

ENS Michael Dirks

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Atlanta, GA

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Degree: Master in Public Health, concentration in Global Environmental Health, Emory University, Spring 2010

Experiencing the COSTEP program through the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in Atlanta was truly unique. I was challenged to evaluate a national program as a primary project to produce a report and presentation for ATSDR directors and colleagues. I also attended multiple conferences and learned about several agencies Environmental Health Officers serve through the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. COSTEPs at the ATSDR had access to intense week and day long training experiences as well as several field experiences. The Vessel Sanitation Program and National Parks Service EH officers graciously took COSTEPs under their wings to shadow health inspections of the two largest cruise ships in the world in FL and to discuss health issues with top supervisors at National Parks in GA. Having the COSTEP in Atlanta guaranteed working alongside national leaders and learning from their experience, advice and training on how to direct your career successfully.

Ensign Dirks Testing the Water Treatment Loop for International Cruise Lines

