STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Lee Corbett just completed her doctorate at the University of Vermont working in Greenland and Baffin Island with NSF support. She studied “ghost glaciers” that are frozen to the bed and therefore incapable of eroding the underlying landscape. Since ghost glaciers leave behind little physical evidence, determining if and when high-latitude landscapes were covered by non-erosive glacial ice in the past has long challenged geoscientists. Lee used multiple cosmogenic isotopes with different half-lives to assess the history of ancient landscapes that have been preserved beneath non-erosive glacial ice for many glaciations over millions of years.

Celebrating the Fourth of July along the ice-choked Wolstenholme Fjord near Thule, northwest Greenland (July, 2013, photo courtesy of Everett Lasher).

Anny Sainvil, a rising senior at Smith College, spent her summer doing research as a RESESS intern with UNAVCO. She worked with Dr. Kamini Singha and Emily Voytek at Colorado School of Mines. They used a geophysical method of analyzing the temporal and spatial variation of groundwater flow in meadows within the Boulder Creek Critical Zone Observatory in Colorado. She presented her work at the fall 2015 National GSA Conference in Baltimore, MD. Anny is currently studying abroad in Christchurch, New Zealand with Frontiers Abroad and completing field camp and a semester at the University of Canterbury. This summer, she will work with the NSF-funded Keck Geology Consortium Tephrastratigraphy Iceland Project and working on her senior thesis. Anny will embark on a NSF-funded field team with Dr. Erin Pettit, University of Alaska, and take the lead on a special GPR project on the West Antarctic Ice Sheet this upcoming December.

If you have a student that you would like to feature in “Student Spotlight”, please send 100-150 word article describing their involvement in science and photo to ddomansk@nsf.gov.