The Summers of a Lifetime: My LARSS Internships Experiences

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During the summers of 2008 & 2009, I was hired as a LARSS (Langley Aerospace Summer Scholar) intern at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. Both summer internships offered countless opportunities for me to put my teaching experience and degree training to work.
I was introduced to the Photo-Lithography process and designed a silicon wafer. In this picture I am placing a set of silicon wafers down into hydrofluoric acid.

My mentor, Mr. Cy Wilson, was very supportive during the internship. He had a wealth of knowledge to share regarding many of his research topics: Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology, Photolithography, Micro-robotics, and Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) Technology. He also took time to give me tours of the site and include me in meetings with NASA personnel.
Working as an Intern in 2009

During this internship, my tasks involved supporting news media and public affairs efforts. My mentors were Marny Skora and Keith Henry.

I interviewed and photographed NASA Explorer Schools teachers and VASTS (Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars). I also wrote many articles and news releases that were featured on and outside the NASA website.

One of the most significant experiences of the summer was my time spent at Wallops Island during the Max Launch Abort System launch.
I toured this full-scale wind tunnel used for testing aircraft.

The interns attended a seminar each week. This was my favorite: Astronaut Tom Jones was the speaker. He spoke about his experiences as an astronaut and discussed his new book, “Sky Walking.” Of course, I have an autographed copy!

The interns had several get-togethers; my favorite one was Karaoke Night.
I was determined to “live the life” while in Virginia for the summer. When I wasn’t working, my family and I tried to have as much fun as possible! Below are just a few of the places we visited:

- Hampton, Virginia
- Virginia Air and Space Center
- St. George’s Brewery
- Virginia Zoo
- Virginia Living Museum
- Virginia Beach
- Great Wolf Lodge
- Virginia Aquarium
- Fort Monroe
- Sandy Bottom Nature Center & Park
- NASA Day Camp
My experiences as a LARSS intern made a positive and changing impact on my life both personally and professionally. I was surrounded by many supportive and knowledgeable people at NASA, who encouraged my endeavors while introducing me to different careers and ideas.

I am excited about the possibilities of the future. Whether I work as a writer, an educator, or in another field where I may utilize my talents, the sky is the limit!

I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go.

-Langston Hughes
Langley Aerospace Research Summer Scholars
Summer and Fall 2009

Bryan Greenly
Delaware State University
Automating Surface Acoustic Wave Research
Network Analyzer Connected to Probe Station for Testing SAW Devices
LabView VI Block Diagram
Delaware State University student goes to NASA Langley Research Center
We would like to thank:

• Delaware Space Grant Consortium
• Virginia Space Grant Consortium
• LARSS Program Staff
• Our Mentors at LaRC