Title of Position: Fish research technician work-study
Supervisor: Patricia Nease
Approximate Hours a Week: 10-20
Duration of Position: flexible, January through May/August
Compensation: $10/hr

Job Description:
You will analyze the composition of fatty acids in fishes from various glacial lakes in Indiana. This position is lab-based and will primarily involve chemical extractions, organic reactions, and analysis using a gas chromatograph instrument. Fatty acids can be used as trophic markers because they are passed up the food chain from prey to predator. By identifying a “fingerprint” of fatty acids found in various prey items, it is possible to infer the diet of fishes and other predators based on their fatty acid composition. There is potential to extend the position to involve summer field work.

Duties:
› Process samples of fishes.
› Perform organic reactions to prepare fatty acids for analysis.
› Analyze fatty acid samples on a gas chromatograph.
› Analyze fish diets by identifying prey in stomach contents.
› Possible opportunity for collecting field samples.

Requirements:
› You have a Federal Work Study award ≥ $800 and have the Payroll Authorization Form to prove it.
› Fastidious attention to detail.
› Willingness to learn.
› Coursework in organic chemistry or chemistry labs would be a plus.
› Coursework in fish biology, ecology, or invertebrate zoology would be a plus.

Deadline to Apply: December 20, 2017

To apply: Send résumé or CV to Patricia Nease at neasep@purdue.edu