

SWOSU Student One of Three Oklahomans Chosen for Research Program in France

03.28.2014

Ashlie Walker, a senior chemistry major at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, is one of only three Native American scholars from Oklahoma that has been selected to be involved in an international research program in Grenoble (France) this summer.

Only 13 students from across the United States were selected to participate in the International Research Experiences for Undergraduates (iREU) program that gives the students opportunities to work along side globally-known researchers, chemists and materials scientists.

Walker, from Sand Springs, will be working with professors Eric Saint-Aman and Guy Royal to synthesize macrocyclic transitional metal complexes and to explore their reactivity and electrochemical properties.

The iREU program is a 12-week program at Joseph Fourier University in France, but Walker plans to stay for a six-month period. After graduating in May 2015, Walker plans to pursue a degree at the graduate level in chemistry.

Walker was selected for iREU after applying for the opportunity through Oklahoma's Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program that works to create programs for under-represented populations that are seeking degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).