SAS Undergraduate Student Award 2014

Staci Herman, a native of Genoa, Ohio, was nominated for the SAS Undergraduate Student Award by her research advisor; Dr. Mary Kate Donais. She will be completing her B.A. in Chemistry at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire in May 2014. She has made Dean's List all 4 years and received the 2013 American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry. Staci is currently conducting her undergraduate research thesis work under a grant sponsored by the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) with advisor Dr. Mary Kate Donais. The work involves the qualitative and quantitative spectroscopic determination of heavy metals in zebra mussels in order to compare the environments in Lake Erie and New Hampshire rivers and streams. Her efforts, a result of her own project proposal, involves the use if X-Ray Fluorescence, Inductively Coupled Plasma – Optical Emission Spectrometry, and multivariate statistical analysis of her results for these efforts. As reasons for her deserving the award, Staci's nomination letter cited her outstanding motivation, intelligence, attention to detail, and her steadfast determination, where her efforts often more than doubled the time required of her research courses. Upon graduation, Staci will be attending the University of Cincinnati where she will be working toward her Ph.D. in analytical chemistry.