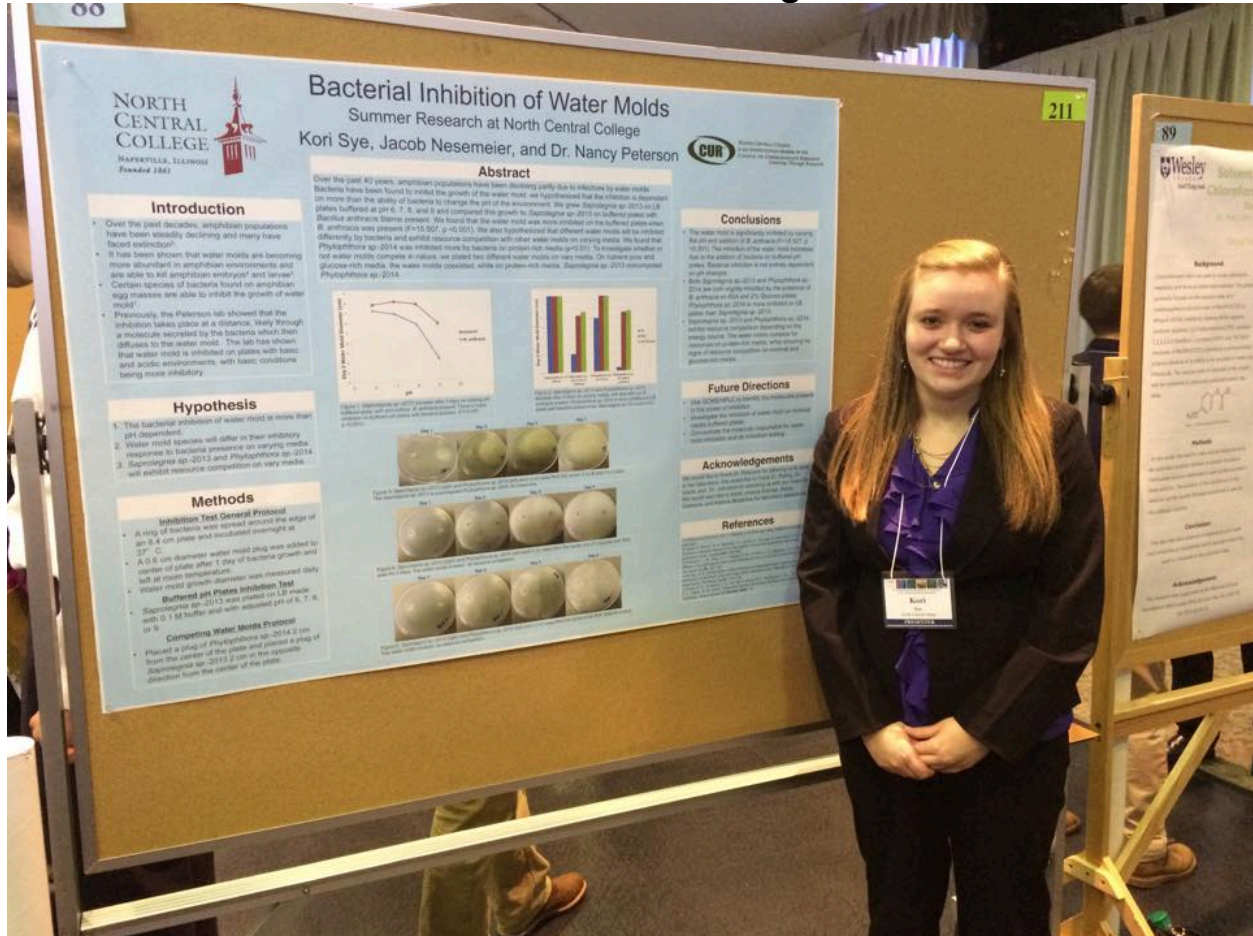


2015 Gladys Anderson Emerson Scholarship

Kori Marie Sye
North Central College



Kori Sye is currently developing her Senior Honors Thesis, a project in the field of physical chemistry that allows her to work with ultraviolet, visible, infrared, and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopies to study the kinetics and mechanism of the hydrolysis of several inorganic compounds. Kori demonstrates high achievement in the chemical sciences, both through her academic rigor, and her enthusiasm and energy she brings toward her research and extracurricular involvement. Professor Nancy Peterson, her mentor for a project carried out during the summers of 2013 and 2014, writes "Kori, without any formal college biology coursework, joined my lab where she worked on isolating a factor that bacteria secrete to inhibit water mold growth on frog eggs. This involved microbiological and biochemical techniques such as growing, characterizing, and isolating bacteria and water mold as well as applying theory to a new problem. Her ability to conduct (& keep track) of several experiments at the same time is better than nearly all undergraduates I have seen. Additionally, she was able to learn the biology as she was working on the project (often from the primary literature). Beyond her research, Kori is able to organize others around issues that are important to

her. This year she has founded a new student organization on campus, Women of Math and Science Club (WAVES). The goal of WAVES is to promote women in sciences and reach out to the community to encourage woman and young girls to pursue education and careers in the sciences.” As a first generation college student she recognizes the impact she can have in encouraging women in their aspirations. Her future in chemistry also appears extremely promising based on her early entry into research (as a second semester freshman) and the fact that she has already made use of several opportunities to present her work at local, regional and national meetings.