

## **Miriam E. Hiebert**

### **AY 2016-17 All-STAR Fellow**

A James Clark School of Engineering

Department of Material Science and Engineering

Third Year doctoral student



My Graduate Assistantship has given me the time and freedom to personalize my graduate education and get the most out of this period of my life and studies. The ability to collaborate with other departments, facilities, and museums allows me to pursue interesting research questions that I would not be able to address independently. Currently, I am collaborating with Radiation Facilities as the first graduate student to use the university's new neutron imaging capabilities for research. I have acquired and improved upon my skills as both a teacher and a leader by assisting as a TA in Dr. Briber's Materials of Civilization course and in Dr. Martinez-Miranda's

Experimental Methods in Material Science course and also through mentoring three undergraduate students in Dr. Phaneuf's lab. I also serve as President of the Material Science Graduate Society for which I have established a summer qualifying exam preparation course for first year students, organized several prospective student visits for the department, and developed a seminar speaker exchange with graduate students at the University of North Carolina. In addition, I am the first student from a science program to be accepted to the Graduate Certificate in Museum Scholarship program. My participation has created the potential for future involvement of science students in this unique opportunity. The support and flexibility I have experienced from my advisor and the university as a whole in my Graduate Assistantship have allowed me to grow and learn more over the past two years than I ever imagined.