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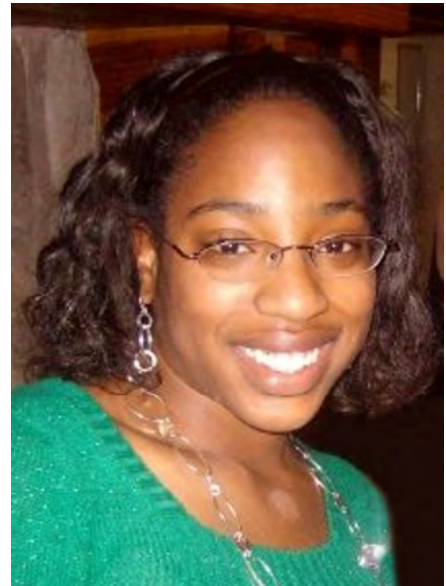
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRNL: Helping Students Emerge as Scientists

AIKEN, S.C. (April 1, 2015) – Whitney Ingram of Stone Mountain, GA, has been selected to receive a Department of Energy Office of Science Graduate Student Research award. This honor will allow Ingram to work with industry leaders at the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) in advancing her research on nanomaterials for nuclear chemical sensing applications. Ingram is currently pursuing her doctorate degree in Physics at the University of Georgia.



The Department of Energy Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) program helps prepare graduate students for science, technology, engineering or mathematics careers vital to the Department of Energy. SRNL is one of 15 national laboratories hosting an award recipient in 2015. Ingram's research focuses on nanotechnology and solid-state physics. "I'm interested in the optical properties of nanostructures and their reactions to light based on size, geometry and material type," explained Ingram. Nanomaterials created as a result of Ingram's work will be evaluated for their ability to help detect nuclear waste residue in liquids.

"This collaboration with the Savannah River National Laboratory allows me to work on a unique application, one that is both complicated and interesting. Since this area is not well studied, the knowledge I gain may spark interest with those who want to use sensing techniques in similar ways," said Ingram, who will be mentored by SRNL Senior Scientist Dr. Simona Murph.

Ingram said opportunities such as the Graduate Student Research award gives the encouragement necessary to shift from being a student into being a dedicated scientist. "As our



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scientific problems become more complex, we need a wealth of creative minds and collaboration to tackle these issues. As a child, I dreamed of one day being an astronomer. I never imagined I would have an opportunity such as this.”

The 2015 call for SCGSR applications is currently underway with applications due by April 14. For more information on the SCGSR Program, contact SRNL University Relations Program Manager Natalie Ferguson at (803) 725-2600. A complete list of 2014 SCGSR awardees can be viewed at: <http://science.energy.gov/wdts/scgsr>.

The Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) is a multi-program applied research and development laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy. SRNL applies state-of-the-art science and engineering to provide practical, high-value, cost-effective solutions for our nation's environmental cleanup, nuclear security and clean energy challenges. Visit us on the web at <http://srnl.doe.gov>

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