Environmental Issue: Contaminants such as mercury and DDT are potentially toxic to organisms, including humans. Research on the sources of these toxins and how they distribute in our environment is crucial in our understanding of the potential risks that we face from these contaminants. A group of scientists at the Academy of Natural Science’s Patrick Center for Environmental Research are helping understand how much of these toxins are in our environment, including the fish we eat.

Chapters in Textbook: Ch 20 Water Pollution
Ch 9 Environmental Health and Toxicology

Title of Project: Environmental Chemistry Assistant at the Patrick Center for Environmental Research (part of the Academy of Natural Sciences)

Dates and Times: March 12 to April 12, 2001
Flexible hours (M to F, 10 to 4)

Supervisor: Adam Boettner, Environmental Chemist
Boettner@acnatsci.org
Patrick Center for Environmental Research
Academy of Natural Sciences
1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 299-1071
www.acnatsci.org but more specifically
http://www.acnatsci.org/research/pcer/

On-Campus Coordinator: Dr. Ashley, Professor of Chemistry
Search Hall 304 (Office Hours, Tues, 1 to 5 pm)
AshleyJ@philau.edu
(215) 951-2779

Project description: Patrick Center for Environmental Research was founded in 1947, to study the structure and function of freshwater ecosystems, including rivers, lakes and wetlands. One of the central goals of these studies is to assess how human activities affect the health of these systems. For this project, you will assist research chemists in their analyses of soil and fish tissue for a variety of potential toxins like mercury. Your supervisor will point you in the right direction for your research (web sites and articles).

Directions: USE THE SIDE ENTRANCE OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCINECE (ON 19TH STREET)

Rail: The Patrick Center is located in the Academy of Natural Science and is located at 19th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, just off I-76. The Academy can also be reached by SEPTA Rail (From campus, take the R8 from Queen Lane or R-6 from Wissahickon or East Falls Station to Suburban Station).
Exit Suburban Station at 17th Street entrance and walk two blocks to 19th. Turn right and walk two more blocks; the Academy is on your left.

**Car:** Metered parking available on Benjamin Franklin Parkway between the Museum of Art and 22nd Street (0.50 cents per hour…bring lots of quarters). From the West via I-76 East: On I-76 East (Schuylkill Expressway) follow signs for I-676/Central Philadelphia (exit is on the left). Then stay to the right and take the first exit (Ben Franklin Parkway and 23rd Street). At the bottom of the ramp continue straight on Ben Franklin Parkway and around _ of Logan Circle. The Academy is the red brick building on the corner of Logan Circle & 19th Street with a dinosaur statue in front & to the right of the main doors.

**Notes:** The chemistry laboratory is potentially dangerous. You will be given safety goggles, a lab coat and safety instruction