

“One of the greatest challenges encountered by International students is how to integrate quickly into their new environment. This was different in my case, because the department, the faculty and the graduate students were so helpful, making sure I don’t lack anything. Within the span of few weeks, I was able to adapt easily into my new found home. The Chemistry department was like a home to me. I thought grad school would have been much scarier than it really was! The professors were so helpful and I really enjoyed the experience. I enjoyed coming to class, participating, and learning new things, because the information was relevant and delivered in such a way that captured my attention. I looked forward to each classroom moment. My coursework really shaped my knowledge on many of the topics necessary to be successful on my own. My research experience with the help of my advisor, practicum and teaching really forced me to practice some of the skills I learned about in the program and to be a better scientist. The graduate program taught me more than I could ever express. The skills and abilities I have obtained through NCAT-Chemistry department, has been my greatest assets moving into my PhD program. If NCAT-Chemistry



department were to be offering a PhD program, I wouldn’t have hesitated to apply. I will end up with this ‘Do not go in with expectations that are set in stone. Be a sponge ready to soak up information because there is a lot to learn not just from the professors or the peers, but from the experiences and opportunities that come along whether you are ready for them or not’

GEORGE AGBEWORVI—a graduate of 2015

Note from the Department: *Originally from Ghana, George joined the department in the Fall of 2013 and graduated in May 2015. During his stay in the department, George won the best graduate student award at the College level and he was also nominated for the best thesis award at the University level. George graduated with two publications and several drafts are also being readied for peer review publications. He is currently a PhD student at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. His graduate study was mentored by Dr. Zerihun Assefa.*