Sudbury Foundation Atkinson Scholarship recipients are eligible to apply for a special, one-time “Opportunity Grant” that enables them to do some pretty amazing things – trips, special academic programs, community service projects and internships, among other things.

In the summer of 2009, Atkinson Scholarship recipient Anjuli Wagner used her grant to participate in a community health project in Adasawase, Ghana. Her report follows.
Urinary Schistosomiasis Prevention in Rural Ghana

Photos from Anjuli Wagner’s travels which were generously supported by the Atkinson Summer Opportunity Grant from the Sudbury Foundation

Photos by Jonny Crocker
We began our summer by testing all of the children in Adasawase and Asamama for schistosomiasis.
We spent many long hours testing endless urine samples
Sadly, many of the children tested positive again with bloody urine samples that were cloudy with high concentrations of eggs and ripped bladder tissue. We then treated all of the children in both towns.
After treatment, we moved on to finishing construction of the swimming pool where we encountered many challenges.
We learned to build most everything from scratch and using local materials; concrete blocks mixed and compacted by hand.
... palm leaf walls woven on site...
... and bamboo fences created with machetes and nails.
It took weeks of waiting for 3 consecutive days without rain and hours of work in the scorching sun wearing sweaty masks...
... but we were finally able to waterproof the pool!
In order to help fill the pool, the construction team fashioned a rainwater collection system on rooftops.
Finally, after months of construction the pool was finally ready!
All of the kids were eager to use the hand pump to fill up the pool...
... so they could swim in it! This was the first time most kids had swam in a swimming pool.
None of this would have been possible without the hard work of our amazing construction team...
... our urine testing team...
... our fantastic project leader...
... and the extremely generous support of the Sudbury Foundation.

THANK YOU!