

Math Bio Student Interview

Interview with UNCG student Shunda Rushing

Shunda got paid \$3500 for her involvement in the program
<http://www.uncg.edu/mat/bio-math/index.html>



1. What was your role in the Math-Bio Program?

I am a participant in the Math-Bio Program. I do research working with dung beetles, forming questions and setting up experiments to find my questions.

2. Please describe your project.

I work with *O. Taurus*, a dung beetle, looking at kleptoparasitism. I do research at NC A&T SU farm, looking at brood ball production in the field. I also set up a videotape to record the behaviors of *O. Taurus*: the time it takes to create a brood ball, the time it takes to make a tunnel, and the time it takes to steal an egg.

3. How long have you participated in the program? Do you believe you will continue to participate?

I have participated since January 2009 and yes, I plan on reapplying next year.

4. What is the most positive part of the project? The negative?

The most positive part of the project would be having a mentor and learning from her experiences in doing research and expanding my knowledge in research.

The most negative would be having to wait on the beetle to start producing brood balls.



Shunda working in the field.



5. What are your plans after you graduate?

I plan on getting my masters in biology and continuing dung beetle research.

6. Do you think the program has helped you with your plans.

Yes, the program has helped me with my future plans.

