**PROJECT TITLE: Structural Obstacles**

Whitney Gaskins  
College of Engineering and Applied Science  
610D Old Chemistry  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221  
gaskinwb@ucmail.uc.edu  
513-556-5898

**Project Description**

The overarching goal is to explore and understand the experience of students of color in STEM. The research team will lead a series of qualitative data collection measures (semi-structured interviews and GLAs) from both current students and alumni to learn about the experience matriculating through STEM programs. We will explore the psychological and emotional implications on the students while in programs and impacts of those experiences on their everyday lives.

We are looking to work with student researchers on mixed-method, interdisciplinary and intersectional studies that contribute much-needed nuances to our understanding of how race, gender and socioeconomic status impact student experience.

We are seeking to work with students to develop their skills and talents in using a variety of research tools. The student can expect to do some preliminary quantitative and qualitative work. They will create tables and graphs and help write research papers.

**Expectations of the Researchers:**

The expectation for the student is to have a sincere curiosity about research; an interest in diversity, equity and inclusion studies, and particularly how to create inclusive culture for women and minorities. I am searching for students who are highly motivated. I love research and I believe my passion for research combined with my work in removing obstacles for STEM excellence will inspire the students while helping them to identify their own research interest.