

Akosua Serwaa Firempong
University Of North Texas
Denton, Texas
Phone (832) 858-5811
akosuaf@hotmail.com

ACCADEMIC HISTORY

University of North Texas	Denton, TX	August 2003-Present	
Major: Radio Television and Film			
Double Minor: Spanish and Psychology			
Expected Graduation Date: August 2007			
James Bowie High School	Arlington, TX	August 2001-May 2003	High
School Diploma May 31 2003			
Macarthur High School	Irving, TX	August 2000 – December 2001	

WORK EXPERIENCE

ONE Peer Education Network

Certified Peer Educator

Fall 2005-2006, President

Fall2006- Vice President

I am certified to provide health-related resources and information to the student body in the form of health education programming to empower students to make healthy choices, and to help reduce or eliminate high risk behaviors of UNT students. I work on different programs to educate the UNT community to live healthier lifestyles.

KNTU 88.1 FM

In-Depth News Reporter and Producer

August 30, 2005- August 2005

National News Producer

Late Edition News Broadcast reporter and producer.

UNT Student Health Center Student

Student Assistant/Wellness Resource Services

January 2006 –Present

Administrative duties

Mean Green Screen Assistant

Assist with check –in- and check-out- procedures for free and anonymous

screening for students who are concerned about their HIV status, alcohol use, eating disorders, nutrition, and stress.

UNT Student Health Center Student

Student Assistant/Administration

January 2005 –Present

Administrative duties

I entered students' payroll hours and cataloged Employee documents in the Health Center's Pantry along with other administrative duties.

UNT Student Health Center

Student Assistant/Insurance

January 2004-January 2005

Filed commercial and student insurance.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Mean Green Screen Assistant

January 2006-Present

Assist with anonymous and confidential screenings for HIV, Eating Habits, Alcohol or Drug Use and Depression.

KNTU 88.1 FM

January 2005- August 2005

ORGANIZATION INVOLVEMENT

Ghana Students' Association (GSA)

The main purpose of GSA is to raise educational funds for Ghanaian school orphans. We focus on a different school in Ghana yearly to raise educational funds (books, school supplies...) for the school children.

United African Students' Association (UASA)

The purpose of the UASA is to unite students of African descent and all others who are interested in African affairs and culture. The organization provides incoming Africans and the student body with tutorials, community service, and workshops/information sessions, which will be geared towards cultural awareness and tips providing the students with a link to UNT campus resources.

Pan African Students' Association (PASA)

I participate in our yearly cultural extravaganza to raise funds for UNICEF to aid African orphans. I'm also involved in UNT's annual International Week by participating in the Native Dress and Flag Processional and visiting Denton elementary schools to discuss my home nation with the students.

Our Next Educators (ONE) Part of the BACCHUS/ GAMMA Peer Education Network

I am involved in our programs for UNT students.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Spring 2006-Present

Research assistant to Mark Vosvick, Ph. D., at UNT Center for Psychosocial Health.

Stigma Burden Study

Enter data into computer for research

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

James Bowie High School PTSA Scholarship Fall 2003

African American Police Officer Association Fall 2003

First To Go, First To Know- Spring 2006

College Federal Work Study Recipient Fall 2003-Present

UNT Equity and Diversity Book Grant- Fall 2004- Present

Leveraging Educational Assistance- Fall 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Black Journalists Fall 2004-Present

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My interests include HIV education and learning more about HIV/AIDS and the stigmas associated with having the virus. I want to focus on cultural biases and help find a cure for the disease one day. I would like to research risky sexual behaviors among international students and non-international students. I would love to go to Ghana, my country to research more on the virus. I plan on working with the community in promoting safer sexual health behaviors. I plan to get my Masters in Public Health, focusing on Community Health and Counseling at University of North Texas Health Science Center.

RESEARCH TRAINING/SKILLS

HIPPA Training- January 2004 sponsored by UNT Student Health and Wellness Center

September 2006 sponsored by ONE Peer Education Network

NIH Certification Training- Completed May 2006. Course on Protecting Human Participants in Research Experiments.

IRB Training- Completed May 2006. Course included the following topics:

- key historical events and current issues that impact guidelines and legislation on human participant protection in research.

- ethical principles and guidelines that should assist in resolving the ethical issues inherent in the conduct of research with human participants.
- the use of key ethical principles and federal regulations to protect human participants at various stages in the research process.
- a description of guidelines for the protection of special populations in research.
- a definition of informed consent and components necessary for a valid consent.
- a description of the role of the IRB in the research process.
- the roles, responsibilities, and interactions of federal agencies, institutions, and researchers in conducting research with human participants.

Qualitative Data Analysis Training- Completed September 2006. Data Collection Software.

Training For Intervention Purposes (TIPS) Completed July 2006. Program developed to intervene in situations where alcohol is being misused, especially in University Campuses.

PEER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Know Your Limit

February 2005

Alcohol Program for UNT Business Class

Lead Presenter

Safer Sex Options

March 2005

Crumely Hall

Lead Presenter

Nutrition 101

March 2005

Clark Hall Residents

Assistant Presenter

Perfection Obsession; Body Image 101

April 2005

UNT Students at University Courtyard

Lead Presenter

Safer Dating

April 2005

Clark Hall Residents

Lead Presenter

HIV Prevention

September 2005
Pan African Students Association
Lead Presenter
Violence Risk Reduction
September 2005
Victory Hall Residents
Assistant Presenter
The Attraction, The Action, The Results
October 10, 2006
United African Students Association
Lead Presenter
The Attraction, The Action, The Results
October 20, 2006
Pan African Students Association
Lead Presenter

PEER EDUCATION EVENTS

What's Going On, An HIV Benefit Fashion Showcase

- ONE Peer Education Network HIV/AIDS Awareness Program. Raised funds for Youth AIDS and AIDS Services of North Texas.
- Ode to Africa Program Coordinator

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

Involved in raising funds in our yearly African Cultural Extravaganza to UNICEF to better the lives of children orphaned by AIDS and other poverty stricken children.

ONE Peer Education Network

During my year as president of UNT's Peer Education Network, Our Next Educators (ONE), I helped the organization raise money for AIDS Services of North Texas and Youth AIDS during our *What's Going On HIV/AIDS Fashion Showcase*. I reported on the benefits of the program for KNTU 88.1 FM as well.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Office Software: Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher
Psyncinfo, SPSS, and Ebcohost

References

Available upon request