ready to brave the PEEC winter outdoors in the WINS senior trip.

We arrived at PEEC and I was flooded with flashbacks of when we were here as rising freshman. Everything from the texture of the building to the dampness of the grass was exactly as we left it, except for one thing - Us. PEEC was no longer a vast land filled with excitement, scary stories, and wonders that we had yet to figure out. PEEC was now our hideout; the place in WINS where we could leave all our stress and worries of school, home and work behind and enjoy ourselves along with the company of each other.

During and after our many activities, instructors informed us that our intelligence and experience was the reasoning behind our success in the activities. Though those factors play a part I believe our success was because

of the harmony and collaboration we had with one another. We worked as a team with no difficulties, strategizing on what move to do next together, and making sure everyone's voice was heard. This also became the ignition to our constant laughter and precious moments during the trip.

Our last night at PEEC, we sat down in a circle and reminisced. We reminisced on how it felt to apply for WINS, compared and contrasted what our lives would be without WINS, and spoke on the powerful messages WINS left us with. Slowly, yet so quickly the tension and the emotion in the room shifted. What would our lives like be without WINS to take us in when we had no place to go, guide and educate us, give us second chances when we fell? Departing, I realized WINS will always be a part of us from the lessons taught that we took home with us to the sisters we found. WINS built and made us into true women of natural sciences.

Betty Louis, WINS II



The graduating WINS II class of 2015 in their senior trip to PEEC. From left: Sandy Tang, Alyssa Fairfax, Michelle Huynh, Betty Louis, Kiambi Bruce, Tiffany Neely, Mahogany Davison and Mary-Janat Kamagate.

Invitation to “Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel

Our annual “Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel for 2015 is on Thursday, March 19th from 4:00 to 6:00pm at the Academy's auditorium. This marks our 6th annual get-together with our current WINS and the

ladies that came before them and are willing to share their stories about their experience in life and WINS. Do come and reminisce! Please RSVP to Betsy Payne at (215) 299-1064 or at payne@ansp.org.

Work it! An alumna's perspective

December 29th started off a little rainy, a little dreary, but very promising. Upon arriving to Career Wardrobe we started with a sign in and then breakfast. It was great to be able to catch up with several classes of WINS alumnae. We were all gearing up for what we hoped to be an informative and insightful day. Secretly we all had our fingers crossed that the day would not turn out boring or too drawn out. The program was so well formatted that the time ended up flying away.

The first session began with a fabulous speaker, Chyenne Palma Dominguez from Femprofessionals, about how to present ourselves while networking and ensuring that we understood how important it is to always put your best face forward, no matter the situation. The last thing you want to do when meeting new people, which she mentioned women have a tendency of doing, is vent about problems or issues. This can appear as if the person cannot handle problems or difficulties at work or in life. The lesson to be learned is that you want people to perceive you as someone who can take care of business and can handle whatever issues may come your way.



Angelique Seth (on right) networking with Femprofessionals Chyenne Palma Dominguez (on left) and WINS Alumna Marissa Pinder.

The highlight of the day for me was our second session on how to efficiently use LinkedIn, presented by Susan Tabor-Kleiman. To me it was an 'ah-ha' moment. As someone who is in the midst of a job search, I received

very relevant answers to two questions that I had been struggling with: 1. Should I have a LinkedIn account? and 2. How do I set it up appropriately? I found it enlightening to know that employers look for a LinkedIn profile as part of the hiring process. Also, that it could potentially give you a leg up when looking for new opportunities through connections made through LinkedIn.



WINS Alumna Kerienne Huggins, on left, getting some pointers from a Career Wardrobe volunteer on how to maximize her LinkedIn account.

I always thought LinkedIn was a platform to show your resume, instead it should be viewed as a way to showcase your potential to other professionals. Learning about some of the little tricks and nuances that people overlook when setting up their account was also very useful. Such as the personalizing of your LinkedIn web page link or turning off the update settings so that every change you make to your profile shows up on all of your connections news feeds.

Which brings me to the highlight for most of the ladies - our mini makeover and headshot to be used for LinkedIn. We all had the opportunity to have our hair and make-up done by professionals. My fellow alumnae were amazed at the transformation, especially of Betsy and myself. None of the WINS alumnae had seen us in make-up before. There were quite a few shrieks and 'Oh my God's', heard from some of my fellow WINS. (cont. pg. 3)



MARCH: 20th - Faatimat Sylla 29th - Destiny Samuels

30th - Lyrata Branche

APRIL: 3rd - Yasmeen Taylor 7th - Helen Jiang

21st - Michelle Huynh 27th - Chelsea Middlebrooks

30th - Samiha Tahsin 30th - Chaniyah Johnson

MAY: 12th - Jaideh Murray

Work it! (cont.)

The headshots were amazing the process was simple, the photographer and his assistant were marvelous. The editing process began immediately after the shots were taken and Wow! - we were thoroughly impressed.

To wrap the day up we had the opportunity to network with each other and some other friendly faces from the Academy and Career Wardrobe. It was a wonderfully informative experience and a great way to catch up with old friends. I leave you with this quote from Maya Angelou to sum up the lessons learned from the day, "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."



Angelique Seth getting ready for her photo shoot and the finished head shot, courtesy of the WINS Alumnae activity Work It!

Angelique Seth, WINS 1995-1999

My WINS Experience

The WINS program is working with the National Museum of Mongolia in a Museums Connect grant from the American Alliance of Museums in conjunction with the US Department of State. The project, *Cultural Repercussions of Climate Change in Two Communities: A Teenager's Viewpoint* intends to focus on the themes of culture, water and food, and how it relates to our youth. For more information, visit the link: <http://www.anspblog.org/teen-exchange-on-climate-change/> The following is one of the participants impressions of the program.

About 7 months ago, I was chosen as one of the 15 WINS to participate in "The Cultural Repercussion of Climate Change in Two Communities: A Teenage Viewpoint" (CRCC) program, between the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University and the National Museum of Mongolia. When I first opened the envelope and I had read the first sentence saying "Dear Linda: Congratulations! You have been chosen as one of the 15 WINS to participate in CRCC program" I was thrilled and wanted to start right away.

What is even more interesting is that before this program, I had no idea that Mongolia even existed. Considering just that, this program is giving me the opportunity to learn more about another country. Not only that, but 5 out of the 15 girls will get chosen to travel to Mongolia in July. That's just remarkable. This gives us a great opportunity to travel and experience a new place. Throughout these few months, I have talked to my pen pal in Mongolia, Sainbileg Gankhuyag and learned more about her culture. I found out that even though we live 6,434 miles away from each other, we have so many things in common; at first I thought that we would be totally different because we live in two different worlds, but I stand corrected. As a matter of fact, we have so many things in common such as sharing the same love towards some shows, music, games and etc. But we also had different traditions and celebration which was fun to share. The fun part is getting to learn more about her culture, while also sharing my culture with her.

During February, the CRCC participants got an invitation from Mrs. Tuya to celebrate the Mongolian Lunar New Year at her house and it was so much fun. We got the chance to try some of their traditional food such as a dish known as *buuz* and it was mouthwatering! We also got to try on some of their traditional clothing and view some magazines, books, and pictures of Mongolia. We even got to Skype with one of the girls in Mongolia. At the end of the celebration, we exchanged gifts because it is a tradition for Mongolians to give presents to show their gratitude. Overall, the Mongolian Lunar New Year party was very fun because I got to spend time with my friends and learn about a new celebration.

Throughout these 7 months, I learned a lot about Mongolia and their traditions. I made a great friend with a teenage girl 6,434 miles away from me. I would not have ever thought I would be doing something this breathtaking a year ago. It is just so unbelievable that we get to do these astonishing things and also having the opportunity to travel to Mongolia, I now cannot wait for the 5 Mongolian girls to come to Philadelphia and spend some time with us. I would really love to teach them more about Philadelphia. I could not have done all these thrilling things without WINS; it has become my second family. I consider myself and the other girls so lucky to be in this amazing program.



Linda Gutierrez
WINS II

Linda Gutierrez wearing traditional Mongolian dress during the celebration of the Mongolian Lunar New Year.