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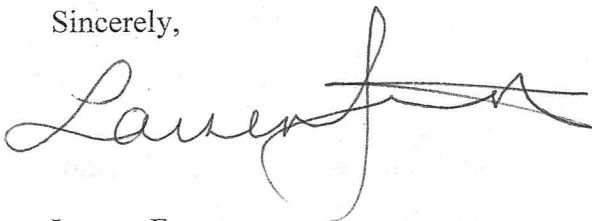
May 10, 2011

To whom this may concern:

I am very grateful to the Foundation Board of Trustees for awarding me the 2011 Bernold M. "Bruno" Hanson Memorial Environmental Grant. This grant will allow me to further my geologic education. The funds that I received will be used to perform analysis on my samples to complete my thesis project. Through this grant, I will be able to experience the benefits of presenting my research to well-respected individuals in my academic community.

The 2011 Bernold M. "Bruno" Hanson Memorial Environmental Grant will also help me to create a bright future not only for myself, but for the community in which I live. This grant will help me to acquire crucial skills while obtaining my Master of Geology degree from the University at Buffalo. Ultimately, this grant will provide me with the opportunity to use my training and knowledge to maintain and create better remediation options. Upon graduation, I would like to be able to transition into federal positions in organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Department of Energy (DOE). I want to work for the government sector so that I can make a large scale difference in the way we think about and approach our water quality and resource problems. Like Bernold M. Hanson, I will someday be able to share my experiences and knowledge with others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Fortson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lauren Fortson