



AAUW Triad Tech Savvy - Find Your STEM High School Conference 2019 for girls

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**2018 *FIND YOUR STEM CONFERENCE* POSTER
PRESENTERS GIVE UPDATES ON THEIR STEM STUDIES
AND CAREERS PROGRESS.**

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of blue and grey, creating a modern, abstract design.

FEBRUARY 16, 2019

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN GREENSBORO BRANCH
PO Box 10754, Greensboro, NC 27404

At the *Find Your STEM Conference* on February 10, 2018, ten high school seniors and college women presented posters which offered significant information, guidance, and encouragement for the younger students in attendance at the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. We are proud to share their narratives on what the past year has meant.

Who and where they were in 2018:

Shyree Anderson, North Carolina A&T State University, sophomore,
Architectural Engineering

Jessica Ayivi, Bennett College, BA Chemistry

Aleah Brown, Northern Guilford High School, senior

Amesha Green, North Carolina A&T State University, sophomore,
Biomedical Engineering

Peijia Ku, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Ph.D. Candidate in
Environmental Health Science

Katelyn Miller, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, PhD Candidate
in Environmental Health Science

Melika Osareh, Triad Math and Science Academy High School, senior

Sarah Overstreet, Guilford College, senior, Physics and Mathematics

Brianna Smith, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Post
Baccalaureate, Chemistry; Pre-Dental

Alessia Carmen Stewart, North Carolina A&T State University, sophomore,
Bioengineering

Persia Ghotbi-Taheri, STEM Early College at A&T, senior

Aaliyah Wynn, Eastern Guilford High School-Gibsonville, NC, senior

Who and where they are now in 2019:

Here, in their own words, are updates on our 2018 STEM path poster presenters. We are so proud to have met and engaged with these remarkable young women who are making progress toward their goals. In just twelve months, so many accomplishments! Congratulations!

Shyree Anderson

As I ended my second year at North Carolina A&T State University as an Architectural Engineering student, I have had the opportunity to accomplish a few of my goals. I was elected President of an organization I have been a part of since my freshman year called Architectural Engineering Institute.

I was awarded a scholarship to attend AAUW's national conference called National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) as the first female from NC A&T to attend. I was able to meet women from all around the world who advocate for women's equality through books, motivational speaking, movements, and success at the highest professional levels.



Another accomplishment was being able to job shadow, also known as an unpaid internship, under two companies within my chosen field. I interned at an airport and an architecture firm. Starting my junior year of college, I attended another national conference centered around college educated women called Society of Women Engineers (SWE). The theme was "Breaking Boundaries" where we were encouraged to not settle with being mediocre but rise above the standards pinned against all women. Other accomplishments include becoming a student liaison for AAUW and National Organization for Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS) in efforts of trying to bring AAIW to NC A&T campus.

Throughout all my involvement, I have been able to work through my university as a tutor and mentor for my peers.

Lastly, I am proud to announce that as of January 2019, I will be a PAID intern with Ryan Companies as a Project Engineer for this Summer.

Jessica Ayivi



My name is Jessica Ayivi. I am currently pursuing a Masters degree in Chemistry at North Carolina A&T. I am still a science teacher at the Point College Preparatory Leadership Academy in Jamestown, North Carolina. After graduating from Bennett in 2015, I decided to take a break to teach before going back to school. Though my time off teaching was rewarding, transitioning into a masters program while still teaching was very challenging. With hard work and determination, I managed to pass all of my courses and made it to the second semester of my program.

Dr. Moreira and Laura Tew were instrumental in my prompt decision to return back to school sooner than anticipated by giving me the opportunity to volunteer at their various events and surround myself with like-minded individuals. I am extremely happy about my future and I cannot wait to send exciting updates on my journey of becoming a Medical Doctor after graduating from A&T in May 2020.

Aleah Brown



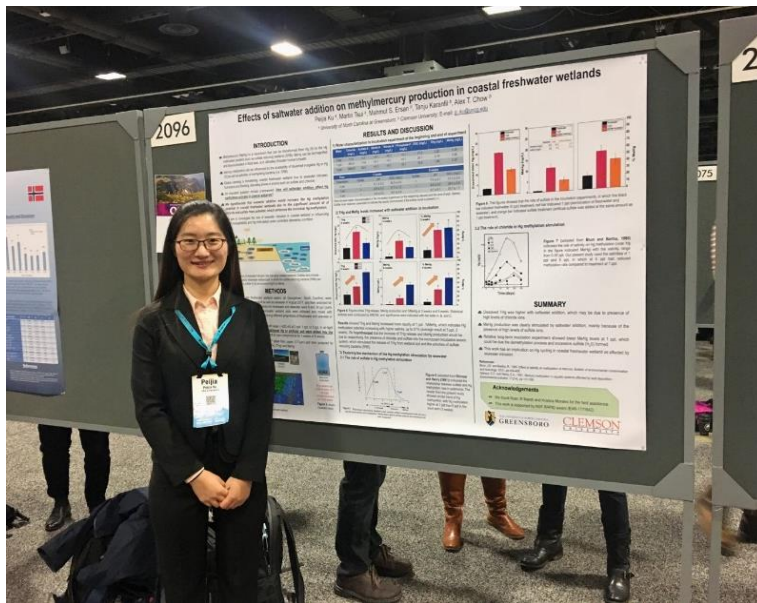
I am Aleah Brown. I am a freshman at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in Savannah, Georgia. This is my dream college! I am majoring in Animation and minoring in Graphic Design. I just finished my first quarter and made the Dean's List. I am so appreciative of the leadership and near-peer mentor opportunities that were granted to me by being involved in the AAUW and IT is for Girls/We Make IT-AspireIT Summer Camp programs. Attending a TechSavvy Day (AAUW) in 2014 was the start of my interest in Animation. I never thought that one day I would be applying for and receiving grants and becoming an instructor at the various STEM programs, workshops, and camps. I will graduate from SCAD in 2022.

Amesha Green

Currently a junior biomedical engineering student at North Carolina A&T, I have developed a strong interest in chronic disease research. I was appointed to the NIH's Maximizing Access to Research Careers program, in which I do research during the semester. My research focuses on BK Polyomavirus and the effect it has during immune response suppression, which can aid HIV/AIDS research. I serve on the Executive Board for the Biomedical Engineering Society as the Public Relations Chair. Apart from this, I also serve as an elementary and middle school mentor for the Just Bee Empowerment Program. I still have a passion for diabetes and look forward to implementing diabetes research wherever I end up for the summer!



Peijia Ku

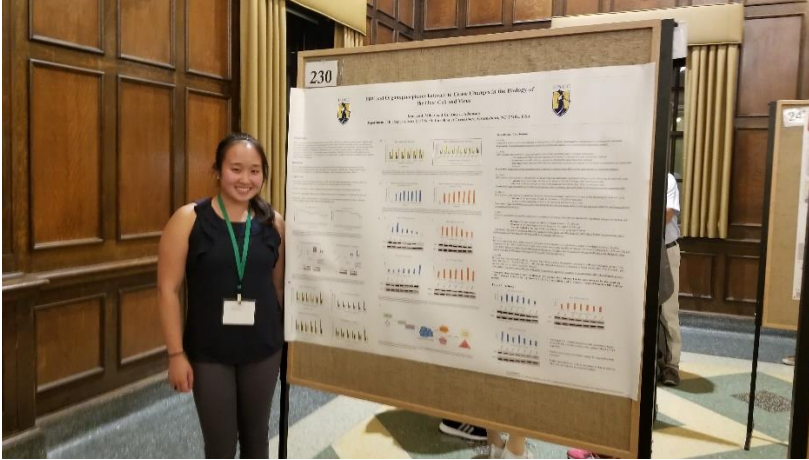


I am Peijia Ku, currently a 4th year PhD candidate in Environmental Health Science in the department of Biology at UNCG. In 2018, I was lucky enough to have the chances to present my research in some international conferences and exchange ideas with some great scientists in the conferences.

I also actively participated in and enjoyed in AAUW Triad Tech Savvy events in the spring and fall 2018. I was part of panel for parents, and I developed and led a NEW program

in biomathematics, an opportunity to share my research with the kids and to motivate high school and middle school students to study STEM subjects. I am trying my best to graduate in 2019 and hope I will continue my career in academia in the future. I hope I can make contributions to STEM study of women in my career path as well.

Katelyn Miller



I am currently a PhD candidate in my 5th year of the Environmental Health Science program in the biology department at UNCG. Over the past year, I was able to present my research at a major conference in my field, participate in great outreach events promoting STEM.

I have been hard at work finishing up my dissertation for graduation this summer. As I work towards completion of my PhD, I am planning for the next steps of my career by applying for postdoctoral and research positions. I hope and plan to continue promoting women in STEM wherever my next endeavors may be.

Melika Osareh



Upon entering college, I was eager to take part in undergraduate research opportunities. Although some told me it was too early for me to worry about research, I knew it was never too soon (or too late!) to go after one's passions. Through one of the Triad Tech Savvy Events, I came to learn about the research of Dr. John Z. Kiss, professor and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at UNC-Greensboro who has been working with NASA for about 32 years. His research tied in my favorite subjects: biology and space! After a meeting with him, I was allowed to take part in his research as a freshman. Dr. Kiss's research studies how plants react to gravity and light stresses by replicating an experiment which was sent to space here in his laboratory at UNCG.

Through this research we are trying to find the gene that allows plants to be most tolerant to microgravity conditions, which will later support astronauts in long space travels. Being able to partake in this research has been (and most probably will continue to be) the most exciting experience I've had as a college student and I'm grateful to Triad Tech Savvy for introducing me to it.

Sarah Overstreet

Sarah moved to Old Dominion University in December 2018, right after first semester graduation from Guilford College with a double major in physics and math. She selected ODU as early as 2016 when she attended their Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, co-sponsored by Old Dominion and its nuclear research partner Jefferson Lab in Newport News. Among the many amenities at ODU is the Physics Learning Center, where students can work in cooperative groups and get assistance with physics homework from volunteer faculty members and graduate students.



Brianna Smith



My name is Brianna Smith. In December of 2018, I completed my Post Baccalaureate program, on the Pre-Dental track, at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. I recently applied to the MED program. The MED program is a demanding academic preparatory program at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with an intensive curriculum that mimics the first semester of medical and dental school. Upon completion of this program in the summer of 2019, I will be submitting my application for dental school.

Currently, I am serving as a Supplemental Instruction Program leader for General Chemistry II and General Physics I on UNCG's campus. I plan to continue volunteering within AAUW as well as promoting women in STEM because I'm so passionate about it!

Alessia Carmen Stewart

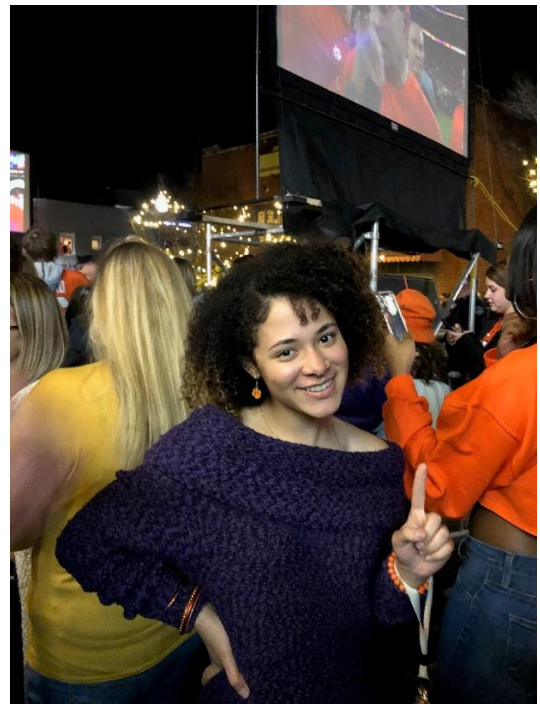


I am a Junior studying Biomedical Engineering at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. This past summer I interned at the Medtronic Diabetes Center in Northridge, California in the greater Quality Department. It was a very fascinating internship project and location. This previous fall I studied abroad at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and had an adventurous and productive time.

Currently, on campus, I am a Student Ambassador and Co-Director of Student Relations for the Honor Program and am conducting research related to the analysis of 3D microenvironments for drug delivery in Dr. Bhattarai's Research Group in the NCA&T's Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Lab.

Persia Taheri

Coming to Clemson University in the fall of 2018, I entered as a sophomore, due to transfer credits from STEM Early College at A&T. I am majoring in Industrial Engineering, and enjoying many unexpected opportunities!!! I am in the RISE (Residents in Science and Engineering) Living Learning community. Not only am I involved with several clubs such as Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, National Society of Black Engineers, Society of Women in Engineering, but I am also in two undergraduate research classes, known as Creative Inquiry (CI) at Clemson. In my Conation and Creativity in Engineering CI, I am working with a team and professor on making the classroom a more creative learning space. I am even working on a proposal to implement a creativity idea for a class at Clemson!



(Persia, cont'd) In The Makerspace CI I have worked with a professor in developing Standard Operating Procedures Manual for the Artec Eva 3D scanner, which I will be presenting with a team at the American Society for Engineering Education Competition at NCState University in a few weeks. I work as a supervisor at the Mechanical Engineering Machine Shop in Cook Laboratory. I have gone through all the certifications and now help students use machines and tools.

Lastly, I am a RISE (Residents in Science and Engineering) Ambassador, so I give tours to prospective students and represent the RISE LLC at Clemson events. I hope to find a FIRST Robotics team to mentor and join the AAUW Clemson branch next semester. I'm just getting started :) Did I mention that the Clemson football team was 15-0 and won the National Championship?! Go Tigers

Aaliyah Wynn



Since I've graduated from high school, I have decided to continue my studies at Guilford Technical Community College before transferring to a four-year college program. During this time, I have made the President's List with a 4.0, done interning with the AAUW as well as draft my own IT is for Girls Program, and got a new job. I am looking into transfer programs to a four-year school by attending information sessions at GTCC, A&T, and UNCG. I hope to make a decision by the end of second semester. I can say that attending a community college is certainly much cheaper and perhaps less stressful than a four-year school especially freshman year. I am still working closely with AAUW by being the high school assistant lead for the Triad Tech Savvy events and will help with any future events, including the Find Your STEM conference. I am enjoying my time as a college student as well!

Congratulations to these inspiring young women, and thank you for sharing your updated narratives. We look forward to future reports.



UNC GREENSBORO

Find your way here



AN INITIATIVE OF
The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro



JSNN

Joint School of
Nanoscience and Nanoengineering

UNCG



A joint collaboration of North Carolina A&T State University and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23, UNCG, Science Olympiad

March 16, A&T, Engineering Day for Girls

March 30, UNCG, AAUW Triad Tech Savvy

April 13, UNCG, Science Everywhere

Check our website for updates and details

<https://greensboro-nc.aauw.net/techevents/>



The 2019 high school conference presenters and volunteers offer the idea to create a QR CODE which provides a link to our FIND YOUR STEM online TOOLKIT. AAUW Greensboro is proud to offer this resource to all of our students, and we hope that you will consider joining us at a future Find Your STEM Conference for high school girls. We would like to hear your stories, learn from your experiences, and help you achieve your goals.

AAUW Greensboro Branch

Committee Chair, Laura Tew, STEM Outreach Coordinator

Intern, Aaliyah Wynn

AAUW Women of STEM – Denise Brown, Felicia Cherry, Libby Haile, Cristina Moreira, Wosen Negussie, Mary Fran Schickedantz, , and Jianhong Zhu with special gratitude for Lakshmi Iyer, PhD for her energy, innovative spirit, and dedication to STEM education for girls.

President: Lena Murrill-Chapman

Treasurer: Millie Hoffler-Foushee

Secretary: Sue Metz

Programming Chair: Leona LaPerier

Hospitality Chair: Ann Schwabeland

Membership Chair: Everlena Diggs <https://greensboro-nc.aauw.net/join-aauw/>



AAUW Triad Tech Savvy - Find Your STEM High School Conference 2019 for girls

Date: Saturday February 16, 2019. 9:30 to 2:30

Purpose: to motivate and encourage high school students to set goals and establish a plan to meet those goals

Location: Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, 2907 E Gate City Blvd, Greensboro, NC 27401

Skills presented: how to write a 3-year action plan to accomplish your academic extracurricular, and service learning. Examples of high school vitae, and tips on navigating the STEM courses and resources will be presented by near peer mentors.

Activities: Poster sessions by upper high school and college women will display examples of STEM pathways. Tour the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering to see the exciting research facilities, degrees, and achievements of this amazing local resource. Enjoy a pizza party networking lunch.

AAUW Greensboro

PO Box 10754

Greensboro, NC 27404

AAUWGreensboro@gmail.com

Facebook: AAUWGreensboro

TWITTER: AAUWGreensboro