

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
McMicken-College of Arts & Sciences**

**SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
FOR UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2005

The Department of Biology is pleased to offer the following research project for the summer of 2005. Interested students are urged to contact the faculty member(s) directing the project that most interests them. By contacting the faculty member, you can discover more about the project, learn what your responsibilities will be and if possible, develop a timetable for the twelve-week research period.

Behavioral Mechanisms of Invasion in Parthenogenetic Geckos

Professor Ken Petren

Arts & Sciences/Biology RIEVESCHL 908 (513)556-9719

FAX: (513)556-5299

E-Mail: petrenk@email.uc.edu

House geckos are undergoing invasions and displacements around the globe, and they provide a good lab model to understand how behavioral interactions can affect invasion success. We use captive raised geckos that are all female parthenogenetic clones (thus they are genetically identical) to understand how genetically encoded behavioral differences among clones can lead to differences in invasion success. This project will involve quantifying behavior among pairs and small groups, video tape and video playback and data analysis.