

CICS-MD Science Meeting
November 12-13, 2014
College Park, MD

Scott D.
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8-5 The 2014 CICS-MD Institute of Research
and Collaboration for Undergraduate Students
(CIRCUS)

Meredith Nichols, Reginald Johnson, Thomas
Kelly, Douglas Kahn, Nina Randazzo, Alex Ortiz,
and Katherine O'Brien

The Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites at the University of Maryland (CICS-MD) hosted the second annual CICS-MD Institute of Research and Collaboration for Undergraduate Students (CIRCUS). The NOAA/NESDIS sponsored CICS-MD hosted 8 undergraduate, 4 post graduate, and 4 graduate students during summer 2014. Students represented the University of Maryland, the City College of New York, Cornell University, Boston College University, and Penn State University. Students worked with university faculty and government scientists to gain valuable research experience. Each student presented their research findings, which are summarized herein. Meredith Nichols investigated the impact of natural gas drilling on air quality, Reggie Johnson documented extreme rainfall events, Tom Kelly and Doug Kahn visualized data from lightning detection networks to examine significant lightning incidents, Nina Randazzo searched for a CO trend related to economic activity, Alex Ortiz began constructing an accurate satellite observed rain-field by using rapidly updating and readily accessible lightning data, and Kate O'Brien studied relationships between the Madden-Julian Oscillation and Tropical Cyclone prediction. These projects illustrate the valuable contributions that students can make to cutting edge research.