Drinking Water Database  
ShaTerea R. Murray  
Graduate Student  
University of Alabama of Birmingham  
Mentor: Danielle M. Griffin

This summer I had the opportunity to work in the Environmental Management Office (EMO) under the Chemical Sampling and Analysis Team or CS&AT. This team’s mission is to support Glenn Research Center (GRC) and EMO by providing chemical sampling and analysis services and expert consulting. Services include sampling and chemical analysis of water, soil, fuels, oils, paint, insulation materials, etc. One of this team’s major projects is the Drinking Water Project. This is a project that is done on Glenn’s water coolers and ten percent of its sink every two years.

For the past two summers an intern had been putting together a database for this team to record the test they had perform. She had successfully created a database but hadn’t worked out all the quirks. So this summer William Wilder (an intern from Cleveland State University) and I worked together to perfect her database. We began by finding out exactly what every member of the team thought about the database and what they would change if any. After collecting this data we both had to take some courses in Microsoft Access in order to fix the problems. Next we began looking at what exactly how the database worked from the outside inward. Then we began trying to change the database but we quickly found out that this would be virtually impossible.

Which lead to the beginning of our own version of the database. William’s strong background in computers automatically made him the leader in the computer program
aspects of the database, thus leaving me the input aspect of the database. Will would create and design different forms, tables, and reports that were needed for the database. In turn I would input the date into the database. Finally we allowed the analysis to critique the database for operational problems and clarity. We were able to finish a great amount of the database yet there are still some quirks that need to be worked out.