

Ijeoma Ogbogu Summer 2016 Internship with the Smithsonian Institution

The adventures I experienced working with Dr. William Fitzhugh were nothing short of amazing! His deep and expansive knowledge and ever-growing interest in the arctic regions of North America are truly inspiring. Working alongside him, I spent the first part of my internship in Washington DC. There I spent three weeks researching and reading about the effects of climate change on arctic animals and how decreased length of winters affects the lifestyles of the Inuit. There I worked alongside two other interns before leaving for the second part of my internship. The second part took place in Canada. There, with six other people we voyaged along the waters of Quebec, Labrador and Newfoundland on a Fifty foot longliner boat, The S.S. Pitsiulak. Not only did we brave the rocky seas, we also saw ice caps, whales and seals. Our main goal was to survey islands and look for potential archeological sites. Finally we made our final stop at Blanc Sablon, Quebec and finished a dig that was started last year. Though it was a rough start at first, the team was able to pull through and the valuable hands on experience I gained was amazing. I give my thanks to the Notre Dame Anthropology Department and the Coss family for this wonderful opportunity.

