Dr. Klerks

Dr. Klerks is our new Chapter President, but how did he get here? It began with the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, here he obtained a BS and a Drs degree (Dutch equivalent to Ms). He came to the US for his PhD which he pursued at Stony Brook University. Following that were two postdocs. One of them was at Chesapeake Biological Laboratory where he researched metabolism and toxicity of trace metals in the oyster *Crassostrea virginica*. The second was the University of Toledo where he researched the biological aspects of pollution in the Maumee River and the ecology and control of the zebra mussel.

About 23 years ago Dr. Klerks began his lab here at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Since then he has mentored 20 graduate students, and is currently mentoring another 6. The
years have also been filled with countless undergraduates. Over the years he has researched the evolution of resistance to metals, metal detoxification, adaptation to climate change, toxicity of oil and oil spill treatments to name just a few. During the summer of 2014 he spent 2 months through a “Chinese Academy of Sciences Visiting Professorship for Senior International Scientists.” While there he collaborated with a former student to research the ecological effects and seafood safety due to metals in local streams and Bohai Sea.

New Beginnings
Latonya Jackson is no longer at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She is now employed at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, AR as a tenured track assistant professor. Soon she will begin mentoring undergrads. She will soon be defending her thesis; in the mean time she will be enjoying her new home by the mountains.

New Members
Any new members should send me an email at axk8023@louisiana.edu with name and email address.