Underrepresented Minorities: A Rich Pool of STEM Talent

Who Will Do Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the Future?

5,000+ Young STEM Scholars Point to LSAMP!

Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Eastern Region
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Special thanks to Dr. A. James Hicks for his professional support and advice during all phases of this document.

Special acknowledgement to the 40 Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Principal Investigators (PI) and their staffs for providing camera-ready information and photographs of selected Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students that have experienced and are experiencing academic and professional success through the LSAMP Program. This acknowledgment also includes Dr. Elizabeth Logos, PI of the Native American and Pacific Islanders Research Experience Program.

Additional thanks are expressed to Ms. Kelly Dubose for her creative assistance with the cover page graphics, Ms. Cynthia Douglas for originality in creating region maps and to Ms. Anita Belcher, Ms. Denise Joseph, Ms. Karen King and Ms. Cindy Powell for their patience and professionalism during the many hours of formatting and re-formatting the galley proof.
“Human resource inputs are a critical component to our scientific enterprise. We look to scientists for creative sparks to expand our knowledge base and deepen our understanding of natural and social phenomena. Their contributions provide the basis for technological advances that improve our productivity and the quality of lives. It is not surprising, therefore, that concern about the adequacy of the talent pool, both in number and quality, is a hardy perennial that appears regularly as an important policy issue.” This statement — borrowed from Pearson and Fechter’s book, entitled, “Who Will Do Science? : Educating the Next Generation”, remains a topic of serious debate. The contemporary debate frames the field in terms of science and engineering (S&E) and more commonly, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Research studies, books, reports, editorials and commentaries have documented factors affecting the matriculation of minority students and the overall importance of the STEM enterprise to America. Below are selected, noteworthy and highly recommended publications due to the critical illumination they provide on the workforce subject.

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While the conversation continues, the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program (LSAMP) is widely engaged in providing minority students with academic opportunities and research experience to prepare them to fill a large portion of the future STEM workforce. LSAMP alliances are multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary partnerships targeting historically underrepresented minorities with the common goal of, significantly, increasing the quantity and quality of STEM graduates with baccalaureate degrees. Elements and successful program practices include pre-baccalaureate summer/academic year activities, significant real-world research experiences with mentors, academic support, social integration, and faculty/university leadership involvement. A selected bridge activity into graduate education is a secondary focus of the LSAMP program. The LSAMP Program is nation-wide in geographic distribution and has a portfolio of 644 universities, colleges, community colleges, corporations, foundations, educational associations, government laboratories, museums and field stations.

The more than 5,000 young STEM scholars depicted in this volume highlight the talents and achievements of Louis Stokes underrepresented minority participants. For the convenience of the readers this document provides selected metrics and divides NSF’s Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program into four geographical regions, e.g....Eastern...Central...Mountain.....and Pacific. Additionally, each region is followed by a disciplinary index.

Indeed, these LSAMP scholars, having been exposed to appropriate academic rigor and good citizenship modeling, are contributing and will continue excellence in the STEM enterprise in America and beyond. Further, they represent a partial reply to the question raised, in 1994, by Pearson and Fechter ....“Who will do science (in the future)?” While we invite your perusal of this special compilation---readers are cautioned that....

“what you will see is only the tip of the iceberg”.
Period: Academic Year 2010-2011 / Reporting Year 2011

STEM Bachelor Degrees Report ***- Disciplines by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Black or African American</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino</th>
<th>Native American*</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</th>
<th>More Than One Race Reported - Minority**</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Science</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>1729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>1594</td>
<td>1717</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>3587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>2980</td>
<td>5037</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>8758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geosciences</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life/Biological Sciences</td>
<td>4859</td>
<td>6428</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>12317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11917</td>
<td>16281</td>
<td>1539</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>31003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***Source: LSAMP MARS

Period: Academic Year 2010-2011 / Reporting Year 2011

STEM Full-Time Enrollment Report*** - Disciplines by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Black or African American</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino</th>
<th>Native American*</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</th>
<th>More Than One Race Reported - Minority**</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Science</td>
<td>2704</td>
<td>3698</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>7540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>6403</td>
<td>6567</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>13817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>11219</td>
<td>11006</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>24177</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>23782</td>
<td>37465</td>
<td>2430</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>2117</td>
<td>66328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geosciences</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>1213</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life/Biological Sciences</td>
<td>40332</td>
<td>47676</td>
<td>3340</td>
<td>1032</td>
<td>2315</td>
<td>94695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4988</td>
<td>5728</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>11471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>1476</td>
<td>3537</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>5530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>1659</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>3084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>92132</td>
<td>118549</td>
<td>9160</td>
<td>2438</td>
<td>6368</td>
<td>228647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***Source: LSAMP MARS

* The Native American category includes American Indians and Alaska Natives.
** The More Than One Race Reported - Minority category comprises non-Hispanic/Latino individuals who report a) two or more race categories and b) one or more of the reported categories includes: American Indian, Alaska Native, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
Underrepresented Minority STEM Enrollment 1993-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33,609</td>
<td>64,572</td>
<td>96,828</td>
<td>119,828</td>
<td>125,206</td>
<td>140,615</td>
<td>145,947</td>
<td>151,644</td>
<td>157,993</td>
<td>162,158</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>160,656</td>
<td>153,904</td>
<td>159,191</td>
<td>165,354</td>
<td>167,213</td>
<td>182,783</td>
<td>200,701</td>
<td>199,977</td>
<td>228,647</td>
<td>2,816,227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Underrepresented Minority STEM Bachelor’s Degrees 1992-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,093</td>
<td>7,741</td>
<td>10,118</td>
<td>13,341</td>
<td>15,335</td>
<td>16,823</td>
<td>20,272</td>
<td>20,273</td>
<td>20,863</td>
<td>21,692</td>
<td>21,498</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,814</td>
<td>24,142</td>
<td>24,875</td>
<td>25,508</td>
<td>24,130</td>
<td>26,438</td>
<td>27,012</td>
<td>27,777</td>
<td>31,003</td>
<td>407,748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Underrepresented Minority STEM Bachelor’s Degrees 1992-2011
**LSAMP FACT #1.** Annually, greater than 200,000 historically underrepresented students participate in the program, nation-wide.

*Florida* (Florida/Georgia LSAMP) - *Georgia* (Georgia LSAMP) - Peach State (LSAMP)

*Indiana* (Indiana LSAMP) - *Maryland* (University System-Maryland LSAMP)

*Massachusetts* (Northeast LSAMP, Urban Massachusetts LSAMP)

*Michigan* (Michigan LSAMP) – *New Jersey* (Garden State LSAMP)

*New York* (State University of New York (SUNY) LSAMP, Upstate LSAMP)

*North Carolina* (North Carolina LSAMP) - *Pennsylvania* (Greater Philadelphia Region LSAMP)

*Puerto Rico* (Puerto Rico LSAMP) - *South Carolina* (South Carolina University LSAMP)

*Virginia* (Virginia/North Carolina LSAMP)

*Washington, DC* (Washington/Baltimore/Hampton Roads LSAMP)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Period of Participation</th>
<th>Date of Graduation</th>
<th>Current Status</th>
<th>Personal Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La'Quata Sumter</td>
<td>2008—2010</td>
<td></td>
<td>Georgia Southern University: Graduate Student and Albany Technical College: Computer Information Systems Instructor</td>
<td>As a member FGLSAMP, I learned the importance of obtaining my Masters Degree and continuing on for my Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Williams</td>
<td>1999-2003</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Assistant Professor at Albany State University, Albany, GA.</td>
<td>FGLSAMP provided three main resources during my undergraduate studies. First, the ability to identify research opportunities assisted my efforts to pursue research for the long term, and was key in helping me to make the decision to pursue the Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaedra Thomas</td>
<td>September 2004 – May 2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Professor at Albany State University, Albany, GA.</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP program has provided me with the opportunity to enhance my understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of the STEM disciplines as well as the confidence to network with prominent scientists in the field. Through my participation, I was able to receive a fellowship for graduate study and an awareness of my contribution to science and its role in underrepresented communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn L. Bailey</td>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>PhD Candidate in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of South Florida.</td>
<td>My involvement in the FGLSAMP is the sole reason that I am in graduate school. Had it not been for the connections and relationships that were made and formed during my year in FGLSAMP I would never have learned about the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship opportunities at USF.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Render</td>
<td>August 2006– May 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pursuing M.S. and PhD in Materials Science and Engineering at Tuskegee University</td>
<td>My internships during my periods of participation of FGLSAMP gave great backgrounds to career ideas. Year of B.S. degree and major: Bachelor of Science, Biology Albany State University Advance Degree: Master of Science, Biomedical Engineering, University of South August 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
<td>Year of B.S. degree and major</td>
<td>Advance Degree</td>
<td>Current Professional/Academic Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon G. Henry, MSBE</td>
<td>1999-2007</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pursuing the Ph.d in Science Education at the University of South Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Mosely</td>
<td>2002 – 2005</td>
<td>BS in Biology from Albany State University, 2005</td>
<td>Currently at Albany State University in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program obtaining my MS expected graduation year 2013</td>
<td>M.S. in Nursing at Albany State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya Lemon</td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Currently a graduate student at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, pursuing a doctoral degree in Cellular and Molecular Medicine, specializing in translational research of pediatric cancer.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer E. Green</td>
<td>2002-2005</td>
<td>B.S. in Biology Albany State University</td>
<td>Florida A&amp;M University, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences with a concentration in Pharmacology/Toxicology, Tentative Graduation Date—Summer 2012</td>
<td>Currently a PhD candidate at Florida A&amp;M University in Pharmaceutical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renaldo Blocker</td>
<td>Fall 1999-Fall 2003</td>
<td>Bachelors of Science in Computer Science, 2003</td>
<td>San Francisco State University, Masters, Computer Science, 2006 University of Wisconsin-Madison, Masters, Industrial and Systems Engineering, 2010 University of Wisconsin-Madison, PhD, Industrial and Systems Engineering, (Anticipated: December 2011)</td>
<td>Currently completing the dissertation at University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering titled “An Investigation of Intraoperative Handoffs during Cardiac Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
<td>Year of B.S. degree and major</td>
<td>Advanced Degree</td>
<td>Current professional/academic status</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherell Westley</td>
<td>2002-2004</td>
<td>Albany State University, B.S. in Mathematics 2004</td>
<td>MBA with a concentration in Accounting 2008</td>
<td>Payroll at American Promotional Events, Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandra Jackson, MSc</td>
<td>2000-2003</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>PhD Candidate in Cardiovascular Epidemiology, Brown Scholar</td>
<td>PhD Candidate in Cardiovascular Epidemiology, Brown Scholar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rashan Moss</td>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Graduate Student Environmental Science, Bethune-Cookman University</td>
<td>Graduate Student Environmental Science, Bethune-Cookman University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aneesah N. Baker</td>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Laboratory Management/Healthcare</td>
<td>Laboratory Management/Healthcare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumi Presuma</td>
<td>2006-2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Graduate Student, Drexel University</td>
<td>Graduate Student, Drexel University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaToya Patterson</td>
<td>2006-2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1st year Medical Student</td>
<td>1st year Medical Student</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name: **Jessica Deanyse Brereton**  
Period of Participation: 2006-2008  
Year of B.S. degree: 2008  
Current Status: Recently conferred Masters of Art Degree in Biomedical Science (June 2011) through Midwestern University-AZ.  
Personal Statement: Providing me with great mentorship and ample support in the journey to accomplishing my goals and aspirations, FGLSAMP has played a significant role in my academic career.

Name: **James Kirui**  
Period of Participation: 2007-2010  
Year of B.S. degree: May 2011  
Current Status: 1st Year Graduate Student, Cellular and Molecular Biology Graduate Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Personal Statement: It was through the FGLSAMP program that I was exposed to the opportunities in undergraduate research which I took advantage of and that led me to consider a career in scientific research.

Name: **Jarel Lawrence**  
Period of Participation: 2010-11  
Year of B.S. degree: 2011  
Current Status: Employed with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
Personal Statement: I am a telemetry engineer for Launch Services Program for NASA. I process data for unmanned rockets and create applications that process the rocket data. Being a member in FGLSAMP has showed me that I shouldn’t settle for a bachelor’s degree and pursue something at the graduate level. Therefore, I plan to pursue a degree at the graduate level sometime in the near future.

Name: **Shanterial Young**  
Period of Participation: 2006-2008  
Year of B.S. degree: 2008  
Current Status: Recent Graduate of Florida A&M University, M.S. Microbial Ecology  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP has served as a program to network with student and professors within the STEM field at Bethune-Cookman, as well as, other Universities. Also, it provided knowledge about STEM field professions other than the medical field.

Name: **Courtney Jn Baptiste**  
Period of Participation: 2007-2010  
Year of B.S. degree: May 2011  
Current Status: 2nd Year Graduate Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Personal Statement: I had initially planned to become a physician but through FGLSAMP activities and experience I realized that would rather become a biomedical researcher. I am now pursuing my doctorate at MIT.

Name: **Keira Ebanks** (Biological & Agricultural Systems Engineering)  
Period of Participation: 2005-2009  
Year of B.S. Degree: Spring 2009  
Advanced Degree: M.S. Degree; Biological & Agricultural Systems Engineering; Virginia Tech; 2011  
Current Status: Lab Manager, Clark Atlanta University – Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP had a positive impact during my matriculation at FAMU by providing financial support and academic support through resources and seminars. As an out of state student, financial support was extremely vital.

Name: **Gordon Radney** (Computer Science)  
Period of Participation: 1999-2003  
Year of B.S. Degree: Spring 2003  
Advance Degree: M.S. Software Engineering; University of Minnesota, 2008  
Current Status: M.S. Degree Program; System & Computer Science; Howard University  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP help me get off to a great start in my career with great advisement and direction. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do until I participated in FGLSAMP and now I'm doing well with my life in Software Engineering.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Period of Participation</th>
<th>Year of B.S. Degree</th>
<th>Advanced Degree</th>
<th>Current Status</th>
<th>Personal Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ketly Jean-Pierre</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>2002-2005</td>
<td>Spring 2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>M.S. Degree Program; System &amp; Computer Science; Howard University</td>
<td>I believe that the FGLSAMP Project helped me by not only funding some of my tuition, but the meetings that were held helped keep my educational and personal perspectives in order. It helped me better appreciate my experiences and steps to becoming a scientist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evan Anderson</td>
<td>Industrial Engineering</td>
<td>2004-2009</td>
<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>M.S. Degree; Engineering Management; Florida A&amp;M University; Spring 2009</td>
<td>Employed- Johnson &amp; Johnson- Engineer- Global Operations Leadership Development</td>
<td>FGLSAMP was very influential in many of the decisions that I made during my college years and thus shaped many things that developed later in my life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shani Lewis</td>
<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
<td>1995-2000</td>
<td>Spring 2000</td>
<td>M.S. Degree, Electrical Engineering, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL,</td>
<td>Allegation Coordinator for the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Manage the</td>
<td>If it wasn't for FGLSAMP, I don't know how I would've made it through school. FGLSAMP not only provided me with much needed funds for school, but also tutoring when I needed it, and an office position to help supplement my living expenses. Mr. Black was also a great supporter and mentor for me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Anthony</td>
<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
<td>2000-2003</td>
<td>Spring 2003</td>
<td>MS Degree, Florida State University, Industrial Engineering, 2006</td>
<td>Doctoral Candidate, Florida State University, Industrial Engineering, Anticipated</td>
<td>While growing up, I never thought I would have the opportunity or even the capacity to earn a Bachelor’s degree much more a Doctorate degree. I owe a lot of my motivation to the FGLSAMP and the discussion I heard regarding earning a terminal degree at the many Expos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osedra Siler</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>2005-2007</td>
<td>Fall 2007</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The FGLSAMP project exposed me to graduate studies opportunities and preparation to get accepted in a STEM graduate program. The project also gave me the chance to network with other students in various STEM studies, which motivated me to continue my goals with their support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Bembridge</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>Spring 2005</td>
<td>PhD Degree, Florida A&amp;M University, Mechanical Engineering, Spring 2005</td>
<td>Adjunct Instructor, FAMU-FSU College of Engineering</td>
<td>I am truly appreciative of the FGLSAMP Program and over the years I have benefited greatly from being a part of it. During my time at FAMU the FGLSAMP program provided me with guidance, encouragement that made the long journey toward a PhD considerably more manageable. I owe the program a debt of gratitude and I hope that it continues to positively impact the lives of other STEM major students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atiya Wheelings-Goodin</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>1999-2003</td>
<td>Spring 2003</td>
<td>MFA, Florida State University, Filmmaking, 2007</td>
<td></td>
<td>Self-employed as an independent filmmaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
<td>Year of B.S. degree</td>
<td>Advanced Degree</td>
<td>Current Status</td>
<td>Personal Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ira Wheaton</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2009-2011</td>
<td>Spring 2011</td>
<td>PhD Degree</td>
<td>Florida State University, Financial Mathematics, August 2011</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP @ FAMU Program helped me learn the importance of research and pursuing graduate education in the STEM fields. The guidance and mentorship provided by the entire FGLSAMP staff helped me tremendously. FGLSAMP helped me to secure a 5 year Fellowship to pursue and earn a PhD in Financial Mathematics, and I am forever grateful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Robinson</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>Spring 2009</td>
<td>M.S. Degree</td>
<td>Physics, Florida A&amp;M University, Tallahassee, FL, 2011</td>
<td>FGLSAMP was a great aide in my academic career. I highly recommend this program to anyone. FGLSAMP has been a resource for me from my educational beginnings at Tallahassee Community College (TCC) until the completion of a M.S. Degree in Physics. THANK YOU SO MUCH!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deonte Thompson</td>
<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
<td>1996-2001</td>
<td>Spring 2001</td>
<td>MBA</td>
<td>Letourneau University, Longview, TX, Spring 2004</td>
<td>FGLSAMP had a tremendous impact on my life and growth as an individual. The camaraderie that I gained through FGLSAMP still lives on today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jami M. Valentine</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>1992-1996</td>
<td>Spring 1996</td>
<td>M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Brown University, Physics, 1998 Johns Hopkins University, Physics, 2007</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP program was an excellent program that helped me to prepare for the rigors of graduate school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mareena Robinson</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>2009 - 2011</td>
<td>Spring 2011</td>
<td>Ph.D. Degree</td>
<td>Physics (Applied); MIT, Fall 2011</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP program afforded me the opportunity to become a part of an organization that fostered collaborations between STEM disciplines. FGLSAMP provided an avenue for me to present my research at various conferences; thus enhancing my presentation skills. This program was a Godsend and will definitely be so to many STEM students to come.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiara Wright</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spring 2009 - Present</td>
<td>2012 and Industrial Engineering</td>
<td></td>
<td>Interning at Lockheed Martin.</td>
<td>Without FGLSAMP, I would not have the knowledge of the different opportunities available to students during and after college life. I have been provided with an abundance of encouragement and guidance ever since my first day in the organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name: <strong>Edward Lule</strong></td>
<td>Name: <strong>Jose Garcia</strong></td>
<td>Name: <strong>Camillo A. Silva</strong></td>
<td>Name: <strong>Dr. Michael Sadeghinia</strong></td>
<td>Name: <strong>Dr. Anna Bernardo-Bricker</strong></td>
<td>Name: <strong>Mr. Marco Midon</strong> (was blinded as an infant)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of Graduation: Spring 2005</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: Summer 2002</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: Fall 2009 and Spring 2010</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: Spring 2005</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: Summer 2008</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: Spring 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Status: Ph.D in Electrical Engineering from Florida International University, Graduate Teaching Assistant and Researcher at FIU. Presently searching for a teaching position</td>
<td>Current Status: MS in Computer Engineering from Florida International University. Currently enrolled in doctoral program at FIU (2002-to present-close to finishing). He is a Teaching Assistant and a Researching lab assistant at FIU</td>
<td>Current Status: BS in Computer Engineering from Florida International University, BS in Mathematical Sciences from Florida International University</td>
<td>Current Status: PhD. in Civil Engineering, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Florida International University. He was an instructor at FIU in Structural Engineering. He was awarded the Ysrael A. Seinuk, P.C. Award in 2007 by the (ACE) Cuban American Association of Civil Engineers.</td>
<td>Current Status: Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Florida International University. She is currently an instructor in the Civil &amp; Environmental Engineering Department at FIU.</td>
<td>Current Status: MS in Electrical Engineering from Florida International University. He is currently the Lead Systems Engineer at Goddard Space Flight Center NASA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
<td>Date of Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Richard Campanha</strong></td>
<td>1999-2008</td>
<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>BS in Mathematics, Minor in Astronomy/Physics from Florida International University. Graduate Student at MIT in Astronautical Engineering. Currently a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxilliary. Researcher at the Mars Foundation.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fernando Quevedo</strong></td>
<td>2004-2010</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
<td>MS Public Health from Florida International University. Currently working as Assistant Director in the Dade County Health Department.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mariam De La Rosa</strong></td>
<td>2003-2011</td>
<td>Spring 2011</td>
<td>MBA from Florida International University, BS Industrial &amp; Systems Engineering. Currently working as a Consultant for Wipro Consulting in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rachel Quevedo</strong></td>
<td>2002-2010</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
<td>MS Public Health from Florida International University. Currently working for the Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mercedes Cabrerizo</strong></td>
<td>1998-2006</td>
<td>Summer 2006</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, MS. in Computer Engineering from Florida International University. Working at Miami Children’s Hospital, Brain Institute.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Artrease Spann</strong></td>
<td>Fall 2007- Fall 2011</td>
<td>Spring 2005, B.S. in biochemistry from Spelman College in Advance Degree: M.S. in Chemistry from Georgia Institute of Technology Summer 2007</td>
<td>Personal Statement: FGLSAMP has given me the opportunity to connect and mentor undergraduates and promote science careers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Charles Caldwell</strong></td>
<td>1996-2011</td>
<td>FSU 1999. Electrical Engineering Advance Degree: FSU, M.S., Electrical Engineering, 2002; FSU, Ph.D, Electrical Engineering. Current Status: I am currently finishing up my Ph.D at FSU. I successfully defended and will be graduating Summer 2011.</td>
<td>Personal Statement: I attended a panel discussion about acquiring a PhD at an FGLSAMP Expo in Albany. After witnessing all the women on the panel I knew that a PhD was something I wanted to achieve. With the help of mentors at FSU FGLSAMP I was able to make my dream a reality.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Name: John Williams  
Period of Participation: 1999-2011 (Undergraduate and Graduate Membership)  
Date of Graduation: 2003  
Major: Biology  
Advanced Degree: Ph.D. in Biology (Completion date: July 20, 2011)  
Current Status: I will be defending my dissertation on July 20, 2011. I have recently accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at Albany State University in Albany, GA  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP provided three key resources for me during my matriculation through undergraduate and graduate studies. |
|---|
| Name: Janel Gordon  
Period of Participation: June 2007-August 2007  
Date of Graduation: August 2011 in Molecular and Microbiology  
Current Status: Working on Doctorate of Pharmacy degree; with an expected graduation date of April 2012  
Personal Statement: FGSLAMP was a program that helped enhance my critical thinking skills. It also exposed me to a variety of science fields that directed me towards the path of pharmacy. |
| Name: Pamela Caraballo  
Dates of Participation: 2007-2008  
Date of Graduation: 2010  
Advanced Degree: UCF, Masters in Industrial Engineering, Expected graduation in 2013  
Current Status: Currently working as a SCADA Configuration Engineer for Siemens Wind Power attending to the operational and data configuration of all Siemens Wind Turbines in the Americas. Concurrently pursuing a Masters degree at UCF for Industrial Engineering.  
Personal Statement: Support from the Louis Stokes Alliance allowed me to concentrate more fully on school, and graduate as an Honors student. |
| Name: Eugine Ortiz  
Date of Graduation: May 2007, B.S. degree in Computer Engineering  
Advanced degree: M.S. in Computer Engineering at UCF.  
Current Status: I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering specializing in the area of Computer Vision, specifically action and face recognition.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP was critical in obtaining my degree because it allowed me to focus on my studies rather than on obtaining money to pay for them. |
| Name: Michael Felix  
Period of Participation: January 2004 – December 2008  
Date of Graduation: B.S. Electrical Engineering – December 2008  
Advanced Degree: Pursuing M.S. Industrial Engineering (Systems Engineering track) at UCF  
Current Status: Currently working for the Naval Air Warfare Center: Training Systems Division as a visual and sensor simulation engineer., Currently pursuing a M.S. degree in Systems Engineering from the University of Central Florida.  
Personal Statement: My involvement in FGLSAMP has impacted me in many ways throughout my undergraduate academic career and has provided me with a backbone to support my B.S. degree attainment. |
| Name: Calvin Maurice Stewart  
Period of Participation: 2005-2008  
Date of Graduation: 2008, Mechanical Engineering, B.S.  
Advanced degree: Mechanical Engineering, M.S. 2009 & Mechanical Engineering, PhD estimated Fall 2012  
Current Status: I'm a graduate student currently worked towards a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Central Florida. I have 4 journal articles published and 11 conference papers published in proceedings. I plan on completing my PhD in the Fall of 2012.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP provided substantial benefit to my academic development by allowing me to focus more on academic progress and less on financial obligations. When I started college I had no idea I would go this far in my academic career. |
| Name: Neil Lynn  
Date of Graduation: Graduated in May 2007 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering  
Current Status: Currently I am employed as a Project Manager for the Florida Department of Transportation for over 1 year now. Before, joining FDOT in District 6, I spent over 4 years working as a Transportation Analyst at a Transportation Consulting Firm in Orlando, Florida.  
Personal Statement: The FGLSAMP has been vital in helping me to achieve my B.S. in Civil Engineering, which has been the foundation of my career. |
Name: **Christopher Hodges**  
Current Status: Currently I am employed as a Software Engineer for Lockheed Martin. I am also working on my Masters Degree in Digital Forensics to contribute my skill set to the realm of cyber warfare.  
Personal Statement: The FGLSAMP was instrumental in obtaining my B.S. in Computer Engineering, which is the backbone of my current standard of living.

Name: **Juan Rueda**  
Dates of Participation: Fall 2009 and Spring 2010  
Date of Graduation: 2010 B.S., Environmental Engineering – University of Central Florida 2008 A.A., Engineering Technology – Miami Dade College  
Advanced Degree: Currently, M.S. Environmental Engineering – University of Central Florida  
Current Status: Currently I am pursuing a Masters in Science degree in environmental engineering at the University of Central Florida. My area of research is environmental biotechnology.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP impacted me profoundly because the money I received help me to stay focus in my studies while I was an undergraduate student.

Name: **Michael Asgill**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, 2008  
Current Status: Currently I have finished all my courses and doing only research towards my dissertation. I'm also currently working on my proposal for admittance to Ph.D. candidacy  
Personal Statement: Besides financial support, FGLSAMP has helped me forge friendships with many minority students across many disciples at UF and has helped me get acclimated to the graduate school environment.

Name: **Wendy Caramo**  
Period of Participation: Undergraduate August 2004 – 2008  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Microbiology, 2008  
Current Status: My specialization is in the study of auto antibodies produced by Hepatitis C patients and a novel structure that is recognized by these auto antibodies. I study the characterization of the structure and its function in the cell as well as the effect of the autoantibody production in patients.  
Personal Statement: The FGLSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Program has greatly impacted my academic career. The Bridge to Doctorate Program has allowed me the freedom to concentrate on my academic studies. In addition to the improving my studies it has allowed me to learn of other science fields by interacting with fellow BD members.

Name: **Raul Chinga**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Electrical Engineering, 2008  
Current Status: 4th Year Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Student  
I have been 2nd author of two papers, awarded a patent (co-inventor), and recently applied for a new patent for an invention that is part of my Ph.D. I am currently looking into publishing my first paper (1st author) this Fall, and another 2 during Spring. Since I received my B.S. in Electrical Engineering from UF, transitioning to Graduate School was pretty easy. However, my classes were not. Although in the same school, graduate school required more work and the environment in the classroom was more competitive and at many instances stressful.  
Personal Statement: However, this transition to graduate school and the new academic life I was experiencing became easier to deal with thanks to the BD program.

Name: **Hugo Miranda**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Micro Cell Science, 2008  
Current Status: 4th Year Microbiology and Cell Science Ph.D. Student  
Personal Statement FGLSAMP brought me closer to other minority students who were also interested in the sciences, which I may have never met otherwise.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Period of Participation</th>
<th>Date of Graduation</th>
<th>Current Status</th>
<th>Personal Statement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luis Colon-Perez</td>
<td>Undergraduate August 2006 – August 2008;</td>
<td>B.S. in Physics, 2008</td>
<td>MRI research, UF – BD Fellow</td>
<td>The Bridge to the Doctorate support has greatly influenced my success in my first two years of graduate school at UF. In those past two years I have been very relieved by the financial stability the BD fellowship gave me. Near the conclusion of my second year of graduate studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira Hill</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, 2008</td>
<td>I have completed my third year as a Ph.D. student and finished my qualifying exam. Now I am preparing to give my thesis proposal. My research is to use robotics in biomechanics, with a focus on improving our understanding of the human cervical spine.</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP Program provides a support network and financial stability to make the transition into graduate work much easier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Cunningham</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Biology, 2008</td>
<td>I'm a doctoral candidate in the department of Physiology and Functional Genomics</td>
<td>What I love most about this FGLSAMP is the chance to interact with other graduate students and undergrads. Talking to other grad students gives me the chance to build and expand my network and gain new friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayne West</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Chemistry, 2008</td>
<td>PhD track in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Florida. I recently passed my qualifying exams and I am scheduled to finish the Ph.D. program the end of this year. FGLSAMP has provided me with the opportunity to meet other minority students pursuing graduate degrees. It is more comforting knowing there are other students of various ethnic backgrounds. I am able to meet other Ph.D. graduates and professionals and receive excellent advice and guidance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Damit</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Meteorology, 2008</td>
<td>I am currently a 4th year PhD candidate and hope to graduate in Fall 2012. After graduation, I plan on working as a postdoc at a national lab or in industry. Currently I am working on research in air pollution. Via development of control devices for airborne pathogens and also testing cutting-edge air filtration media.</td>
<td>Without the BD program’s support and assistance, I would have had great difficulty matriculating through a STEM Ph.D. program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Grant</td>
<td>Undergraduate August 2003 – August 2008; BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Computer Engineering, 2008</td>
<td>I am currently a Ph.D. student in computer science. I passed my two written qualifiers, and I am a Ph.D. candidate. I am currently funded by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The Bridge to Doctorate program has allowed me a great deal of freedom in my academic pursuits.. Additionally, I was able to spend some of my time, independent from an advisor, publishing a paper with people I met while at IBM.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Magruder</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – August 2010; BD 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2010</td>
<td>The Bridge to the Doctorate Program</td>
<td>The staff of the FGLSAMP BD Office at UF is phenomenal at helping students persevere through graduate school. They have helped guide me through the complexities of the graduate school process every step of the way. With workshops on professional development, funding, and life skills,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Name: Michael Perez  
Period of Participation: BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Mathematics, 2008  
Current Status: The BD fellowship has been a great help in transitioning from undergrad to graduate life. It allowed me to focus on my studies for the first few years without teaching, therefore letting me do well and work under the adviser I had wanted to.  
Personal Statement: Through FGLSAMP I came to appreciate the support and learning opportunities that came about because of my participation with the FGLSAMP program. |
|---|---|
| Name: Aziza Jefferson  
Period of Participation: BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Mathematics, 2008  
Current Status: I have completed both first year exams and one of the two Ph.D. exams. I have completed all of the required course work for the Ph.D. program and am now in search of a research topic and will be taking primarily research credits.  
Personal Statement: The BD allowed me to concentrate without the distraction of learning how to teach as well. The bimonthly meetings helped to put my struggles in perspective and meet with other students in a similar situation.  
The BD program has influenced my academic success by relieving stresses – those associated with teaching, and the stresses associated with a lack of financial stability. |
| Name: Shiree Hughs  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Mathematical Science, 2010  
Current Status: My interest area is graphics and I just began research on anisotropic diffusion.  
Personal Statement: The Bridge to the Doctorate Program has helped me to meet other students who are having similar problems and success to discuss my own situations with. Also, the financial stability allows me to put my effort in learning the material from class and explore my research options without having the extra strain of having to work as a Teaching Assistant. |
| Name: Dwight McGee, Jr.  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Chemistry, 2008  
Current Status: 4th Year Chemistry Ph.D. Student  
My research interests pertain to protein folding and developing drugs to act as inhibitors for enzymes. My involvement in FGLSAMP has had a grave impact on my development as a scientist. It has allowed me to gain many experiences that may not have been possible otherwise.  
Personal Statement: My involvement in FGLSAMP has had a grave impact on my development as a scientist. It has allowed me to gain many experiences that may not have been possible otherwise. |
| Name: Christian Noack  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Mathematics, 2010  
Current Status: I have passed 3 out of 4 written qualifiers. I plan to have passed the fourth by the beginning of my second year. My current mathematical interests concern the interplay between functional and complex analysis.  
Personal Statement: The Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship has greatly facilitated my transition from the undergraduate to the graduate level. I certainly feel that two of the major factors that determine whether one will have a successful graduate career are financial stability and a support system, both of which the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship provides in full. |
| Name: Jaired Tate  
Period of Participation: Undergraduate August 2006 – August 2008; BD August 2008 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Chemistry, 2008  
Current Status: The Bridge to the Doctorate (BD)  
Personal Statement: Program has had a profound effect on my graduate experience at the University of Florida. The workshops, from counseling to financial responsibility, were very timely and needed. |
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Alexander</td>
<td>Undergraduate August 2008 – August 2010; BD August 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2010</td>
<td>2nd Year Civil Engineering Ph.D. Student</td>
<td>FGLSAMP has had a huge impact on my current position in life. I was awarded many scholarships to get through my undergraduate degree. I was able to do research for 3 out of the 4 years of my undergraduate. I gained skills in public speaking, paper writing, and professional etiquette.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalia Diaz</td>
<td>BD August 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Chemistry, 2010</td>
<td>I'm currently going on my second year of the Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences at UF.</td>
<td>The Bridge to Doctorate fellowship has been very helpful in my graduate career, and has been a key factor in my success. Also, the various workshops have been essential to my development as a graduate student. However, what I most appreciate from being a BD fellow is that the experience has encouraged me to grow, not only as a graduate student or a professional, but as an individual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miguel Lugo</td>
<td>BD August 2008 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2010</td>
<td>Current Status :</td>
<td>My involvement with FGLSAMP through the BD program has been a very rewarding experience at the University of Florida. The structure and involvement allowed for an effortless transition to graduate life on and off campus. With the program guidance, I have been able to benefit from the university's opportunities and support from day one, helping me focus in what matters most: advancing into a graduate degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabrina Parra</td>
<td>BD August 2010 – present</td>
<td>B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2010</td>
<td>Current Status: I am focused on estuarine dynamics, more specifically the turbulent energy variations emitted from a freshwater spring in a saltwater lagoon off the Yucatan Peninsula coast.</td>
<td>My participation in the BD Program has helped me transition between undergraduate work into a more flexible but more demanding graduate program. I am able to focus all my energies into studying, performing research and balancing my personal life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blayne Phillips</td>
<td>Undergraduate August 2005 – August 2010; BD August 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Chemical Engineering, 2010</td>
<td>Current Status: I'm in the process of taking classes and ramping up my research to prepare for my qualifiers and proposal in the spring. My goal is to get published by the end of the year, and there is also the possibility of me being able to patent some of the work I've done so far.</td>
<td>The BD has provided me the opportunity to pursue a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering without many of the financial hang ups that may otherwise occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorge Medina</td>
<td>Undergraduate August 2007 – August 2010; BD August 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Chemistry, 2010</td>
<td>Current Status: I am a 1.5 year student in physical chemistry preparing to defend my oral qualifier exam. My research is in quantum mechanical control of chemical reactions via light-matter interaction.</td>
<td>The BD program is possibly the most beneficial thing that helps to advance my progress towards a Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ismael Sarmiento</td>
<td>BD August 2010 – Present</td>
<td>B.S. in Computer Science, 2004</td>
<td>Current Status: After having worked in the software industry for five years, I am currently one year into my PhD program at The University of Florida. I am pursuing a degree in computer science with an emphasis on database research.</td>
<td>The FGLSAMP BD program has significantly eased my transition from the software industry to a full time graduate program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name: **Omar Saucedo**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Applied Mathematical Sciences, 2010  
Current Status: Applying to Graduate School  
Personal Statement: Although I was excited about attending graduate school at my university of choice, the financial burden would have been too great. The Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) Program made a profound impact on my decision to attend graduate school. Without the financial assistance the BD provides, my dreams of pursuing a doctoral degree would not have been realized, and for that, I’m eternally grateful to the BD committee for their support.

Name: **Marina Scotti**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Microbiology and Cell Science, 2010  
Current Status: 2nd Year Interdisciplinary Program in  
I am currently studying the importance of RNA splicing in the regulation of the immune system in the laboratory of Dr. Maurice Swanson. In particular, I am focused on the effect of loss of RNA binding protein Muscleblind 1 in thymocyte development and promotion of self-tolerance.  
Personal Statement: Through my participation in FGLSAMP, I have been fortunate to be introduced to other individuals that can understand and share with me the experience of being a first year graduate student in a STEM field as a minority.

Name: **Ricardo Vallardares**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Microbiology, 2010  
Current Status: The Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) Program provided through the FGLSAMP and NSF has been a vital contributor to my success in my first year as a graduate student at the University of Florida. From the student-focused guest speaker series to the alleviation of the financial burdens of achieving a graduate degree, the BD program is a tangible advantage for its participants.  
Personal Statement: As the first individual in my family to attend college, I often have to pave the way with little guidance. The assistance and care of the BD program and its staff have helped me avoid many of the bumps and bruises that most first-year graduate students endure. I feel lucky and honored to be a part of the BD program.

Name: **Michelle Adejumo**  
Period of Participation: Undergraduate August 2009 – August 2010;  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2010  
Current Status: Currently I am entering my 2nd year in the graduate program. I have hopes to focus my research on high speed rails. Specifically I plan to do a case study on the rail systems already established in the U.S. and in well-established countries around the world.  
Personal Statement: I am proud to be a part of the FGLSAMP. I am gaining the most out of my experience in graduate school by being a part of the program. The informational sessions held have assisted me to be the best graduate student that I can be. One session in particular that I benefited the most from is the stress management. That session taught me helpful ways to de-stress myself when faced with stress, the valuable information and demonstrations helped me through multiple final exams. Participating in the FGLSAMP has opened many opportunities for me to meet other fellow students that are similar to me and I am very grateful.

Name: **Adwoa Baah-Dwomoh**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Materials Science Engineering, 2010  
Current Status: I am currently pursuing my Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Florida. My specialization is in biomaterials, particularly polymeric biomaterials for tissue engineering applications.  
Personal Statement: The Bridge to the Doctorate program has allowed me to interact with students all throughout STEM majors. They have provided insight and possible collaborations in my own interests and have given me a forum to talk about my scientific research. The connections that I have made here go even farther than academic connections. Many of these students have become very good friends of mine and have allowed my transition to graduate school in a completely new state, very far away from home, seem less daunting, and more enjoyable.
Name: **Veronica Llaneza**  
Period of Participation: BD August 2010 – Present  
Date of Graduation: B.S. in Environmental Engineering, 2010  
Current Status: Currently my Ph.D. candidate in Environmental Engineering  
Personal Statement: The Bridge to Doctorate Program has allowed me a great deal of freedom to dedicate to my academic development. The BD Program has greatly impacted my life by allowing me to only concentrate on my research and class work load.

Name: **Nestor Arita**  
Period of Participation: August 2006 – May 2010  
Date of Graduation: University of Miami, BS in Biomedical Engineering 2010  
Baylor College of Medicine, MD Candidate, Class of 2014  
Current Status: I am currently a second year medical student in the Baylor College of Medicine. I anticipate graduating in May 2014. I am currently undecided on a specialty but have strong interest in Orthopedic Surgery, Emergency Medicine, and Pathology.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP greatly facilitated my involvement in research, which in turn helped me develop sound critical thinking skills that I can apply as a student and for the rest of my career.

Name: **David Amor**  
Period of Participation: 2005-2008  
Date of Graduation: 2009 Bachelors in Biomedical Engineering, University of Miami  
2011 Masters in Biomedical Engineering, University of Miami  
Current Status: Senior Innovation Fellow at the University of Minnesota Medical Device Center.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP was instrumental in allowing me to learn research protocols, procedures and methods at the undergraduate level which allowed me to flourish later at the graduate and post-grad stages. Furthermore, it nurtured and encouraged cooperative and collaborative research between the engineering and science fields, enabling my future interest in medical device design and development.

Name: **Deborah G. Castillo**  
Period of Participation: 2002-2004  
Date of Graduation: University of Miami 2004 Bachelors of Science in Biomedical Engineering  
Johns Hopkins University, SOM PhD in Biomedical Engineering (Spring 2012)  
Current Status: Graduate Student Fellow; PhD Candidate at Johns Hopkins University, Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP was an important step in my college career because it introduced me to scientific research as a possible career path. This experience set the foundation for my interests in pursuing a doctorate degree in biomedical engineering.

Name: **Edward Arguello**  
Period of Participation: Fall 1999 - Spring 2003  
Date of Graduation: Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, University of Miami, 2003,  
-M.S. Degree - Biomedical Engineering -Case Western Reserve University  
Current Status: Working in the field of Medical Device design, for major medical device companies designing products ranging from intravascular catheters to insulin pumps.  
Personal Statement: I am appreciative of the FGLSAMP program and the experience it provided during my undergraduate studies. Through FGLSAMP, I was exposed to real-world laboratory and design work outside of a classroom setting.

Name: **Janice Dias**  
Period of Participation: 2005-2009  
Date of Graduation: 2009; Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering  
Graduate School at the University of Miami  
Current Status: I am currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Miami. My research focus is the application of atomic force microscopy to the field of corneal biomechanics.  
Personal Statement: Through my participation within FGLSAMP, the world of biomedical research was made known to me. I thank the FGLSAMP for being the vehicle that has informed me on the vast opportunities and benefits accompanying obtaining advanced degrees and pursuing academic research endeavors that matches my interests.
Name: **Brad Keller**  
Period of Participation: August 2001 to May 2005  
Date of Graduation: 2005 B.S. Biomedical Engineering  
May 2009 M.S., Biomedical Engineering, Cornell University  
Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, Cornell University  
Current Status: Dr. Brad M. Keller is currently a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Radiology at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. His current work focuses on the development and analysis of clinically applicable image-derived biomarkers from radiological and pathological images in order to improve assessment of cancer-risk and response-to-treatment at the individual patient-level.  
Personal Statement: The experiences I had during the FGLSAMP program, both in terms of my personal research experiences as well as my interactions with other students and researchers, prepared me for graduate school. So without FGLSAMP, I doubt I would be in this position.

Name: **Bianca Maceo**  
Date of Graduation: received B.S. Biomedical Engineering  2009  
Current Status: I am currently a 3rd year Graduate student at the University of Miami. My research is related to the opt- mechanical properties of the crystalline lens and trying to gain a better understanding of its role in accommodation and presbyopia.  
Personal Statement: The director of the FGLSAMP program at the University of Miami, Dr. Michael Gaines, played a critical role in my decision to pursue an academic career in biomedical research. He instilled in me a deep appreciation for research and its ability to impact positively the lives of millions.

Name: **Shaun Smart**  
Period of Participation: 1998 –2002 (BS in biomedical engineering and physics)  
Date of Graduation: 2002.  
Graduate School: University of Michigan medical school 2002—2006  
Current Status: I am a neurologist and I Currently finishing my fellowship training in epilepsy at Duke University. My career goal is to be an academic epileptologist.  
Personal Statement: Thank you Dr. Gaines for allowing me to take part in the program.

Name: **Sanna Gaspard**  
Period of Participation: 2001-2004  
Date of Graduation: University of Miami Bachelor of Science 2004; Carnegie Mellon, PhD, Biomedical Engineering, 2011  
Current Status: I recently graduated with my PhD from Carnegie Mellon University. I am currently running a biotech start up.  
Personal Statement: The FGAMP program was provided much needed financial support for a large portion of my tenure at the University of Miami. The support I received from the FGAMP program reduced the financial burden of paying for my own education.

Name: **Abraham Akinin**  
Period of Participation: 2006-2010  
Date of Graduation: 2010  
Current Status: Obtaining a PhD in Bioengineering at UCSD developing retinal implants.  
Personal Statement: The guidance and support of FGLSAMP and the office of undergraduate research helped me get interested in research and made me realize the value of a career in academia.

Name: **Mariela Caridad Aguilar, MSBME**  
Period of Participation: 2003-2005  
Date of Graduation: University of Miami, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, August 2005  
(Minors: Biology and Chemistry)  
University of Miami, Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering, August 2005  
Current Status: the Director of Research Operations for the Ophthalmic Biophysics Center, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP afforded me the opportunity to gain valuable research experience in a laboratory setting and helped pave the way for my career in Biomedical Engineering and Ophthalmology.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Period of Participation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joniqua Howard, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2004-2010</td>
<td>May 2010 (Ph.D., Civil and Environmental Engineering)</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez</td>
<td>“The USF Bridge to the Doctorate experience is a very enriching, rewarding, and above all empowering. It is more than simply a program of professionals, it is an extension of your immediate family! A place of safe refuge during the storm, as well as a place for growth, development, and unconditional love.”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Warner Ithier-Guzmán, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2004-2010</td>
<td>August 2010 (Ph.D., Marine Science—Chemical Oceanography)</td>
<td>Environmental Scientist, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus</td>
<td>“Obtaining my doctoral degree has been the achievement of a lifetime. All this has been possible to the continuous support of the University of South Florida’s FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate. It provided the funding, guidance, and professional support needed to achieve my goals. Thanks to it my research contributions has opened many doors in my native island of Puerto Rico.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yolaine Jeune-Smith, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>August 2010 (Ph.D., Materials Science and Engineering—Univ. of Fla.)</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center &amp; Research Institute</td>
<td>“The FGLSAMP BD Cohorts II and III were my family away from home. The love and support I received from just what I needed to preserve. Even after I graduated, the program helped me to secure my current postdoc with the Cancer Imaging Research group at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center &amp; Research Institute. The program and students are the greatest.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quenton Bonds, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2004-2010</td>
<td>December 2010 (Electrical Engineering)</td>
<td>Research Electronics Engineering, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center</td>
<td>“The FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program is not only composed of individuals devoted to academic excellence but people who care. I am not longer afraid to take on projects on projects outside my field. In fact, I now integrate theories, concepts, and ideas from other areas into my research adding creativity and uniqueness. Throughout my entire graduate program the Bridge to the Doctorate program was a vital component to my success.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Javier Pulecio, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>December 2010 (Ph.D., Electrical Engineering)</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate, Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)</td>
<td>“The NSF Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship has enabled me to utilize the knowledge I gained as an undergraduate and merge it with my newly defined research interests. I feel blessed to have been a member of the Bridge to the Doctorate family and hope that I will always represent, with my work and accomplishments, all that is right about this program.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Al-Aakhir A. Rogers, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2005-2011</td>
<td>August 2011 (Ph.D., Electrical Engineering)</td>
<td>Senior MEMS Process Engineer, Charles Stark Draper Laboratory</td>
<td>“The Bridge to the Doctorate program has been a tremendous asset to my social, academic, and professional life. I am confident that my preparation and successes will afford me the opportunity to make important scientific contributions and give back to underrepresented communities as the BD program has done for me . . . Da B-dot-D, da Bee-Dec.”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Karyna Rosario, Ph.D.</strong></td>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>December 2010 (Marine Science—Biological Oceanography)</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate (USF College of Marine Science)</td>
<td>“The NSF/FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) Fellowship gave me the opportunity to start my Ph.D. program at the University of South Florida I received encouragement and support to conduct research internationally in Antarctica and New Zealand through other NSF program. The BD award has given a great help for me to accomplish academic goals and I am very grateful for it.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
<td>Date of Graduation</td>
<td>Current Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Shelton, Ph.D.</td>
<td>2005-2011</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>DoE Postdoctoral Research Associate, Carnegie-Mellon University</td>
<td>“The NSF Florida-Georgia LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship at the University of South Florida is a support network that has proven to be invaluable. The collective for success and excellence has been an excellent motivator for me on the days when I needed it. In addition to this, I think that the excellent mentoring provided by the faculty and staff helped me to reach my academic career goals.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nekeshia Williams, Ph.D.</td>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate, City University of New York City College</td>
<td>“Being an NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow not only provided the financial support necessary for completing my degree program, but I gained so much more . . . I was adopted into a family and community of scholars that sustained me through this season of my life. I could not ask or expect more”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camille Daniels, Ph.D.</td>
<td>2004-2011</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Associate, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)</td>
<td>“The NSF FGLSAMP BD program provided a wealth of opportunities, funding, and community to support students pursuing graduate degrees in the STEM fields. While the ocean is occasionally my office, I know that upon my return I can always rely upon the engaging and collaborative atmosphere that faculty, staff, and students fostered at USF. The BD program affirms the power of educating and training a diverse group of scientists and engineers to innovate and mentor the next generation of inquisitive minds.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regina Easley, Ph.D.</td>
<td>2005-2011</td>
<td>May 2011</td>
<td>In Transition</td>
<td>“Through my participation in the NSF Florida-Georgia LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship at the University of South Florida, I have been privileged to take part in a number of educational and career-building opportunities. One of my best experiences in the Bridge to the Doctorate program comes from daily interactions with other Bridge to the Doctorate students. The support and encouragement of my fellow peers in the program has helped me maintain momentum to continually move forward.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Bonivel, Jr., Ph.D.</td>
<td>2008-2010</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
<td>Senior Research Engineer, United Technologies Research Center (UTRC)</td>
<td>“The NSF Florida Georgia LSAMP program at the University of South Florida was not only my support group for my doctoral research but also an epiphanic consortium to which I owe credit for some of the novelty of my research. Without the support (financially, intellectually, and socially) my growth as a researcher, engineer, and a person would not have been possible. I owe a debt of gratitude to the BD family for their tireless efforts and support.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ransford Hyman, Jr., Ph.D.</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>Validation Solutions Developer, Intel, Inc.</td>
<td>“The BD program helped in providing essential financial support and professional development opportunities throughout my doctoral program. The program supported my participation at numerous conferences (NSBE, Great Minds in STEM, Richard Tapia), including those where I presented my research to industry leaders and peers. I will always be grateful for the mentoring and support I received from my BD family.”</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Name: Natasha Cover, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2006-2011
Date of Graduation: May 2012 (Biomedical Engineering)
Current Status: Research Scientist, Johnson & Johnson, Inc.
Personal Statement: “The NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program gave me access to an amazing group of individuals who are more like family rather than friends or professional colleagues.”

Name: Issa Ramirez, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2006-2012
Date of Graduation: May 2012 (Mechanical Engineering)
Current Status: Research Engineer, Pratt & Whitney, Inc.
Personal Statement: “I would never have been able to gain admission to a doctoral program or complete my degree without the support received from the NSF Bridge to the Doctorate. BD gave me the encouragement to intern with NASA, present my research at conferences, and interact with industry professionals. The guidance that I received was truly life-altering.”

Name: Dayna Martinez-Torres, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2006-2012
Date of Graduation: May 2012 (Industrial and Management Systems Engineering)
Current Status: Postdoctoral Research Associate, Veterans Engineering Resource Center (VERC), Tampa,
Personal Statement: “The NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program gave me countless opportunities to work alongside individuals from diverse backgrounds. The program opened many doors for me, and helped define my goals to pursue an academic career while doing research of national importance. My dream is to help Hispanic/Latino women succeed in science and engineering careers, and the USF BD program has prepared me to do so.”

Name: Ophir Ortiz, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2005-2010
Date of Graduation: August 2010 (Electrical Engineering)
Current Status: Postdoctoral Research Associate, Rutgers University (New Jersey Center of Biomaterials)
Personal Statement: “It was a long road, but the FLSAMP program helped me every step of the way, including the identification of my postdoctoral position at the New Jersey Center of Biomaterials.”

Name: Andrea Rocha, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2006-2011
Date of Graduation: August 2011 (Engineering Science, Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Current Status: Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of South Florida
Personal Statement: “Through my participation in the University of South Florida’s FGLSAMP BD program, I have been privileged to take part in a number of educational and career building opportunities. Unquestionably, one of my best experiences throughout my doctoral program was the daily interactions with other Bridge to the Doctorate students. The support and encouragement of my fellows peers in the program has helped me maintain momentum to continually move forward.”

Name: Erick Maxwell, Ph.D.
Date of Graduation: December 2007 (Electrical Engineering)
Current Status: Senior Research Engineer, Georgia Research Institute of Technology (GRIT)
Personal Statement: “At the University of South Florida (USF), I was surrounded by a diverse cross-section of faculty, staff, and peers who were genuinely interested in my success as a student. These supporters served both officially and unofficially as my mentors, advisors, and instructors. Collectively, my experience at USF through the NSF funded LSAMP and other programs, was one which provided not only the education for equipping me to make a technical contribution in my field, but also opportunities to use that education to successfully engage the community at large.”

Name: Deidra Hodges, Ph.D.
Period of Participation: 2005-2009
Date of Graduation: December 2010 (Electrical Engineering)
Current Status: Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering, Division of Engineering, Southern Polytechnic State University
Personal Statement: “I want to thank the NSF LSAMP program for all the help and guidance accorded me throughout my Ph.D. program at the University of South Florida. It was quite a tremendous experience and even though my life will progress somewhere else, I’ll always keep in touch, and hope
someday we’ll be able to work together again.”

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<tr>
<th>Name: William L. Mondy, Ph.D.</th>
<th>Name: Erlande Omisca, Ph.D.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Graduation: August 2009 (Biomedical Engineering)</td>
<td>Date of Graduation: May 2011 (Civil and Environmental Engineering)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Status: Associate Professor, Tissue Engineering, Cell Biology, Biofabrication, Claflin University, Visiting Assistant Professor, Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)</td>
<td>Current Status: In Transition</td>
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<td>Personal Statement: “The University of South Florida supported my efforts in designing and developing a research project from my own vision. The LSAMP program facilitated opportunities to travel abroad for several international collaborations. The results were peer-reviewed publications, one being selected by my peers as the seventh most important article published in <em>Biofabrication</em> in 2009.”</td>
<td>Personal Statement: “The FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program has opened doors for me and provided opportunities that would not have been possible otherwise. I’ve been able to travel abroad and do global research, gain a better perspective of environmental health issues that exist, and experience more than I could ever imagine.”</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name: Dorielle Price, Ph.D.</th>
<th>Name: Tony Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date of Graduation: May 2012 (Electrical Engineering)</td>
<td>Anticipated Graduation Date: August 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Status: In Transition</td>
<td>Current Status: Doctoral candidate, Electrical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Statement: “The NSF LSAMP community provided mentoring that supported my successful fellowship applications to NSF and Ford, travel opportunities to present my research internationally and for an internship at the Office of Naval Research (ONR). This funding enabled me to concentrate solely on academic and research without distractions of part-time employment or financial burdens. Most importantly, BD has provided a strong camaraderie of graduate students who are more like family and not just a network.”</td>
<td>Personal Statement: “The BD program has been a tremendous asset to my academic life. As a future member, I am confident that my preparation and successes will afford me the opportunity to make important scientific contributions and give back to underrepresented communities as the BD program has done for me.”</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name: Kathryn Bailey</th>
<th>Name: Eloy Martinez-Rivera</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2012</td>
<td>Anticipated Graduation Date: December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Status: Doctoral candidate, Engineering Science, Civil and Environmental Engineering</td>
<td>Current Status: Doctoral candidate, Marine Science—Biological Oceanography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Statement: “The FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program facilitated my internship appointments at two DOE national labs, Brookhaven and Pacific Northwest National. I have been a Ph.D. Intern at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) since January 2010. Both experiences have been paramount in my development as a researcher. Additionally, the opportunity to work with scientists from diverse disciplines, ethnicities, and nationalities has helped me to become a more well rounded person and scientist.”</td>
<td>Personal Statement: “The NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program literally opened the doors of graduate studies to me. BD’s excellent structure allowed me to take full advantage of workshops, seminars and lectures that enhanced my professional development. I hope that this program continues to provide essential support for students like me, who wants to make the difference in our respective areas of interest.”</td>
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<td>Name</td>
<td>Period of Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darline Lott</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keily Heredia</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marietta Mayo</td>
<td>2004-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inia Soto Ramos</td>
<td>2005-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rufael Berhane</td>
<td>2006-2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheena Greene</td>
<td>2006-2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Williams</td>
<td>2006-2008</td>
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</table>
| Name: **Henry La Rosa** | Period of Participation: 2005-2007  
Graduation Date: December 2007 (M.S., Electrical Engineering)  
Current Status: Design Engineer, Texas Instruments, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “The NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate experience impacted me both personally and professionally in so many ways. Without NSF BD support, I would have not been able to further my education. Thanks to the Bridge to the Doctorate, I was able to continue with my graduate studies, which open many doors for me; like starting my career as an RF/Microwave Engineer, a field that I love. BD gave me the opportunity to pursue and achieve my dreams. BD also showed me the importance of volunteering. Before engaging in this program, I was not very active in the community. The Bridge to the Doctorate thought me that small actions like introducing young students to physics and science at an early stage using Legos, or addressing Hispanic/Latino high school kids about how many opportunities are out there. Without BD’s influence on my career, I don’t think I would have been as involved in the community.” |
|---|---|
| Name: **Tiffany Burrell** | Period of Participation: 2007-2010  
Graduation Date: May 2010 (M.S., Computer Science)  
Current Status: Component Design Engineer, Intel, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “The FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program provided the financial support for me to complete my M.S. in Computer Science. BD also provide the professional development and networking opportunities which enabled me to obtain a summer internship at Intel, which led to my present position.” |
| Name: **Elliott Rice** | Period of Participation: 2008-2011  
Graduation Date: May 2008 (M.S., Mechanical Engineering)  
Current Status: Thermal Engineer/Analyst, United Launch Alliance (ULA)  
Personal Statement: “When I first transferred to the University of South Florida, I didn’t know anyone, and FGLSAMP was a great way to meet new people. More importantly the program really fostered academic excellence so it was great to have the much needed "push" because academic success is more difficult at the university level as opposed to the community college level from which I came. After arriving here, I received scholarships for me to continue onward in both my undergraduate and graduate programs. Thank you times 10 to the NSF FGLSAMP BD and LSAMP programs for always being in my corner.” |
| Name: **Julia P. Clark** | Period of Participation: 2003-2005  
Graduation Date: May 2005 (B.S., Civil Engineering, Geotechnical concentration —USF); December 2007 (M.S., Civil Engineering, Geotechnical concentration — Purdue)  
Current Status: Project Professional, Fugro Consultants, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “The NSF FGLSAMP program at USF provided me with conference presentation opportunities that helped in my preparation for graduate school. Currently, I am working on geotechnical engineering projects with Fugro Consultants in Houston, TX. My job responsibilities include coordinating field exploration activities, assigning laboratory tests, performing engineering analyses, developing engineering recommendations and preparing technical reports under the supervision of my Project Manager.” |
| Name: **Adebola Osuntogun** | Period of Participation: 2003-2005  
Graduation Date: May 2005 (B.S., Computer Science & B.S., Computer Engineering); December 2007 (M.S., Computer Science—Georgia Tech University)  
Current Status: Supply Chain IT Analyst, Hewlett Packard, Inc  
Personal Statement: “At USF, I was blessed with -mentors who gave encouragement throughout my undergraduate engineering program. The NSF FGLSAMP program gave me multiple opportunities to expand my professional network through conference presentations and interactions with the Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) fellows.” |
| Name: **Santiana Jean-Baptiste** | Period of Participation: 2003-2007  
Graduation Date: December 2007 (B.S., Chemical Engineering)  
Current Status: New Product Development Engineer - R&D, Stryker Sustainability Solutions  
Personal Statement: “FGLSAMP provided me with important leadership, and networking opportunities as well as scholarship support. My entire experience was phenomenal. Our mentors really listened and encouraged me to grow in the Chemical Engineering field by seeking out internships (Johnson & Johnson) and other professional development opportunities. I was able to refine my public
speaking skills improved and became comfortable presenting to both technical audiences and the public. FGLSAMP is a very inspiring organization.”

Name: Gabrielle Dick  
Period of Participation: 2001-2003  
Graduation Date: December 2003 (B.S., Biomedical Science)  
Current Status: Group Leader, Therapeutics Manufacturing, Biotest Pharmaceuticals Corporation  
Personal Statement: “I participated in FGLSAMP at Miami-Dade College where I earned my A.A., and later at the University of South Florida after transferring for my Bachelor’s degree. At each step of the way, I was blessed to have supportive mentors who were like family. FGLSAMP encouraged my involvement in undergraduate research and applications for both university and national scholarships. Without the guidance of FGLSAMP mentors, I would have never received an UNCF-MERCK scholarship. Thank you FGLSAMP . . . !”

Name: Glenn Simmons, Jr.  
Period of Participation: 2004-2006  
Graduation Date: May 2006 (B.S., Biomedical Science)  
Current Status: Doctoral Candidate, Biomedical Sciences —Meharry Medical College/NIH Pre-doctoral Fellow  
Personal Statement: “From the very moment I arrived on campus at USF, FGLSAMP mentors were there to guide me. My mentors helped me to secure a research position at the Moffitt Cancer & Research Institute within an Immunology lab. FGLSAMP provided travel awards for me to present at several conferences (FGLSAMP, Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students) and helped with my applications to doctoral programs. Two years ago, I was invited back to USF by FGLSAMP as a speaker, workshop panelist, and graduate student exhibitor representing Meharry Medical College during the 2010 FGLSAMP EXPO at USF.”

Name: Andre P. Garcia  
Period of Participation: 2004-2008  
Graduation Date: May 2008 (B.S., Civil Engineering)  
Current Status: Doctoral Student, MIT/NSF Graduate Research Fellow  
Personal Statement: “Throughout my undergraduate program at the University of South Florida, the FGLSAMP program wrote countless recommendation letters on my behalf for various scholarship programs. Later on this support extended to reviewing my application for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) which I was later awarded for my doctoral studies at MIT. I thank the FGLSAMP program and my other USF advisors for helping me obtain this fellowship. Their support has truly been instrumental. It is because of the amazing foundation set by everyone at USF that I am here today. Thank you again.”

Name: Ryan Ferreira  
Period of Participation: 2008-2010  
Graduation Date: December 2010 (B.S. Computer Engineering)  
Current Status: Analyst, Software Quality Assurance, Walmart, Inc. (Corporate Headquarters)  
Personal Statement: “The mentoring and NSF scholarships I received through the FGLSAMP program was invaluable in ensuring my success and graduation from the University of South Florida. My mentors encouraged me to excel academically and seek out internships along with other professional development opportunities. I am very grateful for their support.”

Name: Justin Hinson  
Period of Participation: 2008-2010  
Graduation Date: December 2010 (B.S., Mechanical Engineering)  
Current Status: ARMS Ambassador (Professional Engineer), Sandvik, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “I thank the FGLSAMP program so much for everything (financial aid scholarships, undergraduate research, and mentoring) it did for me. I would not have been able to make it with its guidance and support. FGLSAMP put me in a position where I have no other choice but to succeed. My job with Sandvik, Inc. includes many tasks but primarily to provide a time vs. cost analysis on products assembled at the facility. Again thank you, FGLSAMP for everything.”

Name: Alejandra Vega  
Period of Participation: 2010-2011  
Graduation Date: May 2011 (B.S., Mechanical Engineering)  
Current Status: Engineer, Global Operations Leadership Development Program (GOLD), Johnson & Johnson, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “This year was very important because of all the milestones that I reached. Presenting at national meetings in Jacksonville and New York City, graduating from college, getting my first job, moving to a different state, etc. and the mentors within the NSF FGLSAMP program at the University of South Florida helped through nearly all of . I enjoyed every minute of my LSAMP
experience and the great networking connections that I acquired.”

Name: **Tahiem Williams**  
Period of Participation: 2009-2011  
Graduation Date: August 2011 (B.S., Mechanical Engineering)  
Current Status: Analytical Engineer, United Launch Alliance  
Personal Statement: “FGLSAMP provided me information on internships, scholarships, undergraduate research, and conferences for professional networking. For my internship, I secured a position with United Launch Alliance, which led to my current position as an Analytical Engineer with ULA in Colorado. FGLSAMP is a great program with wonderful mentors who do everything possible to help students succeed.”

Name: **Hayde Silva**  
Period of Participation: 2007-2011  
Graduation Date: December 2011 (B.S., Electrical Engineering)  
Current Status: Controls Engineer—Fuel Systems Division, Cummins, Inc.  
Personal Statement: “I truly thank the FGLSAMP and other NSF scholarship programs for all that they have done. I doubt I would have ever finished my degree and obtained a great job without their support.”

Name: **Trishelle Copeland-Johnson**  
Period of Participation: 2009-2012  
Anticipated Graduation Date: December 2012 (B.S., Chemical Engineering)  
Current Status: Senior, Department of Chemical Engineering  
Personal Statement: “NSF FGLSAMP has supported my participation in undergraduate research at a national lab (Ames), private industry, and at USF. Most importantly, it has offered mentoring from the program staff as well as minority graduate students within the Bridge to the Doctorate program. Thanks for being there, FGLSAMP.”

Name: **Adrian Chacon**  
Period of Participation: 2008-2010  
Graduation Date: December 2003 (B.S., Biomedical Science)  
Current Status: Manufacturing Engineer, ConMed Linvatec, Largo, FL  
Personal Statement: “FGLSAMP supported me in going to their EXPO in Miami, FL. There I presented my research project and I was awarded second place in my category. During this event I also learned a lot about graduate school and research opportunities, and I even found out about a summer REU in Pittsburgh and later I was accepted into the program. The next year, I received guidance from a FGLSAMP graduate mentor on my oral presentation. Her suggestions helped me to receive first place at the EXPO at USF in Tampa, FL.”

Name: **Justin T. Stewart**  
Period of Participation: 2008-2011  
Graduation Date: May 2010 (B.S., Chemical Engineering), May 2011 (M.S., Biomedical Engineering)  
Current Status: Manufacturing Engineer, ConMed Linvatec, Largo, FL  
Personal Statement: “FGLSAMP has also helped to build my confidence in myself in and in personal goals. The advisors and mentors have a passion for assisting students in accomplishing their goals is a gift from above. They listen to us and then ask questions that engage our minds on how to accomplish our goals. I am not sure If I would have ever completed successfully my collegiate career without their support.”

Name: **Mark Weatherspoon, Ph.D.**  
Period of Participation: 1998-2002  
Anticipated Graduation Date: August 2002 (Ph.D., Electrical Engineering)  
Current Status: Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Florida State University  
Personal Statement: “FGLSAMP has been an extremely rewarding experience for me. In my years as a matriculating fellow, FGLSAMP has allowed me the opportunity to work with undergraduate engineering and mathematics students in a tutoring/mentoring role as well as continue my Ph.D. research.”
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meagan Amaro</strong></td>
<td>2008-2011</td>
<td>Spring 2010</td>
<td>Matriculated to The Florida State University in the Summer of 2008. Majored in Biomathematics and received minors in physics, chemistry, and biology. Graduated from FSU in December of 2010 with a B.S. degree in Mathematics. After graduating from FSU in December 2010, I moved back to Jacksonville, FL in January and have been working in banking/finance at Community First Credit Union. I currently plan to further my education in January 2012 at University of North Florida perusing a Master’s degree in Educational Leadership.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brandon Shelby</strong></td>
<td>2009-2011</td>
<td>Spring 2010</td>
<td>Jacksonville University, Computer Science, Junior</td>
<td>Keep God 1st and everything else will fall into place; &quot;I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me.&quot; Phil 4:13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shannon Stittsworth</strong></td>
<td>FSCJ STEM club member January 2008-May 2009</td>
<td>Spring 2009</td>
<td>Accepted in the PhD program (Radiochemistry/Radiopharmaceutical) at the University of Missouri. University of Florida/Biochemistry/BS awarded April 2011 (cum laude) Student Undergraduate Learning Internship (SULI) intern at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Before joining STEM club, I did not even know undergraduates had the chance to do scientific research, let alone present their studies at regional and national conferences. THANK YOU to everyone in FGLSAMP for being an inspiration and a motivation to me throughout the past four years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jasmine Allen</strong></td>
<td>Fall 2010 and Spring 2011</td>
<td>Spring 2011</td>
<td>University of South Florida for a B.A. in Biochemistry (Senior)</td>
<td>Chemistry has taught me that investigation and learning do not stop once one leaves the classroom. The FGLSAMP program helped me discover my true passion for science and exploration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demetrius Richardson</strong></td>
<td>Fall 2007– Spring 2010 at TCC</td>
<td>Spring 2010 (A.A. from TCC)</td>
<td>University of South Florida and I am obtaining my degree in Computer Engineering. I spent summer 2011 interning in the field of Computer Engineering.</td>
<td>Without FGLSAMP I know for a fact that none of this would be possible. All of my internship opportunities since I was a freshman were thanks to FGLSAMP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ashley Johnson</strong></td>
<td>2007- 2009 at TCC</td>
<td>Spring 2009 (A.A. from TCC)</td>
<td>Florida A&amp;M University soon to graduate spring 2012 with my Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. Fall 2012 I plan to attend Iowa State University, University of Iowa, or North Carolina State University for graduate school with the hopes of obtaining my PhD in Statistics.</td>
<td>Since my involvement in FGLSAMP I have been blessed with opportunities of a lifetime. I truly believe I would not have the internship experiences, support team, and strong academic network I have today if it wasn’t for this program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name: Giovanni Merilus  
Period of Participation: Fall 2006– Spring 2009 at TCC  
Date of Graduation: Spring 2009 (A.A. from TCC)  
Current Status: As a senior at Florida State University,  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP has bolstered my resume while providing me with numerous opportunities that are only available to a select few at the undergraduate level. Among the benefits of this program are the yearly internships that I have been able to participate in around the country.

Name: Jacob Billings  
Period of Participation: Fall 2007 - Spring 2008 at TCC.  
Date of Graduation: Spring 2008 (A.A. from TCC)  
Current Status: Graduated from FAMU Spring 2011. Right now I am accepted to Emory University in their Graduate Program in Neuroscience. I will begin graduate school there in late August 2011.  
Personal Statement: Through FGLSAMP's many opportunities I gained a worldly view of who I can become through science. My thanks go out to the program coordinators and sponsors for making science come alive for me.

Name: Dwayne Shelton  
Period of Participation: Fall 2006 -Spring 2007 at TCC  
Date of Graduation: Spring 2007 (A.A. from TCC)  
Fall 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems from FAMU  
Current Status: I currently work for a company called CGI in Troy, Alabama as an IT consultant. I recently started my career June 2011. It is a great place to work and I enjoy learning and gaining experience.  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP has given me valuable information on how the major I chose would benefit me later in life. FGLSAMP gave me the tools, support, and their time to make sure that the educational track I took would not be derailed.

Name: Amber Lodman  
Period of Participation: Fall 2007– Spring 2009 at TCC  
Date of Graduation: Spring 2009 (A.A. from TCC) Summer 2011 (Bachelors from FSU)  
Current Status: I am currently employed at Tallahassee Community College as the Program Assistant for the STEM Center  
Personal Statement: FGLSAMP shaped my experience at TCC and beyond. Being involved in an organization such as FGLSAMP is one I did not take for granted as it is a privilege. The people I met and the positive experiences we shared are unforgettable. Thank you FGLSAMP!

Name: Khalid Rasul  
Period of Participation: Summer 2007 - Spring 2008 at TCC; 2008 - 2011 at FAMU  
Date of Graduation: Fall 2012 (B.S.)  
Current Status: I am currently enrolled at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University studying Construction Engineering Technology. I am scheduled to graduate Fall 2012  
Personal Statement: I have always been thankful to be affiliated with FGLSAMP. The leadership & guidance I received were paramount to my academic career. The motivation I received to invest serious time in my researching & not hesitating to seek the assistance of others knowledgeable in the particular subjects still resonates with me now. I am forever indebted to the examples & guidance that were afforded to me through this program.
LaTayia Aaron is a junior majoring in Biology at Clark Atlanta University. Ms. Aaron chose Biology as a major because she has a “deep love for science.” During the summer of 2011 Ms. Aaron participated in the Nebraska Prostate Cancer Research Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Her contributions enhanced the research on prostate cancer. She is elated about the hands-on experience she received and said, “it was challenging but I learned a lot.” Ms. Aaron said that she is grateful for being a part of LSAMP; it helped her to be prepared for the Nebraska experience.

Sajjad Abdullateef is a Commissioned Officer with the U.S. Air Force. He graduated from Morehouse College in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. In addition to serving in the Air Force, Lt. Abdullateef is seeking his Master’s degree in Mathematics. Math is his motivation. “I approach research like a mathematical equation, searching for the solution.”

Shawntaye Adams is working as an assistant professor at Delta College in Michigan. A 2005 graduate of Clark Atlanta University, Ms. Adams earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Mathematics. While at Clark Atlanta she was a PRISM D and LSAMP scholar. As an undergraduate, Ms. Adams tutored her peers and attempted to instill her enthusiasm for math in them. Her experience as a tutor led to her interest in teaching. She is impacting the lives of college students every day as an assistant mathematics professor. “I love relating mathematics to everyday concepts; and having my students ‘get it.’”

Alicia M. Bibbs completed her B.S. in Biology at Clark Atlanta University in December 2008. Ms. Bibbs received a National Teaching Fellowship at Citizen Schools in Albuquerque, NM, then transferred to Houston, TX from 2010-2011. She completed her Master’s of Education in Out of School: Curriculum and Instructional, Leadership and Community Involvement at Lesley University in May 2011. In June of 2011 Ms. Bibbs accepted a position as a Research Data Coordinator with MD Anderson Cancer Center in a Histology Research Laboratory. She is recognized as the co-founder of the Sickle Cell Cure Foundation and continues to advocate for the Foundation throughout the country. Her volunteer research internship, with Dr. Robert Broyles with his cure for Sickle Cell Anemia in 2006 at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, has been invaluable.

Ava Blake attended Georgia State University as a National Merit Scholar in 2005. She completed her Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry with a minor in Spanish in 2008, graduating magna cum laude. As an undergraduate student she participated in the LSAMP program and studied under the instruction of Dr. Lucjan Strekowski. Ms. Blake studied the development of compounds demonstrating activity on the serotonin receptor. Ms. Blake earned a Master’s Degree in Mathematics in 2010 from GSU. Presently, she seeks to obtain her juris doctorate from GSU’s College of Law, and ultimately hopes to establish a legal career in patent law. She is currently an intellectual property graduate research assistant in the University’s Office of Legal Affairs.

Deeyaa Blessing is an alumna of Georgia State University, where she completed both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Chemistry with a concentration in biotechnology. In the fall of 2011, Ms. Blessing entered the University of Maryland’s Ph.D. program in Chemistry. As a first year student, Ms. Blessing was awarded a Dolphus E. Milligan Fellowship which also allowed her to participate in a summer internship at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Ms. Blessing is grateful for the opportunities that LSAMP provide her. She participated in research and developed poster presentations to display at conferences.
Steffon Benson successfully matriculated at Paine College and completed his studies in May 2011. A mathematics major, Mr. Benson is currently enrolled at the University of Georgia pursuing the Master’s Degree in Mathematics. During his matriculation at Paine College, he conducted research with the Department of Energy under Dr. Abubucker.

Conner Carter is a 2011 graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. During his matriculation at Morehouse, he gave oral and poster presentations at several symposia as well as national conferences such as the LSAMP Symposium on Capitol Hill (2010) and the Emerging Researchers’ National (ERN) Conference in 2011. He conducted research on the RNase J protein at his home institution and during his summer internship at Emory University. Upon graduation, Mr. Carter accepted a research position at Emory University. He is grateful for the opportunities that LSAMP has provided, particularly the extensive network and the exposure.

Danielle Daniely-Wilson, Ph.D. graduated 2004 from Paine College where she was a LSAMP scholar who earned summa cum laude honors. She has conducted extensive research at the Medical College of Georgia in cell biology during her undergraduate matriculation. Dr. Daniely-Wilson obtained her Ph.D. from the Medical College of Georgia in cell and molecular biology. She is currently teaching and conducting research at the Medical College of Georgia.

Jarrett David completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science, May 2011, at Morehouse College. During the summer of 2011 he participated in Texas A&M University’s Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) for Electrical & Computer Engineering. He is currently working on a post baccalaureate assignment at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. While at Morehouse, Mr. David participated in the HBCU-UP and HOPPS Scholars Programs and was a member the Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society. Mr. David attended numerous symposia and national conferences including National Organization for Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHe), Emerging Researchers National, and Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Scientists (ABRCMS) to name a few. In addition, he spearheaded the STEM Student Council for the GA LSAMP.

Brittany Cox works as a research intern in the post baccalaureate program at Virginia Commonwealth University. Ms. Cox graduated from Paine College in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology-PreProfessional. While at Paine, she conducted research on the environmental factors contributing to health disparities among college students and presented this research orally at conferences and symposia.

Eric Clark, Jr., graduated from Paine College in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology Pre-professional. While at Paine he was an LSAMP scholar and a tutor/mentor. He is currently enrolled at Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic seeking a Doctorate of Chiropractic medicine.

Cedrick M. Daphney is currently a faculty member at Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC). He started his academic career at AMC and received two associates degrees, Psychology (2001) and Biology (2002). He gained research experience while completing the Biology A.S., and later enrolled at Georgia State University (GSU) as an undergraduate chemistry major. He also participated in the Ronald A. McNair Scholars’ Program. Mr. Daphney earned a M.S. degree in Analytical Chemistry at GSU, prior to returning to AMC as a professor. While at AMC, Mr. Daphney has mentored LSAMP scholars and attended the Emerging Researchers National (ERN) 2010 conference with two AMC scholars.

Christian Deaton is a senior at Georgia State University in the Department of Chemistry. He is a member of the Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program and works in Dr. Y. George Zheng’s laboratory. In Dr. Zheng’s lab, Mr. Deaton has gained research experience that focuses on biochemistry, organic synthesis, molecular biology, cellular biology, and biophysics. He said that the opportunity to synthesize peptides and determine whether those peptides could be linked to specific cancers was amazing. He chose chemistry as a major “after doing decent in high school chemistry.” This coupled with his plans to become a pharmacist caused him to “enter college with a greater sense of urgency regarding my academics.”
Zeus Allen O. De los Santos is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree at Georgia State University. Mr. De los Santos is classified as a junior and was a recipient of the Molecular Basis of Disease Summer Research Scholarship for the Summer of 2011. He is conducting research in Dr. Binghe Wang’s group with Dr. Bowen Ke, primarily focusing on the chemistry of boronic acid and its use as a chemosensor. He also serves as a teaching/laboratory assistant in the Department of Chemistry, teaching tutorials in Nursing chemistry and General Chemistry. His goal is to advance cancer research.

Charisma D. Edwards is currently a doctoral student in Electrical Engineering at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Her research is in digital signal processing with a focus in neurological signal classification. This research inspired during her work in neuroimaging at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Edwards has gained recognition as a leader of the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association at LSU and was recently nominated for Graduate Student Leader of the Year. She earned her B.S. in Engineering from Clark Atlanta University in 2004 and her M.S. in Electrical Engineering from LSU in 2007. Ms. Edwards expects to receive her Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in December 2011.

Knatoki Ford, Ph.D. earned her terminal degree in Experimental Pathology from Harvard University in 2011. Originally from Akron, OH, Dr. Ford graduated Summa Cum Laude Honors from Clark Atlanta University in 2004, with a B.S./M.S. in Chemistry. Dr. Ford has served as a mentor for SHURP (Summer Honors Undergraduate Research Program) and was the President of the Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard (MBSH). She will complete a postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Jack Lawler at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical center. Dr. Ford has combined her science education and her mentoring skills to challenge and encourage students, letting them know that they can do it also.

Keana Graves is a senior chemistry major at Clark Atlanta University. Ms. Graves has conducted research at the University of Alabama during the summers of 2010 and 2011 as part of their Research Experience for Undergraduates Program. She is able to continue that research under the direction of Dr. Bu at her home institution. Ms. Graves has presented and won first place awards at LSAMP and other national conferences. Ms. Graves selected chemistry as her major not only because it comes natural to her but also because she realized that through research she can change the world. As a member of the Chemistry Club, Ms. Graves led experiments to stimulate interest in the sciences such as creating ice cream from liquid nitrogen and participated in Collegiate Shadow Days with Middle School students.

Darius J. Devin is a junior undergraduate student at Georgia State University, majoring in Biological Studies with a minor in Chemistry. Since September 2010, he has been volunteering in Dr. Zehava Eichenbaum’s Streptococcus Pyogenes research lab, assisting with lab maintenance and protein purification. He is expecting to graduate in December 2013 and plans to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in microbial genetics. Mr. Devin knew in the 9th grade that he wanted to pursue a career in STEM. He says, “Once I started getting a feel for it [science], I knew that’s what I wanted to do.”

Keyada B. Frye is a junior pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Georgia State University. During the summer of 2011 she studied biofilms in the microbiology lab at GSU. She is also a Thomas Netzel scholar and a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. She worked for the Bio-Bus program in her sophomore year. She presented her research poster at the GSU Undergraduate Research Conference (2010), the 19th Annual McNair Scholars Research Conference (2011) and the GA LSAMP Symposium.

Rochester Gray is a senior Chemistry major at Clark Atlanta University, who has conducted notable summer research at the United States Naval Research Laboratories in Washington, D.C. for two consecutive years, 2010 and 2011. Mr. Gray has presented his research at various conferences including SERMACS, ABCRMS, and LSAMP and the GA LSAMP Symposia. He is also involved with the Chemistry Club at CAU and tutors underclassmen as well as his peers in math. Mr. Gray switched his major from psychology to chemistry in his sophomore year after out-shining the biology and physics majors in his chemistry class. He plans to pursue the Ph.D. in Organometallic Chemistry or Biochemistry. “LSAMP help me become a better scientist by allowing me to participate in more research symposia where I can network.”
**Da’ Sean Green** is a senior, Chemistry major at Morehouse College. “My goals include obtaining a Ph.D. in Chemistry and advancing organic or polymer chemistry research.” He conducted summer research at Ohio State University (OSU), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and at the University of Sao Paulo (USP) in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mr. Green’s research and studies have focused on theoretical, organic and polymer chemistry. The Vice President of the Morehouse Chemistry Association and a leader for the Peer Lead Team Learning (PLTL) sessions in biology and general chemistry, he is also a member of The National Society for Collegiate Scholars, Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society, and Dr. John Hopps’ Research Scholars program.

**Sandra Hagans** is currently a senior at Georgia State University majoring in Biological Sciences with a minor in Chemistry. She gained research experience in Dr. Gadda’s biochemistry lab studying flavin dependent enzymes. She has presented her research at symposia and conferences; serves as a mentor to other students and was a teaching assistant in undergraduate labs and tutored. She plans on completing a “fifth year masters” program at GSU.

**Lishann Ingram** attends Clark Atlanta University where she is a junior majoring in Biology. She conducted summer research at Michigan State University through their Summer Research Opportunity Program. Ms. Ingram selected a STEM major because she was raised in the family of mathematicians and scientists. In addition, she was born under the Cancer zodiac sign and both her great-grandmother and aunt died of cancer. As a junior, she has proven herself as a true scholar and was recently selected to present among her research group. Ms. Ingram says, “LSAMP has pushed her to think outside the box as far as research is concerned.” She continued to say, “research is found any- and every- where; it is up to you whether you become part of the movement to make the world a better place, through research.”

**Danielle N. Grevious** is a third year chemistry major at Georgia State University. She is a part of the Netzel Scholars program at Georgia State and is also a scholar in the Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Program. She is currently working in the research lab of Dr. Zhen Huang, gaining research exposure and experience in organic chemistry, biochemistry, and molecular biology. Ms. Grevious enjoys meeting and interacting with her peers during the GA LSAMP symposia. She also had the opportunity to present her research during the NSF site visit and was invited to present at the Emerging Researchers’ National (2010).

**Brandon Hollis** is a 2006 graduate of Paine College where he was a LSAMP scholar. He also conducted research at Medical College of Georgia during his undergrad tenure. He has received a Masters in Exercise Physiology in 2008 from the University of Louisville. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Louisville in Exercise Physiology.

**Candace James** is pursuing a Master’s degree in Chemistry at Clark Atlanta University and is expected to complete her work in May 2012. As an undergraduate student matriculating at CAU, Ms. James conducted research, presented at conferences and symposia, and tutored peers in Chemistry. Recently, Ms. James had the opportunity to present her graduate research at the 2011 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) conference as a member of the NSF CREST program. She is considering continuing her studies to pursue the Ph.D. in Chemistry.

**Bianca N. Islam** obtained her B.S. degree in Biological Sciences from Georgia State University in 2011, graduating with magna cum laude and Advanced Research honors. Ms. Islam participated in the McNair Program and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Biotech Program while at GSU. Presently, she works in a Microbiology Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Eric Gilbert and also in a Molecular Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Chung Dar Lu, while seeking a Masters of Biology at GSU, expected completion date, May 2012. Her goal is to pursue an MD/PhD, studying internal medicine and infectious diseases. During the 2010 Spring Symposium of GA LSAMP, Ms. Islam won first place for her oral research presentation. She shared with fellow LSAMP scholars that there are so many research programs out there and they should take advantage of them.

**Jessica C. James**, a senior at Georgia State University is conducting research in applied and environmental microbiology. She joined GA LSAMP in December 2011 and is enjoying her lab experience. “My project focuses on developing a quantitative method to detect aflatoxins genes being expressed in Aspergillus Flavus. This lab experience has lent me a different vantage point of the health sciences, and I now have a better understanding of the molecular aspects of diseases. I would like to attend graduate school, and focus more in the area of medical microbiology.”
Marcus Johnson, a 2010 graduate of Clark Atlanta University, earned his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He is currently in his second year of the Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) Program at the University of Alabama. Mr. Johnson’s research is in the field of nano electronics. While an undergraduate at CAU, Mr. Johnson attended conferences, symposia and presented research. “Students should take advantage of the LSAMP network; it benefited my career and I am grateful.”

Quentin Johnson is currently in the second year of his doctoral program at the University of Tennessee, studying Genome Science and Technology. He also works at Oak Ridge National Lab on projects dealing with extremophilic protein stability/functionality in organic solvents using computational techniques. Mr. Johnson completed his B.S. in Chemistry at Georgia State University in 2008 and the M.S. in Computational Chemistry in 2010 under the advisement of Dr. Donald Hamelberg. He was one of eight students to receive the NIH PEER fellowship worth $25,000.

Shasmine Kelly is currently a graduate student at Georgia State University pursuing a Master’s degree in biotechnology. She attended Georgia State University as an undergraduate biology major with a minor in chemistry. She was an active member and president of the Collegiate Neuroscience Society, and also completed fellowships in the LSAMP program, Undergraduate Biotechnology program, and the University Scholars program. Currently she works in the laboratory of Dr. Timothy Bartness.

Adrienne Elaine Lamptey is a sophomore Computer Information Science major at Clark Atlanta University. In the summer of 2011 Ms. Lamptey was involved in a research program called Hooked on Photonics at the Georgia Tech Center on Materials and Neuroscience. She indicated that she enjoyed the challenge and prestige of being in this summer program, which was possible because of being an LSAMP scholar. She presented her research, developed a poster, an abstract, and worked in a laboratory during this 10-week program.

Jonathan D. Madison, Ph.D. was recently named a Senior Member of Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico within the Computational Materials Science & Engineering Organization. He received his Bachelors degree from Clark Atlanta University in Engineering Science with a concentration in Mechanical in 2003. Dr. Madison received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2007 and 2010 respectively. Dr. Madison is a member of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), The Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST), The Materials Information Society (ASM International), The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society (TMS), and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

Patrick Major is a 4th year undergraduate student at Georgia State University majoring in Chemistry. He has conducted environmental research dealing with diurnal forcing with sweetgum trees under Dr. Randal Mandock (CAU). He had the opportunity to present his research at several symposia including Capital Hill Symposium in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the ARMY ROTC program at Georgia State University and will be commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army in the summer of 2013. Mr. Major is happy to be a member of LSAMP. He has expanded his knowledge and passion for Chemistry since joining the program.

TaRhonda Moore, 2008 graduate of Paine College with a B.S. in Biology. She is currently seeking a DMD at the Medical College of Georgia, School of Dentistry. During her undergraduate matriculation, Ms. Moore participated in research.

Dominique Morgan is a 2007 Graduate of Paine College. He is currently enrolled at Clemson University seeking a Ph.D. in Mathematics. During his matriculation at Paine College he was a mentor and mathematics tutor. He graduated magna cum Laude. Mr. Morgan selected Mathematics as his major because he does well in it and truly enjoys it.
Brian Murry will graduate in Fall 2011 from Paine College, earning his Bachelor of Science in Biology. During his matriculation at Paine, he was a member of the Pre-Professional Science Club, the Environmental Science Club, as well as LSAMP. Mr. Murry presented his poster research at Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) and the Emerging Researchers’ National (ERN) conferences. During the summer of 2011, Mr. Murry worked as a laboratory assistant in the Environmental Science lab. He was accepted into the Savannah State University’s Marine Science Master’s program.

Lydia Law graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry (2008) and received her Masters of Science in 2010 in Chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry, also from GSU. Her graduate research focused on enzyme kinetic studies, and she presented her research at conferences such as the 21st Enzyme Mechanism conference and the 75th Herty Medal symposium. Ms. Law is currently employed with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation as a crime lab scientist working with forensic toxicology.

Laurisa London is a 2012 doctoral candidate in Polymer Chemistry at Clark Atlanta University. A 2008 CAU Biology graduate, Ms. London has benefitted from various NSF funding opportunities. She received the Graduate Teaching Fellow in K-12 Education working with Emory University in 2011 – 2012, participated in the Center for Functional Nanoscale Materials (CFNM - CREST) program in 2010 – 2011, and received LSAMP support during her undergraduate years. Ms. London is a member of Beta Kappa Chi and the Vice President of the Atlanta University chapter of National Organization of Blacks in Chemistry. Ms. London’s research afforded her the opportunity to travel to South Africa.

Henry Patterson is a Dual Degree physics and engineering student now enrolled in the University of South Carolina for the engineering portion of his degree requirements. As a member of the Atlanta University Center Dual Degree Engineering program (Clark Atlanta University, CAU), he received several scholarship awards. Mr. Patterson was selected to attend the Georgia Tech NASA Space Shuttle seminar in July 2011, representing CAU and the LSAMP program. During the summers of 2010 and 2011, Mr. Patterson conducted research in the response of trees to precipitation forcing in the Summer Research Explorers (SRE) Program at CAU.

Rashida Payne obtained her B.S. in Chemistry and Minor in Psychology in 2010 from Georgia State University. Ms. Payne served as the President of the Georgia State University Chemistry Club, was selected to become a member of the Chemistry Club Board of Advisors, developed and implemented the first tutoring program for nursing majors, and led the Glactone Project which dealt with molecular models for underprivileged students. She was a member of the Molecular Basis of Disease Summer Research Scholarship and a LSAMP Scholar. After completing her undergraduate degree, Ms. Payne returned to school to obtain a Master's degree in Chemistry graduating in 2011. She is currently working as an Educational Program Specialist for the Student Support Services - STEM Center for Excellence Program at Georgia State University.

Cara Person graduated magna cum laude from Clark Atlanta University in 2004 with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Spanish. She attended Drexel University from 2005 – 2007, where she completed the Masters in Public Health and is currently employed with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a Health Scientist/Epidemiologist. During her undergraduate matriculation she received two publications and earned first place in Cell Biological Sciences at the Biomedical Research Conference at Morehouse School of Medicine, 2003. Throughout her career, Ms. Person has moved through the ranks conducting research for the CDC, supervising research to analyzing and reporting research data.

Monica L. Ponder is a health and scientific communication professional who is currently working as a health writer in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP), National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) in the Center of Disease Control (CDC). Ms. Ponder graduated from Clark Atlanta University, May 2003, with a B.S./M.S. in Chemistry. Ms. Ponder received her Master’s in Public Health (Epidemiology) from Emory’s Rollins School, in 2007. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Communication at Georgia State University. Ms. Ponder realized the need for a proficient writer to communicate the research findings to the general public. Her research background prepared her for success in this field.

Dorielie Price is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of South Florida (USF). Ms. Price earned her M.S. in Electrical Engineering in 2007 from USF. Previously, she graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Clark Atlanta University in 2005. Ms. Price has been the recipient of several fellowship awards including the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Supplement Fellowship, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2005), Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship, McKnight Doctoral Fellowship, and USF Institute on Black Life Pride Fellowship. She is expected to complete her Ph.D. in December 2011.
Tony Price is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of South Florida (USF). A native of the Detroit, MI area, he participated in the Project Upward Bound prior to enrolling at Clark Atlanta University (CAU), where he earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering at CAU in 2004. He has been the recipient of several fellowship awards, including the NSF Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (FGLSAMP) Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship, NSF GRFP Fellowship, NSF S-STEM Fellowship, Sloan Minority Graduate Fellowship, and McKnight Doctoral Fellowship. Mr. Price is scheduled to complete his dissertation by May 2012.

Keon Reid spent the summer of 2011 working with Dr. Hamelberg's research group whose focus is on application and development of theoretical and computational methods chemistry research lab at Georgia State University. In addition, he ran NMR samples for the organic chemistry lab. Mr. Reid is in his sophomore year majoring in Chemistry. He is currently active in the GA LSAMP and is a Netzel fellow. Keon aspires to become a Computational/Biophysical chemist.

Darkeyah Reuven, Ph.D. received his B.S. degree in Chemistry from Georgia State University in 1999 and his M.S. degree in Health Care Management from Mercer University, Atlanta, GA. He has completed his Doctorate degree in Chemistry at Clark Atlanta University in 2009, with a research focus in the synthesis, modification and characterization of electroconductive polymers for biosensor applications in the research laboratory of Dr. Ishrat Khan. He was a NSF-CREST Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Center for Functional Nanoscale Materials in the research laboratory of Dr. Michael D. Williams at CAU. Currently, Dr. Reuven is a PREM Post-Doctoral Fellow in the center for Partnership for Research and Education in Materials (PREM) in the research laboratory of Dr. XiaoQian Wang.

Syed Ahsan Rizvi is a senior at Georgia State University, majoring in Biology. Mr. Rizvi is expected to complete his degree in December of 2011. In 2009, he was awarded a McNair Scholarship and presented his research on sexual differentiation in zebra finch at numerous conferences. In 2010, he was became a Brains and Behavior Scholar, LSAMP Scholar, and a University Scholar. Currently, he is completing his Honors Thesis on Neurosteroid Production in the Brain of Australia Zebra Finch.

Sharri Shipp is a senior at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. She will be graduating with a B.S. degree in Biology in December 2012. Ms. Shipp held internships with Morehouse school of Medicine and CDC in a group called Public Health Fellowship Summer Program in 2010. She presented her research on Native American to culminate her internship. Ms Shipp is currently engaged in research under the mentorship of Dr. Casonya Johnson. She plans to earn the MD/Ph.D.

Michael G. Souffrant is in his senior year at Georgia State University. A major in chemistry, Mr. Souffrant’s research in biochemistry focuses on the histone proteins and their contribution in causing cancer while binding to DNA. He serves the community volunteering at Atlanta Children's Shelter program and the Georgia Science Olympiad Regional tournament. He has also served as a teacher’s assistant, grader/proctor in organic chemistry and part of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Matthew Temba graduated from Morehouse College in May 2010 with the B.S. Degree in Mathematics. His undergraduate research experience included several summers of research in mathematics and mathematical physics and specifically in a GA Tech summer program in Metz, France. He is currently a second year Applied Mathematics graduate student at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD, studying Operations Research. He is a NSF-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship recipient. He says: “without the assistance of the LSAMP program, both with funding, but more importantly with support, my successes thus far would be impossible.”

Marquitta J. White majored in biology at Clark Atlanta University and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in human genetics at Vanderbilt University and an M.S. in Applied Statistics. Ms. White’s scholarly work on maternal and fetal genotypes was published on the PLoS One, peer-reviewed science publication website. She has presented her research at national and international conferences. In 2010 her research was published in PLoS One, an online science journal.
Gary Williams graduated from Morehouse College in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. Mr. Williams also minored in Economics. During his matriculation, he was exposed to research. His participation in LSAMP impacted his academic career in a positive way. He is currently a second year student in the Ph.D. Program at Iowa State University studying mathematical statistics, having received the Alliance for Graduate Education and Professoriate (AGEP) Fellowship. He expects to complete his graduate degree in year 2015.

Tyjuan Williams, DMD, graduated from Medical College of Georgia, School of Dentistry in 2008. He is a 2004 Graduate of Paine College where he was valedictorian. While at Paine College he was a LSAMP scholar and a GATES millennium scholar. Dr. Williams continues to mentor youth; and has started a scholarship foundation at his former high school (Laney High) to support students who wish to pursue higher education in science.

Bobby Wilson graduated in May 2010 with a B.S. in Mathematics and was recruited by top Ph.D. programs in the field. He is currently in the second year of his doctoral program at University of Chicago, where he is preparing his topic exam, which he will take in the spring of 2012. While at Morehouse, Mr. Wilson participated in several prestigious undergraduate summer research experiences, and in the spring of 2009 he spent the semester in the Budapest Program in Mathematics where he took several advanced courses. He is expected to complete his Ph.D. in 2015.

Andre Thompson is currently a senior Chemistry major at Morehouse College. Upon completing his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Material Science Engineering. He gained research experience through his membership in the Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) - Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Program, the Dr. John H. HOPPS, Jr. Research Scholars Program and LSAMP. His summer research at Indiana University, Purdue University, Indianapolis (IUPUI), University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Campinas in Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, also prepared him for research success. He positioned himself as a leader in STEM, serving as the President of the Morehouse Chemistry Association (MCA) for the past two years.

Keilah Ebanks, a senior LSAMP scholar at Clark Atlanta University, is also a participant in the NASA MUST (Motivating Undergraduates in Science & Technology) Project. During this summer internship, she derived equations and designed a mathematical model using MATLAB. Ms. Ebanks says, “I love to share my passion for math with others.” She has served the CAU Mathematics Society as its Events Coordinator (current) and its Past President (2010). She is also a member of the Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honors Society. She admits in middle school math was difficult for her; and credits her ninth grade teach for making the subject so much easier. “I realized that it’s not tha math is complex; it’s the process of passing knowledge from the teacher to their students.”
Marcus Hines is a first year MD/PhD student at New York University School of Medicine. He graduated magna cum laude with High Honors from UGA with a B.S. in Cellular Biology in May 2011. While at UGA, Marcus conducted research under the guidance of Dr. Michael Tiemeyer and Dr. Lance Wells and presented his research at a number of statewide and national conferences. As a Peach State LSAMP scholar, Marcus served as a summer mentor and tutor.

Jamaal Parker is currently attending Saint Louis University as a Billiken Ignatian Scholarship recipient in the School of Public Health, where he is pursuing a Masters of Public Health in Biostatistics and Epidemiology. He earned a B.S. in Statistics and a Certificate in Leadership and Service from UGA in 2010. While at UGA, he provided data analysis for a study titled, *Palm Pilots to Help People Quit Smoking* with the College of Public Health. At Saint Louis University, he is a research assistant for health literacy and smokeless tobacco projects with the School of Public Health’s Behavioral Science and Biostatistics Departments. His anticipated graduation date is May 2012.

Whitney Ingram is a first year Ph. D Student at the University of Georgia. She obtained her B.S. in Physics at the University of Georgia 2011. During her undergraduate career, Whitney participated as a LSAMP Research Scholar and officially worked as a mentor for African American females. She has won several awards for oral and poster presentations, and also completed a co-author publication, during her time as a LSAMP Research Scholar. Whitney interned for the US Army’s Night Vision and Electronic Sensor’s directorate research lab in Fort Belvoir, VA for two summers.

Abimbola Ademola Dada is a first-year pharmacy student at the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Science in Colchester, Vermont. She graduated from UGA with a B.S. degree in Biological Science in May 2010. While attending the University of Georgia, Abimbola was mentored by Dr. Paige Carmichael, Associate Dean of UGA’s College of Veterinary Medicine. As a Peach State LSAMP Scholar, she conducted research on CD8 T cells with Dr. Klonowski in the Cellular Biology department at UGA.
Shelina Ramnarine is currently in her second year at Washington University attaining a Ph.D. in Human and Statistical Genetics. She graduated with a double major in Biology and Statistics from UGA in 2010. As a LSAMP scholar, she participated in a summer undergraduate research program at Washington University in St. Louis (Wash U) for two summers while conducting research in statistical genetics at UGA. She presented her research at five national conferences resulting in either first or second place awards in the life sciences and mathematics category. Her summer research at Wash U also resulted in co-authorship on a publication about gene-environment interactions. Since she has been at Wash U, Shelina received an honorable mention from the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Noel Matthews-Gardner graduated from FVSU and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in computational chemistry at Jackson State University. While at FVSU she participated in summer research experiences including computational chemistry at Jackson State University, working with strain energy of 1,2 and 1,3 thiazetadines and methylation of purine bases. She also did summer research on stereoselective hydrolysis of cyclic nucleotides at University of South Alabama. As a result of her internships, she realized her passion for working in the lab. Noel will complete her Ph.D. in the spring of 2012.

Derrious Lowe is a 2007 graduate of FVSU with a B.S. in Chemistry. He is currently working on a Ph.D. in biochemistry at Clark Atlanta University. While at FVSU, he was a Presidential Scholar, a member of the Peach State LSAMP Program, and served in the legislative branch of the SGA as a senator. He was known as a leader and a scholar. His strengths include hard work, dedication and perseverance. He says, with the help of LSAMP, he has become confident and willing to face any challenges. At Clark Atlanta he is researching a TiO2 compound in conjunction with light to deactivate viruses and bacteria in water – ensuring the water is clean for everyone to use.

Turquoise Alexander is a Fort Valley State University alumnae who is currently a “Bridge to the Doctorate” scholar pursuing a Master’s degree in biology and working inside a Jackson State University medical research lab on the Mississippi Delta. She is conducting research trials on a new cancer-fighting herb that can potentially save lives. “I’m working with a plant called ocimum gratissmum (also known as African Basil),” says the Savannah native. It’s a Hawaiian plant, which her mentor proved inhibits the growth of prostate cancer cells. Turquoise credits her research experiences to the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation.

Christopher Johnson received a B.S. degree in biology from FVSU. He is currently working on a Master’s degree in biology at Georgia State University with a concentration in neurobiology and behavior. While at FVSU, Christopher was a Presidential Scholar and a member of the Beta Kappa Chi National Honor Society and a member of FVSU marching band where he served as a section leader and as the concert band section leader. He was a member of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity Inc., where he served as president. Christopher credits his research experiences and participation...
in LSAMP for preparing him for graduate school.

Geoffrey Will-Morris Turner is a second-year pharmacy student at Mercer University’s College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Atlanta, GA. He is a FVSU graduate who majored in Chemistry. Geoffrey was awarded the Presidential Scholarship upon entering college, which is the highest scholarship awarded by the college. While at Fort Valley State University, he was a member of the tennis team, science club, American Chemical Society, Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, and he received many scholarships, honors, and awards. He conducted summer research at the University of Georgia and Iowa State University. He credits the Peach State LSAMP program for keeping him grounded and allowing him to participate in research and conferences.

Hamdi Ahmed is currently majoring in Civil Engineering at Georgia Tech. The Peach State LSAMP program at GPC impacted his academic career in many ways. It provided him with academic, advising as well as financial support. Peach State LSAMP also provided countless networking opportunities throughout the years. During the summer of 2009, Hamdi was exposed to undergraduate research, as a result of the Peach State LSAMP program at GPC. He conducted research on an “Objects in Motion” project under the supervision of Mr. Jay Terry. He gained a wealth of knowledge from the research conducted during the summer; he also developed strong social, computational skills, improved his report writing skills, and enhanced his leadership skills. He will be graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering in May 2012 from Georgia Tech.

Olawunmi Opanuga participated in the Peach State LSAMP program at GPC. She transferred to UGA fall semester 2010 and graduated cum laude as a Biology major from UGA in the summer of 2011. During the summer of 2010 Olawunmi participated in the Transfer Summer Bridge program held at GPC. She worked on a Transformation of E. coli with pGLO and Purification of the Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) research project under the supervision of Dr. Ilse Rickets. She is currently studying to take the GRE exam, so she can gain admission into a Masters of Physician Assistant program in 2012.

Randy Montgomery, a GPC Peach State LSAMP scholar, participated in the summer of 2010 Transfer Summer Bridge (TSB) program. As a part of the TSB program he worked on an Engineering A.I.R Image Processing Project. Randy is currently enrolled at Georgia Tech pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering. He plans to graduate from Georgia Tech fall 2012. Randy stated, “Peach State LSAMP taught me the benefits of networking and prioritizing task to achieve goals.” It has been a skill that has proved invaluable at Georgia Tech. To be successful you need to not just understand the text material, but to also take advantages of collaborating with like minds. Randy is now serving as a mentor for new engineering students at Georgia Tech.

Abiti Sahlie is currently enrolled at UGA majoring in Biochemistry. This summer he participated in the GPC Transfer Bridge Program and had the opportunity to experience, first hand, the skills needed to complete research in the field of Organic Chemistry. Abiti stated: “If it were not for the Peach State LSAMP program at GPC, I would
Over the time period of three weeks, he learned a variety of research techniques. He worked with Dr. Pamela Leggett-Robinson synthesizing chalcones. He learned a lot about synthetic sequences in chemistry, and the importance of time management when conducting a research project.

Marshall Prude is currently enrolled at the University of Georgia pursuing a BS degree in Microbiology. He participated in the Peach State LSAMP CSI (Current Scholars Investigates) Summer Bridge program at GPC. Marshall said “for the first time, I had an opportunity to learn the techniques required to conduct a research project.” This Summer Bridge experience afforded Marshall the fortuity to work closely with Professors and staff at GPC. Overall, the program gave him and other Peach State LSAMP scholars the tools necessary for success in more advanced laboratory settings, and future directed re-search projects.

Courtney Lemon is currently attending Georgia Tech majoring in Biochemistry after graduating as a math major in spring 2011 from GPC. During the summer of 2010 Courtney interned at Georgia Institute of Technology. She worked on bimodal dielectric for use in capacitors. Georgia Tech and Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) sponsored her to go to Anaheim, California to give an oral presentation on the research she did during the summer at Georgia Tech. During the summer of 2011, Courtney participated in an internship at Vanderbilt in Diabetes and Endocrinology.

Noor Mohamed, a GPC LSAMP scholar and Chemistry major, transferred to UGA in the fall semester 2011. There he is majoring in Environmental Health Science. During the summer of 2010, Noor interned at Clark Atlanta University (CAU) under the guidance of Dr. Maher Atteya and Dr. Ishrat Kahn. He worked on The Effects of Electrospinning and Sonication on PEO and PS Systems. Noor gave an oral presentation at the 5th Annual Peach State LSAMP conference held at UGA and the fall 2010 GA LSAMP research symposium held at Clark Atlanta University. In addition, Noor gave a poster presentation at the 17th Annual Georgia Conference on College & University Teaching, held at Kennesaw State University. During the summer of 2011, Noor participated in an internship program at the Pharmacy Readiness and Enrichment Program sponsored by Campbell University School of Pharmacy in North Carolina.

De Navard Antoine, a GPC LSAMP scholar, is currently enrolled at Georgia Tech majoring in Biochemistry. During the summer of 2011, he participated in the Transfer Summer Bridge (TSB) program at GPC and worked on a research project to design and build a rocket. This project allowed him to apply physical principles learned in class to solve real life problems. Also during that summer, he participated in the summer Nanoscholars program at the Center for Nanoscale Material located on the campus of Clark Atlanta University (CAU). While at CAU he worked on Bulk Free Radical Polymerization of Styrene. His research was supervised by Dr. Maher Atteya.

Leland Roberts, a Peach State LSAMP scholar, graduated from GPC and is now majoring in
Engineering at SPSU. He participated in the 2009 Transfer Summer Bridge (TSB) program at GPC. During the TSB program Leland and Hamdi Ahmed conducted research on an “Objects in Motion” project under the supervision of Mr. Jay Terry. As a result of his research exposure at GPC, Leland was selected to participate in a 10 weeks internship at SPSU during the summer of 2011 under the supervision of Dr. Adeel Khalid. He presented his work at the 6th Annual Peach State LSAMP symposium. The title of his poster presentation was: “Thrust Measurement Device.”

Edwinna Patterson graduated from Savannah State University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She was a member of the Peach State LSAMP program from 2007-2009. In the summer of 2008 Edwinna carried out her research on “The Effect of a Halogenated Aniline Analog on Rat Erythrocyte Skeletal Membrane Proteins.” She attended a number of national conferences as a poster presenter. After graduation she enrolled into Gwinnett Technical College’s Bioscience program where she received a Bioscience Regulatory Assurance Certificate she puts to use in working in a laboratory environment making animal vaccines to help prevent Merck’s Disease. She is currently pursuing her Master’s in Public Health at Argosy University in Atlanta, GA as well as working at Merial Select in Gainesville, GA.

Natasha Patterson graduated from SSU in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a minor in Computer Science. She was a member of the Peach State LSAMP program from 2006-2009. She attended a number of national conferences and received 2nd place at the Annual Peach State LSAMP Conference and 2nd place at the Annual HBCU-UP Conference in 2007. Her research “Perfect Triangles” was published in 2008 in the Georgia Journal. In May 2011, Natasha received a Master’s degree in Secondary Mathematics. She is currently teaching Mathematics at Towers High School in Decatur, Georgia.

Rossmery Alva graduated with Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Technology in May 2010 from SSU. She is presently pursuing graduate studies in Environmental Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, NJ. The anticipated graduation date is December 2012. As a LSAMP scholar, she carried out summer research on Integration of LabVIEW Simulation in Civil Engineering, and made presentations at the Peach State LSAMP 2007 Annual Conference and placed second on the poster and oral presentations. She was also a co-author and presenter at the American Society of Engineering Education in Austin, TX (2009 Annual Conference).

Shaleatha Holmes graduated from SSU in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. She is currently pursuing her graduate studies in Biomedical Sciences at the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC). As a Peach State LSAMP scholar, she conducted research at SSU organic chemistry with Dr. Zhao in which they synthesized molecules and analyzed their activities in relation to retrovirus pathways, and developed green methods for the production of biodiesel fuel. As a result of that research, she co-authored three publications. In addition, she participated in research at Ohio State University (OSU) for two consecutive summers. While at OSU, she conducted research to understand the activation of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) after spinal cord injury through histology and fluorescence microscopy, and studied the overexpression Slit2 protein, a
glycoprotein, to determine its function in relation to a retrovirus.

Ruth Tilus graduated from SSU in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She is currently a second year Bridges to the Doctorate and Cota Robles Fellow at University of California Santa Cruz. Her Ph.D. program is in the area of molecular, cellular and developmental biology. While at SSU, she attended the 2009 Peach State LSAMP Annual Conference and also the 2009 ABRCMS conference. She was engaged in a 10-week research project at the Materials Science Institute at New York University in the summer of 2010.

Christopher Jean-Louis graduated from SSU in May 2007 with Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He carried out his undergraduate summer research on Photodynamic Theory and presented the same at the 2006 Peach State LSAMP Annual Conference earning an award for the 2nd place. He was also awarded for his research presentation at the 2007 ABRCMS conference in Austin, TX. He completed his Master’s degree in Medical Sciences from University of North Texas in 2009 and is now a 3rd-year medical student at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Janet Cowins, an SSU graduate, is currently a second year graduate student at Clark Atlanta University, pursuing her Ph.D. in Polymer Chemistry. Her current research involves the study of solubilizing β-Cyclodextrin drug delivery vehicles via the development of an aptamer functionalized polymer for use in cancer therapeutics. While at SSU, she carried out her undergraduate summer research in the field of Organic Chemistry and she presented a poster entitled: Microwave-Assisted Esterification of N-Acetyl-L-Phenylalanine Using Modified Mukaiyama’s Reagents: A New Approach Involving Ionic Liquids in the HBCU-UP National Research Conference in the fall of 2007 in Washington DC.

Alton Render graduated from SSU with a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science in December 2010. Now he is pursuing graduate studies in the Computer Science Program at the University of Texas at San Antonio. His specialization is in Software Engineering. He participated in 2008 summer undergraduate research at SSU and presented his research at the 2008 National HBCU-UP Conference in Atlanta, GA and 2008 Peach State LSAMP National Conference in Savannah, GA. He also worked as student assistant/peer tutor for the NSF-HBCU-UP program.

Stacy Cobb graduated from SSU in three years and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a minor in Biology in May 2008. She received her Master’s degree in Statistics in May 2010 from Stony Brook University (SBU), where she was awarded a $30,000 SBU fellowship. She then decided to work in industry for a while. She received a year contract at Harvard School of Public Health in their Epidemiology department. Stacy’s research consisted of case control studies dealing with birth defects. There are papers that are in the process of being published. After a year’s work of research, she decided she wanted to go back to school to obtain her Ph.D. in Statistics. Now she is at the University of Georgia as a first year doctoral student. She plans to obtain her Ph.D. in couple of years, so that she may pursue her dream of doing statistical genetic research in the area of Autism or Cancer.
Rowena Palko is working as an Engineer II at Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation in Savannah, Georgia. She incorporates new test equipment, designs new rigging procedures, performs investigation, and solves technical problems associated with the manufacture of Gulfstream aircraft. She graduated from SSU in December 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Electronics Engineering Technology. As a LSAMP Scholar in the summer of 2007, she had an internship with Instrumentation and Control System Department at Bechtel SAIC Co. LLC in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Tomul Howard graduated from SSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in May 2009. He is currently working in the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management, as a plant operator. As an LSAMP scholar, he has participated in summer research at SSU and attended ABRCMS conference in 2008 and also presented research paper at HBCU-UP conference and won 3rd place for poster presentation in Chemistry at the Peach State LSAMP 3rd Annual Research Conference at Savannah, GA. His summer research titled, *Fluorescence and Singlet Oxygen Quantum Yields of Sulfonated Metal-Phthalocyanines* was later published in Journal of Undergraduate Chemistry Research in 2009. He was active member of Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) Biological Honor Society.

Vernecia Person is pursuing a Doctoral Degree in Polymer Chemistry at Clark Atlanta University (CAU). Her research entails the study of the properties of polymer nanocomposites. She has three research publications. She presented research entitled *Thermal and Electrical Properties of Nanocomposites: Simulation Study of Nano-Reinforced Epoxy Resins* at AFRL conference in May 2011 in Atlanta, GA and AFRL Annual Spring Review in Dayton, Ohio in April 2010. Vernecia graduated from SSU with an ACS certified B.S. degree in Chemistry in May 2008 (Cum Laude). During 2007 summer at Savannah State University, she participated in research project titled *The Regeneration of cellulose from ionic liquids for an accelerated enzymatic hydrolysis*. This work was published in the Journal of Biotechnology.

Amanda Magabo is working as a Field Engineer with Schlumberger Technology in Denver, CO. She started her undergraduate studies in Civil Engineering at SSU from 2007 to 2009. As an LSAMP scholar, she participated in research entitled *Smart Cones in a Construction Zone* in the summer of 2008. She collaborated on the design and development of a physical model of smart cones in a construction zone and presented at the 3rd Annual Peach State LSAMP conference and won 3rd place. She transferred to Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Georgia and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in May 2011. While at Georgia Tech, she was a student research assistant from August 2009 to December 2010. There she studied the relation of plant roots to building foundations from a geotechnical perspective.

Dontrece Smith obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Southern Polytechnic State University in December 2009. As an undergraduate, he served as a Peach State LSAMP scholar and tutor. He conducted research with Dr. Peter Sakaris on the population dynamics of the snail bullhead catfish Ameiurus brunneus. Dontrece is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in Marine Sciences program at SSU. He is working on his master’s thesis entitled *Utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to Assess*
the Distribution of Coastal Shark Species in Relation to Macrohabitat Features and Spatial Variables off the Coast of Georgia and the Movement Patterns of the Bonnethead Sphyrna tiburo in Romerly Marsh Creek, Wassaw Sound, Georgia.

Aaron Love IV is a senior at SPSU pursuing a dual degree in Electrical Engineering Technology and Mathematics with a minor in Nuclear Power. Aaron completed his first research project with an oral and poster presentation for the 2009 Peach State LSAMP Conference. More recently he conducted research during the summer of 2011 in Washington, D.C. with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where he was mentored by an SPSU faculty Dr. Deidra Hodges and members of the EPA's Office of Indoor Air & Radiation. His project was entitled “On to Generation IV: Nuclear Waste and A primer on the Integral Fast Reactor.” Aaron was recently selected to participate in the Phase I 2011-2013 Minorities Striving and Pursuing Higher Degree's mentorship program that will assist in his plans for pursuing a Master’s degree in Nuclear Engineering.

Nekeshia Griffin, a Peach State LSAMP scholar and a young leader in the Metro Atlanta area, is a senior majoring in Biology at SPSU. As an advocate for education and protecting the environment she has interned for Keep Cobb Beautiful as an Associate Board Member for two consecutive years and was recognized as the most valuable intern during the 2010-2011 school year. Under the advisement of Dr. Peter Sakaris, Nekeshia has begun research on the human impact on local streams in Cobb County and will be presenting their results at the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Conference in February of 2012. Upon graduation, Nekeshia plans to attend graduate school to attain a Master’s degree and Ph.D. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology so that she can apply her skills in adaptive and watershed management.

Joshua Gober is a senior at SPSU. He is majoring in Chemistry and will be graduating in the spring semester of 2012. In the summer of 2011, he conducted research at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, entitled, “Characterization of Self-Assembling Peptide Fibers Based on Coiled-Coil Structural Motifs.” He was mentored on the project by Dr. Vincent P. Conticello. After graduation, Joshua plans to obtain a Ph.D. in Chemistry and pursue a career as a research scientist.

Rashad Tatum is a senior at SPSU. He is pursuing a Bachelor’s degree with a dual major in Computer Science and Mathematics and will be graduating in fall 2012. He plans to pursue a Master’s degree in Software Engineering. In the summer of 2011, Rashad conducted research at Texas A&M University, in Corpus Christi, TX, where he was mentored by Dr. Dulal Kar on a project entitled, “Identity-Based Security Protocols for Mobile Wireless Sensor Networks.”

Toussaint Moseley is a senior majoring in Electrical Engineering at SPSU. For the summer of 2011, he conducted research at the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC. He was mentored by Dr. Deidra Hodges from SPSU on the project entitled, “On to Generation IV: A primer on the Integral Fast Reactor and a comparison to the back-end of the Light Water Reactor Fuel Cycle.” He is a recipient of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Nuclear Power Generation Scholarship. Upon graduation, he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering.
Ahmed Abdelsalam (’14) is a sophomore at Purdue University pursuing a degree in Chemical Engineering. Ahmed chose chemical engineering because of his love of chemistry and chemical processes and since chemical engineers are the highest paid engineers. Ahmed plans on pursuing a Master’s degree or work for a corporation that will allow him to utilize his skills as a chemical engineer.

Andrea Abdullah (’10) came to IUPUI in 2006 and graduated with a B.A. in Biology in 2010 with minors in Spanish and Sociology.

Orlando Acevedo (’13) is currently a junior at Ball State University studying Biology and Cultural Anthropology. Orlando participated in the summer 2011 LSAMP Research program and plans to attend graduate school to study Public Health.

Nicholas Acosta (’14) is currently a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Computer Science. Post-graduation, Nicholas plans to enter a graduate program to obtain a M.S in Computer Science then enter industry with a software company.

Cassandra Adams (’09) is attending the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine to become a physician. While in medical school, she has researched in Ecuador at the Tropical Disease Institute (producing the work “Intestinal Parasite Infection and Anemia Correlation in Loja Province, Ecuador”) and participates in Project Alliance, an HIV/AIDS research group. Cassie earned a double-major at Indiana University Bloomington in Chemistry and Gender Studies.

Nigel Agboh (’13) is currently a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Mechanical Engineering Technology. As a freshman, Nigel participated in Academic Boot Camp, partially funded by LSAMP Indiana. During summer 2011, while participating in the LSAMP Research program, Nigel was inspired to further his education and plans to attend graduate school upon graduation.

Tarek Ajam (’09) holds a B.S. in Biology from Indiana University Bloomington and a M.S. in Biology from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. He is currently attending medical school at Indiana University. Tarek participated as a peer mentor and researcher while part of the LSAMP program. His research, “Factors effecting expression of vaccines in microalgae” was published in the June 2009 issue of Biologicals.

Laimarie Alas (’12) is majoring in biology at Indiana University. She participates as a mentor in the LSAMP peer mentoring program and as a mentee in Women in Science Mentoring Program (WISP). Laimarie is also the Health Promotion Disease Prevention Coordinator for Indiana University Global Medical Brigades. Upon graduation, she plans to attend medical school.

Maria Alatorre (’14) is a sophomore studying biology, Spanish and psychology. She hopes to attend medical school after college. She is a Hudson & Holland member and is involved with Timmy Global Health and Camp Kesem (a summer camp for children of parents with cancer). Maria participated in the IU Simon Cancer Center Summer Research Program in the summer of 2011 and is currently a researcher in Dr. Joel Ybe's lab at IUB.
Angela Amador ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette, studying Electrical Engineering. Post-graduation, Angela plans to pursue a career in the power industry.

Tynese Anderson ('07) graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine in the spring of 2011. She earned a degree in Biology from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007.

Daniel Anez ('13) is a junior studying Mechanical Engineering at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. After obtaining work experience, Daniel plans on pursuing a Master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Miracle Anokwute ('12) is studying for his B.S. degree in Biology and minors in Chemistry and Psychology at IU Northwest. Miracle plans on applying to medical schools next year. At the Indiana University School of Medicine-NW, he is using LSAMP toward a project studying the age related changes of the corneal innervation: implications for understanding “dry eye.” Miracle is also a Supplemental Instruction leader for Biology and participated in the 2011 International Human Cadaver Prosection Program at IU Northwest. The LSAMP grant has given him the opportunity to apply the concepts that he has learned in his subject area and to interact with experts in his field of study.

Kevin Armendariz ('07) earned a B.S. in Biochemistry from Indiana University in 2007. He is currently studying for a Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University Kansas. Kevin was active in numerous LSAMP programs while an undergraduate, serving both as a peer-mentor and tutor for challenging chemistry courses.

Nigam Arora ('11) came to IUPUI to study biology and chemistry focused on renewable energy and graduated with a B.A. from the Honors College in 2011 with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies and a minor in Chemistry. Arora is currently in his Ph.D. program at Purdue University, West Lafayette, pursuing his research interest in renewable energy.

Jeremiah Ashe ('07) graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine in the spring of 2011. He graduated from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007 with a degree in Biology. While at IU, Jeremiah worked extensively with young LSAMP scholars serving as a peer mentor for several semesters.

Cornelius Audu ('12) is currently attending IUPUI working towards a B.S. in Chemistry. Cameron’s research interests includes Chemical Informatics, and he plans to pursue a PhD upon graduation.

Markell Baldwin ('13) is currently a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Electrical Engineering. During an internship with Marathon Petroleum, Markell was inspired to further his education beyond the baccalaureate. After graduation, he plans to become a Professional Engineer and aspires to obtain a career with the EPA to implement standards and regulations for creating a cleaner and healthier tomorrow for our nation.

Dina Bastwaros ('08) served in numerous LSAMP programmatic capacities while an undergraduate at Indiana University Bloomington. She was a peer-mentor for many semesters and provided tutoring in organic chemistry for LSAMP scholars. Dina graduated with a degree in Biology in 2008 and is currently a medical student at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

David Beal ('07) earned a B.A. in chemistry from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007. He immediately began the MEDPREP program at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Currently, David is studying for an M.D. at the Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University in Chicago. David’s numerous accolades include: National Medical Fellowship Scholarship Award Recipient (Nov 2010); Student National Medical Association Vice-President-Loyola Chapter (Mar 2010 - Mar 2011); Stritch School of Medicine Admissions Committee Member (Mar 2010 – present); Illinois Academy of Family Physicians Summer Externship Program- Chicago (June 2010); Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity in Research (IMSD) Scholars Program-Microbiology Research/ Poster Presentation-Indiana University (Summer 2005); Alpha Chi Sigma, Chemistry Fraternity-Indiana University Epsilon chapter (2004-2007); Hudson & Holland Scholar (2003-2007).

Emmanuel Bikorimana ('12) is a senior at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis studying Biological Sciences. He participated in the LSAMP summer 2011 Research program under the mentorship of Dr. Richard Gregory. Post-graduation, Emmanuel plans to attend graduate school in pursuit of a doctorate degree in Microbiology and Immunology.

Dewayne Bishop ('12) is a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Aerospace Engineering. Post-graduation, he plans on using his skills to design vehicles for space flight.
Jonathan Blair ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette in Mathematics. Jonathan feels that studying Mathematics develops your ability to solve problems and prepares individuals for the rigor of Graduate Studies or industry. Upon graduating, Jonathan plans to pursue a Master’s degree in Statistics or Operations Research and possibly pursue a Ph.D.

Lamira Bland ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette and is studying Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology. Post-graduation, she intends to pursue a career in digital systems.

Kimberly Branch ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette and is studying Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology. Post-graduation, she intends on working at a large computer company and making contributions to the newest technology.

AnnDrea Butler ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Chemical Engineering. Post-graduation, she intends on obtaining her M.B.A.

Kirk Cahill ('11) graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Indiana University Bloomington with a degree in Biochemistry. Kirk participated several times as a peer mentor and tutor for LSAMP while attending IU. In fall 2011, he matriculated to the Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago on a full-tuition scholarship.

Jeffrey Capati ('08) graduated from Indiana University Bloomington with Honors in Biology in 2008, then earned a M.S. in Biology from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in 2009. While at IU Bloomington, Jeff mentored freshmen LSAMP scholars as they started their university careers. Currently, he is attending the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine to become a physician.

Catherine Chung ('12) is studying biology and French at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a Hudson & Holland Scholar, and she has conducted research for Eli Lilly and Company, participating in the Summer Replacement Program. Additionally, she studied abroad in southern France during the spring semester of 2011 in Aix-en-Provence. Catherine plans on attending medical school in the fall of 2012.

Hannah Cook ('14) is studying chemistry at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a Hudson & Holland Scholars Program recipient, and during the summer of 2011, she participated in a study abroad trip to Ghana, Africa. Hannah plans on attending dental school upon her graduation.

Garry Cooper ('07) earned a double-major in Mathematics (B.S.) and Chemistry (B.A.) from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007. Currently, Garry is studying for a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Northwestern University in their Interdepartmental Neuroscience (NUIN) Program with the Feinberg School of Medicine. While at IU, he did extensive research resulting in the paper “The murine p8 gene promoter is activated by activating transcription factor 4 (ATF4) in the gonadotrope-derived LBT2 cell line” (2006) Endocrine 30, 81-91. Additionally, Garry served as a tutor for LSAMP students during his time at IU.

De’Ja Dasent ('15) is a freshman at Purdue University West Lafayette, majoring in Computer and Information Technology. She participated in Purdue’s Academic Boot Camp, funded in part by LSAMP Indiana. De’Ja plans to work for the National Security Agency post-graduation.

Evan Dominguez ('14) is studying chemistry at Indiana University Bloomington. He is part of the Hutton Honors College, Hudson & Holland Scholars Program, and serves as President for the Thirst Project at IU. After graduation, Evan plans on attending medical school.

Brittnee Dumas ('12) is a senior at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis and is studying Computer Information Technology. She is part of the Hutton Honors College, Hudson & Holland Scholars Program, and serves as President for the Thirst Project at IU. After graduation, Evan plans on attending medical school.

Keegan Dunn ('12) is a senior studying Natural Resource and Environmental Engineering at Purdue University West Lafayette. He participated in the LSAMP Summer 2009 Research program, and post-graduation, he plans to work for a company that produces biofuel.
Kyasha Edmond (‘13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Industrial Technology. Kyasha chose Industrial Technology as a major, because she feels the Industrial Technology program provides several ways to accommodate her needs and to strengthen the skills she has in communication and all aspects of academia. Post-graduation, Kyasha plans to attend graduate school, but she has not decided an area of study to pursue.

Ceazon Edwards (‘08) is studying at the Indiana University School of Medicine. She earned a B.S. in Biochemistry and a B.A. in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures from Indiana University Bloomington in 2008. While at IU, Ceazon performed LSAMP research with faculty mentors and served as a peer-mentor. At the Indiana LSAMP-AGEP Joint Research Conference in 2008, she earned first-place in the “Oral Presentation” category for her research on “N-Terminal Sequence of Glucagon and Its Role in Receptor Binding.”

Rhajaan Edwards (‘12) is studying occupational safety science at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a part of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program (HHSP), LSAMP Mentor Program, American Society of Safety Engineers as Secretary of the IUB Student Section, and a member of the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society. Rhajaan plans to attend graduate school for Occupation Safety & Health Science upon graduation.

Dominique Edwards (‘11) graduated with a B.S. in Biology from Purdue University North Central. Dominique is currently pursuing a M.S. in Biotechnology from the University of Maryland, University College.

Blake Entralgo (‘07) recently completed his dental school studies at Temple University. He graduated with a B.S. in Biology in 2007. Blake was among the first LSAMP students at Indiana University Bloomington.

Paola Flores Verdad Ixta (‘12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Food Science. Paola has completed two internships with Kraft Foods Inc. as a Research, Development, and Quality Intern. Post-graduation, Paola plans to attend graduated school to further her studies in Food Science with a focus in Food Microbiology.

Shree Fraizer (‘12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Industrial Engineering. Shree has been a LSAMP Scholar since summer 2007. Post-graduation, Shree plans to obtain a MBA with hopes of eventually owning her own business.

Macharia Funches (‘14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Macharia chose Mechanical Engineering because engineering satisfies his desires to positively impact a large amount of people through using math and science. After graduation, Macharia plans to pursue a Master’s in business and possibly a law degree.

Demetrius Glover (‘13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette, studying Biology. He participated in Purdue’s Academic Boot Camp and LSAMP Summer 2011 Research. Post-graduation, Demetrius intends on attending dental school to become an orthodontist.

Brandon Govindarajoo (‘08) is currently studying for a Ph.D. in Bioinformatics at the University of Michigan. While an undergraduate at Indiana University Bloomington, Brandon earned degrees in Biochemistry, Mathematics and Physics. He was active in all areas of LSAMP programming, including student research and serving as a peer-mentor for freshmen science majors.

Vinchessica Gray (‘13) is currently a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Industrial Engineering. Vinchessica participated in the LSAMP research program summer 2010 and had an opportunity to present her research at the National Department of Defense Virtual Worlds Conference in Washington D.C in fall 2011. Post-graduation, Vinchessica plans to further her studies in a Master’s program in the field of Industrial Engineering and eventually obtain her Ph.D.

Leontae Gray (‘12) is a senior at Purdue University Calumet, studying Mechanical Engineering Technology. She participated in LSAMP Summer Research in 2011.

Sara Grimany (‘14) is currently a sophomore at IUPUI studying Mechanical Engineering. Post-graduation, Sara plans to enter industry as a Mechanical Engineer.
Anthony Gutierrez ('08) graduated from IUPUI in 2008 with a B.S in Mathematics. Anthony continued his research in Biomechanics and obtained a M.S in Biological Engineering in 2010.

Juan Guzman ('14) is a sophomore majoring in Health Services Management/Biology at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. He participated in the LSAMP Summer 2011 Research program and plans to attend graduate school after graduation.

Dynesha Harris ('12) is a senior studying Biological Sciences at Purdue University West Lafayette. She participated in LSAMP Research in spring and summer 2011. Dynesha is planning on pursuing a career in either forensics research or gaining graduate experience in interdisciplinary science.

Erika Healey ('14) is a sophomore in Mechanical Engineering Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. She participated in Academic Boot Camp, a summer bridge program for incoming freshman funded in part by LSAMP Indiana. Erika plans to use her degree to research and to develop artificial joints and organs.

Jenaya Hooks ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette with double majors in Animal Science and Spanish. Jenaya chose these two majors because she would like to work as a veterinarian in wildlife conservation in Latin and Central America. By learning Spanish, Jenaya will be able to better relate to the people and learn how culture changes the value and perception of wildlife. After graduation, Jenaya plans to attend Veterinary School or Graduate School and continue to study foreign languages.

Eta Isiorho ('07) received her B.S in Biochemistry from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007. She participated extensively in undergraduate research and in outreach programs designed to increase minority student representation in the sciences, including the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program, the National Institutes of Health Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity Program, the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers, and the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program. Eta is currently studying for a Ph.D. in Biochemistry at the University of Texas at Austin.

Latryce Jenkins ('12) is a senior studying Industrial Distribution at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, she plans to pursue a management career.

Cameron Jiles ('07) graduated from IUPUI in 2007 with a B.S in Computer Engineering. He currently works as a Software Engineer for Technicolor.

Diamond Johnson ('13) is a junior studying Genetics at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, she plans on working in the field of cancer research and entering a Ph.D. program.

Timothy Johnson ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette with a double major in Physics and Chemistry. Timothy chose to major in both Physics and Chemistry because he has had an interest in natural sciences since a very young age. Post-graduation, Timothy plans to further his education in a Graduate School.

Morgan Jones ('11) received a B.S. in Neuroscience from Indiana University Bloomington in 2011. Morgan is currently a first year medical student at the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

Mitchell Keel ('08) matriculated into the Meharry Medical College in the fall of 2011 to become a physician. Working in Dr. Foley's lab during his time at IU helped him gain a valuable set of contacts and friends that he continues to keep in touch with, as well as gaining some great experience in a physiology lab setting. Mitchell’s work in the Foley lab resulted in the publication, Identification of markers for nipple epidermis: changes in expression during pregnancy and lactation. (Differentiation, 2007). He graduated from IU Bloomington with a B.S. in Biology in 2008.

Kendria Kelly-Taylor ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Movement and Sports Science. She chose to study this field because she is very interested in sports medicine. She hopes to either become an orthopedic doctor for an athlete team or a medical examiner. After graduation, she plans to attend Medical school.
Megan Keynton ('13) is anthropology major at Indiana University with a minor in Spanish and chemistry on a pre-dental track. She is involved in Hoosier Dentist, a dental club on campus, and is the current service coordinator within that club.

Destani Langford ('13) is a junior at Purdue University pursuing a degree in Animal Sciences. Destani chose to study Animal Sciences because she has always had a passion for animals and becoming a Veterinarian. After graduation she plans to apply to Veterinarian school at Purdue University.

Cherrie Lemon ('12) is a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette, and is studying Interdisciplinary Chemistry. She participated in the LSAMP Summer 2011 Research program. In the 125-year history of the Purdue All-American Marching Band, Cherrie is the first African-American to become Drum Major at Purdue University. Cherrie’s plans post-graduation are to pursue a career in the United States Navy and to obtain Masters and Doctorate degrees in forensic science.

LeAnna Level ('14) is a sophomore at Indiana University Bloomington majoring in community health. She is the treasurer of her Living and Learning Community and is a LSAMP science peer mentor. After graduation, she plans to become a health promotion specialist.

Dekiyra Love ('13) is a junior studying Professional Flight Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, Dekiyra intends on either flying or working in the management field of professional flight.

Arielle Mabon ('13) is a junior studying Industrial Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. She is participating in the LSAMP Fall 2011 Research program. Post-graduation, Arielle intends on combining a dual-degree in Industrial Technology and Management to enter into a managerial position at a cosmetics company.

Craig Manarik ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette, studying Electrical Engineering. Post-graduation, Craig would like to pursue a career in designing hardware or software, and then obtain a graduate degree in Electrical Engineering.

Peter Manbu ('14) is currently a sophomore at IUPUI studying Computer and Information Technology. Peter plans to eventually obtain his teaching license to pursue his passion of working with children.

Manuel Martinez ('07) is working towards his Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Manny graduated from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007 with a degree in Biology. While at IU, he served as a peer mentor for freshmen LSAMP scholars and did extensive research in numerous laboratories. During the summer of 2007, Manny joined other scholars in a study abroad experience in Ghana, Africa.

Nowai- Candice Mathew ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Computer Graphics Technology. Candice is in the process of developing her own video game and plans to attend graduate school once she obtains her baccalaureate degree.

Adrian Maxwell ('13) is a junior studying Biology at Indiana University Bloomington. Post-graduation, he intends to attend graduate school with a focus in paleontology.

Lucas McCallister ('13) is currently a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Manufacturing Engineering Technology. Post-graduation, Lucas plans to utilize his degree by working in the automotive industry.

Jade McDonald ('13) is studying biology, business, and Spanish at IU Bloomington. She is a Hudson & Holland Scholar and is an active mentor in both the LSAMP program and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Upon her graduation, Jade plans on earning her Master’s degree in Business Administration.

Cameron McGhee ('12) is a senior studying Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. As an incoming freshman, Cameron attended Academic Boot Camp, and in 2009 and 2011, he participated in the LSAMP Summer Research program. Cameron is currently serving as a student researcher, under the tutelage of Dr. Monica Cox, studying the effectiveness of utilizing Social Media tools for identifying and the recruitment of minority students at predominantly white institutions. Cameron’s contributions to this research initiative yielded the largest number of minority student participation in LSAMP Indiana initiatives since the inception of LSAMP within the state of Indiana. Post-graduation, Cameron intends to further his education by attending graduate school.
Tomas Meijome ('13) is currently attending IUPUI double majoring in Physics and Chemistry. Tomas is interested in medical research radiology.

Michael Menchacha ('10) graduated from Indiana University Northwest with a B.S. degree in Geology in 2011. Michael is currently working towards his Master’s degree in geology at the University of Chicago. At IU Northwest, he worked under LSAMP where he analyzed the mineral composition of sand at Mount Baldy Dune in Northwest Indiana in order to determine human impact on the dunes.

Chris Merchun ('12) is studying biology at Indiana University Bloomington. He is a Herbert Presidential Scholar and active member of the Liberal Arts and Management Program (LAMP) where he has diversified his science curriculum to include economics, finance, and management classes. Chris plans on attending medical school upon his graduation.

Paul Middleton ('12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Professional Flight. Post-graduation, Paul plans to become a Commissioned Officer in the United States Armed Forces as a Professional Aviator.

Ryan Mihalic ('12) is completing his B.S. in Chemistry at Purdue University Calumet. Ryan was selected to represent Purdue Calumet at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute funded research program at Purdue University in West Lafayette in the summer of 2011. Ryan has received LSAMP research grants, two undergraduate research grants, and the Most Outstanding Student in Biology award. He also made the Dean’s List and received several other academic honors and awards. Ryan is currently working on publishing his research on burying beetles. After graduation, he plans to obtain Master’s degree in biology and later apply to Medical School with the hope of one day becoming a Surgeon.

Alejandro Miranda ('06) graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine in the spring of 2010. Currently, Alejandro is completing his surgical residency at the University of California - San Francisco School of Medicine. While at IU Bloomington, Alejandro served as a tutor for LSAMP students and participated widely in STEM related programs.

Qurat-ul-Ann Mirza ('15) participated in the 2011 LSAMP LINK program, which provides opportunities for students from Ivy Tech Community College to participate in research at a four- year institution. Ann had an opportunity to conduct research under the tutelage of Dr. Yogesh Joglekar in the field of Physics. Ann plans to transition to IUPUI to continue her studies in Physics. After she attains her baccalaureate degree, she plans to matriculate to a graduate program.

Jose Mitjavila ('14) is studying neuroscience at Indiana University. He is a Hudson & Holland Scholar and Director of Communications for IUSA, the student body government. After graduating, Jose plans on attending medical school.

Jordan Moran ('11) matriculated to the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine in the fall of 2011. While at Indiana University Bloomington, Jordan graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.S. in Biology and minors in Chemistry and Spanish. He assisted LSAMP students extensively in his role as tutor and Supplemental Instruction leader for organic chemistry courses.

Melissa Mora ('13) is studying public health with a concentration on sexual health at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a member of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program and is currently mentoring a freshman science major. After graduation, she intends to plan and implement new health programs for the community.

Keith Murphy ('11) graduated from Indiana University Northwest with a B.S. degree in Chemistry and minor in Mathematics in 2011. He plans to further his education in chemistry by obtaining a Master’s degree and is also considering applying to health professional schools. At IU Northwest, Keith’s LSAMP funding gave him the opportunity to study water contaminants and ion levels in Little Calumet River of Northwest Indiana.

Adam Myers ('13) is a junior studying Industrial Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, he plans to work in a managerial capacity.
Aiman Nawari ('14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette. He is studying Biological Engineering, and in 2011 he participated in the LSAMP Summer Research program. Post-graduation, Aiman plans to further his education in a graduate program of study.

Vivien Nsonwu ('14) is a sophomore at Indiana University studying human biology. She is currently involved with the Circle K of IU group, the Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students (MAPS), the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), and the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program (HHSP). After graduating from Indiana University, she plans to attend medical school with hopes of becoming a pediatrician.

Hector Ochoa ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Nutrition Science. Hector wants to conduct research in the area of Preventative Medicine in relation to nutrition. Post-graduation, Hector plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Nutrition Science. Hector’s long-term goal is to serve humanity by providing simple knowledge of the human body, food, and vitamins to ensure healthier lifestyles.

Brianna Owens-Boatwright ('12) is a senior studying Materials Engineering at Purdue University West Lafayette. She participated in the 2008 and 2011 LSAMP Summer Research programs, and post-graduation, her plans include attending graduate school.

Rhoda Owolabi ('10) graduated from IUPUI in 2010 with a B.A in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. Rhoda is a recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Indiana Teaching Fellowship and earned a M.S in Science Education in 2011.

Maria Palmerin ('11) graduated from Indiana University Northwest with a B.S. in Biology in 2011. With the support of the LSAMP, Maria worked with the Biology Department of IU Northwest in doing a research project on plant richness and restoration activity in eight different sites of Northwest Indiana.

Braylon Parham ('13) is a junior at Purdue University pursuing a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology (ECET). Braylon chose to study ECET because he has always has an interest in the functionality of electronics. Braylon aspires to one day develop an electronic device that will make everyday life easier. Post-graduation, Braylon plans to pursue a Master’s Degree in ECET.

Kevin Parikh ('12) is a senior at Indiana University majoring in entrepreneurship and corporate innovation through the Kelley School of Business with minors in both biology and chemistry. In addition to a Hudson & Holland Scholar, he is both a student of the Hutton Honors College and Kelley Honors Program. He is the captain of IUs’ Raas dance team, and is president of Sigma Beta Rho. He plans on continuing his education at medical school this upcoming fall.

Gabriel Pirtle ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Gabriel has always had an interest in the way machines and electronics work. Gabriel believes that as an engineer, he will be able to solve new problems in industry. He plans to apply for graduate school at Purdue University and further his studies in law after obtaining his Master’s degree.

Daniel Popoola ('12) is a senior at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. He is currently studying Biological Sciences and intends on working on research in the field of Neuroscience with the National Institutes of Health. He will enroll in Medical school in 2013.

Brooke Prentice-Webb ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette majoring in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering. Post-graduation, he plans on obtaining an MBA and then pursuing a career in this field.

Melanie Quest ('13) is studying human biology and studio art at IU Bloomington. She is a Hudson & Holland Scholar, Hutton Honors Scholar, and an ambassador for “Smiles Change Lives.” Melanie plans on attending the Indiana University School of Dentistry after she graduates.

Christian Rachal ('13) is a junior at Indiana University Bloomington, and is majoring in Computer Science. Christiana has participated in the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program and plans to pursue a career in Information Security.

Trevy Ramos ('07) studies medicine at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, West Virginia. While at Indiana University Bloomington, she mentored LSAMP freshmen in their peer mentoring program and earned a B.A. in Biology in 2007. Following her graduation from IU, Trevy entered a M.S. program in Biology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and received her degree in 2008.
Margaret Ramos Miller ('14) is currently a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Biology. During her freshman year, Maggie conducted LSAMP research under the tutelage of Dr. Claudio Aguilar. During the 2011 Springbreak, Maggie traveled to Las Delicias, El Salvador where she assisted in various renovations and health related projects through the Foundation of International Medical Relief of Children. In December 2011, Maggie will accompany her faculty mentor, Dr. Aguilar, to Denver, Colorado, to present their research at the American Society for Cell Biology Annual Meeting.

David Rankine ('13) is a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette pursuing a degree in Aerospace Engineering. David chose to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering because, after receiving his piloting license while in high school, he developed an interest in aircraft designs and engines. After graduation, David plans to pursue a Master’s degree in Aerospace Engineering with a focus in Systems Engineering.

Ebony Riggins ('13) is studying human biology at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a member of the Hudson & Holland Scholars program, a member of the Minority Association for Pre-Med Students (M.A.P.S.), and is the historian of both the Women of Color Leadership Institute (WOCLI) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Ebony plans on attending either medical school or graduate school after graduating.

Shira Riggs ('08) graduated from IUPUI in 2008 with a B.A. in Biology. She is currently pursuing a M.S and plans to attend Dental School.

Christina Robinson ('12) is studying psychology and neuroscience at IU Bloomington. She is a member of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program and is currently doing research at the IU School of Optometry under Dr. Ann Elsner. Christina plans on attending the IU School of Optometry upon graduating.

Arbara Rogers ('08) received a B.A. in Psychology from Indiana University Bloomington in 2008. She researched social and language development as part of her LSAMP research project and currently is employed by Cummins as a Behavioral Health as a Life Skills Specialist. Arbara earned a M.A. in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Indianapolis in 2011.

Lauren Santiesteban ('11) graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Indiana University Bloomington with a double-major in Biochemistry and Anthropology. She served as a peer-mentor and tutor for the IU LSAMP program for several years. Currently, Lauren is studying medicine at New York University.

Dario Santos ('15) is currently a student at Ivy Tech Community College studying Mechanical Engineering Technology. Dario was a participant in the LSAMP Indiana first cohort of LINK scholars and from his experiences with the program, he has made a commitment to continue his education at Purdue University West Lafayette after he completes his A.S.

Elisio Sapata ('12) is a senior at Indiana University majoring in psychology with minors in political science and Spanish. After graduation, he plans on attending law school to study international law.

Monica Schuring ('13) is studying psychology at Indiana University. After graduation she plans to attend law school and one day have a private firm. At Indiana University she is a Hudson & Holland Scholar, a LSAMP peer mentor, and Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity member. Additionally, Monica contributes to the local community by working a part time job and being an active volunteer at Bloomington's Middle Way House for battered women and children.

Linda Senbanjo ('12) is currently a senior at Indiana University Bloomington studying Biology. Linda place 3rd in the Oral presentations at the LSAMP Indiana 2010 Annual Research Conference and is the coauthor of a publication entitled “Bone Resorption in Syndromes of the RAS/MAPK Pathway.” Post-graduation, she plans to apply for a MD/PhD program to further her research in the field of medicine with an emphasis on cancer research.

Aditya Shah ('09) graduated from Indiana University Northwest with a B.S. degree in Chemistry and minor in Biology in 2009. Aditya is currently completing his third year of medical school at the Indiana University School of Medicine-Indianapolis. While at IU Northwest, Aditya worked on various research projects. He was funded by the LSAMP for a research project testing water samples in Lake Michigan for human contamination.
Karyce Shumpert (‘14) is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette and is studying Biology. She was a participant in Academic Boot Camp in the summer of 2010 and an undergraduate researcher in the LSAMP Summer 2011 Research program. Post-graduation, Karyce intends on attending graduate school in pursuit of a Master’s degree.

Jenn Siriwardane (‘13) is studying biology and psychology at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a member of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program, the Hutton Honors College, and a recipient of the IU Excellence Scholarship. She has done bioinformatics research with Dr. Matthew Hahn and is also a member of Congress for the Indiana University Student Association. Jenn plans to go to medical school after college.

Clarice Smith (‘12) is a senior studying Mechanical Engineering Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette, and has participated in LSAMP Undergraduate Research. Post-graduation, Clarice would like to procure employment in a rotational development program in a manufacturing or production environment.

Jessica Smith (‘07) is a medical student at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, West Virginia. She earned a Biology degree from Indiana University Bloomington in 2007 where she served as a LSAMP peer mentor and was actively involved in numerous campus initiative supporting STEM fields.

Zikomo Smith (‘12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Mechanical Engineering. Zikomo has served as the President for the National Society of Black Engineers twice (2009- 2010 and 2008- 2009). Zikomo has served as an intern twice for Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. in Allentown, PA. Post-graduation, Zikomo plans to pursue a career in either controls or the application of the heat and fluid sciences in industry.

Mychael Spencer (‘13) is a junior majoring in biology with minors in social science and medicine and in chemistry. Mychael sits on the Executive Board for the Minority Association of Premedical Students, is a Student Director for the IU Office of Admissions, and is a scholar in the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program. He plans to attend medical school upon his graduation from Indiana University.

Kehara Taylor (‘15) is a freshman studying Core Mathematics at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, she plans to continue her education in Graduate School.

Marquel Thompson (‘14) is currently a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette studying engineering. Marquel is a participant in the LSAMP Sophomore Research Based Learning Community and has obtained an internship with Rolls Royce for the spring 2012. Post-graduation he plans to either work in industry, hopefully Rolls-Royce, or enter a graduate program to study Aeronautical Engineering.

Beatrice Thungu (‘10) graduated from IUPUI in 2010 with a B.A. in Biology. Beatrice conducted research in Bioinformatics and is currently a student at George Washington Medical College.

Juliet Thungu (‘14) is a sophomore at Indiana University Bloomington. During the summer of 2011, Juliet has been researching the motility of bacterial cells in the laboratory of Professor Clay Fuqua. She will begin her role as peer mentor for a freshman LSAMP scholar this year and has recently returned from a study abroad experience in Ghana, Africa. Juliet is pursuing a B.S. in Biology.

Oscar Trejo-Soria (‘13) is a junior at Purdue University pursuing a degree in Computer Science. Oscar was inspired by his father who worked with the very first computers that were in Mexico. Since then, he has loved everything about computers. After graduation Oscar plans to attend Graduate School and aspires to eventually gain employment in one of the top ten computer companies such as Windows, HP, Apple or Intel.

Otteria Trimble (‘13) is studying community health at Indiana University Bloomington. She is a member of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program, Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students, NAACP, and is the interim First Vice President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Upon graduating, Otteria plans to either attend medical school in Florida or Indiana or go to graduate school to obtain a Master of Science in Medical Science.
Matthew Turner ('13) is a junior at Indiana University Bloomington. During the summer of 2011, Matthew performed research in the laboratory of Professor Heather Bradshaw studying lipid signaling in rat brains. He will return in his role as peer mentor during the spring of 2012 following his study abroad experience in Seville, Spain.

Elizabeth Uduehi ('12) is studying speech & hearing Sciences at IU Bloomington. She is a Hudson & Holland Scholar who has participated in undergraduate research through her department with Professor Phil Connell. Elizabeth plans on attending graduate school for speech language pathology upon graduation.

Taisha Venort ('13) is currently a junior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Environmental and Ecological Engineering. During summer 2011, Taisha participated in the LSAMP Research program conducting an assessment study of the water distribution in Togo, Africa. Taisha also had the opportunity to volunteer with PCI- Haiti (Project Concern International) as a water distribution system evaluator. Post-graduation, Taisha plans to further her studies in a graduate program focusing on environmental science/management and policy or green architecture.

Ramon Verduzco ('07) Ramon received his B.S. in Chemistry in 2007 from Purdue University Calumet and then began graduate studies in Chemistry at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Ramon began doing undergraduate research early in his academic career and was awarded an LSAMP undergraduate research stipend for the summer 2005. Ramon traveled with his mentor to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to collaborate with Dr. James Takacs. As a result of this research opportunity, Ramon was awarded the PUC Student Research Award in April 2006. Ramon also presented his work at the Central Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (CERMACS) in Covington, Kentucky in May 2007. Ramon is currently employed in the SSCI division of Aptuit in Lafayette as a scientist.

Ginger White ('10) graduated from IUPUI in 2010 with a B.S in Informatics and Certificate in Applied Computer Science. Ginger is currently a graduate student at Indiana University Bloomington completing her M.S in Informatics- Human and Computer Interactions.

Wilson Williams ('12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Interdisciplinary Engineering. Wilson plans to further his education by attending graduate school once he completes his baccalaureate degree and later plans to join the Peace Corps.

Chaunda Williams ('12) is a senior studying Computer Information Technology at Purdue University West Lafayette. Her post-graduation plans include pursuing a Master of Science degree in technology.

Amanda Wilson ('09) graduated from IUPUI in 2009 with a B.S in Biology. Amanda received her M.S in Forensics from Marshall University in 2011. She is currently employed by the St. Louis Police Department as a Fingerprint Specialist.

Kelly Wilson ('11) graduated from IUPUI in 2011 with a B.S in Clinical Lab Science with minors in Chemistry and Spanish.

Sannah P. Ziama ('08) is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Physics at Purdue University, West Lafayette. He received LSAMP support during his four years of studying at IUPUI. Sannah obtained a B.S in Physics and a M.S. in Engineering in 2008. He is a recipient of NSF Graduate Research Fellowship in 2009.

Malachi Boyd ('15) Malachi Boyd is currently a freshman at Purdue University West Lafayette studying Engineering. Malachi participated in Purdue’s Academic Boot Camp, which is a summer bridge program for incoming freshman funded in part by LSAMP Indiana. Post-graduation, Malachi plans to attend graduate school to study Mechanical Engineering.

Austin Crawford ('12) is a senior studying Biology at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, he plans on obtaining a Master’s degree or doctorate in forensic science.

Megan Gunn ('12) is currently a senior at Purdue University West Lafayette studying ecology. Megan has been conducting research in an aquatic ecology lab since spring 2011 and has traveled to Costa Rica twice for research. During the fall 2011, Megan will travel to Seattle, WA to present her research at the National
American Fisheries Society Conference. Post-graduation, Megan hopes to work for a government agency as a researcher studying invasive marine species.

**Kristal Harry (’12)** is a senior studying Materials Science and Engineering at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, she plans to work in a national research lab.

**Kimberly Ho-A-Lim (’15)** is a freshman majoring in Biology at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. Post-graduation, she plans on entering graduate school and pursuing a career in the medical or forensic professions.

**Zoila Malespin (’14)** is currently enrolled at IUPUI in the five-year Bachelor’s and Master’s program studying Mechanical Engineering. By maintaining a 3.99 GPA, Zoila has received numerous awards and has been distinguished as a Dean’s List scholar. Post-graduation, Ziola plans to work in industry for a reputable corporation with hopes of eventually starting her own corporation.

**Benito Martinez (’13)** is a junior studying Mathematics Education at Purdue University West Lafayette. Post-graduation, his plans are to attend graduate school, as well as help high school students in mathematics.

**Marco Mendez (’13)** is currently a junior at Purdue University Calumet studying Electrical Engineering. Marco has maintained a 3.41 GPA and is currently on the Dean’s List. During the summer of 2011, Marco was awarded an internship at ArcelorMittal as an associate engineer.

**Adam Mesa (’14)** is a sophomore at Purdue University West Lafayette. He is a student in the College of Engineering and his plans are to either work at a major automotive manufacturing company or at a research facility.

**Lawrence Ozobu (’13)** is a junior at Indiana University Bloomington, and he is majoring in Biology. Post-graduation, Lawrence plans to attend medical school.
Tunde Akinyeke, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2003. He has received numerous honors and awards including the following: AACR Minority Scholarship Award (2006), AACR Minority Scholarship Award (2008), 8th Annual Meharry Medical College/Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center U54 Cancer Partnership Retreat- Best Poster Presentation (2009), 53rd Meharry Medical College Annual Research Day- 1st Place Poster Presentation (2009), SBUR Travel Award for Outstanding Abstract Presentation (2009). He completed his Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences-Cancer Biology at the Meharry Medical College in 2011. His doctoral research project title is Regulation of c-Myc Expression by Troglitazone in the C4-2 Human Prostate Cancer Cell Line. Currently, he is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the New York University College of Dentistry.

Olusimidele T. Akinsiku earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2004. As an undergraduate at UMBC, she “gave back” to students in the pipeline by serving as a tutor for children in the Choice Program. She also was active in the African Student Association and served on the President’s Student Advisory Council. She is currently enrolled in a joint M.D./Ph.D. program in the Departments of Microbiology and Medicine at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. She has co-authored three publications related to her current research on CD8 T-Cells.

Adedayo Adeniran-Catlett earned her B.S. in Chemical Engineering 2008 from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2008. As an undergraduate, she participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program, conducted research, mentored high school students through the GEAR-UP Saturday Academy, and served as an active member of the student chapters of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and National Society of Black Engineers. Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate in Bioengineering at Northeastern University.

Brittany Blueitt Amadi received the prestigious Banneker Key Merit Scholarship to attend the University of Maryland, College Park in 2003. She earned her B.S. summa cum laude in Mechanical Engineering in 2006. Upon graduation, Brittany was employed in the Spacecraft Engineering Department of the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., where she served as a structural analyst for satellite and spacecraft systems. She completed her J.D. cum laude with an emphasis in intellectual property law at the Harvard Law School in 2010. She is currently serving as a judicial law clerk for an appellate judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, in Washington, D.C.

Time Aigbe is a Ph.D. student in Mechanical Engineering (ME) at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). He earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at UMD in 2008, and he received a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. After completing his Ph.D., he plans to work in industrial engineering and develop manufacturing systems.
Paris N. Alexander earned her B.S. in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2006. She was an LSAMP Scholar and participated in the Materials Research Science and Engineering Center’s (MRSEC) research experience for undergraduates. She received an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at UMD where she is currently completing her Ph.D. research in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. Her research concerns dynamic magnetic domain wall manipulation in magnetostrictive alloys using in situ transmission electron microscopy.

Prince Awuah earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He is a fourth-year graduate student in the department of Cellular and Molecular Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. His research focuses on understanding the mechanisms underlining Liver biology. His thesis project involves elucidating the role of Platelet Derived Growth Factor Receptor alpha (PDGFRα) in Liver biology. He is first co-author on an article titled “Hepatocyte γ-catenin compensates for conditionally deleted β-catenin at adherens junctions” recently published in the journal of Hepatology (2011). He is second co-author of “Disparate cellular basis of improved liver repair in beta-catenin-overexpressing mice after long-term exposure to 3, 5-diethoxycarbonyl-1, 4-dihydrocollidine” published in American Journal of Pathology (2010).

Anthony O. Awojoodu earned his B.S. summa cum laude in Bioengineering from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2009. He participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program, Summer Bridge and NSBE. He completed is M.S. program in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Virginia, and transferred to the Georgia Institute of Technology with his advisor, Dr. Edward Botchwey, to complete his Ph.D. He has presented his research at numerous national meetings and at the University of Ghana in Accra, Ghana. His thesis research on stem cell mobilization led him to a three-month externship with AstraZeneca in Gothenburg, Sweden. He was recently awarded a prestigious NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to support his research pertaining to the pharmacological manipulation of stem cells to treat blood and inflammatory diseases like sickle cell anemia.

Odianosen Ayewoh earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2009. He went on to an M.S. program at Marshall University.

Damilola Adepgha earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). While at UMES, she gained invaluable undergraduate research experience when she participated in the NIH-NSF Bioengineering & Bioinformatics Summer Institute at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Her current research is on the role of EHD proteins in the highly phagocytic macrophages. She is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Genetics, Cell Biology & Anatomy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, and she expects to graduate 2014.

Olufolakemi O. Awe earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2009. She is currently enrolled in a joint M.D./Ph.D. program at Indiana University. Also, she currently serves as co-chair of Project Joy that provides medical students an opportunity to plan and lead monthly interactive projects with the geriatric patients at the Lockefield Village Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center and also to meet with Lockefield Village therapists and physicians.

Omozusi Andrews earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2009. While an undergraduate at UMES, she gained research experience when she completed a summer internship in the Department of Animal Biology at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Cancer Biology at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She conducts research in the lab of Punita Dhawan, Ph.D.

Karolyn O. Babalola, Ph.D. earned her B.S. cum laude in Computer Engineering with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2003. While at UMBC, she gained undergraduate research experience as a Summer Research Intern at the IBM Almaden Research Center in 2001. She completed both her M.S. program in Electrical Engineering in 2006 and her Ph.D. program in Electrical Engineering, Bioengineering, Computer Science, Rehabilitation in 2011 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Her Ph.D. research was on Brain-Computer Interfaces for Inducing Brain Plasticity and Motor Learning: Implications for Stroke Rehabilitation. Currently, she is employed as a computer engineer.
Kendra Baker is a computer science student at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). After her expected graduation in 2014, she plans to work in the cyber security field. She currently serves as Outreach Coordinator of the Association of Women in Computing at UMD. She has participated in numerous LSAMP programs including the Summer Bridge and the Undergraduate Research Programs. Her current research project is focused on the process of utilizing alternative sources of energy (e.g., solar thermal and wind energy) to power mobile electronics such as cell phones. She plans to study abroad in Italy.

Floyd Bates earned his B.S. in Chemistry at Johnson C. Smith University in 2007. He was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park where he currently is a Ph.D. student in Chemistry. After graduation, he plans to develop new materials and devices for industrial applications.

Carlise R. (Douglas) Bethel, Ph.D. earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 1998. She continued at UMBC and completed her Ph.D. program in Molecular and Cell Biology in 2006. She is the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in Molecular and Cell Biology from UMBC. She received the Acres of Diamonds Award at the National Institutes of Health Minority Training Research Forum the Pre-doctoral Fellowship Award from the National Cancer Institute. Upon completing her Ph.D., she received a Cancer Research Training Fellowship and went on to her postdoctoral program in cancer research at The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Tiffany Bingham, Ph.D. earned her B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2005. As an undergraduate at UMES, she received numerous awards and honors including: Honors Program, LSAMP Scholar, Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, and MARC U* STAR Scholar. She completed both her M.S. program in Pharmacology (2007) and her Ph.D. program in Pharmacology (2009) at the New York University School of Medicine. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Harvard Medical School/Children’s Hospital Boston in 2010. Currently, she is Manager of Psychotropic Drug Intervention Program Analytics at Beacon Health Strategies.

Anika (nee Alfred) Bissahoyo, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1998. She completed her Ph.D. program in Toxicology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Medicine in 2005. She currently is employed as Director of Development/Proposal Writer at Claflin University.

Mark Bivens earned his B.S. Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He went on to pursue the Advanced M.S. program at Morgan State University (MSU). He currently is employed as the Vice President of IEEE Energy and Power Organization at MSU and is also working for Naval Sea Systems Command at the Washington Navy Yard Power and Energy.

Robin N. Brewer earned her B.S. in 2011 from University of Maryland, College Park where she participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research and Summer Bridge Programs. As an active participant in NSBE, she has presented her research at several conferences. She was awarded a 2011-13 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). Currently, she is a first-year Ph.D. student in Human-Centered Computing at UMBC.

Tiffani J. Bright, Ph.D. earned her B.A. in Sociology from the College of William & Mary in 2001 and her B.S. in Information Systems from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2004. She completed her Ph.D. program in Biomedical Informatics at Columbia University in 2009. Her research interests focus on determining how health information technology is achieving improved performance through the effective adoption and use on care processes and patient outcomes. She recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Duke University in the Department of Community and Family Medicine.
Kennon Broadhurst earned both his B.S. and his M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He has worked as a software engineer with such companies as Cinecom Corporation, Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.; SRA International, Inc.; and General Dynamics Information Technology. Among his most notable projects are the Flying Hours Online (FHOL) for Langley Air Force Base and the Task Management System (TMS) for the Office of Naval Intelligence. He currently works at Omnitec Systems, Inc. as the Technical Lead Software Engineer.

Stefanie Brodie earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering in 2006 from the University of Maryland, College Park where she was an LSAMP Scholar and a Summer Bridge participant. She is currently pursuing dual masters’ degrees in Transportation Engineering and Urban Planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), and she plans to graduate in 2012. She conducts research on the interaction of transportation networks and land use through accessibility, especially regarding non-motorized and transit modes of transportation. She plans to apply to a Ph.D. program in transportation engineering at Georgia Tech.

Roxann S. Brooks earned her B.S. summa cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2006. She had the honor of being selected Co-Salutatorian of the class of 2006 at UMBC, and she also received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Biological Sciences. While an undergraduate, she gained rich experience outside of the classroom, including conducting two independent research projects with Kevin Omland, Ph.D., serving as a veterinary assistant for two different animal hospitals, and serving as a teaching assistant for introductory Biology. Currently, she is a Ph.D. candidate in a joint D.V.M./Ph.D. program in Comparative Pathology and Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis, and she has completed a 3-month International Externship at the Institute of Virology and Immunoprophylaxis in Mittelhäusern, Switzerland.

Cassaundra Brown earned her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Morgan State University. She was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She completed her M.S. program in Electrical Engineering at UMD in 2011. She plans to pursue a doctorate.

Hakeenah F. Brown earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2006. During the summer of 2006, she participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program, and she conducted research entitled Investigation of the Relationship between Wnt5a and Claudin-1. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in the Interdisciplinary Life Science Program at Purdue University with an interest in determining the significance of host pathogen interactions between Plasmodium falciparum (malaria parasite) and human proteins using the yeast two-hybrid assay.

Margaret Brown earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the California State University, Long Beach in 2006. She was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She completed her M.S. program in Chemistry in 2011, and she currently is enrolled as a Ph.D. student in Chemistry at UMD. After completing her doctoral program, she plans to become an organic chemist and work in the biotech or pharmaceutical division of a company.

Tyesha N. Burks earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2006. As an undergraduate, she participated in the Research in Science and Engineering Summer Research Program at Rutgers University and conducted a research project entitled "Iron-lipocalin (24p3) and kidney stone disease". She currently is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in Human Genetics at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Her research team at Johns Hopkins recently discovered that “losartan protects against loss of old or damaged muscle.”

Maurice D. Butler, Ph.D. earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2001. He completed his Ph.D. program at Harvard Medical School in 2008. His research in the area of mapping insulin pathways in roundworms has applications for treating diabetes and other diseases. Currently, he is employed as Associate Medical Director at BGB New York.
Shanel Byas earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2010. In addition to being an LSAMP student, she also was a MARC U*STAR student at UMES. As an undergraduate, she conducted research entitled *Human Embryonic Stem Cells Maintain Pluripotency after E-Cadherin Expression Knockdown*. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the Virginia Commonwealth School of Medicine.

Erwin M. Cabrera earned his B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2010. As an undergraduate, he conducted research guided by his mentor, Dr. Phyllis R. Robinson, Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at UMBC, entitled *Probing the Structure of Rhodopsin and Human Green Opsin Using Site Directed Spin Labeling*. He currently is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at New York University.

Patrick Carlos is a Ph.D. student in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). He was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. He completed his undergraduate education, receiving three degrees, from UMD. He earned his B.S. in Computer Science in 2003 and his B.S. in Mathematics and Economics in 2008. After completing his Ph.D., he plans to work in academia.

Kira Castellon earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2005. As an undergraduate, she conducted research entitled *Reliability of a Video-based Modified Fugl-Meyer Scale Following Stroke and Upper-limb Motor Dysfunction* at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She continued to a Ph.D. program in Physiology at Howard University.

Carlos Casarez expects to complete his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Physics from the University of Maryland, College Park in May 2013. As a participant in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program, he has worked on improving the efficiency of jumping millirobots. In the summer of 2011, he conducted research on a test apparatus for a climbing robot in the Center of Integrated Nanomechanical Systems Undergraduate Research Program at the University of California, Berkeley. He plans to submit undergraduate work to robotics conferences and earn a Ph.D. in engineering with a research focus on robotics.

Sean A. Colbert-Kelly earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* in Mathematics with a minor in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2005. As an undergraduate at UMBC, he was actively involved with the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Pi Mu Epsilon, Phi Beta Kappa, Golden Key International Honor Society, National Society of Black Engineers, and the Student Events Board (Vice-President and Board Member). He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Mathematics with a concentration in Computational Science at Purdue University where he also teaches courses and is active with the Alliance for Graduate Education and Professoriate (AGEP), Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and the American Mathematical Society.
Brooke C. Coley, Ph.D. earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. She completed her Ph.D. program in Bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh in 2010. Her dissertation is entitled *Adaptive Postural Strategies: Impact of Aging*. While a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, she also played professional football for an all women’s team.

Kalonji R. Collins, M.D, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1996. He completed his Ph.D. program in Molecular Virology in 2002 and his M.D. program in 2005 at Case Western Reserve University. His dissertation is entitled *The Effects of Tuberculosis on HIV-1 Heterogeneity, Quasispecies Distribution, and Implications on Viral Fitness*. He has obtained board certification from the member board for Rheumatology and Internal Medicine. His current practice is located in the area of Springfield, VA.

Roshé Copeland earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). As an undergraduate, she participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research program and presented during the University’s Undergraduate Research Day. Since graduation, she has been working as a structural engineer designing transportation structures at HDR Engineering, Inc. Also, she currently is working on an M.E. degree in Structural Engineering at UMD with an expected graduation date of May 2013.

Sylvia Dasi earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2008. She was honored with an award for research she presented at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in Anaheim, California in November 2006. In the summer of 2008, she participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program. Currently, she is a Ph.D. candidate in Genetics and Human Genetics at Howard University.

Patrice N. Cook-Harris earned her B.S. in Biology with honors from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2006. She completed her M.S. program in Cancer Biology at the University of Miami School of Medicine in 2011. Her thesis is titled *Development and Characterization of Anti-CD20-NKG2D-Ligand Fusion Proteins*. Currently, she is continuing her work to complete her Ph.D.

Jeanette Davis earned her B.S. in Marine Science from Hampton University in 2004, and she received a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently she is a Ph.D. student in Marine Biotechnology at UMD. Her research working on the symbionts associated with the Hawaiian mollusk *Elysia rufescens* and their role in the production of the anti-cancer compound kahalalide F is supported by the Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC). She has presented her work in Qingdao, China.

Veronica O. Davis, P.E. earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park. In addition, she has completed two master’s degree programs (Engineering Management and Regional Planning) at Cornell University. She currently is a Partner and Principal Planner at Nspiregreen, LLC. She is responsible for the management of the major planning functions such as transportation planning, economic analysis, market analysis, planned development, policy development, sustainability analysis, and long range planning. She is a member of the American Planning Association, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the National Society of Black Engineers. She is a registered professional engineer in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia.

Robert T. Deloatch earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2011. As an undergraduate at UMBC, he conducted research guided by his faculty mentor, Dr. Marie desJardins, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering entitled *Developing an Intelligent Tutoring System for CSI Students*. He currently is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Marquita Dill earned her B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). While an undergraduate at UMES, she participated in a summer research program at Purdue University and conducted research entitled The Use of Degermed, Dehulled Corn to Reduce Phosphorus Excretion in Broiler Chicks. She completed her M.S. program in Exercise Physiology with a minor in Gerontology at Purdue University in 2010.

Marissa D. Dixon earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). In addition to being an LSAMP student, she also was a MARC U*STAR student while an undergraduate at UMES. She participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program Summer Student Program in 2005. She completed her M.P.H. program at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Jazalyn Dukes enrolled at the University of Maryland, College Park as a Gates Millennium Scholar and a Banneker/Key Scholar. She earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering (CE) in 2008. She was awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to pursue her M.S. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2008. She completed her M.S. program in CE in 2009. In 2011, she was awarded a SMART fellowship, in partnership with ASEE and the Department of Defense for the remainder of her Ph.D. program. She currently is under the advisement of Dr. Reginald DesRoches, a renowned expert in the field of hazard mitigation, on improving the performance of bridges under seismic loading.

Kafui Dzirasa, M.D., Ph.D. earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2001. As an undergraduate at UMBC, he had extensive domestic and international research internship experiences, ranging from Exxon Mobil to Lancaster University in Lancaster, England. He completed his Ph.D. program in Neurobiology (2007) and his M.D. program (2009) at the Duke University School of Medicine. He also completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Neurobiology at the Duke University Medical Center in 2009. His current position is Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, Duke Institute for Brain Sciences, Duke University School of Medicine.

Chima J. Ebinama earned his B.S. in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2011. While at the UMD, he participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program under the mentorship of Dr. Shuvra Bhattacharyya. He tested software tools that assisted in the design of digital signal processing embedded systems, and he assisted in the organization of the testing environment. He also served as the 2009-2010 President of the Black Engineers Society (UMD Chapter of NSBE). In 2009, the chapter won Distinguished Chapter of the Year.

Chineye D. Emeche earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2006. In addition to being an LSAMP student, she also was a MARC U*STAR student while an undergraduate at UMES. She participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program Summer Student Program. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in Immunology conducting research in the lab of Ted M. Ross, Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Adetokunbo (Lola) O. Eniola-Adefeso, Ph.D. began her higher education at the Community College of Baltimore County. After transferring to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), she earned her B.S.E. magna cum laude in Chemical Engineering in 1999. She developed her love of research while and undergraduate when she was both an LSAMP Scholar and a McNair Scholar. She completed her Ph.D. program at the University of Pennsylvania in 2004. She won a CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Also, she has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the Lloyd N. Ferguson Young Scientist award by the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE). This award recognizes and honors her scientific contributions and achievements and her dedication to research.
Christopher Epps earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. During his undergraduate studies, he interned at both the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and the National Institute for Health, National Human Genome Research Institute. He currently works at the Department of Energy in Billings, Montana.

Anthony Farrar earned his B.S. in Biology (Pre-medicine) from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2011. In 2009, he participated in the Summer Medical and Dental Educational Program at Columbia University in New York. This program provides a competitive and rigorous medical school simulated enrichment program. He was enrolled in preparatory courses while shadowing specialized physicians in the disciplines of surgery, internal medicine, and emergency medicine.

Kandice E. Fields earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in LGBT Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2010. As an undergraduate, she conducted research in Optical Biophysics studying the quorum sensing abilities of E. Coli and interned with Swales Aerospace and Ball Aerospace & Technologies. She also held executive board positions in the Black Engineers Society before helping to found the University's chapter of oSTEM and serving as president. She now works as a Mechanical Design Engineer with W. L. Gore & Associates designing large polymer processing equipment and is actively involved with in diversity efforts.

Keisha M. Findley, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2004. She completed her Ph.D. program in Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at Duke University in 2010, and she was accepted as the only postdoctoral trainee for the NIH/NHGRI health disparities postdoctoral fellowship program. Currently, she conducts research and studies the human skin microbiota in health and disease.

Brandon Flowers earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He continued on to a Fellowship at the Center of Marine Biotechnology's Aquaculture in Kobia Manufacturing. He took a year off from his studies and became a freelance model in New York. Later, he became a C.P.A. and worked with the Internal Revenue Service. Currently, he is enrolled at the University of Maryland School of Nursing with plans to get back to his biological science roots by earning an R.N and continuing on to earn a master’s in Nursing with a concentration in anesthesia.

Whitney Ford is a graduating senior in Computer Science at the University of Maryland, College Park where she currently serves as the Association for Women in Computing co-chairperson and undergraduate research assistant for the Human Computer-Interaction Lab. She has participated in various LSAMP and leadership opportunities, including the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program and the LSAMP Research Program. Also, she served as the NSBE Region II Communications Chairperson, and she received the Michael L. Cherry Memorial Scholarship. She plans to pursue a career in Software or Systems Engineering and also to pursue an M.S. in Systems Engineering.

Monique N. Foster earned her B.S. cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2010. While and undergraduate at UMBC, she conducted research with her mentor, Veronika Szalai, Ph.D. which was published. She is listed as an author of the article titled Affinity of Cu⁺ for the Copper-Binding Domain of the Amyloid-β Peptide of Alzheimer's Disease in Inorganic Chemistry 2011 50 (5), 1614-1618. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at New York University.

Oneil Gardner earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2010. As a graduating senior, he had the honor of receiving the Peter and Chandra Hettiarachchi Outstanding Student in the Department of Natural Sciences Award. In addition to being an LSAMP student, he also was a MARC U*STAR student. He won first place at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Chemical and Biological Sciences at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Also, he earned second place at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Phoenix, Arizona. Currently, he is enrolled in a Ph.D. program.
Olatunji Godo earned his B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2011. He investigates the possibility of using Iron Nanoparticles for early diagnosis of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s. Within the next year, he will be a co-author with his mentors on a publication. Away from campus, he tutors students and also organizes workshops for children about the growing field of nanotechnology. He is founder and CEO of NextG Engineering LLC, a start-up company. He intends to pursue graduate studies in engineering or environmental science.

Ken. D. Gibbs, Jr., Ph.D. earned his B.S. summa cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. Moreover, he graduated with a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average. He completed his Ph.D. program Immunology at Stanford University in 2010, and his research focused on the mechanisms that regulate blood-forming (hematopoietic) stem cells in normal blood development and leukemia. He continued this research as a postdoctoral fellow in the research group of the high profile researcher, Garry P. Nolan, Ph.D. Recently, he was awarded the AAAS Technology Policy Fellowship to work at the National Science Foundation in the Directorate of Education and Human Resources where he will contribute scientific expertise and analysis to federal policy-making. He plans to pursue a tenure-track position in the fields of stem cell and cancer biology, and use his career as a platform to encourage the participation of underrepresented students (minorities, women, and first-generation college students) in science.

Christy D. (nee Butler) Gray, M.D./Ph.D. earned her B.S.E. summa cum laude in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2000. While an undergraduate at UMBC, she conducted research in the lab of Douglas D. Frey, Ph.D. After completing her M.D./Ph.D. program in Neurosciences and Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in 2009, she moved back east to complete her residency training in anesthesiology at The Johns Hopkins University and her internship training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Clifton T. Harris, Jr., Ph.D. earned his B.A. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. He completed his Ph.D. program in Chemistry at the University of Notre Dame in 2011. Currently, he is a visiting assistant professor of Chemistry and Assistant Director of the EAGLE STEM Scholars at Winthrop University in South Carolina.

Danielle L. Harrison is pursuing her B.S. in Biological Sciences at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). In addition to being an LSAMP student, she also is a McNair Scholar. Guided by her faculty mentor, Shawn M. Bediako, Ph.D., she conducted undergraduate research entitled Attitudes Toward Genetic Testing Among Women of Color and presented her work at several conferences. She plans to pursue an M.D./Ph.D.

Regina M. Gill earned her B.S. in Food Science from Florida A&M University in 2003. She was awarded the prestigious LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), and she completed her M.S. program in Nutrition at UMD in 2010. Her research focused on metabolic syndrome in minority populations living in the Washington, D.C. area. She completed a dietetic internship at UMD to further her career in nutrition and dietetics. She has presented research at local and national conferences, including the American Dietetic Association Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo in 2011. Currently, she is a Registered Dietitian practicing clinical dietetics and offering nutritional consulting services in the Washington, D.C. area.

Jaime Arturo Gomez earned his B.S. in Physics from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2010. While an undergraduate, he participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program. He completed research projects in plasma physics and the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment, which is his current research project. As a result of his current project, he has had the opportunity to complete research in Geneva, Switzerland at the European Center for Nuclear Research (CERN). Recently, he has been conducting research at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratories (FNAL) just outside of Chicago, IL. Also, he tutors local high school students in physics and math in their native language of Spanish. He received the 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship, and he currently is a Ph.D. student in Chemical Physics at UMD.

Askia A.H. Hill earned his B.S. cum laude in Computer Engineering with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2008. He is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Purdue University.
Dinari A. Harris, Ph.D. earned his B.S. *cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. He received the United Negro College Fund Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship for 2002-2003. He completed his Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan in 2004. He received the prestigious honor of being named a Damon Runyon Cancer Researcher, and he conducted postdoctoral research in the Carthew Lab in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at Northwestern University. Currently, he is a researcher at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

Belinda R. Hauser earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She presented a poster at the meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in 2008. She was awarded a 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship at Howard University. She is a graduate teaching assistant for General Biology. Her current research focuses on DNA Alteration in tumorigenesis and its related biomarkers in head and neck squamous cell carcinomas (HNSCC). She has completed her M.S., and she currently is completing her Ph.D. program in Genetics and Human Genetics at Howard University.

Brian D. Hayes earned his B.S. in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2007. While at UMD, he participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program, and conducted and presented research as part of the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program. He also mentored and tutored undergraduate students as a part of other LSAMP programs. On a GEM Fellowship, he earned his M.S. from Georgia Tech in Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) in 2009. Currently, he is a graduate research assistant at Georgia Tech working on his Ph.D. in ECE where his focus is on parallel multi-core simulation techniques. His work has led to publications, presentations and other fellowships.

Cimona V. Hinton, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2000. She completed her Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences-Biochemistry at Meharry Medical College in 2005. She received both the Meharry Medical College Dean's Award for Scientific Development and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award. She completed her postdoctoral fellowship in Experimental and Cancer Biology at the Harvard Medical School/Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in 2008. She is an American Association for Cancer Research 2010 Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholar. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor at the Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development in the Department of Biological Sciences at Clark Atlanta University.

Michael J. Hudson, M.D. earned his B.S. *cum laude* in Biological Sciences with a minor in Emergency Health Services from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. He completed his M.D. program at the University of Virginia in 2007.

Bryan Henderson earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2009 and his M.S. in Product Development Engineering from the University of Southern California in 2010. While at UMD, he was passionate about helping other students to develop both academically and professionally. He served in numerous leadership positions in the National Society of Black Engineers. After interning multiple summers with Hewlett-Packard, he was able to combine his passion for technology, leadership, and helping others by starting a career in technology consulting with Accenture in Los Angeles, CA.

Xavier Henry earned his B.S. in Aviation Science, Professional Pilot concentration from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), and he earned his Private Pilot License in 2005. He completed his M.S. program in Natural Resource Management at UMES in 2011, and his thesis is titled *Remote Sensing Technology to Improve the Agriculture and Reduce Negative Impacts*. He has presented at numerous conferences. In 2011, he earned 1st place in Sustainable Agriculture Systems, 16th Symposium for the Association of Research Directors. Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Food Science and Technology at UMES, and he is a research/teaching assistant in the Department of Engineering & Aviation Science and Natural Sciences. His research focus is bioenergy and how algae can create a new type of biofuel.

Jessandra F. Hough earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2011. She is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan.
Christopher J. Huie-Spence earned his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park where he also completed the QUEST Honors Fellows Program in 2011. He was a scholar in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program, and he conducted research on the aerodynamics of flapping wing micro air vehicles in the Alfred Gessow Rotorcraft Center. As a member of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship Program, he had the opportunity to intern at Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in the areas of Mechanical Diagnostics and Aerodynamics. He is now employed as an External Loads Engineer at Bell Helicopter in Fort Worth, Texas.

Avery Huggins earned her B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She completed her M.S. program in Computer Systems Management and Database Systems Security Certification at the University of Maryland University College in 2002. She has over 12 years’ experience as a software engineer working for Lockheed Martin Information System and Global Services, New York Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), and she served as the PI for Human Factors Laboratory Independent Research and development (IRAD). She also has worked on prominent projects such as the NASA Hubble Space Telescope. Currently, she serves as the Deputy chief Engineer for Next Generation Identification (NGI) under the FBI CJIS Division.

Luis Hurtado graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and a minor in International Engineering. He was actively involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and he was chapter president during his fourth year. One of his major accomplishments was the remodeling of the SHPE lounge with new computers, chairs, and other equipment making it a more pleasant place to study, socialize, and get to know fellow students. He is currently employed by a leading aerospace and defense company, and he works on challenging projects that will help keep our country safe and the world a better place for present and future generations to live.

John W. Jackson earned his B.S. cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2002. He also graduated with Departmental Honors. He is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Harvard University.

Nwokedi C. Idika, Ph.D. earned his B.S. summa cum laude in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. Worthy of note is that he graduated with a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average. He continued immediately to graduate school, and he completed is M.S. in Computer Science at Purdue University in 2007. He made history in August of 2010 when, at the age of 26, he became the first African-American to earn a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Purdue University. He currently is employed by the Lincoln Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Uzoma K. Iheagwara earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2008. As a result of the research he conducted as undergraduate at UMBC on MHC Class-II Transduced Tumor Cells and Melanoma Cell-based Vaccines, he has co-authored with his mentor, Dr. Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg, and others several published articles. He is currently enrolled in an M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Pittsburgh.

Stephanie Ihejirika is a sophomore Bioengineering student at the University of Maryland, College Park. She participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program and was a mentor for the summer of 2011. Along with her role as Banquet Chair of the Black Engineers Society (UMD NSBE chapter), she is part of the Honors Program. Her research interests include polymer hemostatics and drug delivery systems, and she currently is conducting a project attempting to demonstrate the domain-fracture of light-sensitive liposomes and perfect them as possible drug delivery systems. After graduation, she plans to pursue an M.D./Ph.D.

Joseph T. Isaac, Jr. earned his B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2010. At the start of his undergraduate career, he participated in the Summer Bridge Program and has worked as a Pre-Calculus Mentor and as Program Assistant. He participated in the LSAMP Scholarship and Undergraduate Research Programs. During his three-year tenure on the executive board, he helped the UM chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers win Distinguished Chapter of the Year in 2009. He is a software engineer at Northrop Grumman and is enrolled at the University of Maryland, University College in pursuit of a master’s in Information Assurance.
Kamili M. Jackson, Ph.D. earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Mechanical Engineering in 1997 and 1998, respectively, from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). While an undergraduate at UMBC, she was both an LSAMP Scholar and a McNair Scholar, and she had extensive undergraduate research experiences. She completed her Ph.D. program in Mechanical Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University in 2002. She held a Post-Doc position for two years in the Center of Materials Engineering at the University of Capetown in South Africa. Currently, she is employed as an engineer at NASA Goddard.

Dahlia J. Jackson-O’Brien, Ph.D. earned her B.S. summa cum laude in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 1999, and she was honored to receive LSAMP Scholarship support throughout her undergraduate career. She continued at UMES for graduate school, and she completed her MS. programs in both Food and Agricultural Science and Physical Therapy in 2002. She completed her Ph.D. program in Food Science and Technology at UMES in 2005. Her Ph.D. research focused on the influence of breed and nutrition on growth, parasite resistance, carcass traits, and meat quality of crossbred Katahdin lambs. It included synchronizing estrus in ewes and managing females during pregnancy, lambing, and lactation. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and State Small Ruminant Specialist for Cooperative Extension at Delaware State University.

Rudy D. Jasmin earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2000. He began college in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program. He was a research assistant at New Jersey Institute of Technology’s College of Engineering while completing his M.S. in Transportation in 2001. He worked as a field engineer on gas turbines for GE Power Systems. In 2006, he earned his M.B.A. from Rutgers concentrating in Supply Chain Management and became a senior procurement analyst at Sikorsky Aircraft. Currently, he is a project manager with Siemens Energy, Inc. in the gas turbine division. He also is active in his community and serves as a mentor for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Dave Jenkins earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Tyler in 2010. He received the 2010-12 Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Chemistry at UMD. After completing his Ph.D., he wants to work in the field of synthetic organic chemistry focusing on compounds with promising bioactivity.

Charay D. Jennings, M.D., Ph.D. earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999, and she graduated with Departmental Honors. She has conducted research at the Institute of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Lancaster University in England, studying the effect of free radicals on skin cancer. She completed her Ph.D. program in Immunology in 2007 and her M.D. program in 2008 at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Her doctoral dissertation is entitled A Novel Role for Calcineurin in the Regulation of Innate Immunity and Inflammatory Responses. Her specialties are immunological research and biotechniques, biology, and medical teaching. She has completed both her Anatomic Pathology Residency and her Surgical Pathology Fellowship at the Stanford University Medical Center. Currently, she is a Dermatopathology Fellow at the Stanford University Medical Center.

Kimberly Jennings earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2008. While an undergraduate at UMES, she gained research experience during a summer internship with the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute Center of Marine Biotechnology. She conducted research on how small microbes called dinoflagellates cause disease in the blue crab. She was awarded the Graduate Meyerhoff Fellowship which supports students in the biomedical and behavioral sciences. Currently, she is enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Maryland, Baltimore where her rotation advisor is Marcela F. Pasetti, Ph.D.

Keisha John, Ph.D. earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. Not only did she complete her Ph.D. program at the Watson School of Biological Sciences at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories in four years, she also was the first African-American to earn a degree at the institution, and she is currently employed there.

Delayne Y. Johnson, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1997. She completed her Ph.D. in Mathematics Education at the University of Delaware in 2009. Her dissertation is entitled Equity and Social Justice in School Mathematics. Currently, she is an assistant professor of mathematics education at Clemson University in South Carolina.
**Jabril Johnson** earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2009. He is an Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate Program Scholar at Howard University. Also, he is a graduate teaching assistant for Genetics, and he is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program.

**Kennita A. Johnson, Ph.D.** earned her B.S. in Physics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County 1996. She completed her M.S. program in Medical Physics in 1998 and her Ph.D. program in Biomedical Engineering in 2003 at the University of Florida. Her previous research positions include Postdoctoral Researcher at the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences and independent consultant. Currently, she is a Researcher in the Small Animal Ultrasound Lab at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

**Mela R. Johnson, Ph.D.** earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. In 2009, she completed her Ph.D. program in Bioengineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She completed research on “Sustained release of BMP-2 in a lipid-based microtube vehicle” at the Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience, George W Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology.

**Rashad Johnson** is a fourth year Electrical Engineering student at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), and he participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program in 2008. He currently is the President of the Student Community for Outreach, Retention, and Excellence, and he previously served as the Treasurer. He interned at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2010 and at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in 2011. His future plans are to gain an internship pertaining to the field of microprocessors and also earn an M.S. in Electrical Engineering.

**Michael A. Johnson, Ph.D.** earned his B.S.E. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2003. He continued his studies at UMBC where he completed his M.S. in Chemical Engineering in 2002, his Biochemical Regulatory Engineer Certificate in 2008, and his Ph.D. in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering in 2008. The title of his dissertation is *Platelet-S. aureus Interactions: A Study of Thrombus Formation in Whole Blood in the Presence of Bacteria Under Physiological Shear Conditions.*

**Gilbert Jones** is a senior Civil Engineering student at the University of Maryland, College Park. His academic career began in 2008 when he enrolled in the LSAMP Summer BRIDGE Program. He is a candidate for May 2012 graduation. Since the summer of 2009, he has worked as an intern for Booz Allen Hamilton, where he has supported the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment (DUSD I&E). He aspires to earn an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Structural (Civil) Engineering.

**Jhacova A. (nee Williams) Jones** earned her B.S. in Mathematics at Xavier University of Louisiana in 2006, and she received a 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She completed her M.S. program in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation at UMD in 2008. Her thesis is entitled, “The Use of Preconditioning for Training Support Vector Machines”. Currently, she is teaching mathematics at Xavier University.

**Adam Kareem** earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2009. He was awarded the NACME Alfred P. Sloan Scholarship upon entrance into his Ph.D. program, and he is currently a third-year Ph.D. student in Mechanical Engineering at UMD. He conducts research in simulation and modeling of the dynamics of an atomic force microscope (AFM) microcantilever. He has presented his work at the ASME IDETC/CIE Conference in Washington D.C., as well as the 14th International non-contact AFM Conference in Lindau, Germany.
Adrienne K. Jones earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2006. While an undergraduate at UMES, research experience when she participated in National Institute on Aging Intramural Summer Research Program and completed a project titled Red Cell Oxidative Stress in HANDLS Subjects. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program.

Ashley Jones earned her B.S. in Mathematics Education from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). She continued at UMES, to earn her M.A.T. in Teaching.

Jasmine Keene earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2011. While at UMD, she was a member of NSBE and served as the chapter programs chair, chapter vice president, and the region 2 academic excellence chair. As an undergraduate, she became a member of Pi Tau Sigma and Tau Beta Pi honor societies, as well as the club volleyball team. She also had internships with Baltimore Gas & Electric, Northrop Grumman, and ExxonMobil Corporation. Currently, she is a first-year M.S. student in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Virginia.

Benyam Z. Kinde, was selected as the valedictorian of the class of 2010 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) where he earned his B.S. summa cum laude in Biological Sciences. After a nomination by Peter Agre, a medical doctor, professor, and molecular biologist at The Johns Hopkins University who was awarded the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, he was one of only 500 young researchers selected in a rigorous competition to attend the 2010 Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Lindau, Germany. It is an honor for which he worked hard throughout his undergraduate years at UMBC. At the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), he conducted research on HIV that provides insight into the life cycle of the virus and an understanding about where the virus spreads. In addition, he conducted neurophysiology research related to Circadian rhythm at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). He was president of the Golden Key International Honor Society, as well as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Currently, he is an M.D./Ph.D. program.

Isaac Kinde earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2005. While at UMBC, he took full advantage of opportunities to gain real-life experience in the biological sciences. He conducted HIV research in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at UMBC, and he conducted neurophysiology research related to Circadian rhythm at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). He also was a researcher a medical laboratory at the University of California, San Francisco. He contributed to two articles on his research published in the Journal of Molecular Biology and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. He also volunteered, tutoring genetics in the Department of Biological Sciences. He was president of the Golden Key International Honor Society, as well as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Currently, he is enrolled in a M.D./Ph.D. program at The Johns Hopkins University.

Candice E. Jones, M.D. earned her B.S. cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. She completed her M.D. program at the University of Pittsburgh in 2008.

Christine Kiruthu earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2010. She participated in three summer internships at the UMES Department of Natural Sciences, Howard University Amgen Scholars Program, and The Johns Hopkins University. She was awarded a post-baccalaureate fellowship at the NIH-National Cancer Institute, and she is currently in the second year of her fellowship in the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, in the Infections and Immunepidemiology Branch working with Dr. Sam Mbulaiteye. Her future plans are to earn an M.P.H. in Epidemiology and an M.D. and become a physician.

Jonathan Kumi earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2011. As an LSAMP undergraduate, he conducted research on the sensitivity of pavement performance to traffic characteristics and the efficient dynamic distribution of security assets in transit systems, addressing risk coverage in passenger transit infrastructure. His work will be submitted to INFORMS for publication. He is currently pursuing an M.S. in Civil Systems at UMD, where he plans to focus his research on renewable energy market optimization.
Gunnar F. Kwayke, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2006. He completed his Ph.D. program in Neurological Sciences at Vanderbilt University in 2011. He was named a 2009-2012 Society for Neuroscience Scholar.

Sampson K. Kyere, Jr., M.D., Ph.D. earned his B.S. cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2001. He completed his Ph.D. program in Biochemistry at UMBC in 2007, and he completed his M.D. program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2009. He has received numerous awards and honors including: the National Collegiate Minority Leadership Award; Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society; Joseph E. Whitely Memorial Award for Academic Excellence in Radiology; and the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Service Award and Senior of the Year; and others. Currently, he is a Resident in the Department of Radiology at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Melissa Lansey earned her B.S. in Biology from University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in Molecular Physiology at the University of Virginia School of Medicine where she conducts research in the lab of Susanna R. Keller, M.D. in the Department of Medicine, Endocrinology and Metabolism. She recently received a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral Fellows via the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. The title of her project for the award is The Role of the Rab GAP AS 160 in Adipocyte Metabolism. The purpose of her research is to understand how AS160 regulates the trafficking of the glucose transporter GLUT4 in primary adipocytes.

Gloria Laryea earned her B.S. in Biology from University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2008. Currently, she is enrolled as a Ph.D. student in the Neuroscience program at the Vanderbilt Brain Institute at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Elizabeth LeBrun earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2010. As an undergraduate, she was team leader for the internationally ranked Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Terps Racing BAJA Team. She also served as a Clark School of Engineering Ambassador and Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers officer. Currently, she is pursuing her M.S. in Mechanical Engineering at UMD in the field of robotics, and she expects to graduate in 2012.

Marcus Lewis, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Biology from University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He continued on to complete his Ph.D. program the Department of Molecular Genetics, Microbiology & Immunology at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He has conducted research entitled Identifying the relationship between EEF1A, the target of Rapamycin and the acting cytoskeleton in Saccharomyces Cerevisiae.

Michael J. Locastro earned his B.S. cum laude in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2010. At UMBC, he was both an LSAMP Scholar and a Meyerhoff Scholar. He was very involved with campus organizations such as the National Society of Black Engineers. He received a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park where he currently is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His research focus is the Secondary Area of Ferret Auditory Cortex.

Tyler Love earned his B.S. in Technology Education from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2009. As an undergraduate, he received the Marshall Tetterton Scholarship given by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA). After beginning his master’s at UMES, he transferred to Virginia Tech in 2011, and he is a graduate assistant in the only Integrative STEM Education program in the nation. His work includes collecting and analyzing all of the data from the national high school technology education test which is endorsed by the ITEEA. Currently, he is completing his master’s and pursuing his Ph.D. at Virginia Tech. He has submitted two articles that the ITEEA has agreed to publish in their monthly professional journal, The Technology and Engineering Teacher.
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Michael Maness earned both his B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). He was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering at UMD. His research interests include travel demand modeling, travel behavior analysis, and sustainable transportation.

Sabrina Mapp earned her B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. After graduation, she worked on projects for IBM, The National Geographic Society, and The U.S. Office of Personnel Management. She currently works at Georgetown University Law Center where she is a Senior Web Developer and Distributed Authoring Manager. She is tasked with developing websites for the Law Center and administering the Content Management System that runs the website including training more than 130 users on the system. In her spare time, she owns a business, Haute Sugar, which combines her loves of desserts and baking with event design and décor.

William Lee Mapp, III is President of BA Systems, LLC, a Washington, DC-based enterprise specializing in RFID solutions and enterprise database technologies. He graduated cum laude from University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 1999 and began his career working for the Fortune 500 companies, IBM and Lockheed Martin. In 2003, he co-founded BA Systems, launching his executive career. Under his leadership, BA Systems has deployed projects valued over $1 billion in more than 23 countries. Recognized as a technology leader, the company has won the Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award for the Washington-Baltimore region for two years and won the Top 100 MBE Award from Diversity Business Magazine for two years. Through this recognition, Mapp is sought after as an advisor, serves as the Chairman of Maryland Hawk Corporation, and participates on advisory panels for ITT Technical Institute and Potomac College. He also is a recognized radio personality, hosting a bi-monthly radio show speaking about the intersection of business and technology on WEEA 88.9 FM.

Isaac A. Matthews earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2007. He is a well rounded scholar and athlete. While at UMBC, he helped the next generation by serving as a dedicated mentor and tutor to young African-American middle and high school students. He also served as treasurer for UMBC’s chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers, and he gave motivational talks to NASA Sharp students. He was a four-year track and field letterman, and he received national recognition when he was named the 2007 Arthur Ashe, Jr. Male Sports Scholar of the Year. He also is an accomplished cellist. In 2010, he completed both his S.M. in Nuclear Science and Engineering and his S.M. in Technology and Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Currently, he is a doctoral student at MIT.

Alvin S. May, II, M.D. earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. He also graduated with Departmental Honors and an Honors College Undergraduate Certificate. He completed his M.D. program at Harvard University in 2004. He practices general surgery.

Jhilya F. Mayas, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2000. She completed her Ph.D. program in Microbiology at New York University in 2008. Currently, she is Vice President, Group Scientific Supervisor at Ogilvy Healthworld; Scientific Advisor for The MayaTech Corporation (attends scientific conferences and advises the CEO on emerging biotechnology investments and applications); and a Private Tutor for Parents (conducts private tutoring sessions with high-school students, focusing on math, science, and organizational skills).

Rabiah M. Mayas, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Modern Languages and Linguistics (French) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2000. She went on to complete her M.S. and Ph.D. (2007) programs in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Chicago. She is currently Science Director, Science Chicago, Museum of Science and Industry. Her “long-term career goals are focused on bridging the divide between the medical and scientific community and the public at-large.” She is “particularly interested in the development of effective public health and science education strategies for underserved urban regions, rural communities, and in developing nations.”
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Scott Mays earned his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He earned his M.A.T. in Secondary Mathematics from Oklahoma State University. Currently he is employed as a teacher in the Nashua, New Hampshire public schools.

Shakira McCall is a senior majoring in Environmental Science and Technology at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, she participates in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program which enables her to explore her passion for alternative energy at the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE). In 2012, she plans to publish a fact-sheet on active solar thermal panels in northern climates on SARE’s national website, which is utilized by America’s agriculture community. She also is the National Society of Black Engineers’ Region II Membership Chairperson. She fosters community development by expanding the number of students who are actively involved and facilitates growth and development of international and national chapters. She is a member of the award-winning UMD Solar Decathlon team that placed first in the 2011 national competition.

Jame’ E. McCray earned her B.S. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Geography and Environmental Systems from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2002. She earned her M.A. in Marine Affairs at the University of Miami in 2004. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in Marine Biology at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

Tyi L. McCray, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2005. While at UMBC, she was named an Undergraduate Research Award Scholar and was mentored by Professor Dale L. Whalen to conduct her research titled Investigation of Epoxide Synthesis in Biphasic Reaction Conditions, and she presented her research at many conferences. During her doctoral studies, she conducted research on plants in South Africa and also in the Lab of Dr. Thomas Owens. She completed her Ph.D. program in Plant Biology at Cornell University where her research focused on the evaluation of secondary plant products for possible tuberculosis treatment.

Kyla A. McMullen earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2005. In addition to being an LSAMP student, she also was a McNair Scholar at UMBC. She investigates the use of auditory interfaces utilizing 3D audio to convey spatial information to a listener describing an unseen or obstructed environment. She has collaborated with the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory regarding the adaptation of spatial audio in sonar applications. Her recent experience also includes serving as a lecturer in the Department of Computer Science at Wayne State University. She completed her M.S. in 2007, and she currently is a candidate in the final phase of her Ph.D. program in Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Michigan.

Jasmine McDonald, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. She completed her Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences in Public Health at Harvard University in 2009. She also has completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. Her postdoctoral work has culminated in four scholarly presentations, one published white paper, and two first-author papers. Currently, she is in the Cancer Epidemiology Training Program at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

Aesha Minter earned her B.S. in Mathematics (with coursework in business management) from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2003. She also has completed two years (2009-11) of coursework in taxation, accounting, and finance at the University of Baltimore, Merrick School of Business. She participated in the 1997 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program. She was a College Park Scholar and a NSF Scholar, 1997-2003. In 2001, she received the LSAMP Outstanding Service Award for her involvement in campus organizations, student support services, and volunteerism in various on-campus tutoring programs. Currently, she works as a business tax auditor for the Comptroller of Maryland.
Adrienne M. McFadden, M.D., J.D. earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Interdisciplinary Studies (with a focus in Biology) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. She completed her joint M.D./J.D. program at Duke University in 2005, and she completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Currently, she practices Emergency Medicine in Florida.

Sasha McGee, Ph.D. earned her B.S. *magna cum laude* in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2001. She also graduated with Departmental Honors. She completed her Ph.D. program in Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2008. She was awarded the prestigious MIT Presidential Graduate Fellowship that is given only to a select group of scholars recruited worldwide.

Jessica A. McGrath earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Biological Sciences with a minor in Sociology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2009. She gained research experience as an undergraduate when she conducted research in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) at UMBC titled *The Relationship between the Structure of the FIV Matrix Protein and its Ability to Target the Plasma Membrane* with her mentor, HHMI Investigator, Dr. Michael F. Summers. Currently, she is enrolled in a M.D. program at New York University.

Santiago Miret is currently a third-year Material Science and Engineering major at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). He is an honor student enrolled in the Quality Enhancement Systems and Teams (QUEST) Program and the Hinman C.E.O.s program at UMD. He has gained undergraduate research experience during a summer internship as a student engineer at Boeing. In the spring 2011 semester, he studied abroad at Fudan University in Shanghai, China. He also is very involved with Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and he has served as a chapter officer every year of his undergraduate career.

Ashley N. Mentlik, Ph.D earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2006. She completed her Ph.D. program in Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently a researcher at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Kristie Y. Minnis earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She earned a certification in Massage Therapy at Anne Arundel Community College. Currently, she is pursuing her doctorate in Chiropractic at the University of Bridgeport College of Chiropractic.

Ariel T. M'ndange-Pfupfu, Ph.D. began his higher education as an LSAMP student in the Summer Bridge Program at the University of Maryland student in 2001. He gained undergraduate research experience when he participated in the Princeton Materials Institute REU Program in summer 2002. As a junior, he transferred to Stanford University where he earned both his B.S. in Physics and his M.S. in Materials Science and Engineering. He completed his Ph.D. program in Materials Science and Engineering at Northwestern University.

Viviana Monje is currently pursuing a B.S. degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering with a minor in Project Management at the University of Maryland, College Park, and is scheduled to graduate in 2012. She is a LSAMP research program participant conducting research in molecular simulation dynamics of polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) lipid membranes. In the summer of 2011, she participated in an REU program offered at the University of Alabama where she performed computational studies (Ab initio simulations) on solid-oxide fuel cells (SOFCs) anode materials.
Hadiyah Mujhid earned her B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and she completed her M.B.A. program at Drexel University. She has over ten years experience as a software systems engineer for Lockheed Martin in the defense industry. Among her many accomplishments while employed in the defense industry was being recognized in 2009 as a Technology Rising Star by Women of Color Magazine. Desiring entrepreneurship, she recently left her full-time position to start a web company with a focus in image semantics. She also has co-founded Black Founders, an organization with a mission to increase the number of successful black tech entrepreneurs. Currently, she resides in Silicon Valley, California serves as a mentor to foster youth.

Adam Morris earned his B.S. in Engineering from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He conducted undergraduate research at ArcGIS to produce prescription maps. He completed his M.S. program in Electrical Engineering at Morgan State University in 2011. He served as an intern forMid-Atlantic Space Grant Consortium and served as an INET program graduate researcher designing RF coupler and power dividers circuits to support microstrip and grounded co-planar waveguide structures.

David Morris is a senior Mathematics major at the University of Maryland, College Park, and he participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program in 2008. His research focus in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program was Radio Frequency Microelectromechanical systems (RF MEMS). He has been involved on campus since entering college, becoming president of a Christian Fraternity, being a member of the gospel choir, and being involved in academic organizations such as the National Society for Black Engineers and the Student Community for Outreach, Retention and Excellence.

Tshikuna Muankese is currently pursuing a double degree in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics with a minor in Technology Entrepreneurship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), and he expects to graduate in 2012. He interned with ExxonMobil in summer 2010 and 2011. His involvement at UMD includes: Quest Honors Fellows, Hinman CEOs, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, National Society of Black Engineers, and Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society. He has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity in four different U.S. cities. Currently, he is participating in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research program, and his research focus is integrated power electronic topologies for hybrid electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

Eric A. Muller, II, M.D., Ph.D. earned his B.S in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1997. He completed his M.D./Ph.D. program at the Emory University School of Medicine in 2007, and he is Board Certified in Medical Genetics. His clinical practice in San Francisco, CA is predominantly pediatric clinical genetics, focusing on dysmorphic (abnormal) features or birth defects, intellectual disability, inborn errors of metabolism, neurological conditions, and family history of genetic conditions. His research interests include contiguous gene deletion syndromes, the molecular aspects of genetic diseases, and prenatal diagnosis of genetic conditions.

Eric A. Muller, II, M.D., Ph.D.

Nefretiti Nassar earned her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She was awarded a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. Currently, she is an M.S. student in Systems Engineering at UMD, and she plans to pursue a doctoral degree in Systems Engineering.

Yasmine M. Ndassa-Colday, Ph.D. earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2002. As an undergraduate at UMBC, she worked in the lab of HHMI Investigator, Dr. Michael F. Summers, conducting research on HIV and cancer proteins, and her research was published in the Journal of Biomolecular NMR and Nature Structural Biology. She completed her Ph.D. program in Molecular Biophysics with an emphasis in Computational Biology at Harvard University in 2006. She has lived on three continents, and in addition to English, she speaks both French and Spanish. Currently, she is employed with a consulting group.
Ceisl Neita is a third-year student at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) pursuing a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Project Management. She participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program in 2009 and continues to support LSAMP programs. She currently works on the Manufacturing Engineering team of GE Healthcare and serves as a supervisor for the UMD's Office of Information Technology. In the future, she plans to pursue a career in manufacturing.

Tiffanny N. Newman, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2005, and she gained valuable research experience as an undergraduate. She completed her Ph.D. program in Microbiology and Immunology at the Temple University School of Medicine in 2011. She conducts research on the recently discovered TULA family of proteins which has two members TULA-1 (STS-2) and TULA-2 (STS-1), and has been shown to be important in cellular regulation. Her dissertation research led to the development of a TULA knockout animal model to study the role of TULA proteins in T cell driven inflammatory responses and how dysregulation of these processes contributes to the development of hyper-immune phenotypes resembling Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Currently, she is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Temple University.

Stephanie M. Núñez earned her B.S. summa cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Modern Languages and Linguistics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2007. Moreover, she graduated with a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average. She exemplified excellence while at UMBC, as evidenced by numerous scholarships and other awards, including the high distinction of being selected as valedictorian of the UMBC class of 2007. Currently, she is enrolled in a joint D.D.S./O.H.S./Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

Calvin Nwachuku is a third-year undergraduate student majoring in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. He expects to graduate with a B.S. in May 2013. He is an LSAMP Scholar sponsored by L-3 Communications conducting research on miniature internal combustion engines. He presented his research at the LSAMP Summer 2011 Research Symposium.

Olubukola Nwankwo earned her B.S. in Computer Science in 2003 from the University of Maryland, College Park where she was an LSAMP Scholar. She completed her M.S. program in Project Management at the University of Maryland, University College in 2008, and she was PMP certified in 2009. She currently works as a contractor for Intel Corporation as a Software Engineer. She started her own small business in 2008, Somitech Solutions, LLC, providing graphics design and other information technology services to her clients.

Adrienne Norwood earned her B.S. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2006. She was awarded a 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in Applied Mathematics at UMD. Her research is in the area of fluid dynamics.

Kelechi N. Ndubuizu earned her B.S. cum laude in Biological Sciences with a minor in Psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2007. She is an author on the publication titled "Omentin Plasma Levels and Gene Expression Are Decreased in Obesity in the journal Diabetes. Currently, she is enrolled in a joint M.D./M.P.H. program at the Duke University School of Medicine.

Chiatogu Onyewu, M.D., Ph.D. earned her B.S. cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. She completed her M.D./Ph.D. program at Duke University where she conducted research in lab of the Joseph Heitman, M.D., Ph.D. Currently, she is a UNCF/Merck Postdoctoral Fellow and the Study Director for the Assessing Inherited Markers of Metabolic Syndrome in the Young (AIMM Young) Research Study at the Children's National Medical Center, Research Center for Genetic Medicine in Washington, DC. She also has been very involved in developing the Obesity Institute at Children's Hospital. She was interviewed for a PBS special on Michelle Obama's Campaign against Childhood Obesity.
Sarah Obadina earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2009. She was awarded the 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. Currently, she is an M.S. student in Mechanical Engineering at UMD. Her career goals are to work in the areas of energy, heat transfer, and fluid mechanics.

Nyamekye Obeng-Adjei earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2007. While at UMES, he gained undergraduate research experience during when he participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program Summer Student Program. He recently published an article entitled *Immunogenicity of novel consensus-based DNA vaccines against Hepatitis B core Antigen* in the Journal of Immunology. Currently, he is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in Pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania, and he expects to graduate in 2013.

Oyindamola O. Oladosu earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) 2008. While at UMES, she gained valuable undergraduate research experience during the two summers that she participated in the National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program Summer Student Program. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology at The Johns Hopkins University.

Camelia L. Owens, Ph.D. earned her B.S.E. magna cum laude in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 1999. She completed her Ph.D. program in Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware in 2005. She returned to UMBC for a short time and taught in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Her previous research positions include: AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow/National Institutes of Health/Immediate Office of the Director; Exxon Mobil Scholar-In-Residence/National Academy of Engineering; and Center for the Advancement of Scholarship on Engineering Education. Currently, she is employed by the Office of Regulatory Affairs at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Nyadozie Onunkwo, Ph.D. earned his B.S. cum laude in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2006. While still an undergraduate at UMBC, he gained invaluable experience when he completed a summer internship at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and also worked one summer as a Software Engineer for IBM. He completed his Ph.D. program in Biomedical Engineering at Purdue University in 2010. His research focused on improving the long-term functionality of neuroprosthetic devices by mitigating the brain's injury response to microelectrode implantation. Currently, he is employed as a Product Development Engineer at Cook Biotec.

Chimeziri E. Onyewu earned his B.S. cum laude in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2011. While an undergraduate at UMBC, he gained valuable experience when he conducted summer research at the Stevens Institute of Technology. Currently, he is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.

Abena A. Osei-Wusu, M.D. earned her B.S. cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. She also graduated with Departmental Honors. She completed her M.D. program in 2003 at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Currently, she is a Board Certified physician practicing internal medicine in Baltimore, Maryland.
Gary Palmer, II earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering (ME) from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2007 and his M.S. in ME from Clemson University (CU) in 2010. While at UMD, he received multiple LSAMP scholarships, was named Bridge Student of the Year, and was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. As Chapter President, he led his BES/NSBE chapter to become Region II Large Chapter of the Year. As an M.S. student at CU, he presented his research in Design Complexity at the 2010 International Design Engineering Technical Conference. Currently, he is a Southern Regional Education Board Fellow and a fourth-year Ph.D. student in Industrial Engineering at CU. He researches the minimization of flow disruptions in cardiothoracic surgery.

Nicole A. Parker earned her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Sociology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2011. Her extensive research experience as an undergraduate at UMBC included an internship at the School of Pharmacy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore where she conducted research with a team on a project entitled PKCI/HINT1 Involvement in the Learning and Behavior of the Morris Water Maze Test Using Proximal Cues. Also, she presented her research at the LSAMP Poster Session on Capital Hill in 2010. Currently, she is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at The Johns Hopkins University.

Alayna N. Pearson earned her B.S. in Fire Protection Engineering in 2007, and her M.E. with a focus on Project Management in 2009, from the University of Maryland, College Park. After graduating, she began her professional career as a systems engineer at a commercial nuclear power generating facility, where she worked on a team to pilot the implementation of a performance-based, risk informed standard for fire protection at nuclear stations. Her work on this pilot team has earned her industry awards, including the Nuclear Energy Institute’s Top in Industry Practice award. Beginning in 2011, she is with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission working on a variety of regulatory and oversight activities that ensure the health and safety of the public and of operating plants. Currently, she is pursuing a Professional Engineer license.

Brandon L. Penn earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2007. In 2006, he received the UMBC Outstanding Senior in Biological Sciences award. Currently, he is enrolled in an M.D. program at Columbia University.

Pedro Peña is a junior at the University of Maryland, College Park pursuing a B.S. in Electrical Engineering with a concentration in power systems. He serves on the Executive Board for the student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers as their Web Master. He is a member of IEEE, a former LSAMP scholarship recipient, an L-3 Scholarship recipient, and currently is part of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship Program. He also has held summer internships with the U.S. Department of Energy and United Technologies Corporation.

Chelsea C. (Stalling) Pinnix, M.D., Ph.D. earned her B.S. magna cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 1999. She also graduated with Departmental Honors and an Honors College Undergraduate Certificate. While an undergraduate at UMBC, she solved the third and final structure of a key HIV protein. She and her mentor, Dr. Michael F. Summers, HHMI Investigator, co-authored a paper that was published in Science. She completed her M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Pennsylvania in 2007. Currently, she practices Internal Medicine in Maryland.

Natasha N. Powell, M.D. earned her B.S. cum laude in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2001. She completed her M.D. program at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in 2005, and she completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at Duke University Medical Center in 2009. Currently, she practices Emergency Medicine in Maryland and teaches at George Washington University.

Tenaya Prince earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2009. She participated in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as both a student and as a peer mentor, and she participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program for two years. Participation in LSAMP assisted her to place 1st in the NSBE Region 2 Undergraduate Research Runway Competition. Currently, she is a second-year dual M.S. student at Carnegie Mellon University where she is studying both Mechanical Engineering and Engineering & Technology Innovation Management.
Kristi E. Pullen, Ph.D. earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2000. She also graduated with an Honors College Undergraduate Certificate. While an undergraduate at UMBC, she conducted research at the SCRIPPS Institute and Lancaster University in Lancaster, England. She completed her Ph.D. program in Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley in 2006. Her thesis focused on the structural and functional characterization of PstP, the single Serine/Threonine phosphatase in *M. tuberculosis*. This class of protein is thought to be involved in the cellular response to environmental stress, and Pullen used x-ray crystallography and additional biochemical techniques to further the understanding of the roles metals play in the fold and function of this phosphatase.

Jabari Raphael earned his B.S. in Aviation Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He conducted weather research at Crisfield Airport in hopes of enabling the airport to detect low-level wind shear. Also, he interned with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Washington Flight Standard District Office in Hertford, Virginia. During the internship, he shadowed aviation safety inspectors on their daily operations, including aircraft and facility inspections. He later completed two additional FAA internships in Anchorage, Alaska and Washington, DC. Currently, he is employed full-time with the FAA as a program analyst in the General Aviation and Commercial Division in Washington, DC.

Yanique Rattigan, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Biology from University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2005. She completed her Ph.D. program in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 2010. Her dissertation is entitled *The role of hypoxia in the migratory and metabolic activities of mesenchymal stem cells in the tumor microenvironment*. Currently, she is a postdoctoral fellow at The Johns Hopkins University.

Michael D. Rouse earned his B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2003. He is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of South Carolina.

Marco Regalado, Jr. is a third-year Mechanical Engineering student at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), and he plans to graduate with a B.S. degree by May 2013. He has earned his Citation through the Honors College where he gained a background in Japanese culture and delinquency prevention. He also is involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers – UMD chapter, and he holds the position of President for 2011-12.

Cordell Reid is a senior Electrical Engineering major at the University of Maryland, College Park who expects to graduate in May 2012. He is serving as the President of the Black Engineers Society for the 2011-12 year, and he served as the Treasurer during 2010-11. He has worked as a student intern at the Army Research Laboratory as a part of the SOAR program since summer 2010. He has been very involved with LSAMP programs, having been a member of the Summer Bridge Program for Scientists and Engineers in summer 2008 and a participant in the LSAMP Summer Research Program in summer 2009. He is a member of the University Honors Program. He hopes to start his own research company in the future.

Renee (nee Tolbert) Reynolds earned her B.S. in Electrical Engineering with Co-op Distinction from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2000 and began her career at NASA as a Digital Design Engineer. She has received many awards for her engineering design contributions to major flight projects such as the Swift Burst Alert Telescope, Solar Dynamics Observatory, Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, Hubble Space Telescope – Servicing Mission 4 and Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM). She currently serves as Group Leader for the Hardware Design Test and Verification Group and the Lead Design Engineer for GPM’s Instrument Interface Board. In 2007, she earned her M.S.E.E. from Johns Hopkins University. With a strong desire to inspire the next generation of explorers, she is very active in NSBE’s Alumni Extension Greenbelt Space Chapter. She served as Technical Chairperson for the Military Aerospace Programmable Logic Devices (MAPLD) International Conference held in 2011.

Christelle K. Samen earned her B.S. *cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County 2011. She is currently enrolled in a M.D./Ph.D. program at Washington University.
Aftin M. Ross earned her B.S. cum laude in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2007. As an undergraduate, she had internship experiences at UMBC, The Johns Hopkins University, Medtronic, and the Guidant Corporation. She has received numerous awards, including a GEM Fellowship, a Rackham Fellowship, and the NIH Fellowship for Microfluidics in the Biomedical Sciences Training Program. She completed her M.S. program in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Michigan in 2009. A member of the research team in the Lahann Lab in the Department of Chemical Engineering, she is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Michigan, and she expects to complete her program in 2012.

Danielle E. Robbins, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. She completed her M.S. program in Mathematics at Arizona State University in 2007, and she completed her Ph.D. program in Biomathematics at North Carolina State University (NC State) in 2011. At NC State, she received the Lord Fellowship given by the Center for Research in Scientific Computation (CRSC). Currently, she is a research analyst at the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center.

Crystal Eloma Romeo earned her B.S. in Environmental Science from Spelman College, and she received many awards and fellowships during her undergraduate years. She received an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship, and she currently is a Ph.D. student in the Marine-Estuarine-Environmental Sciences Program at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her current research focus is developing indicators for examining potential chronic respiratory effects of climate change. She plans to become a professor of environmental science, a champion of national and global environmental issues, and a leader in this field.

Ozell P. Sanders earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering (ME) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2009. He received a 2009-11 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship and remained at UMBC for graduate school. He completed research entitled *Assessment of Hyoid Bone Density using Micro CT for Prediction of Fracture*. He completed his M.S. program in ME at UMBC in 2011, and he currently is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Linmaris Santiago earned her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2007. She received the 2008-10 Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) where she currently is a Ph.D. student in Materials Science and Engineering. After completing her Ph.D., she plans to conduct research on biomedical and novel materials.

Donel A. Sequea earned his B.S. magna cum laude in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2006. He gained invaluable research experience while an undergraduate at UMBC by completing an extensive 15-month internship with Merck & Co., Inc. He is currently enrolled in an M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan. He is conducting research on exercise, diet, and age effects on insulin signaling and glucose metabolism in skeletal muscle, and he expects to graduate in 2014.

Daniel Serrano earned his B.S. in Biochemistry and in Environmental Sciences from Virginia Tech in 2007. He received a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), where he received his M.S. in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics in 2010. He is currently a Ph.D. student in Biological Sciences, Molecular and Cell Biology at UMD, and he expects to graduate in 2013. His research focuses on exploring the potential biological function of Cell Adhesion Molecule (CAM)-mediated endocytosis, a relatively new mechanism of endocytic transport observed in endothelial cells covering the vasculature. He is interested in investigating the basic biological mechanisms driving CAM-mediated endocytosis, and how these are similar to or differ from classical endocytic pathways.
Richard O. Shoge, Ph.D. earned his B.S. *cum laude* in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. He completed his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering in the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill/ North Carolina State University Joint Program in 2010. He went on to work on a traumatic brain injury model to better protect U.S. troops in combat as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Walter Reed Medical Hospital.

Charles P. Shelton, Ph.D. earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1998. He went on to earn a master’s degree in 2000 and a Ph.D. in 2003 from Carnegie Mellon University, both in Computer Engineering. Since 2003 he has worked at the Robert Bosch Research and Development Center in Pittsburgh, PA. developing new tools and methodologies to improve software engineering for automotive and building security electronics components. Currently, he is a senior research engineer at Bosch.

A. Renee Siler, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from Spelman College in 2006. She was awarded a 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park where she completed her Ph.D. program in Chemistry in 2011. Her dissertation research is on interfacial solvation effects on solutes sensitive to specific and nonspecific solvation forces at buried interfaces using nonlinear optical spectroscopy. She also has completed research at Montana State University where she performed the reconstruction of a Second Harmonic Generation Spectrometer. Currently, she is employed at Coherent, Inc. in Santa Clara, California.

Jacqueline A.I. Smith, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2006, and she was awarded a 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). She completed her Ph.D. program in Organic Chemistry at UMD in 2011. Her dissertation is entitled *The synthesis of a diverse library of AI-2 analogs to investigate bacterial quorum sensing*. She has co-authored four published articles. After completing a post-doc, she plans to pursue an academic career at a research university.

Taifa Nadine (nee Hibbert) Simpson attended the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) as a Banneker/Key Scholar where she earned her B.S. in Chemistry in 1999. She subsequently earned her M.A. in Higher Education Policy and Leadership in 2005 also from UMD, and her focus was retention programs for underrepresented students in STEM fields. She is currently the Assistant Director of the MARC U*STAR (Minority Access to Research Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research) Program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Through her work, she actively supports undergraduate minority students who plan to pursue Ph.D. degrees and research careers in the biomedical sciences.

Adjoa Smalls-Mantey earned her B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2007. In 2006, she was awarded the coveted Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship which honors outstanding STEM students who are committed to pursuing careers as research scientists. She was admitted to the prestigious NIH/Oxford/Cambridge Scholars Program (OXCAM) Class of 2007. The scholarship provides full financial support for its students who spend two years at Oxford and also conduct biomedical science research at NIH while in pursuit of a Ph.D. Currently, she is a M.D./Ph.D. student at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons and the University of Oxford. She expects to complete her Ph.D. in 2013 and her M.D. in 2015.

Danielle L. Smith, M.D., Ph.D. earned her B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. She also graduated with Departmental Honors and an Honors College Undergraduate Certificate. As an undergraduate at UMBC, she co-authored a research paper that was published in *Nature Structural Biology*. She completed her M.D./Ph.D. program in Cell Biology at Yale University in 2008.

Michael B. Sharps earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* in Computer Science with a minor in Applied Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2000. He completed his M.S. program in Computer Science with specialization in Computer Graphics / Human Computer Interaction at Stanford University in 2002.
Cylburn E. Soden, Jr., M.D. earned his B.S. *cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1999. He also graduated with Departmental Honors. He completed his M.D. program at Washington University in 2003. After his residency, he served as a practicing Dermatologist in the US Army at Ft. Bragg, NC. During his final years in the military, he proudly served as a general medical officer in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He attained the rank of Major before exiting the military in 2010. Currently, he is a board-certified dermatologist practicing in Maryland.

Simone Soso earned her B.S. in Animal Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She completed her M.S. program in Animal Health Science at the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 2009. She presented her research at the 90th Conference for the Ecological Society of America in Montreal, Canada. She is currently completing her Ph.D. program in Environmental Science at Iowa State University where she is serving as an Indo-US Research Intern in the Sciences and Engineering Research Scholars Program.

Jamison Smith is pursuing a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Project Management from the University of Maryland, College Park, and he is scheduled to graduate in May 2012. He is very involved in the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering (CMSE) where he is the mentor coordinator for a high school outreach program designed to increase the number of underrepresented students pursuing engineering. In summer 2011, he had an internship with Cummins Inc. as a noise and vibration engineering intern. He also is a member of NSBE and a member of the Senior Council. After earning his B.S., he plans to work in the manufacturing industry with a focus in project management.

Simone S. Stalling, M.D., Ph.D. earned her B.S. *summa cum laude* in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2001. While at UMBC, she was a member of the Honors College, the National Society of Black Engineers, and the Women's Varsity Lacrosse Team. She also completed several internships. She completed her M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Pennsylvania in 2009. Currently, she practices Internal Medicine in Philadelphia, PA.

Reuel Smith earned his B.S. with honors in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). He was awarded the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at UMD, and he has completed his M.S. program in Aerospace Engineering. For the last two years, he has served as a NASA Space Science Ambassador. Currently, he is enrolled as a Ph.D. student at UMD in Mechanical Engineering and Reliability Engineering, and he expects to graduate in 2013.

Marie E. Steele is pursuing B.S. degrees in both Mathematics and Financial Economics at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and she expects to graduate in 2012. In addition to being an LSAMP Scholar, she also is a McNair Scholar and a Meyerhoff NSA Scholar. Her extensive undergraduate research and internship experiences include summer 2010 at Princeton University, summer 2011 at Michigan State University, and spring 2011 at the Social Security Administration. While completing her last few undergraduate courses and applying to Ph.D. programs, she currently serves as a Statistics Grader and as an Economics Research Assistant at UMBC.

Olufemi Sokoya expects to earn his B.S. in Bioengineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2012, and he is involved with many programs. He works with a team in the Gemstone University Honors Research Program to understand a potential alternative fuel source. With the Quality Enhancement Systems and Teams (QUEST) Honors Fellows Program he showcases his understanding of business, quality, and process improvement. While studying abroad in China, he received an award from the Dingman Center of the Robert H. Smith School of Business. He has held leadership positions in the UMD NSBE chapter as Membership Chair, Vice President, and Programs Chair.

Tesia N. Stephenson earned her B.S. *magna cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2009. In addition to being an LSAMP Scholar, she also was a McNair Scholar at UMBC. She gained extensive research experience while an undergraduate at UMBC. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Chemistry at Duke University where she conducts research in the lab of Jiyong Hong, Ph.D.
Kersey Sturdivant, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2006. He completed his Ph.D. program in Marine Science at the College of William and Mary, School of Marine Science in 2011. During his graduate studies, he was awarded the Zeigler Student Achievement Award, and the Best VIMS Ph.D. Student Award. He has several publications in review for his prestigious work on the effects of hypoxia on benthic production and function in the Chesapeake Bay. Currently, he is employed as a Marine Ecologist for the NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries program and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Lauren Suarez earned her B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2007. She is enrolled as a Ph.D. student in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University. Her current research involves working with DNA methyltransferase inhibitors 5-azacitidine and 2-deoxy-5-azacytidine as well as some other new compounds thought to inhibit DNA methyltransferase activity.

Tia Tate, Ph.D. earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). She completed her Ph.D. program in Environmental Chemistry at UMES in 2006. During her graduate studies, she served as a research fellow for the Department of Energy. The focus of her doctoral dissertation was “Spontaneous Combustion of Low-Rank Coals Lignites”. She went on to become a post-doctoral research associate focusing on laser research in the Department of Chemistry at Florida A&M University. She currently works as a chemist in the Forensics Toxicology Lab for the College of Medicine at the University of Florida.

Matthew Temba earned his B.S. in Mathematics from Morehouse College in 2010, and he was awarded a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation at UMD. After completing his Ph.D., he plans to work in the areas of analysis and policy.

Malcolm Taylor earned his B.S. cum laude in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2008. His research experiences include the Maryland Engineering Research Internship Teams (MERIT) at the University of Maryland, College Park. He worked on a project entitled Lightweight On-Chip Decoder Design for Information Hiding in Compiled Programs for which he designed and prototyped a complex bit re-mapping hardware device with purely combination logic. He also conducted research at the Center for Cyber Defenders (CCD), Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, California where he facilitated in the development of Historical Analysis and Querying (HAQ), a log-based anomaly detection system targeted toward attackers that use long-term reconnaissance or attack techniques. He is currently an NSF Graduate Research Fellow in a Ph.D. program at Carnegie Mellon University.

Jeremy Ticey earned his B.S. in Physics from Hampton University in 2010, and he was awarded a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Materials Science and Engineering at UMD. He plans to obtain a research position to create new materials that will improve the daily lives of people.

Tiara D. Turner earned her B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She was awarded a 2008-10 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at Delaware State University where she has completed her M.S. program in Applied Mathematics, and she currently is a Ph.D. student in the Interdisciplinary Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics program. In 2009, she was chosen to participate in the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) Summer Program for graduate students at the University of Delaware. In 2010, she was awarded first place in the Student Research Symposium of the MSIRPC Conference at Morgan State University. Also in 2010, she co-authored a paper titled Detection of Periodic Motion of Visually Obscured Human Beings using UWB Radar in the fourth International Conference on Environment and Engineering Geophysics. In 2011, she co-authored a paper titled A Mixed Finite Element Method for Helmholtz Transmission Eigenvalues in the ACM journal, and she also was chosen to participate in the Gene Golub SIAM Summer School for graduate students at the University of British Columbia.

**Brian G. Turner, M.D.** earned his B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 1999. He gained extensive research experience as an undergraduate at UMBC, both in the United States and in France. He conducted research in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) at UMBC, and he published several articles with his mentor, HHMI Investigator, Dr. Michael F. Summers. He is the first author on: *Turner BG, Summers, MF. Structural Biology of HIV. Journal of Molecular Biology* Jan 1999; 285: 1-32 (*Cover Article*), published before he graduated. He completed his M.D. program at the Harvard Medical School in 2004. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology. Currently, he practices medicine in New York and is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Weill Cornell Medical College.

**Carla V. Valenzuela** earned her B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2010. Moreover, she graduated with a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average. Conducting summer research Japan, she performed work on obesity with top researchers in the field. In her free time, she climbed Mount Fuji, which she deems as one of her greatest accomplishments. She is currently enrolled in a M.D. program at Vanderbilt University. She plans to work with vulnerable populations, especially those suffering from infectious diseases. Recently, she was awarded the 2011 Kean Fellowship from the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

**P. Francesca Villalva** is a third-year Electrical Engineering student at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She was both a participant and a mentor in the LSAMP Summer Bridge Program. Recently, she was awarded the Michael L. Cherry Scholarship presented by NSBE-UMD chapter, for exemplary leadership skills and service to her community. As an active executive board member of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, she works closely with the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering and NSBE-UMD to produce the Annual Student Recognition and Alumni Banquet to recognize underrepresented minority students’ stellar academic achievement and alumni. Her research interests include applications of neural networks and multimedia signal processing and compression. She plans to graduate in 2013.

**Kristen Walker** earned her B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She completed her M.S. program in Animal Science with a Certificate in STEM Cell Biotechnology at Kansas State University in 2010. Currently, she is employed as a Research Associate at Nutramax Laboratories, Inc.

**Ryan B. Turner, M.D.** was selected as the valedictorian of the class of 1999 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) where he earned his B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He gained extensive research experience as an undergraduate at UMBC, both in the United States and in France. He conducted research in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) at UMBC, and he published several articles with his mentor, HHMI Investigator, Dr. Michael F. Summers. He is the first author on: *Turner RB, Smith DL, Zawrotny ME, Summers MF, Posewitz MC, Winge DR. Solution structure of a zinc domain conserved in yeast copper-regulated transcription factors. Nat Struct Biol. 1998 Jul;5(7):551-5*, published before he graduated. He completed his M.D. program at the Harvard Medical School in 2004. He is Board Certified in Dermatology. Currently, he practices medicine in New York and is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University.

**Christopher Wamble** earned his B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2005. Throughout his undergraduate career he interned at IBM, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, NIST, McNair Program at UMD, and SPGRE. After graduating, he worked at UMIACS for a year before moving to Newark, NJ for graduate school. He completed his M.S. program in Computer Science at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in 2009, and he also plans to complete his current M.S. program at NJIT in Information Systems with a thesis in the area of social mobile computing. Currently, he works as a systems specialist in Manhattan, New York for Fidessa, and he operates two part-time businesses as a product broker and energy marketing consultant.

**Calvin T. Williams, M.D., Ph.D.** earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County 2001. He completed his M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2011. His dissertation research focused on applying immunogenomic techniques to the identification of potential antigens from Pre-Erythrocytic stages Plasmodium.

**Stacey N. Williams, Ph.D.** earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She completed her Ph.D. program in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy at Notre Dame of Maryland University located in Baltimore, MD.
Sophoria N Westmoreland is a Ph.D. Candidate in Mechanical Engineering and a 2007 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Scholar at the University of Maryland, College Park. She also is a 2009 Alfred P. Sloan Minority Fellowship Scholar, the 2010 NSBE Mike Shinn Distinguished Member of The Year, and the 2010 NSBE Graduate Student of The Year. She expects to complete her Ph.D. program in 2012, and she is pursuing a position as a professor or post-doctoral researcher. She has published her research in ASME’s Journal of Mechanical Design, ASME’s IDETC Annual Conference, and ASEE’s Annual Congress and Exposition. Her goal is to become an expert in practical engineering design methodologies and tools that enhance the engineering design process and have broad applications. She plans to use quantitative and qualitative interdisciplinary research methods in engineering design that will help sustain the future of mechanical engineering design.

Nkenge S. Wheatland earned her B.S. in Computer Science with minors in both Mathematics and Theatre from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2009. While a student at UMBC, she conducted summer research at the University of Southern California in 2007 and at UCLA in 2008. She presented a paper entitled Performance Capture with Physical Interaction at a conference hosted by the Symposium for Computer Animation held in Madrid, Spain in 2010. Currently, she is a Computer Science Ph.D. student working in computer graphics, character animation, and motion capture at the University of California, Riverside.

Jeffrey Williams earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2010, and he was awarded a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. Currently, he is an M.S. student in Mechanical Engineering at UMD. His research focuses on Atomic Force Microscopy seeking to expand measurement capabilities for microscale viscoelastic phenomena.

Vanessa M. Williams earned her B.A. in Cognitive Science from the University of California, San Diego in 2009. As an undergraduate, she was both a California LSAMP (CAMP) Scholar and a McNair Scholar. She was awarded a 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship to pursue graduate studies at the University of Maryland, College Park where she currently is a Ph.D. student in the interdisciplinary Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Program.

Olusegun Williams, Ph.D. earned his B.S. summa cum laude in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2005. Moreover, he graduated with a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average. He was co-author on a paper in Cell after less than one year in graduate school: "A Pharmacological Map of the PI3-K Family Defines a Role for p110alpha in Insulin Signaling", (Knight, Z.A., Gonzalez, B., Feldman, M.E., Zunder, E.R., Goldenberg, D.D., Williams, O., Loewith, R., Stokoe, D., Balla, A., Toth, B., Balla T, Weiss WA, Williams RL, Shokat KM). He completed his Ph.D. program at the University of California, San Francisco.

Shelby Wilson earned her B.S. in Mathematics from Spelman College. She was awarded the 2006-08 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She earned her M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation (AMSC) at UMD in 2010. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in AMSC at UMD, and she plans to complete her doctorate in 2012.

Tahmar N. Winston, Ph.D. earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 2007. While an undergraduate at UMES, he conducted summer research guided by his mentor Dorothy E. Shippen, Ph.D. in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics at Texas A&M University entitled The Conservation of Arabidopsis thaliana Telomerase RNA in other Dicots. He went on to complete his Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Brian K. White, Jr. earned his B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2009. He was awarded the 2009-11 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). Currently is a Ph.D. student in Computer Science at UMBC. He has conducted and presented research entitled Real-Time Detection of Stepping-Stones Using Neural Networks.
Sean Wint earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Louisville in 2010, and he received the 2010-12 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Currently, he is an M.S. student in Telecommunications at UMD. During the summers, he interns at Lexmark in Kentucky. He plans to work in the field of nanotechnology and telecommunications.

Jarred Alexander Young earned his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) in 2009. As an undergraduate, he was in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program conducting research on Plasma Actuator technology with the UMD Space Power and Propulsion Lab (SPPL) under the guidance of Dr. Raymond Sedwick. He also was a member of the world champion teams for both the 2009 NASA RASC-AL and the 2009 CanSat Competition Teams representing Maryland. He received the LSAMP the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship. Currently, he is third-year Ph.D. student in Aerospace Engineering at UMD, and he is conducting research on high-energy propulsion plume impingement on spacecraft materials with the SPPL as a National Minority STEM Fellow.

Kavita P. Krishnaswamy earned both her B.S. in Mathematics and her B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2007. Moreover, she graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. She was awarded the 2009-11 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at UMBC, and she currently is a Ph.D. student in Computer Science. Subsequently, she was awarded a prestigious Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and an Access Computing Internship to support the completion of her doctoral program. She has conducted and presented research entitled Path Planning of a Robotic Arm in Real-Time.

Nerg D. Achirimofor earned her B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2010. In addition to being an undergraduate LSAMP Scholar, she also was a MARC U*STAR Scholar. Also as an undergraduate at UMBC, she conducted research in lab of Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, Michael F. Summers, Ph.D. She is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of Virginia.

Rachel Addo earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student conducting research on the role of beta 2 cleavage in PCa cell motility in the lab of her advisor, Robert A. Sikes, Ph.D., in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Delaware.
Kofi Abaaho is set to graduate in May with a degree in mechanical engineering. In addition to holding internships in manufacturing engineering at Gerber Scientific last summer and next, he is the web master for SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) and the recipient of a 2011 Minority Engineering Scholarship and UConn LeadershipScholarships for the last three years. Kofi enjoys taking part in Formula SAE, a Society of Automotive Engineers competition in which students design and build a Formula 1-style car. After graduating, he intends to earn a master’s degree.

Joseph Amat’s dreams of a STEM career began in elementary school when he won an award at the Connecticut Invention Convention. Now a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering, Joe is a member of SHPE, NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers), and Engineering Ambassadors, as well as the United Technologies Corporation (UTC) presentation team. He tutored chemistry and calculus for the BRIDGE program last summer, and next summer has an internship with Pratt and Whitney. After graduation, Joe plans to go to grad school and work for Pratt.

Ahla Amin, Miss Black UConn 2011, is a sophomore majoring in biological sciences. She is considering a switch to allied health to become a nurse or physician assistant. In addition to LSAMP, Ahla is a member of the Muslim Student Association and HOLDUP! (Husky Outreach for Leadership Development, Understanding and Pride), an organization that pairs undergrads with high school students. In 2010, Ahla received a UConn Leadership Scholarship and was nominated for the New Britain Youth of the Year Award.

Nkemdilim Anako (Chi for short) is a senior with a molecular cell biology/pre-dental major and minors in women’s studies and human rights. This fall, she is conducting research on molecular cell biology. Through LSAMP, she studied on a game reserve in Limpopo Province, South Africa, this summer. During the winter 2012 intersession, she will also study abroad in Rhodes, Greece. In the past two years, Chi has received the Women’s Studies Department Jacqueline Brown-Dickstein Award and Gladys Tantaquidgeon Award for academic excellence and contributions to the women’s community. As a first-time Resident Assistant, Chi was named Programmer of the Year for the outstanding programs she developed for the Public Health House. She was chosen from among 284 RAs on campus. After graduation, Chi wants to get an MBA before going to dental school to become an oral surgeon. Her ultimate goal is to educate African Americans on health issues.

Georgette Appiah-Pippim was born in Ghana and plans to move back there someday—after she becomes a doctor. Only in her first year at UConn, she has already spent time abroad on a mission trip to Haiti in July 2010. Currently undertaking a double major in physiology/neurobiology and psychology, Georgette plans to become a neonatologist. In addition to getting her M.D. degree, this ambitious young woman also wants a Ph.D. in biomedical research. “I have always liked math and science,” she says. “They are the two subjects that almost always make sense to me.”

Amanda Baez is a senior studying natural resources with a concentration in fisheries and wildlife. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. and a law degree, with a possible specialty in environmental law. Amanda currently works as a lab assistant in Dr. Spencer Nyholm’s lab in the Molecular and Cell Biology Department. She raises and takes care of live squid.
Catherine Bishop, who graduated summa cum laude in May with a degree in civil engineering, fully embraced the opportunities available to her as an LSAMP scholar during her undergraduate years at UConn. She served as a summer research fellow at the Duke University Pratt School of Engineering, conducted additional research at UConn, and studied abroad in Spain as part of her Spanish minor. Now working at an architectural firm in Colorado, Catie plans to get an MBA within five years. “LSAMP has been a great resource, especially for academic help or encouragement,” she acknowledges. “Without LSAMP, I would have never known about the programs and opportunities geared towards minority students in STEM.”

Jose Brocero is a freshman at UConn majoring in actuarial science. “All my life I excelled at mathematics,” he says. “My friends and family find it strange, but I take pleasure in learning new math, solving math problems, and taking math tests.” During his junior year of high school, Jose discovered the actuarial profession. “I knew that was what I wanted to do with my career,” he shares. His goal is to pass at least two of the seven actuarial exams by the time he earns his bachelor’s degree.

Michael Chase and his twin brother were born in Honduras and lived for a time in an orphanage. They were adopted and came to the United States in 1993. Michael is a first-generation college student recruited by a number of schools for soccer and track. He passed up all those offers “to pursue my medical career dreams here at UConn.” Michael is a member of the UConn Pre-Med Society, the Honors Council, Community Outreach, and a volunteer for Stafford Teen Night—a mentoring program for high school and middle school students. A regular on the Dean’s List and a recipient of a College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) memorial scholarship, he hopes to become a pediatric physician someday.

Bruno Chima is a sophomore mechanical engineering major with a concentration in engineering management. A member of the Engineering Ambassadors and NSBE, Bruno spent the summer of 2011 in the UConn nanotechnology lab testing the possibilities of the creation of a DVD-based photolithography device as part of the Northeast Alliance (NEA) research program. Second place winner of the 2011 D.E. Crow Innovation Competition, Bruno is also a member of the UConn First in Family Energy (FIFE) Scholarship Program, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Alpha Lambda Delta National College Honor Society, and the UConn chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success.

Gustavo Contreras graduated from UConn in May with a double major in computer science and electrical engineering. Born in Peru, Gus moved to the United States with his family when he was a teenager. An honors student at UConn, he has served as president of SHPE and has been a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Eta Kappa Nu (the electrical and computer engineering honor society), and Tau Beta Pi (the general engineering honor society). Although he graduated, Gus is still at UConn working on his master’s degree in computer engineering. He is interested in hardware security.

Bryan Devissiere has always enjoyed tinkering with things and taking them apart, which naturally led him to a major in electrical engineering. A sophomore at UConn, Bryan describes himself as a thinker who likes to come up with innovative ideas to better himself and his surroundings. He is a member of NSBE and a group leader for the Engineering Ambassadors program and hopes to work for Sikorsky or a recording studio one day.

Graziella DiRenzo, a May summa cum laude graduate with a B.S. in biology, is now working on her Ph.D. as an NSF fellow at the University of Maryland College Park. Originally planning to become a medical doctor, Grace changed her mind after studying abroad at the Organization for Tropical Studies in Costa Rica as a Duke University research fellow. Her research there resulted not only in a published paper, but a new interest in ecology and evolutionary biology. Grace returned to Costa Rica last summer for more research with the UConn School for Field Studies. In addition, she worked in Dr. Andrew Bush’s paleontology lab at UConn and has served as a peer mentor through the Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center.

Alexavier Estrada says, “Science has always been my focus and passion for as long as I remember.” Although his particular interests within STEM have fluctuated, “there was never any thought of working and studying in any other field,” he adds. This physiology and neurobiology major wants to go to medical school. With that goal in mind,
he is starting research this fall in the Department of Kinesiology and is a member of the Pre-Med Society on campus. Alex is one of 15 members of his class to be awarded a Day of Pride Scholarship, which offers full tuition, room, and board.

Jonathan Gordils uses his natural affinity for science to understand why certain behaviors and experiences correlate to specific thought processes. That way, “I can aid individuals coping with hardships that they cannot handle alone,” the junior psychology/cognitive sciences major relates. Jonathan plans to become a research/clinical psychologist. To that end, he is currently working on research in lexical learning and its links to memory for faces, words, and things. Jonathan is a member of Psi Chi: International Honor Society in Psychology and has served as secretary of Wa Shin Ryu Jujutsu Club.

Patrice Hubert is a dietetics major now in her senior year at UConn, plans to attend a post-baccalaureate program after graduation to finish her prerequisites for medical school. Patrice, who studied in the Coordinated Program in Dietetics in Barcelona, Spain, during the summer of 2010, is also the recipient of a Leadership Scholarship. To de-stress from a heavy load of school work, she admits to giving in to a “slight shopping addiction.”

Michael Johnson spent last summer in South Africa doing research on development of an artificial arm as part of the International REU pilot program of the Northeast LSAMP. A sophomore majoring in environmental and material science engineering, Michael made the Dean’s List last year and was elected secretary of NSBE. He is also a member of the Pre-Med Society and the Engineering Ambassadors. His future aspirations include travel and environmental or biomaterials research.

J’Vaughn Johnson is on track to graduate in December of 2012 with a degree in computer science. He then plans to go on to graduate school. He completed an internship as a web design tester for Pitney Bowes and served as both president and vice president of NSBE. In April, J’Vaughn received the NSBE Leaving a Legacy Award.

Heather Leask, a chemical engineering major with a special interest in electronics and systems, began conducting research long before she enrolled at UConn. This standout member of the class of 2014 worked with a grad student in Dr. Steven Suib’s lab at UConn during her senior year of high school, where she found a new method for making memristive devices using a traditional sol-gel technique. This summer, after her freshman year, she took on a SURE nanotechnology internship at UMass Amherst in which she studied the mechanical properties of hydrogels. She continues that research this fall. Heather sees a Ph.D. in her future.

Francis Cardona Manuel aims to earn his doctorate in pharmacy and eventually work as a clinical pharmacist in a hospital setting. His goals were validated after shadowing a CVS pharmacist over winter intersession last year and volunteering as a pharmacy student technician at Mercy Hospital in Portland, Maine, this summer. Francis, a junior, has served as both president and secretary of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) and is a member of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. He has taken part in the Learning Community Ambassador Program and frequently makes the Dean's List. “In my spare time, I have a huge interest in music,” Francis shares. “I enjoy playing the guitar and singing.”

Joy Olayiwola will likely attend medical school after getting her bachelor’s degree in diagnostic genetic science with a concentration in cytogenetics, but she is considering a career in research, as well. Now in her junior year, she made the Dean’s List last year and has completed an internship in the Biodynamic Lab at the UConn Health Center. Joy is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, National Society of College Scholars, Cross Cultural Connections, Pre-Med Society, Community Outreach, and Silver Wings--an organization dedicated to social service and education about national defense. She has also taken part in the Invisible Children Challenge to raise money for children affected by the war in East Africa.

Christian Osorio is now serving the first year of a GEM Fellowship at Stanford University after graduating summa cum laude from UConn with a B.S. in electrical engineering in May. The choice to go to Stanford wasn’t easy for Christian, who was also accepted at such prestigious
engineering doctoral programs as the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) International Scholars master’s program. “Solving problems is fun for me,” he explains. “It’s why I like doing engineering and doing research. That’s what I’m best at.” He is now focusing his considerable problem-solving ability on electrical power, studying intermittent renewable energy sources as part of his doctoral program in energy systems engineering.

**Kimberley Panther**, a junior with a double major in actuarial science and chemistry, plans to become a pediatrician/pediatric researcher. A member of the Nutrition Club and the Pre-Med Society, Last summer she began a research project on the synthesis of (pentafluorophenyl) porphyrins, which she is still working on. Kim has also completed actuarial internships for the ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company. An honors student, she is a Day of Pride Scholar, a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, and a National Residence Hall honorary inductee.

**Celina Rogers**, a junior allied health major, hopes to get her Ph.D. in physical therapy. To learn more about her field, she spent this summer shadowing practitioners and volunteering at two PT offices. Celina is a member of the Minority Association for Pre-Health Students (MAPS). An RA, she is also the recipient of a Leadership Scholarship.

**Andre Silva**, a senior majoring in electrical engineering, has served as president of SHPE, a member of the Engineering Ambassadors, and RA of the Freshman Honors Learning Community. He has also completed internships at Pratt and Whitney for the last two summers, performing data analysis of the F135 class of aircraft engines. Andre plans to work for Pratt full time after graduation and pursue a master’s degree.

**Honorio Valdes Espinosa de los Monteros**, a senior double majoring in chemical and biomedical engineering, has been conducting research in Dr. Yu Lei’s lab since January 2010. His research projects have included development of a *Caulobacter crescentus*-based biosensor as well as electrodeposition of gold and platinum nanostructures and of silver nanocubes. Honorio has also been a member of the SHPE, the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES), and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). This year he received a Summer Undergraduate Research Fund (SURF) Award. In the summer of 2009, he attended the National Institute for Leadership Advancement (NILA). And in the summer before his freshman year, he was selected as the Bridge Program Male Student of the Year. Honorio plans to pursue a Ph.D. and become a professor or work in industry, eventually starting his own technology-related business.

**Gilberto Valentin** always likes to try new things and figured the STEM field would give him plenty of opportunities. A freshman with a major in mechanical engineering, this top-five CAPT scholar aspires to earn a medical degree one day.

**Desiree Wimberly**, a junior majoring in allied health sciences, plans to become a pediatric nurse practitioner and work with children who have cancer. Her career choice was inspired in part by a close aunt who passed away from cancer. Both a UConn Presidential Scholar and a Wayne Wister Scholar, Desiree was a member of the Public Health House Learning Community last year and wants to earn a master’s degree in public health.

**Elizabeth Zyzo**, a sophomore double majoring in communication disorders and Spanish, began doing research on DNA even before her freshman year as part of a pre-college enrichment program. A member of National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA), Club Field Hockey, and Community Outreach on campus, Liz plans to attend graduate school for speech pathology or audiology. “I just knew that I wanted to do something meaningful in my life, and that was by helping others in the healthcare field,” she relates.

**Stacey Small** is a fourth year student who is pursuing a BS in Industrial Engineering. She is the recipient of the highly coveted Alice S. Ayling Scholarship, which she has received annually since her second year at NU. She has been active in CSÓ (Caribbean Student Organization) and BESS (Black Engineering Student Society), the NU NSBE student chapter. She is a CONNECTIONS participant in the Women In Engineering (WIE) program. Stacey was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.
Christian Mantilla, is currently in his fourth year at Northeastern University. He is pursuing a BS in Chemical Engineering. He is in the Honors Program and has served as an RA for the Honors LLC. He had his first co-op working for EMD Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, MA. He is also a member of NU SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers), and has been a member of BESS (Black Engineering Student Society) and EWB (Engineers Without Borders). As a member of EWB, Christian traveled to Honduras, Central America to help assess, design, develop and implement a fresh drinking water delivery system into a targeted village. Christian is a former 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge student participant as an incoming freshman.

Joan Manuel Dela Cruz, is currently pursuing a BS/MS in Mechanical Engineering and is in the fourth year of the five year BS/MS co-op program. He first performed a Summer Internship with Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in Stratford, CT. Joan created and analyzed damage calculations and S-N (load cycle) curves for S-76 tail rotor components which were based on previous fatigue testing. He is a recipient of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship and has been an active member of the NU SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers). He also co-founded a new student organization on campus known as DRYVE (Dominican Republic Youth Volunteer Efforts).

Gidley Dorlus, is pursuing a BS/MS in Mechanical Engineering and is currently in the fourth year of the five year BS/MS program. In addition to being in the joint BS/MS program, he wants to get an MBA in the future. Gidley participated in an REU at Harvard University. After completing his first co-op, Gidley applied to and became the third NU recipient of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship Program. He has been the Academic Excellence Chair of BESS (Black Engineering Student Society), which is the NU NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) student chapter and Public Relations Coordinator of HSU (Haitian Student Unity). Gidley was also a participant of the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Sarah Sanchez is a former 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge student. Sarah is a CenSSIS Scholar who performed environmental engineering undergraduate research during the Summer of 2010, with Professor Ferdi Hellweger. Her research involved the testing of the Charles River and the effort being undertaken to clean up and reclaim the Charles River for possible swimming by the public. The research she performed essentially involved E.coli testing on the Charles River. Sarah was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Rochelle Willis is from Boston, MA and received the Boston Public School Scholarship to attend Northeastern University. She is a fourth year student who is currently pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering scheduled to graduate in 2013. She plans to attend graduate school in the Fall of 2013. She is a member of Chi Epsilon, the Civil Engineering Honor Society, where she serves as webmaster. She has served as the PCI (Pre-Collegiate Initiative) Chair for the BESS chapter of NSBE and is currently the Academic Excellence Chair.

Rochelle has also served as Secretary for CSO (Caribbean Student Organization) and is currently Vice President.

Babatunde “Baba” Ogunfemi, is in his fourth year pursuing a dual major BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) as a member of the class of 2013. Baba has participated in two co-ops and has done study abroad in Paris, France where he was able to study parallel programming and supply chain. As an active member of NSBE, Baba was selected to receive a Scholarship Award from the Board of Corporate Affiliates (BCA) at the 2010 NSBE Annual Convention held in Ontario, Canada. He is planning to go to graduate school. Baba was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Justin White is a fourth year BS Computer Engineering Honors student and Reggie Lewis Scholarship recipient. He was a Gordon-CenSSIS Scholar and performed an REU Summer of 2009 at Northeastern University Gordon-CenSSIS Engineering Research Center working to accelerate CT imaging reconstruction. Currently, Justin is employed for his second co-op for the US Government – as a Student Trainee in Washington, DC, where he has received a complete background check and secret security clearance.

Sarah Kendrick is in her third year of a five year co-op program pursuing a double major BS in Civil Engineering and BS in Environmental Science as a member of the graduating class of 2014. Sarah is currently Vice President of External Affairs for the NU SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) chapter. Sarah is a CenSSIS Scholar who performed environmental engineering undergraduate research during the Summer of 2010, with Professor Ferdi Hellweger. Her research involved the testing of the Charles River and the effort being undertaken to clean up and reclaim the Charles River for possible swimming by the public. The research she performed essentially involved E.coli testing on the Charles River. Sarah was a participant in the 2009 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Sarah is currently pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering and a Minor in Mathematics. She participated in a 2010 Summer REU as a Gordon-CenSSIS Scholar. Samantha worked with Professor Akram Alshawabkeh on the PROTECT project (Puerto Rico Testsite for Exploring Contamination Threats) for her Summer REU. She researched contamination waste sites and hazardous sites in Puerto Rico in the efforts of finding long term sustainable solutions to cleanup the sites. Samantha has been an active member of SWE (Society of Women Engineers) and BESS (Black Engineering Student Society, where she serves as webmaster. She has served as the PCI (Pre-Collegiate Initiative) Chair for the BESS chapter of NSBE and is currently the Academic Excellence Chair.
Mary Farel is an Honors Student and is pursuing a BSME as a member of the graduating class of 2013. She has participated in two co-ops thus far: (1) Raytheon Company in Andover, MA – as a Quality Engineer; (2) Draper Laboratories in Cambridge, MA – as a Design Engineer on Inertial Guidance. Mary plans to attend graduate school in the future. She was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Leo Byun is a third year student pursuing a BSME. He is also a Torch Scholar, which is a program dedicated to providing access to students who exhibit non-cognitive abilities that present the potential to overcome personal challenges. Leo has been an Honors student and is also pursuing a double minor in Physics and Mathematics. He has participated in REUs through an NSF funded program referred to as PRISM sponsored by the College of Science at NU. The PRISM program at Northeastern University is an interdisciplinary program to promote interest in Mathematics, Physics, and Biology. Leo was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

William Tse is an Honors student pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering as a member of the graduating class of 2013. He is a Boston Public School Scholarship recipient. He plans to attend graduate school in the future. William has participated in two co-op assignments thus far. William was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Christopher Campbell, is a BS Computer Engineering major and Art & Design Minor in the class of 2013. He is President of the Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. at Northeastern University. Chris was a participant in the 2008 LSAMP Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Daniel Boyd completed his BSME degree in 2010, in four years, instead of the traditional co-op program of study in five years. He was the first NU recipient of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship Program. As a result of his scholarship and co-op cycle, he accepted a full-time offer, upon graduation, to work for Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in Connecticut. Daniel was an active member of BESS, NU NSBE chapter, and served in several capacities as an E-Board member. Daniel also pledged Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and served as President of the NU Chapter. Daniel was a participant in the 2007 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Daniel Bedoya, is currently in his third year as an BSME major. He has served as Public Affairs Officer and Vice President of the NU Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) chapter and is now currently the President. He has participated in the co-op program. His first official co-op experience was with AMETEK Aerospace in Wilmington, MA January 2011-June 2011. Danny helped to develop new Solidworks drawings for the temperature, oxygen, and oil sensors projects. He upgraded and modernized old drawings to SolidWorks format.

Martin Kimani came to the U.S. by himself, from Kenya, to pursue higher education in the U.S. Martin participated in the College of Engineering LSAMP Summer Bridge program for under-represented minority students, first-generation students and/or young women. Martin also had the opportunity to study abroad Delft, Netherlands where he took Civil Engineering classes in Transportation design, Sustainable development. Upon graduation with a BSChE, in May of 2011, Martin secured a position with Genzyme in Framingham, MA as a Chemical Engineer. Martin plans to attend graduate school; he is interested in renewable and sustainable energy.

Sarah Brown is a BSEE 2011 alumnae of Northeastern University with a minor in biomedical engineering; currently she a graduate student in the Electrical Engineering department. During her undergraduate career, Sarah completed three co-ops in addition to a summer research experience for undergraduates program and continued on campus research in the Gordon Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging. For her graduate studies Sarah will work as a Draper Laboratory Fellow and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow to conduct research relating to improving diagnostic abilities for PTST and TBI through sensor fusion techniques. Sarah was a participant in the 2006 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Patrick James graduated from Northeastern University in May 2011 with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering. He participated in 3 co-op assignments: (1) Raytheon Co. (quality assurance & reliability), Raytheon Co. (quality assurance). Patrick received a full-time offer from Raytheon and is in their Operations Talent Development Program (OLDP). Patrick was a participant in the 2006 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.
Neel Shah, is enrolled in the five-year BS/MS Electrical Engineering program. He entered NU College of Engineering in the Fall of 2010. He participated in a 2011 Summer REU at Northeastern University under the supervision of Dr. David Kaeli in NUCAR (Northeastern University's Computer Architecture Lab). His project was to analyze the Speeded-Up Robust Feature (SURF) algorithm and add an image comparison feature for object recognition applications. He will be going on his first co-op assignment in January 2012. He is planning on attending graduate school in the future. Neel was a participant in the 2010 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Sade Ruffin was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts in the neighborhood of Mattapan. From a young age her family instilled the importance of education and academic achievement. This eventually led to her attending Northeastern University where Ms. Ruffin would receive a BSChE in 2009. Immediately following graduation, Sade decided to continue her education and obtained an M.S. in Chemical Engineering from Columbia University in New York. Today, Sade is attending the Polytechnic Institute of NYU pursuing a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Sade Ruffin serves as the National Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer) of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

Stephanie Fernandez is an undergraduate and graduate alumna of Northeastern University. She was working on her Ph.D. as a GEM Fellow, in the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Center for Advanced Microgravity Materials Processing lab (CAMMP, NASA-Sponsored lab). In 2002, she came to Boston, MA to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Northeastern University as a Connections and Legacy scholar, which she achieved in May of 2007. Stephanie chose to complete her MS degree in Chemical Engineering and pursue a position in industry. She was recently hired by the Raytheon Company in Massachusetts at the beginning of 2011. Stephanie was a participant in the first 2002 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Jason Lee, entered Northeastern University as a Freshman in 2010 and is a member of the graduating class of 2015. He is pursuing a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and a Minor in Technological Entrepreneurship. He performed a 2011 Summer REU at Texas Tech in Lubbock, Tx. His research was to include Explosives Characterization, but actually ended up doing product design for the testing equipment. Jason was a participant in the 2010 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Corey Ashby is currently at Johns Hopkins University Neuroscience Department, as a GEM Fellow and Henrietta Jenkins Fellow, pursuing his Ph.D. working on the design and development of robotic prosthetics. Corey graduated from NU in 2008 with a BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Corey; he participated in an REU at the Northeastern University Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging Systems, Boston, MA from Spring 2004 –Dec. 2004. He assisted with the design, implementation and testing of algorithms developed for subsurface sensing and classification of unexploded ordinances and he worked as part of a team to design and implement a graphical user interface for the project. Corey was a participant in the 2003 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Michelle McNeilly, is scheduled to graduate in 2012 with a BS in Chemical Engineering and a Business Minor. She has participated in a total of 3 co-ops. Michelle’s co-ops were: (1) EMD Serono Inc. (Billerica, MA): as a Protein Purification Co-Op; (2) EMD Serono Inc. (Billerica, MA): as a Quality control and microbiology co-op; and (3) PowerAdvocate, Inc. (Boston, MA): as a Spend Data Analyst for Energy Industry. Michelle wants to attend graduate school and pursue an MBA. Michelle was a participant in the 2007 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Rafael “Raffi” Perez, graduated from Northeastern University in May 2011 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He participated in 3 co-op assignments: (1) Intel in Hudson MA as an Implementation co-op; (2) Vicor in Andover MA as a test engineer; and (3) HNTB in Chelmsford MA as a Signals Engineer, where he is also currently employed. He plans to attend Graduate School. Raffi was a participant in the 2006 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Lia Calise, is a sophomore pursuing a B.S. in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Biochemistry as a member of the graduating class of 2015. She will be starting her first in January 2012. Lia worked for Prof. Carrier during the spring 2011 semester on Multiple Particle Tracking through Mucus. Lia stated the following: “it was a huge time commitment but definitely opened my eyes to the world of medical research. I now know that I want to go into biomedical/pharmaceutical engineering and am pursuing a co-op position in this area.” Lia was a participant in the 2010 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.
Hong Long, completed her B.S. in Chemical Engineering with a Biomedical minor in 2011. As an undergraduate, Hong performed an REU at UMass Lowell, a university member of the Center for Highrate Nanomanufacturing. At the REU, Hong performed literature research on the dermal uptake of nanosize particles in consumer products. While completing her BSChE degree, Hong participated in co-op with the following companies: (1) Rohm and Haas in Woburn, MA as an R&D Co-op; (2) Abbott Labs in Worcester, MA as a Scale up lab and manufacturing Co-op. Hong was a participant in the 2006 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Markus Howard, is an Honors student pursuing a BS in Computer Engineering and a minor in Mathematics in the Northeastern University five-year B.S. co-op program. He is scheduled to graduate in 2013. Markus has participated in two co-ops thus far: (1) MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Lexington, MA; (2) FM Global in Johnston, RI. Markus plans to attend graduate school in the future. He was a participant in the 2009 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Awnalisa Walker, is a freshman planning to pursue a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, in the Northeastern University five-year Co-op program. She is an NCAA Div-I AA recruited Soccer athlete from Sugar Land, Texas. Awnalisa was a participant in the 2011 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman, this summer.

Amanda Tronchin, is a Ujima Scholar who is currently undeclared as a freshmen, but she is planning to pursue a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, in the Northeastern University five-year Co-op program. Amanda was a participant in the 2011 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman, this summer.

Rhodesherdeline Limage, is a Gates Millenium Scholar who is coming through the General Studies Arts & Sciences program, who is planning to pursue a B.S. in Engineering, but has not decided upon an engineering discipline yet. She is planning to participate in the Northeastern University five-year Co-op program. Rhodesherdeline was a participant in the 2011 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Alex Matathia, is a Faith Leahy Scholarship recipient. Alex is a freshman planning to pursue a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, in the Northeastern University five-year Co-op program. Alex was a participant in the 2011 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Rosibel Blandin, is currently pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering and a minor in Environmental Science as a member of the graduating class of 2014. She participated in a 2010 Summer REU with the the Gordon-CENSSIS Engineering Research Center where she worked with an NU graduate student on soil remediation. Rosibel was a participant in the 2009 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.

Earl Williamson, graduated in May 2011 with a BS in Civil Engineering and minor in Business Administration. He is currently employed by an engineering firm in Washington, D.C. Earl grew up in Boston, MA and as a result earned a Balfour Scholar when he entered Northeastern University as a freshman. Earl performed co-op roles at: (1) Turner Construction as a Field Engineer Co-op; (2) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an Emergency Response student trainee. Earl was a freshman participant in the 2006 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program.

Jennifer Mitchell, graduated in May 2011 with a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering. As an undergraduate, she participated in three Co-ops: (1) Souza, True and Partners in Watertown, MA; (2) Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger in Los Angeles, (3) Simpson, Gumpertz and Heger in Los Angeles, Jennifer is currently pursuing her MS degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering in the Structural Engineering Mechanics and Materials (SEMM) Program at UC Berkeley.

Johari Samuels realized that she excelled in math and science when she was in middle school; she became interested in building design and construction as well as improving neighborhood design. When her father explained about the different fields in engineering she knew she wanted to go into civil engineering. Currently a senior at Worcester Polytechnic Institute Johari has participated in the NYC Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Division and the Brooklyn Borough Presidents office in the Disabilities and Planning Department.

Janneth Velazquez Rosales is currently in her junior year at Worcester Polytechnic Institute majoring in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Project Management and a minor in Spanish. She has been awarded the Marshall Chavez Mean’s Scholarship and the California Dollars for Scholars Scholarship. She is involved in the cheerleading club and is secretary of the cheer team. She is also a member of the Alpha Phi women’s fraternity and the Society of the Hispanic Professional Engineers.

Rosibel Blandin, is currently pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering and a minor in Environmental Science as a member of the graduating class of 2014. She participated in a 2010 Summer REU with the the Gordon-CENSSIS Engineering Research Center where she worked with an NU graduate student on soil remediation. Rosibel was a participant in the 2009 LSAMP Diversity Summer Bridge Program as an incoming freshman.
Morley Dupuy is senior enrolled in Biomedical Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He has received the Marshall/Chavex Scholarship and has interned at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in the Biomedical Engineering department in Boston, MA. Morley is president of WPI’s NSBE chapter. Attendance at NSBE National Conventions has been a great inspiration to Morley.

Quontay Turner is a graduate of the WPI; she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies. Quontay received the Crimson and Gray 2010 and 2011 ALANA award. She worked in the Costa Rica National Telephone and Electric Company; currently she is employed at the Turner Construction Company working as a field engineer.

Renee Walker was a member of the WPI class of 2010 and graduated with a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and a minor in Computer Science. She published the cover article in the Women Engineer Magazine this past spring and was awarded the LSAMP Multicultural Leadership Award during her junior year at WPI and won second place in the the Strage Innovation Award in 2009. Currently employed as a hardware engineer at EMC corporation since graduation.

Andrew Osei is a member of the 2014 class at WPI majoring in Civil Engineering with minors in both Spanish and Business. He was awarded the New Greek Member Scholar, On-Track Freshman of 2011. Currently Andrew is a Senator in NSBE, treasurer of the Black Student Union and a member of the men’s varsity basketball practice team and an active member of the Habitat for Humanity. He also participated in the Buenos Aires Immersion program.

Laura Ashley Alegbeleye is a senior chemical engineering student at WPI. She has participated in the Urban Elephant in Bangkok, Thailand as part of her interactive Qualifying Project. Laura received an honorable mention in the President’s IQP Award. During the summer of 2010 Laura-Ashley participated in the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. Currently she is employed as a Project Application Engineer in a Rotation Program at Invensys Operations Management.

Ronald Duarte graduated summa cum laude from the University of Rhode Island with a B.S. degree in computer engineering in May 2011. While at URI he was part a research team in Taiwan at Kun Shan University which was funded by the National Science Foundation to work on 3D interactive visualization and motion capture. Ronald’s undergraduate research as a LSAMP scholar was on Branch Predictor computer architecture. A native of the Dominican Republic, who served in the U.S. Army’s 101st Airborne Division before coming to URI, was also awarded the Halkey K. Ross Merit Scholarship and the Nelson C. White award for having the second highest G.P.A. in computer engineering. Currently Ronald is a graduate student at URI.

Ronald Scott received a B.S. degree in kinesiology in 2010. Ronald is an LSAMP scholar who was part of the first summer enrichment program at URI in 2001 when he was at Times 2 Academy High School. He loves seeing results of his work, as he completed the center’s 12-week program that included exercise, nutrition information, stress management tips, and behavioral and dietary modifications. He volunteered at the Center for Cardiac Fitness at Miriam Hospital in Providence, R.I. Ronald was offered a position with the hospital after graduation. He said that the internship was the best thing he had done and it wouldn’t have happened if not for his participation as an LSAMP scholar and mentor. Ronald is an exercise physiologist creating exercise prescriptions for cardiac patients. He hopes eventually to become a physician’s assistant.

John P. Brito obtained his B.S. degree in civil and environmental engineering on May 21, 2011 where he was an LSAMP Scholar and president of the URI NSBE chapter, Regional Pre-Collegiate Chairperson, and New England Zone Board Alumni Relations Chairperson. John also provided tutoring for grades 9-10 in math for students not meeting grade span expectation. He received a Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship and the H. Winfield Tucker, Jr. Engineering Scholarship for Merit. Currently John is a graduate student at the University of Missouri – Columbia.

Yasah Vezele received her B.S. in chemical engineering with a pharmaceutical track from the University of Rhode Island in 2010. She currently is in the master’s program at URI studying biomedical and pharmaceutical science. Yasah’s undergraduate work as a LSAMP scholar got her into the Summer Fellowship: Research in Science and Engineering (RISE) program at Rutgers University 2009 and in 2008 she was
Sonia Gaitan received a B.S. in chemical engineering and Spanish literature in the international engineering program at the University of Rhode Island in 2005. As an undergraduate, she served as an LSAMP Scholar and mentor for the URI LSAMP summer and Saturday academy programs. Sonia did her internship at Johnson & Johnson, where after graduation she was hired and worked at J&J from 2006 to 2011 as a quality assurance engineer I, II and III, team captain, peer mentor, and SAP External Manufacturing Quality Management Lead. She currently works as a Senior Supply Network Planner at McNeil Consumer Healthcare.

Soani Delgado earned her B.S. in civil and international engineering in 2005. Soani came to R.I. from the Dominican Republic in 1988. This LSAMP Scholar completed the 5-year program which allows students to double major in a language; Soani is now fluent not only in English and Spanish, but also in French. She spent six months completing an internship at the University of Applied Sciences in Fribourg, Switzerland and after graduation she was hired by the City of Providence’s Department of Public Works as a Jr. Civil Engineer.

Chidi Osisioma was raised in Nigeria and came to America in 2000. Shortly after he passed the GED exam he started taking full-time classes at Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) for an Associate’s degree in Engineering. After two years he transferred to the University of Rhode Island to study for a Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. Chidi became an LSAMP Scholar after attending a NELSAMP leadership conference at Northeastern University. In 2008, he was accepted to graduate school at the University of Manchester England studying Mechanical and Aerospace engineering. This former URI President of NSBE is currently a Manufacturing Engineering Leader with Rolls-Royce.

Darryl A. Mensah earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from URI in May 2008 and his M.S. in Electrical Engineering in 2010. He was an excellent LSAMP Scholar and received his first great opportunity to further his excellence at the annual NELSAMP Student Leadership Conference when he met and received his first research and internship experience with Raytheon Seapower Capability Center in 2006. Darryl currently is employed at Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) in Newport, R.I.

Miriam Caetano earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and Spanish from the University of Rhode Island in 2008. This Cape Verdean born moved to the US in the 11th grade. Miriam was one of URI LSAMP’s most outstanding scholars and mentor. In the fall of 2008, prior to her graduation, she received and internship with Ibia Energia-Group CAF, San Sebastian Spain where she worked on the aerodynamic design of a small wind turbine. This LSAMP and International Engineering Scholar liked the idea of having two degrees in five years. It gave Miriam the opportunity to go abroad and interact with other scholars like herself from Spain, Portugal and France. Currently, Miriam is working as Government Engineer in Cape Verde, Africa.

Victor Montero completed his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics in 2008. This LSAMP Scholar worked on research in Experimental and Theoretical Mechanics, Optical Methods, Fracture Mechanics; Composite Materials; Nano Materials, Wave Propagation, Impact Mechanics, and Elasticity. Victor was mentored by Dr. Arun Shukla, Simon Ostrach Professor of Mechanical, Industrial and Systems Engineering. He also served as President of Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). Victor is currently earning his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering and Allied Mechanics at URI. He is employed as a Mechanical Design Engineer at Mahr Federal Inc.

Akanni Clarke participated in the LSAMP SEMinar Scholars program at the University of Massachusetts. Akanni participated in undergraduate research and became a mentor to other undergraduate students. He was the first LSAMP graduate student and taught the SEMinar Scholars course. Akanni graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in 2008 and remained at the UMA to complete his Master of Science in Biology. As a result of this experience Akanni is now pursuing further graduate education at Howard University.

Esther Boama-Nyarko is currently a junior at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She anticipates completing her Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Biology and Public Health Sciences in 2013 and is planning on continuing her education through completion of a PhD. She has been a peer mentor in a residential first year hall, a member of the pre-medical society, and the Cape-
Verdean Student Alliance. Esther was awarded membership into Alpha Lambda Delta, a freshman honor society, (2009-20) and in to the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (2010-2012).

**Ozaire Awais** participated in the first LSAMP supported SEMinar Scholars course at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He was a member of the Honors College, a tutor with the Learning Resource Center and participated in undergraduate research throughout his undergraduate years: in 2004 Ozaire was engaged in research at the Pioneer Valley Life Science; during the summer of 2005 Ozaire was part of a Geriatrics Research team at Baystate Medical Center; during the 2007-08 academic year, Ozaire worked on a project studying adult brain apoptosis in fruit flies. Ozaire graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in microbiology; in addition he was inaugurated into the Golden Key Honor Society in 2007 and in 2008 was received the Junior Fellows Program awarded to outstanding life science majors in research.

**Arianna Gray** is currently a senior biology major at the University of Massachusetts. Her goal is to pursue a PhD as well as an MD and is interested in microbiology and/or biomedical research. She is a recipient of the John and Abigail Adams scholarship (June 2008-May 2012). Arianna participated in the summer Enrichment Program at the University of Massachusetts medical school (June 2010) Health Careers Connections and at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (summer 2011) for further research experience. Arianna is an LSAMP Scholar doing research in the Geobacter lab during her senior year on campus.

**Tsheko Makawa** graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 2007, he was a biology major and an LSAMP Scholar. As such he had the opportunity to participate in Professor Wadsworth’s laboratory researching the contraction of myosin during mitosis. Since his graduation he has been employed in the biotechnology field at the Broad Institute since 2010.

**Eden Ketema** is currently a senior majoring in public health/microbiology planning to continue her education through to her PhD. Now in her senior year, Eden continues to be involved in research and is an active member of the campus community. Eden is a member of the Commonwealth Honors College. Her research experiences during her undergraduate tenure have included: research in the Leschine Microbiology Lab (May 2010 – present); an internship with the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland (spring 2011); and during the summer of 2011 Eden was a Massachusetts Academy of Sciences intern and did research through the Summer Program in Epidemiology at Harvard University.

**Jerachmeele Moise** will graduate in May 2012. During her time at the University of Massachusetts Jerachmeele received the Human Services Honor in 2010 and 2011, she has been on the dean’s list since 2008. She was a residential assistant for first year students, a teacher’s assistant for first year nursing students, a student assistant at the office of the provost, part of the Massachusetts Urban youth collaborative Program and a member of the ALANA Honor Society. In May 2011 she participated in a small research project assisting in a community project assessing depression in the older community. During the 2010 and 2011 summer she interned for Southeastern Residential Services as a Developmental Service Worker in a home care setting assisting with activities of daily living.

**Sarah Moy** is currently a junior biochemistry major at the University of Massachusetts Amherst interested in biomedical research. Sarah interned with at the Tufts University Department of Public Health assisting in research to find a correlation between whether or not living in close proximity to a highway would increase one’s chances of getting asthma. The student progressed to consideration of whether foreign born children have a lower chance of getting asthma. During August, 2011 Sarah participated in a voluntary teaching experience in Fujian, China. She spent two weeks In a low income part of the village teaching English to children ages 9-16.

**Sabrina Parise** graduated with a bachelor of science degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in May 2011 with Magna Cum Laude honors. She plans to work in a medical or biotechnology laboratory for a year before applying to graduate school. During the Spring of 2009 and 2011 Sabrina was a James Holden Microbiology research laboratory fellow. During this time she studied hyperthermophilic archaea and their deep sea environment learning basic techniques culminating in her honors senior thesis.

**Nina Nnamani** will be graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in May 2012 with a major in the neuroscience track in psychology hoping to continue through to her MD/PhD. In March 2010 Nina interned at the Orlando Oral and Facial Surgery; in May 2011 she interned at the
Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Ohio. During the 2010-11 academic year Nina researched the effects of repeated MDMA and/or THC exposure on regional glutamate signaling in the brain, concentrating on the striatum. Nina is a member of the AALANA Honor Society. She co-authored an abstract entitled: “Effects of repeated adolescent co-administration of MDMA and THC on subsequent measures of temperature, depressive-like behavior, and memory in male and female Sprague-Dawley rat published in society for Neuroscience, 2011.

Digna Pena is a junior (class of 2013) majoring in public health at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. In addition to participating in the activities of the LSAMP scholars Digna is peer mentor for first year students and has been on the dean’s for both semester of the 2010-11 academic year. She has completed an internship at the Martha Elliot Health Center in the Adolescent clinic. In March, 2011 Digna designed and taught a lesson on alcohol and Drug use for a local high school in the pueblo of Bani, Dominican Republic. She is planning to go to Thailand this spring though the Community Public Health program in Khon Kean, Thailand.

Travis Pires is in his senior year at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He is interested in veterinary medicine. He received honors in both English and Chemistry while a student. He is active in the Pre-veterinary club. Additionaly Travis has been a veterinary specialist working as an emergency and critical care assistant demonstrating his technical competence and provided patient care offering instruction in maintaining proper health. Since May 2009 Travis has volunteered at the Marion Animal Hospital assisting staff doctors on treatment, radiographs and surgeries.

Abigail Taylor is now a senior at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. When Abigail enrolled in the LSAMP-supported SEMinar Scholars course she was unclear about her goals. She has reported that “when we had to present a project about our future…..[it] really helped me figure out my passion for humanitarian work. Since that time Abigail has taken advantage of opportunities presented to her and has worked with infants and pre-school students for a local educational collaborative and has become a teacher’s assistant at an elementary school mentoring and education students in a fifth grade classroom. Abigail has recently been elected as president of Brothers and Sisters in Christ and Events Coordinator for the UMass Gospel Choir, as well as for the student alumni association and a member of the African Student Association. She has been on the dean’s list since 2008.

Mary Trask participated in the first LSAMP-supported SEMinar Scholars course at the University of Massachusetts in 2005 when she was a junior at the University of Massachusetts. She became a tutor at the Learning Resource Center and actively engaged in research. Following completion of her Bachelor of Science degree Mary enrolled in a PhD program in biomedical research and anticipates graduating in May 2012. Always interested in education, Mary became enthusiastic about research while taking graduate level science courses as part of her program while earning her Masters Degree in Education. She is a member of AAAS and the Society of Developmental Biology. She has received the following awards: the Society for Developmental Biology 70th Annual Meeting, July 2011 travel award and semi-finalist in the poster competition; the Northeastern Regional Society for Developmental Biology Meeting, poster competition winner; and the AAAS Annual Meeting, winner of the AAS/Subaru New Teacher Essay Writing Competition, 2007. Mary has several journal articles and invited presentations to her credit regarding her research.
Layota Baskin completed her BS in Civil Engineering Technology in 2011. Under Wentworth Institute of Technology UMLSAMP mentorship she participated in three off-campus internships; Boston Water and Sewer, MassBiologics, and Parsons ($2.7B global firm for engineering, construction, technical, and management services. Latoya now works for Thompson Company Inc.

Paul A. Britton Jr. completed his BS in Computer Engineering in 2011. While at Wentworth Institute of Technology he conducted several on campus intense research projects under the Urban Mass LSAMP program. He attained off-campus internships with the Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Hologic Corp., and at Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) in California. He received the Fitzgerald Co-op Award (2011) and is attending the New York University Graduate School in Engineering.

Monir Ejemel completed his BS in Honors in Biology in 2011 at UMass Boston. As a UMLSAMP student he participated in four terms of research laboratory experimentation under Professor Rick Kesseli. Monir is currently taking additional post-baccalaureate courses and working part time as a research assistant as he decides which graduate course of study he wishes to pursue.

Ron B. Jean completed his BS in Electronics Engineering in 2011. Under UMLSAMP mentorship and support he conducted research projects at Wentworth Institute of Technology and was a research and development assistant for one of his professors. He also participated in internships at the following companies and organizations: Jacobs Engineering, Integrated Design Group, and the National Grid. Ron is currently in graduate school at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University for a MS degree in Electrical Engineering.

Willems Leveille completed his BS in Civil Engineering from UMass Dartmouth in 2010. While in the UMLSAMP program he was one of only 20 students selected for Dr. Duran’s NSF International Center for Undergraduate Research Experiences program. Willems worked in a research project in Nairobi, Kenya under that program from May to August 2010. He currently works in technical assistant positions as he considers national or international education opportunities.

Doris Nabikejje completed her BS in Nursing in 2011 at UMass Boston. Doris became an UMLSAMP student while at Bunker Hill Community College and attained her first university research experience while still enrolled at that institution. As a UMLSAMP student at UMass Boston she participated in four terms of on-campus mentored research laboratory work under Professor Michael Shiaris. Doris also obtained an internship with Genzyme Corporation after her sophomore year and an internship with the Dana Farber Cancer Institute after her junior year. Doris is planning on a career in medical research and is in the process of determining her route to that goal.

Roodolph St. Pierre completed his BS in Honors in Biology in 2011. As a UMLSAMP student at UMass Boston he received referrals for two internships at the MIT/Harvard Broad Institute under the tutelage of Dr. Briggs, a Ph.D. scientist and former Meyerhoff Scholar. Roodolph also attained an internship at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute before he graduated and is now a Research Assistant there. He intends on going to graduate school or medical school in a year’s time.
Jeremy D. Brown is a doctoral candidate in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan. He is a Rackham Merit Fellow and a NSF Graduate Research Fellow. Jeremy attended Morehouse College and the University of Michigan as a participant of the Atlanta University Center's Dual Degree in Engineering Program. He graduated from both institutions with a B.S. in Applied Physics (Morehouse) and Mechanical Engineering (UM) in 2008. He participated in research abroad at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai China and at the University of Michigan partially funded by the MI-LSAMP.

Victoria A. Washington is a senior in Chemistry at the University of Michigan. She participated in the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program in high school. As an undergraduate, Victoria participated in research funded by the MI-LSAMP and has had an article published in the Molecular Physics Journal. She served on two panels during the 2011 Undergraduate Research Symposium. She shared her experience working in a lab and discussed the journey to being an author on a published paper.

Virgil D. Humes is a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy. He is the Repair Division Officer (Engineering Department) on the USS Stethem in Yokosuka, Japan. Virgil attended Morehouse College and the University of Michigan as a participant in the Atlanta University Center's Dual Degree Engineering Program. He graduated from both institutions with a B.S. in General Science (Morehouse) and Chemical Engineering (UM) in 2010. As an undergraduate Virgil participated in research at the University of Michigan in the Thompson Research Group. Dr. Levi Thompson is the Richard E Balzhiser Collegiate Professor of Chemical Engineering and the MI-LSAMP Co-PI.

Melissa Seaton received her B.S. in Program in the Environment from the University of Michigan in 2010. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Science program at the Harvard School of Public Health studying Environmental Health with a specialization in Occupational Hygiene and Hazardous Substances. She is fully funded by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health as a part of the Education Research Center. She completed an internship at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico and in January spent 3 weeks in Limassol, Cyprus studying Environmental Genetics. As an undergraduate she participated in research funded by the MI-LSAMP.

Stephen Richardson received his B.S.E. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 2010. Stephen participated in research funded by the MI-LSAMP. The experience he gained not only allowed him to connect theory to practical application but it also taught him how to work independently and to effectively communicate his findings to several types of audiences. Stephen works for a control's engineering firm in Auburn Hills, Michigan and is currently stationed at the General Motors Car Assembly plant in Canada.

Elizabeth A Caliman is a senior in Cellular Molecular Biology at the University of Michigan. Along with participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Academy at Michigan State University, she presented her research at a poster session at the Research on the Hill event. In 2010 she received the University of Michigan Health Systems Distinguished Volunteer Student Award. Elizabeth received the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan’s LEAD Scholarship and James and Hazel Lee Hughes Scholarship.
Jayar (Harold) Smith is a senior in Civil & Environmental Engineering at the University of Michigan. Jayar attended Morehouse College and is a participant in the Atlanta University Center's Dual Degree in Engineering Program. The MI-LSAMP funded his research. He also interned with Hensel Phelps Construction in California for two summers (2010 and 2011). Jayar is a Scholar Power Rising Student Honoree. He is also the recipient of the Julius F. Bartus Endowed Memorial Scholarship.

Edgar Watson, II is a senior in Computer Science Engineering at the University of Michigan. Participating in research funded by the MI-LSAMP provided the opportunity for Edgar to gain experience in his field of study. During the 2011 summer Edgar worked as a programmer in the Office of University Development at the University of Michigan.

Chinazo Obiejesi is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan. She was on the Dean’s list in 2007 and 2010. Chinazo participated in MI-LSAMP funded research in the combustion laboratory. This experience helped her understand the importance of biogas as a great alternative to natural gas and crude petroleum.

Aisha Harris is a senior in Chemical Engineering at the University of Michigan. Aisha is a recipient of the Scholar Power Award and in 2010 was the Vice President of the National Society of Black Engineers at the University of Michigan. Aisha participated in the Professionals in Training Summer Program at the University of Michigan and the Summer Undergraduate Research Academy at Michigan State University. Aisha has been initiated into the Epeians Leadership Honor Society in the College of Engineering.

Michael Foster is from Detroit, Michigan and currently attends Western Michigan University (WMU). He expects to graduate in the year 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology (MFT). He chose to pursue MFT because he enjoys using his head and hands to fix materials, and is interested in metal casting, plastic processing, robotics, and product design. After graduating, Michael plans to work with manufacturing operations for General Motors or Daimler Chrysler. He attended the LSAMP program in the summer of 2010. LSAMP significantly prepared him for college courses, jobs, and research; and aided him with finding lifelong friends and familiarize himself with the WMU campus. When he started his freshman year, he was entirely adjusted to WMU while other freshmen were having a difficult time.

Adeel Khan graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Western Michigan University in 2011. In 2009 he conducted research at Michigan State University in the Electrical and Biological Nanostructures Laboratory as part of the Summer Undergraduate Research Academy (SURA). He worked on developing a prosthetic for spinal cord injuries using electrospun polyamide carbon nanofibers. Adeel presented his research at the MI-LSAMP Undergraduate Research Symposium in January 2010, and the Mid-East Honors Association in 2011 where he received first place in the poster competition. In July 2011, Adeel began working for Kellogg's as an Assistant Food Technologist providing support in cereal process up-scaling.

Pastor Hurtado grew up in Mexico with ten sisters and one brother, where it was difficult to ever dream of going to college. Pastor and his family moved to Michigan when he was 10 years old, and he later became class valedictorian. He is the fifth oldest in his family and the first one to attend a University. At Western Michigan University he is studying Mechanical Engineering, and became part of LSAMP. LSAMP led me to a very good first year and to my first research experience through MSU SURA. Pastor plans to graduate in 2014 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, and pursue an MS in the same field. His career goal is to develop more energy efficient and safer vehicles that will be more environmental friendly.
Scarlet Davis is from Southfield, Michigan. She is a sophomore majoring in biochemistry at Western Michigan University because she enjoys chemistry, and hopes to someday help the world be a better place with her work. During summer 2011, Scarlet worked at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit Michigan. She worked in Dr. Majumdar’s lab researching colon cancer. Scarlet plans to graduate in 2014. LSAMP has helped her understand how important networking is and how it is a good idea to have an internship whenever possible.

Natasha Wadhwa is a senior at Western Michigan University seeking a BS in Biomedical Sciences along with a dual minor in Chemistry and Psychology to be completed in May 2012 after only three years. As a MI-LSAMP Research Scholar, she sought opportunities and funding as a freshman, and accepted an independent Chemistry research project. She presented her research at several conferences including an ACS National Meeting, and was also awarded 3rd place at the MI-LSAMP Research Symposium in January 2011. She has been involved in extracurricular and volunteer activities, and is an executive board member for the Health Professionals Society; and a student leader, resident assistant, and tutor for the LSAMP summer program in 2010 and 2011. Natasha plans to pursue a doctoral degree in Optometry.

John Pringle is now a senior at Western Michigan University studying Engineering Management after exploring several other STEM majors. He plans to graduate in the spring of 2013 with thoughts of graduate school. He decided he wanted a major in engineering after hearing and seeing what his father has done for work. John was in the July 2008 LSAMP summer program, and it definitely opened up his eyes to the engineering and professional world. LSAMP helped him tremendously in many areas from just getting to know the campus to networking and interview skills. This helped John to get an internship at a major city planning company (HNTB) in the summer of 2010.

Stephanie Brown is from Lake Orion, MI and is enrolled at Western Michigan University. She is pursuing a degree in Biomedical Sciences and plans to graduate in the spring of 2012 with her degree, and minors in Psychology and Chemistry. She may stay an extra year to pursue a major in General Business. The Biomedical Science degree is the first step towards her goal of dental school. She has participated in the Wayne State University SURA (Summer 2009), and presented her work at the January 2010 MI-LSAMP Research Symposium. Stephanie was a peer mentor for the July 2011 summer program. MI-LSAMP has helped her thus far because it has exposed her to many opportunities that are available being a part of MI-LSAMP, such as the yearly research symposium and information about going to graduate school.

Wade Briggs is an Imaging Sciences student with a passion for knowledge. Even though he has declared a major, he wants to learn about things outside of my major. Only in his second year, Wade has had the opportunity to network with many individuals in his field of study. With the great Imaging Sciences program offered at Western Michigan University, opportunities are presenting themselves in vast quantities. Being in the LSAMP summer program in July 2010 allowed him to make great friends that he still talks to today. His roommate, Michael Foster, was in the LSAMP program and they consider themselves to be brothers. Wade has a 3.30 GPA, and plans to raise that to a 3.80 by the end of the year.

Jeremy Williams is from the Detroit suburb of Farmington Hills, and is a sophomore in chemical engineering and minors in biology, chemistry, and mathematics at Western Michigan University. He is a peer mentor for engineering honors students, and secretary of the NSBE student chapter. He plans to apply his education toward research in biological or biomedical engineering, or nanotechnology fields. In summer 2011, I was an intern for General Motors and NASA on the Robonaut 2 humanoid robot project. Jeremy assisted senior engineers with prototypes for future spin-off technologies to be used in GM’s automotive assembly plants; and with plans for Robonaut 3 for future space exploration. He plans to graduate in May 2014 or 15 and attend graduate school at a later time. LSAMP helped him realize the possibilities and opportunities that are out there for undergraduates, especially minority students, where he can go out into the world and make a positive difference.

Demetri Edwards is from Chicago, IL, and is a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering at Western Michigan University. Pursuing this degree is vital to his future because he wants to design chemical plants and produce efficient products dealing with chemicals. Demetri plans to graduate in spring 2014 and go to graduate school to get a Master’s Degree. In summer 2011, he participated in an internship program with General Motors. The internship gave him real hands-on experience while working with engineers. LSAMP helped him by getting an early feel for college so he could start his semester knowing more than what most freshmen knew. Demetri ended his freshman year with a 3.83 GPA. The LSAMP program is outstanding and he is glad to be a part of a helpful group.
Estreberto Marin is a fourth-year student in Engineering Management at Western Michigan University. He has worked the last two years for a small company based in Chicago and now works from his dorm room as a sales engineer as he continues his degree. Estreberto is an avid auto enthusiast and hopes to use what he has learned to open his own business. Working with both the fields of engineering and management has taught him great respect for the business aspect of running a company, and the considerations that must be taken in designing a product before it is taken to market. LSAMP has done a great job in giving Estreberto opportunities to explore within different fields, and helped him to make a better decision as to where to direct his future.

Justen White is from the Detroit area, and graduated from Cass Technical High School. He is pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering with a minor in Automotive Systems at Western Michigan University. This field caught his attention because he loves cars and wants to be a part of the making of them. Justen wants to design the Infotainment systems to make driving a more relaxing and pleasant experience. He was part of the July 2010 LSAMP summer program and in summer 2011 worked for General Motors, which allowed him to get his foot in the door and meet many new people. LSAMP has helped him because it provides support. It makes college a bit easier and more fun, and helps take some of the stress off.

Herman Charles Washington is a second year student at Western Michigan University in pursuit of his Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently a part of the Lee Honors College and recently obtained the position of Engineering Peer Mentor, a job that entails an average of 15 hours a week tutoring and working closely with younger engineers still making the initial transition into the college setting. Aside from those two obligations, Herman is also a part of the Martin Luther King Academy, an organization to promote diversity on campus as well as the success of students. Herman participated in the LSAMP summer program in July 2010.

Chris Hodge is a student at Western Michigan University majoring in Computer Information Systems, and is originally from Detroit, MI. LSAMP benefited him in many ways. Chris has made lifelong friendships and it has learned about networking and broadening his horizons. He is a Specialist in the Army Reserve right now and when he graduates from college, he will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the active Army. Pursing his degree helps me to be better at his job in the Army and will in the long run make him a great leader. LSAMP helped him to become more open and able to talk to people. He loves this program and hopes to be affiliated with it for many years to come.

Kaylah Turner is a freshman enrolled at Western Michigan University, and participated in the LSAMP Program in July 2011 and it has helped her immensely. She plans to obtain a degree in Chemistry and then continue her education by going to graduate school. Kaylah also plans to do research during summer 2012 at either Wayne State University or Michigan State University through the LSAMP SURA program. LSAMP has helped her so far by connecting her to others with similar interest and by connecting her with opportunities to help further her knowledge on programs in graduate school. Kaylah’s plans to be a cosmetic chemist and t start her own cosmetic line.

Tyree Grasty is from Southfield, MI. His major at Western Michigan University is Engineering Management. He chose this because he wanted to learn skills that an engineer and a manager both have. He wants a degree that is very versatile so that he can work anywhere. After he finishes his bachelor’s degree, Tyree wants to start working on his master’s. He participated in the 2009 LSAMP summer program so that he could get a jump start of how college life is and visit companies that would hire people in his field. LSAMP has helped Tyree have a good relationship with some professors and have a good base of friends at college.

Shana Engram is a third-year student currently majoring in Speech Pathology with a minor in Elementary Education, after starting college as a paper engineering major. She plans to work in a school system assisting children with speech disorders. She participated in the 2009 LSAMP summer program at Western Michigan University. LSAMP helped her gain lifelong resources as well as lasting memories. It also allowed Shana to become immersed in a network of people who, like herself, want to be achievers. She plans to graduate in Spring 2013.

Brandon Perry is a third-year Electrical Engineering student at Western Michigan, and expects to graduate in the spring of 2014. He is from Clinton Township, MI but was originally raised in Detroit. He participated in the July 2009 LSAMP summer program, and has a passion for circuits and electronics that began very early in his upbringing, which made it easy when deciding his major. In Summer 2011 he received an internship with Consumers Energy, one of the largest utility companies in the state of Michigan, where he got his first taste of how the skills he gained in school translate to the work
After he graduates he hopes to continue his relationship with Consumers Energy and get as much experience as possible in his field as well as others.

**Ariel Hamilton** is from Detroit, MI and participated in the July 2009 LSAMP summer program at Western Michigan University, where she initially enrolled for Fall 2009. Ariel is currently enrolled at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and plans to transfer back to WMU for the Spring 2012 semester. She chose engineering as her general field of study because of its scientific principles of design and its ability to solve real life problems. LSAMP has prepared her for college but given her insight about potential careers, and has improved her networking and leadership skill. She has been an LSAMP mentor where she could share her personal experiences and build lifelong friendships. Ariel plans to graduate with a degree in Engineering Management, and work for Stryker and find a way to improve medical equipment.

**Danielle Lewis** is a senior at Western Michigan University, studying construction engineering. Although she did not attend an LSAMP summer program, she has participated in LSAMP events at WMU since freshman year. She has learned many things about herself and what it means to be a great student as well as role model. Danielle is currently President of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) student chapter at WMU. Being the president helps her develop a better understanding of what it means to be a leader in today’s society. Being an officer and a part of LSAMP has provided her with basic skills and an overall understanding when it comes to dealing with many individuals and their characteristics. Life is a learning experience and she is willing to continue to absorb all there is to learn.

**DeQuan Woods** is from Grand Blanc, Michigan. He first participated in LSAMP at Western Michigan University during the July 2009 summer program. He has regularly participated in LSAMP events since that time, and was a peer mentor for students enrolled in the July 2011 summer program. DeQuan is currently an Engineering Design Technology student. He chose this major because he enjoys drafting and designing products, dating back to his drafting class in high school. DeQuan plans on getting a Co-op or Internship with Stryker and hopes that will lead to a permanent position thereafter. He feels that LSAMP has greatly influenced his college experience for the better, and helped DeQuan get through some of the more difficult times here at Western.

**Robert Conley** - 5th Year Senior  
Mechanical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.2719  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2012  
Participant: 2007 Engineering and Science Summer Academy  

**Lauren Thomas**  
4th Year Junior  
Chemical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.0774  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013  

**Grace Jones**  
5th Year Junior  
Electrical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.0797  
Expected Graduation Date: December 2012  
Participant: 2010 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy

**Guilherme Dearaujo**  
4th Year Junior  
Chemical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.5933  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013  
Participant: 2009 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy

**Crystal Caddell**  
3rd Year Sophomore  
Electrical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.1555  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014  
Participant: 2009 Engineering and Science Summer Academy, 2010 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy  
Internships: General Motors (2011)
Ernest Jackson  
3rd Year Sophomore  
Chemical Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.5520  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014  
Participant: 2009 Engineering and Science Summer Academy, 2010 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy

George Williams  
3rd Year Junior  
Civil Engineering  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.3090  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013  
Participant: 2009 Engineering and Science Summer Academy, 2010 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy  
Internships: Institute for Responsible Citizenship (2011)

Jazmine Gaymon  
3rd Year Sophomore  
Computer Science  
Michigan State University (MI-LSAMP)  
GPA: 3.3444  
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014  
Participant: 2009 Engineering and Science Summer Academy, 2010 Summer Undergraduate Research Academy  
Internships: Cummins (2011)

Tiberius Omar Fields is a Wayne State University, Mechanical Engineering student. He has received the Arthur Carr Scholarship and Consumers Energy 2010 Diversity Scholarship. He realized that STEM was for him in elementary school when he began grasping scientific concepts at an exceptionally accelerated rate. As a result, he participated in DAPCEP (Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program) for multiple years which challenge him and introduced him to fundamental engineering and problem solving techniques. He is currently a Full time Undergraduate student, Student Assistant- Housing Resident Advisor, Part time high school Science Tutor with TRIO Upward Bound Program.

Caleb B, Latimer, a Wayne State University sophomore. He is pursuing Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He is enrolled fulltime with 14 credit hours at Wayne State University and part time employed at two locations. He is an MI-LSAMP Scholar, Darrius G. Jackson Scholarship and Tanji Wiarbe Scholarship recipient. He realized Engineering was for him in Career Tech School, during his junior year of high school. This past summer he participated in the MI-LSAMP Summer Undergraduate Research Academy.

Winston Spencer is a senior undergraduate student at Wayne State University pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He has earned several semesters on the College of Engineering’s Dean List, Robert T. Marshal Scholarship, Michigan Competitive Scholarship and the Math Corps Presidential Scholarship. He found out engineering was for him during his senior year of high school being heavily involved in his school’s F.I.R.S.T robotics team. He has been an Undergraduate Research Assistant in an Electrical Engineering SSIM lab, Undergraduate Research Assistant in an Optical Diesel Engine Lab, Engineering intern for American Axle and Manufacturing, and Engineering Apprentice at Denso International.

Margaret Thornton, as a Chemical Engineering student at Wayne State University, Margaret worked in the Tissue Engineering and Biomaterials laboratory and presented at two highly recognized conferences. In addition, she participated with the MI-LSAMP Research Program. It was in this Tissue Engineering and Biomaterials laboratory that she discovered how much she enjoyed this type of work and wanted to pursue it further. Currently, Margaret is working on her masters in biomedical engineering. After finishing her masters, she plans to pursue her PhD in biomedical engineering.

Jullian Kelley-McBride is currently a junior at Wayne State University. He is studying Computer Science. He realized that STEM was his passion in high school, after the completion of a vocational course in Information Technology (IT). In 2007, he interned in the IT department of the former Comerica Bank World Headquarters. He currently works in the WSU College of Nursing IT Department. This past summer, he participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Academy, in WSU’s Computer Science Department where he worked with Dr. Robert Reynolds and his graduate students in the Artificial intelligence lab, On the Alpena-Amberley land bridge.
Jerrell Mitchell is a junior at Wayne State University pursuing Bachelor of Science in Industrial & Systems Engineering. He has received several awards such as MI-LSAMP Scholar, CAE Scholar, and Emerging Scholar Program Scholar. He realized his interest in STEM fields while in high school. He took a variety of engineering courses that exposed him to modern software such as "AutoCAD" and "Inventor Pro" as well as manual drafting. Those courses not only gave him a true hunger and interest in STEM fields but also gave him a solid foundation that is still utilized in current courses. He recently returned from a study abroad program that allowed me to explore South Africa.

JerMel Stephens currently attends Wayne State University to study Chemical Engineering with a focus in Nanotechnology and Molecular Engineering. He has interned at DTE Energy for two and a half rotations, as well as GM this past summer. He is also scheduled to complete another rotation with GM next summer. As part of the MI-LSAMP program, he participated in undergraduate research at Wayne State in the Chemistry and Engineering department. He has also received additional funding from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium to continue his research. His goal is to start his career in the area of pharmaceutical while furthering his educational career in graduate school.

Malik Ware, a Senior Mechanical engineering student of Wayne State University. As a Dean’s list and honor roll student, he is pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in mathematics. He has been awarded the Urban Scholar leader scholarship, Osakwe Jahi award, and Math Corps scholarship. He has been a part of MI-LSAMP since the fall of 2007. Since, he has had the opportunity to participate in machining and tool wear research at Michigan State University. Also, he is working for the Math department as an undergraduate assistant.
**New Jersey**

**Garden State –LSAMP**

**Rutgers University- Newark Lead Institution**

Bloomfield College *  Essex County Community College *  Fairleigh Dickinson University *  Kean University *  Montclair State University *  New Jersey City University *  Rutgers University *

William Patterson University of New Jersey

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**Maribel Granja** is a Biology major in her junior year at Rutgers University Newark. She is a very diligent intellectual who always sets and accomplishes high goals. She was recently selected to participate in the SMART Program hosted by the University of Colorado. It was a ten week program where she worked alongside with a mentor conducting research in Integrative Physiology and Genetics. Due to her high academic accomplishments she was awarded the Dean Inge Gambe Memorial Award.

**Wagner Alcivar** is a dedicated and persistent student currently enrolled at Rutgers-Newark. He is pursuing a B.A. in Biology. This past summer Wagner spent his summer in Maine conducting field research in the peatlands with faculty from Rutgers University, The University of Maine, and Florida Atlantic University.

**Cindy Colon** - Awards and scholarships have followed her: the H.P Woodward Earth & Environmental Sciences Award, ConocoPhillips Scholarship (2011), GSA Exxon Mobile Bighorn Basin Field Award, Texaco Scholar Award (2010). The list goes on, a total of 11 since freshman year at Rutgers-Newark, culminating with the Marathon GeoDE Graduate Research Assistantship, which will fund her doctoral work in geology at Louisiana State University starting this fall. Her research data, along with that of her colleagues, was published in the Feb. 4, 2011, issue of the journal *Science*.

**Narihan Osman** is currently a junior at Rutgers Newark who wishes to pursue a career in a science oriented research field. She participated in a research grant funded through the GS-LSAMP grant at Rutgers University Newark during the summer of 2011. Through this research experience Narihan’s interpersonal communication skills and her ability to think critically flourished. LSAMP results in which becoming well involved with both her school and community.

**Jordan Muse** - By being an GS-LSAMP scholar, my experience was impacted the most because I realized there were programs available that were here to help with my struggles and when I had questions, answers were found. Having the LSAMP support made my last year at Rutgers much easier. I also enjoyed meeting other students.

**Jonathan Roldan** - Being an LSAMP scholar has opened up so many doors for me even early after my freshmen year. I was fortunate enough to land an internship in the Division of Microbiology, at the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, of the Food and Drug Administration in College Park, Maryland this summer. I conducted scientific research during the summer following my freshman year, during an internship at the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine with Dr. Wise Young. During this same summer, I also began to conduct research in the W.M. Keck Center, a neuroscience laboratory for spinal cord injury.
Walter Fortson Being a part of the LSAMP community here at Rutgers has truly been to my benefit in countless ways. LSAMP has afforded me the opportunities to establish relationships with faculty and administrators introduced me to other LSAMP scholars in the same discipline which helped me focus on academia and extra-curricular activities.

Kareem Holligan Being an LSAMP scholar has impacted my Rutgers experience tremendously; it has allowed me to further my research and given me ample motivation that I can succeed in all my endeavors. Being able to meet with like minded students who face the same hardships as me and hearing the success over certain obstacles is very inspiring. It has allowed me to build a Rutgers network within the LSAMP community that I believe gives me an excellent support system, to help me rams and opportunities.

Arlette Santana obtained a bachelors degree in Environmental Science from Rutgers University Newark in May of 2011. Arlette is conducting research with the Department of Ecology at Rutgers University.

Darnelle Blackman graduated with a degree in Biology in May 2011, Bloomfield College, GS-LSAMP. Darnelle is from Trinidad. He states: “LSAMP gave me the opportunity to continue doing research in the biology laboratory. This program had faculty and staff who provided me with a sense of security. Their doors were open and they were willing to help me through any situation. After graduation, I received a book gift card that helped me buy my GRE supplies, thus bringing me closer to my dream of graduating. From my experience, I would advise any student to join LSAMP and I would definitely say it was a stepping stone to my career.”

Jenny Katherine is a graduated with a degree in Biology in May 2011 Bloomfield College GS-LSAMP.. Jenny thinks LSAMP has actually done a lot for her in such a short period of time. It has given her a chance to see and fully appreciate my major more than I could have imagined. Working in the laboratory and being part of a research project helped her see my true potential and also helped me build my leadership skills. LSAMP provided a great support system. She has started my graduate studies at NJIT in Biomedical Engineering.

Taslima Ishmael, graduate of Bloomfield College, GS-LSAMP is a first year graduate fellow at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, pursuing research in cancer biology, where she was awarded a full fellowship. She recently started classes and has been enjoying them so far. She states: “LSAMP has been of great informational worth to me, since it has options that are available to STEM majors.”

Fabienne Satunre graduated in December 2011, Bloomfield College, GS-LSAMP. She was one of the earliest members of LSAMP. She states: “Being part of LSAMP connects me with LSAMP scholars, faculty, and administrators from other colleges. As an LSAMP Scholar, I was provided help from faculty who assisted me and guided me towards the right path. LSAMP also gave me the opportunity to participate in a research project.”

Babasola Ojutalayo originally thought that nursing was for him. However, he soon changed his mind and decided to pursue chemistry/biochemistry concentration at Bloomfield College. He was accepted into the GS-LSAMP Program in his junior year. He states: “I really enjoyed being in the LSAMP program. Shola graduated in May 2011 and is thinking of pursuing graduate studies in engineering.

Andres F. Salazar graduated Magna Cum Laude from William Paterson University of New Jersey GS-LSAMP with a B.S. in Mathematics and a minor in Computer science in May 2011. As a GS-LSAMP scholar he served as an intern for the Biology Department assisting with the production of media that complemented the work done in the anatomy and physiology lab courses. He also served as a tutor for introductory and remedial mathematics and computer science courses for the Science Enrichment Center. He was recently accepted as a M.S. in Scientific Computing, a M.S. program in Mathematics and Computer Science, New York University for the fall of 2011.

Oscar Patterson, Montclair State University, GS-LSAMP, began his undergraduate program at MSU in the fall of 2009 and graduated with a B.S. degree in Physics in January of 2011. While at MSU, Oscar served as a mentor for the program and he program, completing program in physics in the spring of 2011.
Michelle Hernandez, MSU GS-LSAMP, started as an undergraduate student at MSU in the fall of 2006 and graduated with a degree in Biology in the spring of 2009. Michelle was admitted to the NYU graduate program PHD in Environmental Science.

Emanuel Sunga is an ECC LSAMP scholar who has participated in two research programs offered by GS-LSAMP: 2010 summer program organized by Department the Earth and Environmental Sciences faculty of Essex County College. at Rutgers-Newark, and 2011 program conducted at Stevens Institute of Technology in collaboration with Essex County College. On October 26, 2010 Immanuel Sunga presented his project at the LSAMP seminar for students.

Irma Luque Lopez is an ECC student, LSAMP scholar, majoring in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics. After graduating with AS degree from Essex County College Irma plans to transfer to a four year college or university where she will continue his education towards B.S. and then M.S. degree in engineering. Her goal is to be able to build a robot which will have the capacity of cleaning like a human being. In 2011 Irma participated in the summer program offered by GS-LSAMP in collaboration with Stevens Institute of Technology. She was working with an electric circuits simulation software.

Karam Elmaqrout is an ECC GS-LSAMP student majoring in Engineering. After graduating with AS degree from Essex County College Karam plans to transfer to Rutgers University New Brunswick where he will continue his education towards B.S. and then Ph.D. degree in engineering. In 2011 Karam participated in the summer program offered by GS-LSAMP in collaboration with Stevens Institute of Technology. He was doing experiments in Robotics.

Milton Padron is an ECC student majoring in Civil Engineering. Milton has 4.0 GPA in all his math and science classes. He is a talented and hardworking student. After graduating with AS degree from Essex County College Milton plans to transfer to a four year college or university where he will continue his education towards B.S. and then Graduate degree in engineering.

Emanuel Sunga is an ECC LSAMP scholar who has participated in two research programs offered by GS-LSAMP: 2010 summer program organized by Department the Earth and Environmental Sciences faculty of Essex County College. at Rutgers-Newark, and 2011 program conducted at Stevens Institute of Technology in collaboration with Essex County College. On October 26, 2010 Immanuel Sunga presented his project at the LSAMP seminar for students.

Jaskaran Singh is an ECC student, GS-LSAMP scholar majoring in Electrical Engineering. After graduating with AS degree from Essex County College Jaskaran plans to transfer to NJIT where he will continue his education towards B.S. and then M.S. degree in engineering. In 2011 Jaskaran participated in the summer program offered by GS-LSAMP in collaboration with Stevens Institute of Technology. He was doing experiments in Robotics.

Asiel A. Benitez graduated Summa Cum Laude from William Paterson University of New Jersey with a B.S. in Biotechnology in May 2011. Asiel received the GS-LSAMP Highest GPA award for Spring 2010 and Fall 2011 and the GS-LSAMP Summer 2010 Internship award for his research.

Christopher Flores is Mathematics major at Kean University. He recently completed the first Phase of ALEKS training, a software program made available by Kean to LSAMP students to enhance their Math skills. He is also a Math Tutor at Kean University and is a member of the McNair Program. He did Calculus based research this summer and is continuing it in the Fall of 2011 with the hope that his work is published. Christopher aspires to attend graduate School once he obtains his Bachelor's degree.

Fred Clark is a junior majoring in Electrical Engineering at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He was Scholar of the Week in Great Minds in STEM, an Honors student, and was the recipient of an REU and a scholarship.
Clara Gabra is junior majoring in Biology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is an Honors student and is the Vice President of student executive board of LSAMP at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Taofeek Ibrahim is a Science major and senior at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is in the EOF Honors Society. During the summer of 2011 he was responsible for recruiting many EOF students into the LSAMP program during his role as an EOF counselor.

Sandra Onukwugha is a senior majoring in Biology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is on the Dean’s list, an Honors student, a member of several honors societies and was the recipient of scholarships and awards.

Stephaney Sanders is a sophomore majoring in Marine Biology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is a Global Scholar and has had the opportunity to meet several ambassadors.

Jaquan Moye just started his first year at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He completed the EOF summer program with a 4.0 GPA and was recruited into the LSAMP program by Taofeek Ibrahim.

Lauren Dobbs is a Mathematics major at Kean University. This year Lauren was one of Kean’s LSAMP students who were selected to attend the LSAMP Conference in Washington DC. She is a senior class representative for the Students Organization and has been an educational facilitator and mentor for the Upward Bound program. Lauren was a member of the Kean field hockey team for four years and the track and field team for three years.

Gerardo Nunez was the recipient of the Metropolitan Campus Student Pinnacle Award at Fairleigh Dickinson University and addressed the 2010 graduating class at commencement. He was accepted into the Ph.D. programs of the University of Florida, Cornell University, and Ohio State University to study Horticulture.

Florencia Tolentino is a 2011 magna cum laude graduate with a BA in Mathematical Sciences from Kean University. Florencia is now enrolled at Rutgers University where she is pursuing a MS in Statistics/Biostatistics degree. Her ultimate goal is to graduate with a PhD in the same area.

Carlos Suero is Biology major at Kean University. He is currently enrolled in Kean’s Study Abroad Program for the 2011 Fall Semester. Carlos is in China where he is mastering the Chinese language. This year Carlos was one of Kean’s LSAMP students who were selected to attend the LSAMP Conference in Washington DC.

David - Erick LaFontant graduated cum laude from Kean University with a BA in Mathematical Sciences in May 2011. David has been an LSAMP scholar since the program initiation at Kean in 2009 and was also a member of the McNair Program. He is pursuing a MS degree in Biostatistics at the University of Iowa and his goal is to obtain a doctoral degree. He has the following publication to his name: Lafontant, D. E., Woubneh, W., and Toney, J. H. (2011) Analysis and Efficiency of the New Solar Cookers Versus the Cookit Panel Designs-An Application of Science in Human Rights, Journal for Young Investigators (JYI).
ShaRon Pierre - As a PhD. student of Biology, I researched the relationship between neuroinflammation and the onset of Parkinson’s disease. I have had the opportunity to visit other institutions in order to learn techniques and/or procedures necessary to substantiate my research topic. Studying in New York gave me access to a vast network of institutions that could assist me in my work. Nevertheless, as a research student, we are not limited to the local resources of study. Studying in New York gave me access to a vast network of institutions that could assist me in my work.

Nancy Medina - To be a good teacher, one must also be a good student. Nancy Medina is not only the Coordinator of the Bridge to Teaching program, she is also a student in the program. This duality, as program planner as well as participant, has allowed Ms. Medina to gain intimate knowledge and to share in the experiences of the students she recruits and incorporates in the Bridge to Teaching. Moreover, Ms. Medina is a doctoral student in Chemistry at the Graduate Center of CUNY.

Olusegun Goyea - A good mentor can help students avoid turbulence during their academic careers, however in the case of Bridge to the Doctorate scholar Olusegun Goyea, his mentor is bringing him face-to-face with turbulence. Working with Dr. Charles B. Watkins has allowed him exposure to researching the interactions of shock-expansion waves with vortices in turbulent airflows.

Adriana Vela - Understanding the mechanisms that drive chemical and physiological reactions in living organisms is essential to research and is one of the reasons Adriana Vela, a Bridge to the Doctorate Scholar, has decided to pursue Chemistry. Adriana received her B.S. degree in Chemistry and a minor in Mathematics from the Honors Program at the College of Staten Island (CSI) in 2005. Currently, she is pursuing her Master’s degree in Chemistry at Brooklyn College. An avid researcher since 2003, she has participated in several research projects one of which was centered on the biopatterning of nanoparticles. Her current research project involving proteins and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) is performed under the guidance of Dr. Ruth E. Stark, Professor of Chemistry at CSI. This research group is comprised of both graduate and undergraduate students majoring in Chemistry and Biology.

Frantz Voltaire, a Mathematical Education graduate student and Bridge to Teaching scholar at Brooklyn College, has made solving problems his forte. “In fact, it was my math professor, Dr. Umesh Nagarkatte of Medgar Evers College, who helped me to discover my passion for solving problems as an undergraduate,” he stated. “I considered my teachers as heroes, since they were instrumental in the success of so many people, and I realized I would like to make that kind of difference in the lives of others.

Jose Perez - To some, science is complicated, abstract and often meaningless jargon unless there is some understandable benefit or tangible “real-world” application. Jose Perez, a Bridge to the Doctorate researcher, knows this reality all too well. He is researching linear programming with Professor Akira Kagawuchi, an expert in database and transaction processing systems, at City College.
Carlos Silver Batista - In any academic discipline, especially in the fields related to science and mathematics working in a collaborative collective helps to divide the labor and to assist in the generation and interpretation of ideas. No one knows this better than Carlos Silvera Batista, who is a budding engineer and Bridge to the Doctorate scholar at the City College of New York, working in the Kretzschmar Group.

Oluwatosin Ogunwuyi - Most students develop their affinities for learning and academia when they are very young because many things pique their curiosity at an early age, Oluwatosin Ogunwuyi is one such student. While most young girls her age were playing with dolls, she was rapt in learning how to fiddle with the electronic devices in her household. Although her current research in satellite remote sensing is more complex, her intrinsic affinity for electrical devices began very simply as a child.

Robin Walker - “The Bridge to the Doctorate is not a master’s degree program.” In effect, this means the primary objective is to quickly make each Bridge student viably competitive to matriculate into a doctoral program, which will afford more students the opportunity to participate in the Bridge to the Doctorate program. An auxiliary effect of the program may be attaining a master’s degree in a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) discipline.

Lori Collins - Computers support, sustain, and perform myriad applications, so there is an increasing demand for faster, more powerful, and cost-effective computing technology that can handle all of these functions. Clusters of Workstations (acronymed as COW) are rapidly becoming more prevalent because they are a less expensive, more practical alternatives to supercomputers and multiprocessor systems. Moreover, cluster computers are being utilized in many areas from “weather research to genome research.” Lori Collins is a Bridge to the Doctorate scholar who is researching this new wave of high-speed, high-performance computing technology.

Natalie Dastas - is a second year M.A. student at Brooklyn College (CUNY) pursuing a graduate degree in Geology. She has been a Bridge to Doctorate program participant since January 2010. Natalie concluded her undergraduate studies at Brooklyn College in the fall of 2009; completing a B.S. in Geology and a B.A. in Earth Science Education. Natalie plans on continuing her study of geology on the Doctoral level and become actively involved in research.

Adina Boyce - is a second year Transportation Engineering graduate student pursuing a PhD at the University of California Davis. Since becoming a LSAMP scholar in 2005 and a Bridge to Doctorate Fellow in 2008, her research has continuously focused on sustainable methods in Transportation.

Renford Alexander - Growing up hooked on the discovery channel, I’ve always had an interest in the sciences. I graduated high school at the top of my class in 2008, and from there pursued a Bachelor’s degree in Biology. Currently, I am participating in research under the mentorship of Dr. Phillip Ording. Dr. Ording and I, along with my colleagues, are exploring the realms of knot theory.

Dinely Colon - All the years that I have worked in a dental office as a dental assistant provided me with the experience as well as elicited a great interest in the medical sciences so that I can move with confidence in the Biomedical Engineering area. Thanks to this experience, I have learned how valuable it is to work as part of a team. In addition, I have worked with the Seek Department at CCNY as a tutor, helping engineering students improve their writing and communication skills.

Marvin Bennett - was born in Jamaica and immigrated to the United States in June 2008. In Jamaica he attended Ardenne High School where he attained certification in eight subject areas in the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations. Marvin would like to work in the field of regenerative biology, doing research on ways to grow new limbs or to re-grow lost ones in humans.

Valencia Brooks - Everyone’s background tells a different story about why they have chosen a certain field of study. My decision to pursue biomedical research and training is based on my background but also those who have influenced me throughout my lifetime. The reason for my decision to pursue biomedical research is to learn more about the background knowledge that goes into researching in a lab for various ailments.
Osmedy Gonzalez - Ever since I started school I became fascinated with the world of Mathematics. Throughout my first years of school I participated in Math contests driven by the curiosity of knowing much more than only what I was being taught in class. I am looking forward to finish my degree and find a job that will allow me to apply the knowledge that I am gaining but also to be useful to my community and society in general.

Christian Paylor-Smith - As an undergraduate at Brooklyn College in Spring 2008, I was introduced to LSAMP and began my work in a biology laboratory for the first time of my life. Working with Professor Jennifer Basil, my research mentor has been a tremendous experience for me. We have worked on long-term memory consolidated in the brain of a crayfish by performing various kinds of eye-cooling treatments.

Joseph Inigo - began his years and education in the Philippines. He then settled in New York in 1997, and eventually joined the College of Staten Island in 2008. Soon after, he discovered and became a member of Dr. Banerjee’s neuroscience laboratory. Within approximately two years of doing so, he learned to perform mouse brain dissection, isolate sections of prefrontal cortex and hippocampus, and perform recording of electrical activity from these tissue slices.

Demba Sene – is an engineering science major at the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC). When I started my major I discovered the research opportunity for engineering students. In summer 2010, I started research in the Engineering Title V program. My first research title is “Study of Fluorescence Spectroscopy”, developed with my mentor Prof. Ozgur Ecevit of the science department.

Cherie Fletcher - Presently, I am a STEM major at Bronx Community College and a member of Tau Alpha Pi and CSTEP. I am a Chemistry major and currently in my sophomore year and plan on graduating spring 2012. My plans going forward are to apply to a Chemical Engineering or Biochemistry program at a four-year school. After this I would like to obtain my PhD doing research in Nanotechnology and Biochemistry.

Herman Salazar - was born in Brooklyn, New York and initially began to take interest in Science and Mathematics in elementary school where he constructed an electromagnet with a battery, wire and nail. For middle school I attended New Voices Middle School in Brooklyn. With a degree in mathematics, I wish to do research focused on the everyday interactions of human beings.

Joseph Kim – is currently enrolled in the New York City College of Technology. This college is a City University of New York or CUNY for short. I am almost done with my associate degree in Electromechanical Engineering Technology, but I’m definitely going to further my education and go for my baccalaureate in Computer Engineering Technology, then, move on to a masters. Summer 2011 was my first semester in LSAMP and I found this program very educational.

Alberto Munoz - was born in Brooklyn, New York to proud Mexican Immigrants. Alberto entered college as a prospective English Education (7-12) Major, unbeknownst to him on which scholarly path he would embark. He loves to learn and challenge himself. Because he felt the need to officially declare a major, he eventually chose a B.S. in Chemistry. His main goal is to enter a PhD program.

Naomi Ramesar - Growing up, I have always had an interest in science. Science enables us to question the world in which we live and allows us to obtain the answers to those questions. Over the years, I have come to realized that by doing research, whether it is biomedical, biological or mathematical, it allows one individual or a team of researchers to help a vast number of people. Being a Chemistry major at Hunter has allowed me to take a vast number of Science and Mathematics courses that I feel have prepared me to confidently work in a lab setting.

Diniece Peters - I’d like to describe myself as a diligent and humble individual with a combined passion for math and a fondness for fixing broken things. I was exposed to different types of research through the LSAMP Program. I began research in Structural Engineering programming in Matlab that focused on modeling behaviors of structures. Consequently, I improved my programming skills, which proved to be very useful.
Travis Elder - For the past 2 ½ years, I have been interested in getting an internship with a software company so I can have that stepping stone needed to get a job in my field of study. I recently started on a research project for LSAMP on the Arduino Microcontroller. There are many different microcontrollers out there and I’m working closely with a professor to fully understand the knowledge behind it.

Barbara Rizzo - I am currently a senior enrolled in the Honors Program. My educational background consists of undergraduate science classes spanning a range of topics, including molecular and cell biology, ecology & evolution, human anatomy and physiology and earth and atmospheric science. I have also elected to take a Sophie Davis public health course that focuses on research methods involved in primary care at the larger, community level.

Carmen Carrion - My college education started in Brooklyn College in 2002. During my senior year I made the decision to attend graduate school. My first research projects were in social psychology. I learned a great deal while working with my mentor and I came to the realization that a research career can be extremely rewarding. Upon completion of this study and my Master’s degree I would like to enroll in the Queens College Neuropsychology program and continue working with my current advisor.

Julianne Vernon - grew up in Bronx, New York. Her family originates from the Central American country of Belize. She was the first out of my family to attend and graduate from college. She graduated from City College with a bachelor degree in Chemical Engineering. After graduation, she was hired by the NYC Department of Environmental Protection where she worked as a Process Engineer in the Bureau of Wastewater. She is currently a PhD candidate and plans to pursue a career in academia.

Miguel Lopez - came to the U.S. from the Dominican Republic of America at nineteen years old. Miguel received a URECA 09 summer fellowship award and was named the “Researcher of the Month” for October 2009. After graduating from SBU, he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and ultimately his goal is to become a professor.

Amarachukwu Enemuo - was born in Nigeria and migrated to the United States shortly after graduating high school. She enrolled at the City College of New York (CCNY) where she obtained a B.E. in computer engineering. During her undergraduate years she participated in various research projects in the fields of computer science, chemical and electrical engineering, at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden, CCNY and at other institutions.

Jonathan Blaize - is a doctoral candidate of the neuroscience program at the CUNY Graduate Center, his goal is to secure a tenure track position with an institution catering to the pursuit of pharmacological remedies for common physiological disorders. Jonathan also has a passion for science instruction; he wishes to maintain a healthy amount of contact hours teaching students who share his professional interests.

Silmilly Toribio - was born and raised in the Dominican Republic where she completed her secondary education. Silmilly moved to the United States at the age of 16 and started her undergraduate studies at Hostos Community College. She transferred to the City College of New York (CCNY) where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry and honors in Biochemistry Research.

Richard A. Able Jr. - is a dedicated and persistent individual who has proven, through his academic and community involvement, to be passionate about the advancement of science. A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. Able graduated with a BA in Biology from Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. His collegiate experience was both challenging and stimulating.

Amadou Diallo - was born in Guinea, West Africa and graduated from a technical high school in Mamou in 2002. After graduation, Amadou moved to the U.S. to pursue my studies in Engineering. After passing the TOEFL, he was accepted at Bronx Community College in spring 2007.
Benedette Adewale – is a second year Master’s student in Chemistry at City College of New York. Her interest in chemistry is deeply rooted in a love of science that is, reading scientific journals and participating in research work. She received a Bachelor of Science from the College of Staten Island, City University of New York (CUNY) 2009. As an undergraduate student, Benedette worked with Professor Michal Kruk, a faculty member at the College of Staten Island (CSI). Her main research project focused on studying the Synthesis and Characterization of large pore silica.

Francoise Sidime - During my undergraduate years I was fortunate to come across a new mentor, Dr. Raja who specialized in the fields of Polymer Chemistry and Nanotechnology. In order to receive extra training and be part of a research community, I joined the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) while working under the supervision of this mentor. Under his mentorship, I gained experience in the laboratory, presented at numerous conferences, won several awards and published a paper in the Tetrahedron Journals.

Lina Cordero - was born and raised in Ecuador, South America. Before finishing her third year of college towards a computer engineering degree, Lina decided to move to the United States to continue her studies. To be enrolled and obtain a degree at LaGuardia Community College in the computer science program was her initial step to accomplish career goals. Later, Lina transferred to The City College of New York where she obtained a Bachelor’s degree.

Charlie Corredor - was born in Riverside, California. He then migrated to South America with his family and completed his elementary and high school education. After completing high school in 2003, Charlie decided to return to America in search of an improved quality of life. He knew the only way to attain his dreams would be by obtaining a higher education, and he later enrolled at The City College of New York (CCNY) within the City University of New York.

Wainwright Joseph - was born and lived most of his life in Georgetown Guyana. In 2000, he migrated to New York City with his seven siblings. Wainwright’s parents strongly encouraged them to go to school, so he entered college in 2001. He originally planned on majoring in physics or electrical engineering; however, during an elective course on introduction to proofs Wainwright decided that he was most interested in mathematics and switched majors. His studies and interest in mathematics have led him to do volunteer work with high school students in New York City.

Abdelhamid Jnane - My education in the United States began at The City College of New York, where I received a bachelor of science in biomedical engineering, graduating at the top of my class. In 2009, I started my master degree in biomedical engineering with a research thesis to investigate apoptosis pathways for anti-drug cancer therapies. During my college studies, I am proud to have kept pace with both my regular course schedules as well as participate in extra academic activities.

Eric Rios-Doria - I am an undergraduate at CUNY-College of Staten Island. I am currently a senior about to receive my B.S. degree in Chemistry with a minor in Mathematics and Biology. Throughout my undergraduate career I have always taken advanced science courses to expand my scientific thinking. Performing chemistry research for 2 years has developed critical skills necessary for a scientist. I have also been involved with campus activities by being affiliated with the Pre-medical society and Mathematics Club. Additionally, I am the president of the American Chemical Society Student Chapter, which I have been working on for over a year.

Ronald Fikes - Originally from Ohio, I moved to New York City to pursue a career in the fashion industry. After 10 years working for companies such as Gucci, Robert Clagerie and Gianni Versace, I decided to become involved in issues faced by people living with HIV/AIDS. While working as a caseworker I made the decision to continue my education and enrolled at City College of New York.

Jermaine Lawson - migrated from Jamaica, where the socioeconomic conditions provided a bleak future for high school graduates. Driven by the need to attain a better education, Jermaine applied to City University of New York (CUNY) in his senior year of high school in Jamaica. To his amazement, he was accepted by City College of New York. Jermaine was undecided about his future until he became a member of the Dominican Republic Project (DRP) directed by Dr. Ross Nehm. This project involved the study mollusk species biodiversity and life habits during the Pliocene era of the binding protein frequenin interaction with guanine nucleotide exchange factor ric-8a.
Alexandria Wise – is currently a 2nd year graduate student at The City College of New York in the lab of Tadmiri Venkatesh. In her undergraduate institution, Ohio Wesleyan University, she was a double major in Neuroscience and Psychology and double minor in Biology and Chemistry. Currently, Alexandria works on NMJ synaptogenesis in the Drosophila larvae. More specifically, she looks at the proteins involved in synapse structure and formation and novel regulatory role of A kinase anchor protein (AKAP) at the synapse in the Drosophila larva. AKAP functions as a membrane/organelle-associated anchor-protein for Protein Kinase A (PKA).

Viho Kpade Essenam - My goal is to pursue my graduate degree and doctorate degree in computer science at a reputable university. Prior to graduate school, I had industry experience with my career as software engineer from 2004 to 2008 where I realized the importance of graduate school. I attended Baruch College as an undergraduate where I was lucky to meet excellent professors who became my mentors and made me more determined and motivated to get involved in the academic and technological fields. I had a wonderful chance to come to America eight years ago from my motherland Togo, a small country in West Africa. My ambition is to bring all my energy and resources to make the most of this opportunity by pursuing a good education that can possibly help make a difference in my community.

Julie Dela Cruz - My schooling and first-hand experiences over the years have convinced me that neuropsychology is my intellectual home. I have been exposed to a universe of knowledge of how the brain is connected and what behaviors arise from it. With my qualifications, commitment, and hard work, I know that I can relay the experiences gained en route to a doctorate and a productive career as a researcher. I have laid the groundwork for success through a variety of experiences. On the research front, I assist Dr. Carr at NYU, where I play an active role in comparing free-feeding and food-restricted rats. I immerse myself in the challenges of designing successful research methods and have learned to improve experiments through successful fine-tuning.

Alicia Barclay’s - extensive science training began when she was a pre-engineering major in the Gateway to Higher Education Program at JFK High School in the Bronx (now known as the Gateway Academy for Science, Mathematics and Research). The curriculum was designed to provide low-income and disadvantaged students with an intensive academic program in a supportive learning environment. In high school, she majored in science and math with emphasis on natural and physical sciences, calculus, and disciplines of engineering. During that time, she was also a participant in the Architectural, Construction, and Engineering Mentoring Program, better known as ACE Mentor. As well, she attended the Manhattan College High School Summer Engineering Program and the New York School Construction Authority’s Summer Programs.

Miguel A. Garcia - grew up in a small farming town and when he was a sophomore in high school he moved to Clovis, Ca. With the guidance of his advisor, he applied to and was accepted to California State University Fresno, which he currently attends. Miguel is majoring in Biology with an emphasis in Anatomy and Physiology and has already obtained a minor in Chemistry. While attending CSUF he joined the Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society, which through his participation, learned what higher education meant and has made the decision to start working towards an advanced degree.

Henry H. Ruiz - Growing up in Colombia, I dreamed of becoming a scientist and to contribute to the understanding of human nature. On a February afternoon in 1999 my family relocated to the United States of America and my dream gained momentum. In the fall of 2004, I was the first member of my family to pursue higher education. In 2008 I graduated from the honors Neuroscience program at Queens College of the City University of New York with double majors in Neuroscience and Psychology along with double minors in Biology and Philosophy.

Samsiya Ona - My name is Samsiya Ona and I am currently a Lehman College junior working on a major in Biology. I was born at Sokode in Togo, West Africa, and hence have French as my first language. I attended a Public School at Sokode until the age of nine when my family moved to Lome. It was there I completed my primary school, middle school and eventually high school and obtained my high school diploma in 2005. I am from a family of five, three girls and two boys. I am currently the first and only member of my family attending college.
Akil Hutchinson - I was born and raised in St. Elizabeth Jamaica, West Indies and was educated at Munro College – an all boy high school located in the parish of St. Elizabeth—where I achieved my high school diploma. I graduated in 2005 with 8 CSECs—Caribbean Secondary Examination Certificates from the Caribbean Examinations Council. I proceeded to the CAPE—Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations (CAPE)—level in 2006 to achieve my associate degree. I began college in 2008 at the City University of New York: Brooklyn College where I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology. I am currently a junior participating in various programs such as Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), Business Opportunities in Science Careers (BOSC), and the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP).

Sandra Ospina - was born in Medellin, Colombia. She received an undergraduate education at Brooklyn College. Originally Sandra wanted to become a doctor, but after much research and tutoring classmates, she realized that she wanted to become a scientist and a teacher. While at Brooklyn College, she has worked under the tutelage of Dr. Charlene Forest.

Justina Chinwong - As a child growing up, my family always stressed the importance of having an education. With their support, I came to love learning, especially in the sciences. During my high school and college years, the study of proteins and how they are related to many diseases fascinated me. This was the main reason I joined Dr. Ruel Z. B. Desamero’s research laboratory as a college undergraduate in Fall 2005. In this laboratory we published works on the characterization of src kinase bivalent inhibitors using a spectroscopic approach. After graduating from college, I plan to continue research in consequence of π-stacking or role of the side chain of phenylalanine by using spectroscopy.
Christina Abate is starting her senior year at Binghamton University (BU), majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Sustainable Engineering. She participated in the 2011 LSAMP Summer Research Program, conducting research and implementing a water distribution system in Rio Hondo, Honduras under the direction of Drs. Daryl Santos and Raymond Barnes. Christina is currently the Vice President of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers chapter at BU.

Crystal Blair is currently a senior majoring in Biology at Binghamton University. Crystal transferred to BU from Owasgo, State University of New York in Spring 2010. This past summer she participated in the BU LSAMP 2011 Summer Research Program, conducting research that focused on the expression patterns of NADPH oxidase subunits in NGF-treated PC12 cells. Upon completing her B.S., Crystal plans to pursue a Master’s and Ph.D. in Public Health so that she can continue research as well as apply her research outside of the lab to improve the lives of others in the greater community.

Marie Coralie Brutus graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering in 2011 with a GPA of 3.9/4.0. She joined LSAMP her sophomore year and participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) at Brookhaven National Laboratory for two consecutive summers. Her senior project and 2011 LSAMP summer research involved the design and construction of a water distribution system in Rio Hondo, a small community in rural Honduras. Coralie received the Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence in Spring 2011. She is currently pursing her M.S. in Industrial Engineering at Pennsylvania State University, with funding.

Dr. Susan Campbell graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Psychobiology in 1997. Dr. Campbell credits her experience as an undergraduate research assistant in determining her career path. She received her Ph.D. in Neurobiology from the University at Alabama (UAB) in 2005. Since 2010 Dr. Campbell has worked as the Associate Director for Research, Outreach and Development/Postdoctoral Fellow at the UAB’s Civitan International Research Center (CIRC). CIRC is an interdisciplinary center dedicated to improving lives through brain research and treatment of developmental disabilities.

Steven Collazos graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Mathematical Sciences and a minor in Physics in August 2011. In the summers of 2009 and 2010 he participated in the Rice University Summer Institute of Statistics NSF REU. Steven participated in the 2011 BU LSAMP/McNair Summer Research Program, conducting research under the direction of Dr. Matthias Beck, Associate Professor of Mathematics at San Francisco State University (SFSU). He is in his first semester of the M.S. in Mathematics Program at SFSU with funding, and intends to pursue a Ph.D. in Pure Mathematics.

Ph.D. Candidate, Giancarlo (John) Cuadra graduated in 2004 from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Biological Sciences, Cell and Molecular Biology. John began his undergraduate career at Rockland Community College, receiving his A.S. in Mathematics and Science and working as an undergraduate research assistant at BU in 1999 through the NIH funded Bridges to the Baccalaureate program. Giancarlo expects to complete his is PhD in Biological Sciences at Binghamton in Spring 2011. Giancarlo is married and the proud father of two boys and a baby girl.
Roberto A. Dextre is in his senior year at Binghamton University majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Robert participated in the BU 2010 LSAMP Summer Research Program, conducting research on the operations of Micro-Electromechanical System Resonators. This past summer, Robert was selected to participate in NASA’s Summer 2011 Advances in Cryogenic Propellant Storage Technology Internship at Marshall Space Flight Center. During his summer internship he worked on a project entitled “Cryogenic Acquisition and Transfer System” (CATS). He intends to pursue his Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering.

Adriano Garcia graduated from BU in 2011 with a B.S. in Computer Science after earning his A.S. in Computer Science from Westchester Community College in May 2007. He came to the United State in 2001, barely able to speak English. He is currently a SUNY LSAMP BD fellow at Binghamton, in the Computer Science M.S. program. Upon completion of his M.S., Adriano plans to complete a Ph.D. and continue in academia as a researcher and professor.

Isaak Ghebremicael graduated BU with a BS in Industrial and Systems Engineering in 2011 and is currently a SUNY LSAMP BD Fellow at Binghamton. As an active participant of LSAMP and the McNair programs, Isaak conducted research under the direction of Dr. Darryl Santos. Their paper “A Comparison of Performance between Distance Learners and On-Campus Learners in a Graduate Level Quality Assurance Course for Engineers” received third place in the Best Paper category at the 2010 American Society for Engineering Education North Central Sectional Spring Conference. His desire to pursue a Ph.D. comes from his experience as an undergraduate researcher.

Eduardo D. Gigante is a second year Behavioral Neuroscience Ph.D. student at Binghamton University. He earned his B.S. in Psychobiology from Binghamton University in May 2010 after transferring into BU in the Fall of 2008 from Onondaga Community College. He was a National Institute of Health (NIH) funded Bridges to the Baccalaureate participant at BU in the summer of 2007, conducting research on alcohol tolerance levels. In the summer of 2008 he interned at the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland, working on the assembly of an optical diffractometer.

Dr. Andre M. Hall graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 2001. Dr. Hall went on to earn his M.S. (2004) and Ph.D. (2007) in Mechanical Engineering at Syracuse University. Dr. Hall is a Senior Engineer at Pratt & Whitney in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Dr. Brian Hamilton graduated from Binghamton University in February 1999. Dr. Hamilton earned his D.D.S. at Howard University College of Dentistry in and completed a residency at Harlem Hospital in New York City. He has been a practicing dentist since 2003. He provides oral & maxillofacial surgery services to patients starting at age 12. Special services include bone grafting, dental implants, extractions, pre-prosthetic surgery, ridge augmentation, sinus lift and endodontic surgery.

Jackie Leandre graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering in May 2011. Jackie was an active member of LSAMP as well as the President of the National Society of Black Engineers chapter at BU, a member of the Binghamton University Gospel Choir, a counselor for the BU Science Program, and a member of Sigma Alpha Lambda National Honor Society. Jackie is currently in her second year of the M.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering program with funding at BU.

Linford L. Leitch graduated from Binghamton University in 2010 with a B.S. in Bioengineering. While at BU Linford worked as an LSAMP undergraduate research assistant on “Assessing Muscle Effort During Knee Extension Using Vibromyography”. Linford is entering his second year of the M.S. in Biomedical Engineering program at the City University of New York where he is studying neural systems and behavior.
Miguel Nina is a second year graduate student in the M.S. Computer Science program at Binghamton University. Miguel graduated from BU in May 2010, with a B.S. in Computer Science and a B.A. in Mathematical Sciences. While an undergrad Miguel was an active participant in the NYS Educational Opportunity Program, LSAMP and McNair Scholars. In the summer of 2009 Miguel participated in the Binghamton University Department of Computer Science NSF REU conducting “Circuit Design” research.

Dr. Rebecca Orlick received her B.S. in Biology from Binghamton University in February 1999. She received her D.D.S. from Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine in June 2004, where she was the recipient of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Award and the Northeastern Society of Periodontology Award. Dr. Orlick works in Staten Island, specializing in periodontics and implant surgery, and is a clinical instructor at Staten Island University Hospital.

Gandhy Pierre-Louis is starting his fourth year in the Developmental Biology Ph.D. program at Stanford University. He graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Africana Studies in May 2008. While at Binghamton he was a member of several academic programs including LSAMP and the McNair Scholars Program, which collectively supplied the resources and the support system that nurtured his academic interest to pursue graduate school. A first generation Haitian-American, his ultimate goal is to become a research scientist and to inspire and serve minority students who like myself aspire to pursue an interest in science.

Dr. Nnamdi C. Nwanze earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Binghamton University in 2001. Dr. Nwanze stayed at Binghamton for his graduate work, earning his M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 2005 and 2009. His dissertation title was “Anomaly-Based Intrusion Detection Using Lightweight Stateless Payload Inspection. Since 2008, Dr. Nwanze has been at Vigilos, Inc. as a Project Manager developing security solutions for the enterprise physical security market.

Sadequa Scott earned her B.S. in Biology from Binghamton University in 2004 and is currently a Molecular and Cell Biology Ph.D. Candidate at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Her career in science began when, as a sophomore student in high school, she was accepted into the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health’s Health Science Academy. While at BU, Sadequa participated in LSAMP and the McNair Scholars Program, conducting undergraduate research under the direction of Dr. Kathleen Horwath.

Dr. David Stubbs earned his B.S. in Biology from Binghamton University in December 2001. He attended New York University College of Dentistry on full scholarship, completing his D.D.S. in May 2008. Dr. Stubbs is currently an intern at the advanced education program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery that is jointly administered by the Beth Israel Medical Center, Jacobi Medical Center, and Albert Einstein School of Medicine.

Dr. Achiamah Osei-Tutu graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. in Biology in May 1998. She received her M.D. from Stony Brook University School of Medicine in May 2005. During medical school, Dr. Osei-Tutu had the unique honor of being chosen as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute/ National Institutes of Health (NIH) Research Scholar. Dr. Osei-Tutu completed her medicine internship at Mount Sinai Hospital and dermatology residency at the State University of New York Health Sciences Center in Brooklyn, where she was selected as Chief Resident in her final year. Dr. Tutu is a board-certified dermatologist specializing in medical, surgical and cosmetic skin care, an Associate Clinical Professor at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital, and the current instructor of the Dermatology Physical Diagnosis course at CUNY Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education. She has authored/coauthored a number of academic publications.

Saintedym Wills graduated from Binghamton University in May 2010 with her B.S. in Biological Sciences. In the summer of 2008 she took part in a Research Experience for Undergraduates at Carnegie-Mellon. Saintedym is currently a post baccalaureate researcher in the Bowers Research Lab, Center for Neural Development and Disease at the University of Rochester Medical Center. She plans on applying to Ph.D. programs for Fall 2012 admission.
Charmaine Williams is a Biochemistry major at Binghamton University. She states that “being a part of the LSAMP program has been instrumental to my success as an undergraduate”. Through LSAMP she has had the opportunity to participate in three summer REU programs; at Rochester Institute of Technology, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and University of Alabama at Birmingham. Charmaine plans on pursuing her Ph.D. in Chemistry or Biomedical Sciences and hopes to pursue a career as a Forensic Scientist.

Gustavo Abreu graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Computer Science in December 2004. He received an NSF CSEMS scholarship as an undergraduate. He worked on a research project in summer 2003 and summer 2004 titled, “Evolutionary Music Composer” which he presented several times. Gustavo was working for Goldman Sachs after graduation and is now with Barclays in NYC.

Elena Adjei graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Biology in December 2008. She worked on two research projects, “Isolation and Purification of DAD1 and DAD3” and “Recombinant expression of sub complexes of Candida albicans Kinetochore DASH Complexes”. She presented the former at the SUNY New Paltz Student Research Symposium and the latter at the 2008 SUNY New Paltz Summer Research Program and the 2008 McNair Conference in Niagara Falls. Elena entered Howard University in Fall 2009 and is working towards her PhD in Human Genetics.

Carlos Anglas is currently a senior at SUNY New Paltz. He is working towards his B.S. in Computer Engineering and planning to graduate in December 2013. He has worked on two research projects, “Representations of Positive Polynomials in 1 and 2 Variables”, which he presented at the 2011 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM, and “Simulation and Experimental Analysis of Lithium Ion & Nickel Cadmium Batteries at Different Temperatures and Operational Behavior”, which he presented at SUNY New Paltz. After graduation Carlos plans to enter the workforce and pursue a master’s degree in his field.

Richard Balmir received his B.S. in Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in 2006. Rich participated in NSBE and his team came in 4th place in the 2006 NSBE National Boeing Competition. He also participated in Inroads through which he had the opportunity to intern with Lockheed Martin and later secured employment with them in Syracuse, NY.

Stephanie Bonny graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Computer Engineering in December 2004. Stephanie worked on a research project in summer 2004 titled, “Evolutionary Music Composer”. Stephanie began working for Raytheon in Virginia after graduation. She is currently a Senior Application Support Engineer.

Tenee Brockington received her B.S. in Mathematics from SUNY New Paltz in 2006. She began working in Boston after graduation as an Actuarial Analyst for Liberty Mutual Group. Tenee currently resides in Seattle and is an Actuarial Analyst for an LM subsidiary, Safeco Ins. Co., and has passed three actuarial exams for the Casualty Actuarial Society.

Christopher Cahn graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Biology in May 2010. He worked on a research project titled, “Sub-cellular Localization of Oryza sativa Type B-Response Regulators”, at Dartmouth College and presented a poster at the 2009 Leadership Alliance National Symposium in Virginia and the 2009 SUNY New Paltz Student Research Symposium. He received scholarships from LSAMP, the New Paltz Alumni Association and the New Paltz Biology Scholarship. After graduation he participated in the AGEP Competitive Edge Summer Program at UCSD. Chris began a PhD program in Molecular/Cellular Biology at UC San Diego in 2010.

Tatiana Yeargin is currently a sophomore at SUNY New Paltz planning to major in Chemistry. She worked on the SHArK project from January through June of 2011 and is continuing during the fall 2011 semester. The Solar Hydrogen Activity Research Kit project is part of a larger NSF funded project, Powering the...
Planet. Tatiana has presented her research a few times in the past year. After graduation she plans to attend law school and study Patent Law.

Smith Castillo received his B.S. in Computer Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in 2003. Smith received two scholarships from LSAMP. He worked on two summer research projects as an undergraduate: one at New Paltz and one at MIT. Smith began working for Raytheon in Boston as an electrical engineer after graduation and then moved on to GE.

Jenifer Duarte graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Adolescent Education, Mathematics in 2011. Jenifer tutored for LSAMP, received two scholarships from the program and was involved with many extra-curricular activities. Jenifer will begin her graduate studies at Teachers College of Columbia University in Fall 2011 pursuing a master’s in Instructional Technology and Media.

Clara Enuma received her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in May 2009. She was inducted into Eta Kappa Nu National Honor Society in 2009 and received scholarships from LSAMP and the New Paltz Multicultural Task Force. Clara worked on a computer science research project for two summers and she participated in Inroads through which she received an internship with United Illuminating (UI) in Shelton, CT for two summers prior to graduation. Clara is currently employed at UI as an engineer.

Julien Gago-Viel is currently a senior Chemistry major at SUNY New Paltz who transferred from SUNY Orange County Community College. He participated in two research projects in Summer 2011: “Interactions Between Oligonucleotides and Quaternary Ammonium Salts” which he presented at SUNY New Paltz and “Adopting Orphan Nuclear Receptors” which he will continue working on through the academic year. Julien is expected to graduate in December 2012.

Sheena Henry is currently a senior Chemistry major at SUNY New Paltz expected to graduate in May 2012. She has participated in two research projects at SUNY New Paltz, “Crystallization of DASH Complex Proteins from Candida albicans” and “Examining the Surface Chemistry of Pseudomonas putida by Atomic Force Microscopy”, and presented both in 2009 and 2011 respectively. She is continuing her research through the academic year.

Jimi Hite is currently a senior Computer Science major at SUNY New Paltz expected to graduate in May 2012. He has worked at the college’s Student Computer Help Desk since his sophomore year. The summer after his sophomore year he created an Android app, which he posted on the Android Market that let people see all the menu items of all the restaurants in New Paltz.

Rosmery Holguin-Prado graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Adolescent Education, Mathematics in December 2008. Rosmery participated in three research projects outside of her field: “Positivity of Polynomials” (Computer Science), “Changes in Structure and Electron Density of Cadmium Sulfide Clusters With Zero to Four Organic Ligands Attached” (Physics), and “Bottled Water vs. Tap Water” (Geology). She received the Trjitzinsky Scholarship from the American Mathematical Society in Fall 2007 and the LSAMP Peer Mentor of the Year award in 2008. Rosmery currently teaches high school math at her former school, Flushing International High School, in Flushing, NY and is pursuing her master’s in Secondary Education Math at Queens College.

Richard Jean-Louis is currently a junior at SUNY New Paltz double majoring in Biology and Black Studies expecting to graduate in May 2013. After his sophomore year he worked on a biology project titled, “Crystallization of DASH Complex Proteins from Candida albicans” which he presented several times. The following summer he worked on the NSF SHArK project, which is part of Powering the Planet, and which he presented at the end of the 2011 LSAMP Summer Research Program.
Gregory Jimenez received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in December 2006. He worked on one spring research project and spent one summer at the Brookhaven National Laboratory for another research experience. Gregory went to work for GE in Schenectady as an electrical engineer after graduation and got his master’s in engineering from RPI in 2010.

Sebastien Lafontant received his B.S. from SUNY New Paltz in Computer Engineer in May 2003. Sebastien received two scholarships from LSAMP. He participated in a co-op at IBM and currently works at IBM as a Hardware Designer in Endicott, NY. He completed a master’s program in engineering at Clemson University in 2008.

Adebowale (Gabriel) Ogundimu graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Computer Engineering in May 2010. Gabriel was inducted into Eta Kappa Nu National Honor Society and received a scholarship from LSAMP in his senior year. He participated in Inroads which provided him with an internship at United Illuminating in Shelton, CT leading to employment as a Competency Engineer. Gabriel is currently pursuing his MBA with a concentration in Finance at the University of New Haven.

Taiwo Osinowo received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in August 2007. He was inducted into Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society after his first year of college. He participated in Inroads through which he had the opportunity to intern with Northrop Grumman’s Norden Systems in Norwalk, CT. After graduation Taiwo began working with Lockheed Martin’s Systems Integration in Owego, NY and obtained a master’s degree at SUNY Binghamton.

Alison Pletch is currently a senior Chemistry major at SUNY New Paltz expected to graduate in May 2012 with her second bachelor’s degree. As president of the college’s Chemistry Club she has successfully initiated a few new programs to help college students in and out of the classroom, and has created lesson plans to teach high school students in the New Paltz area. She is participating in an AYURE project during fall 2011 titled “Fungicidal effects of Terminalia arjuna on Phytophthora”.

Kevin Purcell graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S in Biology and a B.A. in Black Studies in 2010. He received several scholarships during his undergraduate years from LSAMP, the Multicultural Recruitment Program, Omega Psi Phi fraternity, the Ronald McNair Scholarship, and the National Residence Life Honorary. Kevin is currently pursuing an M.S. in Physiology and Biophysics at Stony Brook University.

Raymond Ransome graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Math in 2006. Raymond worked on a research project titled, “Autonomous Evolutionary Music Composer” (Computer Engineering) which he presented at the 2003 CSTEP Conference and won 1st place for his poster. Raymond is currently employed at SUNY New Paltz with Computer Services and pursuing an M.S. in Computer Science.

Destiny Rivera received her B.S. in Biology from SUNY New Paltz in December 2009. Destiny worked on two summer research projects: “Land Use and the Impact on Water Quality” (Geology) and “Synthesis and Testing of Antimicrobial Activity of Monobactams” (Chemistry) which she presented several times including the 2009 Albany AGEP Conference. Destiny currently works at Regeneron in Tarrytown, NY as a Lab Assistant.
Maria Rodolis graduated from New Paltz with a B.S. in Chemistry in 2010. Maria did research on “Synthesis and Testing of Antimicrobial Activity of Monobactams” (Chemistry) which she presented several times including the 2010 ACS National Conference. She then worked at La Selva Biological Station in Costa Rica in summer 2009 on a project titled, “An Investigation in the Vegetative Buds of TectariaLizarzburui at La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica” which she presented as at the 2009 LSAMP International Conference in Florida. She was the Keynote Speaker at the 2010 Mid-Hudson Regional CSTEP Conference. She was inducted into Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society, served as vice president and president. She also received two LSAMP scholarships and the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence in 2010. She participated in the MHIRT program on a molecular biology and virology project at Centro de Biologia Molecular Severa Ochoa in Madrid Spain during the summer after she graduated. Maria was awarded the NSFGRFP and began her PhD program at the University of Warwick in the UK in Fall 2010. Just before she started her doctoral program she returned to New Paltz to present to program students about travel and research abroad.

Tamara Simpson received her B.S. in Biology from New Paltz in 2009. Tamara worked on two research projects, “Adopting Nuclear Receptors in CionaIntestinalis” (Biology) and “Land Use and the Impact on Water Quality” (Geology). Tamara is currently working at Pepsi Co. as a Lab Assistant in Purchase, NY.

Elcilia Taveras graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Elementary Education, Mathematics in May 2008. Upon graduation she secured a teaching position in New York City and then began a master’s program at CUNY Lehman College in Secondary Education, Mathematics which she will complete in May 2013.

Gary Toussaint is currently a senior at SUNY New Paltz pursuing his second bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and expected to graduate in December 2012. He is continuing a research project from the spring 2011 semester titled, “Cubature Rules for the Line and Plane” and continuing his summer 2011 research working on the NSF SHArK project, which is part of Powering the Planet, and which he presented at the end of the Summer Research Program. Gary is planning to either continue at SUNY New Paltz for a master’s degree or enter the workforce after graduation.

Vladimir Vanegas graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Computer Science in 2005. He worked on a research project which he presented a few times and he received an NSF CSEMS scholarship during his undergraduate years. Vladimir currently works for Lockheed Martin in Texas as a Computer Engineer.

Sean Vinas received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from SUNY New Paltz in 2009. Sean participated in NSBE and his team came in 4th place in the 2006 NSBE National Boeing Competition. He was inducted into Eta Kappa Nu National Honor Society in his junior year and received an LSAMP scholarship. He participated in Inroads through which he had the opportunity to intern at Lockheed Martin’s Maritime Systems and Sensors in Moorestown, NJ before accepting employment with Lockheed Martin’s Radar Systems in Moorestown, NJ. He is planning to pursue a master’s and is considering Financial Mathematics or Quantitative Finance.

Henry Wilson-Sowah transferred from Broome County Community College and graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in May 2010. Henry interned with Natural Current Power Generation the winter of his last year at New Paltz and is currently working as an engineer at Mercury Solar Systems in New Rochelle, NY.

Airrion Wisdom graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in Computer Engineering in December 2007. Airrion worked on a research project in summer 2007, “Autonomous Evolutionary Music Composer”, which he presented at the 2008 CSTEP Conference and won 1st place for his poster. He also had an article published with his faculty mentor. Towards the end of his undergraduate years he was inducted into Eta Kappa Nu National Honor Society. Airrion is currently working in California as an engineer for Northrup Grumman.
German Flete earned a B.S. in Computer Science from Old Westbury in 2007. After graduation, he was hired by Brookhaven National Labs (BNL) where he had interned during his senior year through an arrangement between the LSAMP program and BNL. German, currently employed as a senior applications analyst at BNL, was honored with a BNL Spotlight Award during the 2008 fiscal year for extending “extraordinary efforts in response to the needs of their departments or divisions.” He has returned to his alma mater to present at the annual SUNY Old Westbury STEP Career Day representing occupations in the computer science field.

Courtney Patterson earned a B.S. in Computer Science from Old Westbury in 2002. During his senior year, he interned at BNL through their Educational Program Office. After graduation he was hired as a full-time employee in the Information Management Division and completed a stint in Vienna, Austria working for the International Atomic Energy Agency on behalf of BNL. “All the benefits at the Lab are fantastic, but the educational benefits are what we appreciate the most,” said Courtney. “We feel lucky to be working at a world-class facility that promotes higher education and ingenuity.” Courtney has been accepted in the Ph.D. program in Computer Science at Stony Brook.

As an undergraduate math major at Old Westbury Ninette Perez was actively involved in mentoring and academic coaching. A counselor for the STEP secondary school program, she was involved in collegiate peer tutoring in the campus Mathematics Learning Center. In her junior year, Ninette conducted research in computational chemistry, computing energy levels of carbon atoms and graphing data to interpret calculations. In 2007, Ninette graduated from Old Westbury with a B.S. in math, followed by graduate study at Fordham University, Graduate School of Education where she earned an MS in Teaching Adolescence Mathematics 7-12. She currently teaches high school algebra and geometry in New York City.

Brian Smith graduated in May 2008 from Old Westbury with a B.S. Biochemistry. He acquired NY State certification in secondary science education the following year. In 2010, he earned an M.A. in secondary science education (chemistry). Brian has peer tutored UREP students in biology at Old Westbury and has been a mentor for the high school STEP Saturday program as well. He is currently a substitute teacher in various Long Island school districts.

While Old Westbury graduate, Deon Lee, spends most of his time configuring and installing software at Brookhaven National Laboratory, in his personal life, his passion is drawing. Lee loves art and painting, but he knew that a career in computer science would be more realistic. He pursued a degree in computer science with a minor in visual arts. Lee was hired part-time as a student assistant to work in BNL’s Information Technology Division through LSAMP. After graduating with a B.S. in computer science, Lee was hired as a customer support analyst in the Internet Technology Division at BNL. Now, in addition to his work, Lee also does freelance graphics designing and website development. “I feel lucky that I can incorporate my love of art with my interest in computing,” says Lee.

Brenda Marmol graduated from Old Westbury in May 2009 with a B.S. in biological sciences. Her poster presentation, “An Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) Study of Metal-Site Dynamics in Amino Acids: Copper Hopping in Cd-Histidine Crystals.” Was a second place winner in the Physical Science category at the annual 2008 CSTEP Conference. That same year, she also participated in the in the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), Brenda recently earned her M.S. at L.I. University.

Warlyn Reyes graduated Old Westbury in 2003 with a B.S. in computer science. Currently a technology specialist /SMS administrator in the Instrumentation Division and a SMS engineer at BNL, his relationship with BNL began with an internship during his senior year arranged by the Old Westbury LSAMP/CSTEP program director and the BNL diversity officer. Upon graduation he joined the Internet Technology Department. In 2006, BNL honored Warlyn with a Spotlight Award for “extending extraordinary efforts in response to the needs of the Instrumentation Division.”

Ronald McHenry graduated in 2010 with a B.S. in Biological Sciences. Ronald conducted research on Identification of Novel CTX-M Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamases in Escherichia coli Clinical Isolates. During that same year, he was honored for his research presentation at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. (ABRCMS). During the summer of 2009, Ronald traveled to Madrid, Spain through the MARC program. There at El Instituto de Fermentaciones Industriales, he conducted supervised research based on campylobacter. In the fall of 2010, Ronald presented a poster of his research at the LSAMP...
Clarissa Martinez graduated in 2011 with a B.S. in biological sciences. A commuting student who wanted to become involved in student life, she ran successfully for the position of representative to commuters in the Student Government Association. Senior year Clarissa attended summer research abroad supported by the Old Westbury Neuroscience International Program. During the fall semester, she presented research at ABRCMS. In February 2011, she presented at the 2011 ERN Conference in STEM. In April, she earned 1st place in the Natural Sciences category at the CSTEP Annual Conference for her supervised research presentation, “Detection of CTX-M-15 Extended Spectrum b-Lactamases in Clinical Isolates of Escherichia coli from the Community.”

Alicia Bowen graduated from Old Westbury in 2009 with a B.S. in biochemistry. She credits programs such as LSAMP with “propelling her through undergrad” and into the place she is today: currently a third-year graduate student and PhD Candidate in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at The University of Maryland at College Park. Alicia anticipates completion of her studies in 2014. While a student at Old Westbury, she did research fellowships at Yale University and El Instituto de Fermentaciones Industriales (IFI) in Madrid, Spain. She also conducted research at SUNY Old Westbury and received the 2009 Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry from the American Chemical Society (ACS). Alicia says “While dealing with the struggles of adjusting to life as an undergraduate student, I also had to work multiple jobs to pay for my education. The LSAMP book vouchers I received each semester were integral to my success. Without this extra support, my undergraduate career would have been far more stressful. Additionally, the program staff was so supportive and eventually became like a second family. They understood my unique situation and helped me make informed decisions about my future.” When she entered college, Alicia says that she had aspirations of becoming a medical doctor. She attributes the experiences that she was afforded as an LSAMP, student, with solidifying her desire to attend graduate school. “Seminars about graduate school allowed students to make informed decisions about their future plans. It was through these seminars that I learned about the benefits of graduate school as well as the application process. Without the help of the AMP programs and outstanding staff, I can honestly say that I would not be in the position I am today.”

Jessica Ennist is a 2010 graduate of Old Westbury and currently a second year doctoral student with a full fellowship in chemistry and biochemistry department at Montana State. There she is conducting research focused on the role of protein-carbohydrate interactions in cancer cellular metastasis. She credits the LSAMP program with creating an environment that inspired her to “enlarge her dreams and goals.” Jessica transferred to Old Westbury in the fall of 2008. Struggling with normal challenges and fears of moving into a new area she contemplated moving back upstate. The support system provided by LSAMP convinced her to remain at Old Westbury where she availed herself of many opportunities including undergraduate research, peer tutoring and mentorship of a high school student. “I received book vouchers each year, attended educational workshops that broadened my knowledge of graduate and professional opportunities, helped me to maximize my experience in school, and enabled me to plan for entry into graduate programs, apply for internships and research opportunities. (Presenting my research at conferences) helped prepare me for teaching undergraduate labs by developing confidence and communication skills in presenting core ideas.” Jessica says that she is forever grateful for the program which has given her so many tools, skills, and experiences that have contributed to truly setting her feet on her given path and have given her the opportunities that have opened the door to graduate school.

Diana Pedroza (pictured right) graduated in 2010 from SUNY Old Westbury with a B.S. in biological sciences. With support from LSAMP, she presented research, “Extracellular Superoxide Mediated By Vascular Growth Factor 1 (VEGFR1) Receptor” in the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in 2008 as well as OWNIP – MHIRT Summer Research in 2010.

Jaleesa Gilbert graduated in May 2011 from SUNY College Old Westbury with a B.S. in biological sciences. LSAMP support contributed to her to participation in the Old Westbury Neuroscience International Program, summer 2010.

Camille Warner will graduate from Old Westbury in 2012 with a B.S. in biological sciences. With LSAMP support she presented at ABRCMS in 2010, conducted research abroad through Old Westbury Neuroscience International Program during summer 2010. She has participated as an LSAMP mentor to middle and high school students during summers and the academic year and has assisted office program staff for three years.

Diana Carolina Quinones graduated in 2008 from Old Westbury with a B.S. in biological sciences. In 2007, she was a participant in the Summer Student Program of NIA Intramural Research Program where she worked in the...
Laboratory of Experimental Gerontology. In 2008, she participated in both the ABRCMS and MARC Programs.

**Kimberly Burke** graduated May 2009 with a B.S. in biochemistry. She was an award winner in the microbiological sciences category at ABRCMS in fall 2008 for her poster presentation, “Identification and Contribution of Outer Membrane Porin Proteins to Carbapenem Resistance in Carbapenem-Resistant Klebsiella pneumoniae and Escherichia coli Clinical Isolates” where she described the results of her research. She also presented research at the 2009 CSTEP Annual Conference.

**Itisha S. Jefferson** completed her freshman and sophomore years at Old Westbury. The summer following her sophomore year, she was a SUNY Downstate Medical Center Summer Research Scholar. That fall, she transferred to Spelman, from which she graduated, cum laude with departmental honors and a B.S. in chemistry. She is currently a *J. William Fulbright* English Teaching Assistant Scholar in South Korea.

**Sybil Andrieux** graduated in 2010 from Old Westbury with a B.S. in biological sciences. She has participated in the following research programs at the undergraduate level: (MHIRT) Minority and Health Disparities International Research Training Program, France; Researcher Honors Undergraduate Research Training Program (COR) Career Opportunities in Research Old Westbury; Research Experience for Undergraduates in Animal Behavior at Indiana University Bloomington, Ind. During her years at Old Westbury, Sybil received several awards including: Academic Achievement in Research Honors Award at SUNY College Old Westbury graduation; Northeast Regional Undergraduate and Graduate student Sigma Xi Poster Conference winner of outstanding Poster award, As an undergraduate, she engaged in two internships: one at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and one at SUNY College of Optometry in Manhattan. Since graduation Sybil has been named a GRAD-PREP Scholar at Wright State University where she is a graduate researcher in Pharmacology and Toxicology.

**Melissa Colon** graduated with a B.S. in biological sciences from Old Westbury in 2007, and is currently in her clinical and final year, of veterinary school at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. At the end of her senior year, she was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Polytechnic Sigma Xi Chapter. After graduation, she completed three years at Ross University and plans to undertake an additional one year internship upon completion of the clinical year focusing on small animal general medicine and exotics. During her veterinary education, Melissa participated in a volunteer program (VIDA) in Nicaragua and Honduras. She says that it was a great experience because she was able to teach people about animal care and to provide free medical attention and castration for their pets. “Not only did I help animals that I set out to assist”, she says “but I also learned a great deal from my interactions with people.”

**Georgina Bermudez** received her bachelor’s degree in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2004, and she participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at BNL. She was accepted into a PhD program in Biomedical Engineering from the City College of New York and has received a Master’s degree from that institution.

**Alicia Lawson** graduated in 2004 with a bachelor’s degree in Applied Math. She received a master’s degree at Stony Brook University and is now a math instructor in Kingsborough Community College.

**Dr. Yared Alemu** graduated in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering. He also received an NSF Science, Technology, Engineering and Math scholarship. He has completed a PhD in Electrical Engineering at Stony Brook University.

**Sandy Hernandez** received his bachelor’s degree from Stony Brook University in 2010 in Biomedical Engineering. He received MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) and S-STEM (Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) awards in addition to a research internship under the New York Space Grant. He most recently received an NIH fellowship.
Michael Scheid received his bachelor’s degree in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2010. He received MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) and New York Space Grant awards. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Biomedical Engineering at Northwestern University.

Cynthia Okoye graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Pharmacology from Stony Brook University in 2008. She received a MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) award and is currently pursuing an MD/PhD at Albert Einstein School of Medicine.

Dr. Mary Osisami graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry from Stony Brook University in 2006. She received a Turner fellowship and completed a PhD in Genetics at Stony Brook University in 2011.

Kenzley Alphonse received his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from Stony Brook University in 2009. He later received his master’s in Computer Science and is now working for the Internal Revenue Service.

Jean Christian Brutus received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2008 and continued on to receive his master’s degree. He participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory and also received a Turner fellowship. He plans on an engineering career in the construction industry.

Andre Hamilton received his double major bachelor’s degree in Computer Science/Physics from Stony Brook University in 2010 and also completed his master’s degree. He participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory and also received a New York State Underrepresented Graduate (Turner) fellowship. He will be working for the U.S. Government.

Eric Alvarez received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2003. He is now a member of the United States Air Force.

Jean Robert Brutus received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2006. He participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory and is now an engineer in the United States Army RDECOM.

Shelanda Clarke received her bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2006. She was awarded an NSF Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and completed her master’s degree at CW Post. She is currently an engineer for the Metropolitan Transit Authority in Boston, MA.
Michael Espinoza received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2010 and went on to complete his master’s degree at Stony Brook. In addition to an NSF Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, he participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory and also received a New York State Underrepresented Graduate (Turner) Fellowship. He is currently an engineer at United Technologies.

Ramon Fernandez received his bachelor's degree in Applied Math and Spanish Literature in 2009 and completed his master’s degree in Spanish Literature at Stony Brook University. He participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory and received a Turner fellowship. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Stony Brook in Technology, Policy and Innovation in the Department of Technology and Society.

Dr. Wesley Francillion received his bachelor’s degree in Engineering Science in 2002 and continued on to receive his PhD from Stony Brook University. He is now a community college administrator in Connecticut.

Latosha Frink received her bachelor’s degree in 2003 and her master’s degree in Applied Mathematics from Stony Brook University. She is now employed by the National Institutes of Health in Washington, DC.

Oral Grant received his bachelor’s degree in 2004 and his master’s degree in Applied Mathematics from Stony Brook University. He is now a high school Mathematics teacher.

Blessing Igboeli received her bachelor’s degree in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2004. She received an NIH Minority Access to Research Careers award and was also a Fulbright scholar. She is now pursuing an MD/Ph.D. at Case Western Reserve. She was also a recipient of a Fulbright fellowship.

David Lugo received his Mechanical Engineering degree from Stony Brook University in 2001 followed by his masters in Business Administration from Brooklyn College. He is now an engineer working for Con Edison of New York.

Arindel Maharaj received his bachelor's degree in Biochemistry from Stony Brook University in 2001. He also received a Minority Access to Research Careers award. He is currently pursuing his MD/PhD at Harvard University.
Rachel Millings received her bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Stony Brook University in 2009. She was awarded an NSF Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and she participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships program at Brookhaven National Laboratory. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Operations Research at UC Berkeley.

Elizabeth Millings received her bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Stony Brook University in 2010. She received an NSF Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in addition to receiving a Merck scholarship and an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship in 2011. She is currently pursuing her PhD at Columbia University.

Heine Nzumafo received his degree in Electrical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2001. After graduation, he served in the United States Army Signal Corps. He is currently the CEO of Playmobile, a company in Virginia.

Sabrina Thompson received her bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2005 and her master's degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. She also participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program at Brookhaven National Laboratory. She is currently working for NASA at the Goddard Space Center.

Kimberley Tomlinson received her bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Stony Brook University in 2011, and she received an NSF Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. She is currently an engineer at NAVAIR.

Dr. Marvin Vasquez received his bachelor's degree in Engineering Science from Stony Brook University in 1999 and completed his Ph.D. from Stony Brook. He is currently working as a researcher for the Department of Defense.

Dr. Jelanie Wilshire received his bachelor's degree in Applied Math and Statistics at Stony Brook University in 2005. He recently completed his PhD in Applied Math at the University of Florida.

Dr. Melody Goodman earned a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics and statistics and economics from Stony Brook in 1999. She went on to participate in the Minority Biomedical Research Support program at the Harvard School of Public Health, earning a master's degree in biostatistics in 2003. During her graduate studies, Goodman received an NIH Minority Predoctoral Fellowship from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. She earned a Ph.D. in biostatistics at Harvard University in 2006 and went on to become an assistant professor of preventive medicine and director of the Center for Public Health and Health Policy Research at Stony Brook University. Currently, Goodman is
an assistant professor in the Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery, at the Washington University School of Medicine.

Francis Adams plans to pursue a combined MD/PhD program following graduation from the University at Albany (UA). He hopes to practice General Internal Medicine and engage in research which focuses on finding inexpensive and affordable drugs to cure tropical diseases like malaria. Francis also expresses a great desire to work with the World Health Organization, to provide leadership on global health matters by helping to establish norms and standards that shape health research all over the world.

Giovanny Destin graduated from the University at Albany in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. He plans to continue his education in graduate school in order to teach Biology at the secondary school level and possibly collegiate level. In 2009 he conducted research on the topic “The Effect of Tetrac on the Uptake of Doxorubicin in MCF-7 Doxorubicin resistant Cells.” He expressed that the opportunity to perform research was profound and opened his eyes to new career possibilities.

Christine Joseph graduated from the University at Albany in the Spring 2009 and looks forward to pursuing a master’s in Psychology and then a MD/PhD degree in Neuroscience. Her ultimate goal is to help bridge the gap between the biological and psychological aspects of human behavior and making a major impact in the science community. Christine is currently enrolled in a graduate program at Emory University.

Francelina Morillo completed her Bachelor of Science in Biology with a second major in Psychology. She would describe herself as “focused, determined, and motivated.” She performed research with Dr. Jeanette Altarriba for 3 years. Her mentor inspired her to pursue an MD/PhD in the area of neuroscience. She hopes to understand the complex mechanisms that lead to degenerative diseases.

Godfred Asa-Ntow graduated from the University at Albany with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and minor in Biology. Godfred conducted research at the University at Albany under the mentorship of Dr. Kurt McKean. During his eight week research program his study looked at the fruit fly Drosophila melanogaster and how its immune system combat diseases and infections. His ultimate goal is to earn an MD/PhD. Eventually he hopes to become a philanthropist, giving underprivileged kids a chance to succeed.

Illorna Brew always expressed interest in pursuing an MD, but the past summer’s internship opened her eyes to research and doctoral studies. She is now interested in pursuing her MD/PhD after acquiring her Bachelor of Science in Biology. She is hoping to work with groups like “Doctors without Borders” and travel to developing countries (especially in Africa) to provide people with medical aid.

Sanajay Sekar graduated from the University at Albany in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and minor in Chemistry. Sanjay was mentored by Dr. John Welch of the Chemistry Department. His conducted research on the Synthesis of Fluorinated Amino Acids Using Pentafluorosulfanyl Aldehydes. His ultimate goal is to continue research at the University at Albany, and one day pursue an MD/PhD program.

Raphael Thomas graduated from the University at Albany with Bachelor of Science in Physics with a minor in Mathematics. He conducted research with Dr. Dhruba J. Bharali and Dr. Shaker A. Mousa of the Pharmaceutical Research Institute. His study examined the recent advancement of nanotechnology particularly, in cancer treatment. His future career goal is to obtain a master’s degree in Biomedical Engineering and ultimately obtain his PhD.

Sonya Guerrero-Corley graduated from the University at Albany in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Human Biology. She is currently working on her Master’s in Public Health from the University at Albany and will be graduating this coming December. Sonya is also currently working
as an intern at the New York State Department of Health Office of Minority Health. Long term Sonya would like to find a job with a nonprofit organization focusing on family and community health. Sonya states that LSAMP, CSTEP, and EOP allowed her to earn a quality education. She is so grateful to be a part of these programs because, “I have been able to grow as an individual and accomplish many goals.”

Xavier Alomia graduated from the University at Albany in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. He is currently in the process of pursuing a doctorate in Applied Mathematics, and plans to focus on the area of biostatistics. Xavier’s goal is to earn his doctorate within the next 4 years so that he can continue performing research and make a significant contribution to field of biostatistics.

Karen Torrejon is a doctoral level graduate student at the College of Nanoscale Sciences and Engineering at the University at Albany. Her field of research is nanomedicine, specifically using nanotechnology as a tool to bioengineer a novel model for the screening of glaucoma. She will be submitting her first grant proposal and second peer reviewed publication by this winter.

Ashley Davis expressed how the Ronald E. McNair and LSAMP programs played a pivotal role in her life by introducing her to public health and research. She received her MPH in 2010 from Georgia State University and has plans to continue on and obtain her doctorate in public health. She states, “Were it not for these programs I would not be poised to be the professional I am today.”

Adedoyin Adebogun conducted research at the University at Albany investigating the development of HIV-1 nucleocapsidprotein inhibitors under the mentorship of Rabi Musah, Ph.D. His future plans include pursuing a career in the pharmaceutical sciences and becoming involved in developing and designing new drugs for diseases. His research experience added to his interest in this field.

Rose Destin graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and conducted research entitled “Chemical Dependency Rehabilitation Program Outcome Monitoring” under the mentorship of Paul Postiglione at the Stratton Veteran Administration Medical Center. She has since completed her doctorate in Physical Therapy and serves in a clinic in Pennsylvania.

Mary V. Graham conducted research entitled “Density Functional Studies with Spintronics and Molecular Electronics” in the University at Albany College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering. She has since matriculated in CNSE doctoral studies program and plans to complete her Ph.D. in nanoscience and nanoengineering; eventually, after gaining years of industrial experience, she would like to end her career as a tenured professor at an accredited research university.

Alex Logono conducted research entitled “Genetics of West Nile Virus Infection of Insect Hosts.” His future plans include studying the suitability of using transgenic flies for large-scale genetic screens to identify the gene important for West Nile Virus proliferation in insect hosts.

Dr. Edmond Obeng-Gyimah conducted research entitled “Biochemical Characterization of Human Rad52 Protein” under the mentorship of Ravindra Gupta, Ph.D. He graduated from the University at Albany with a BS in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology and Chemistry. He is a recent Albert Einstein Medical School graduate and is currently doing his residency in New York. It is Edmond’s hope to assist in developing drugs to combat top killers, such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

O’Neal Severin conducted research entitled “Cloning and Expression of a Unique Homing Endonuclease from cyanophage S-PM2.” His plans upon graduation include attending graduate school and pursuing his Ph.D. in pharmacology. He hopes to use his acquired research skills and knowledge to help combat major diseases.
Georgina Torchon performed research entitled “The Emergence of a New Regional Innovation Model: The College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering.” The study examined the role the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering has played in regional economic growth through a new paradigm in industrial collaboration. Her future career plans include further research opportunities as well as entering the area of actuarial sciences.

Derek Brim is currently enrolled as a junior in the Electrical Engineering Dept. at the University at Buffalo (UB). He has been mentored by Dr. Jennifer Zirnheld, Electrical Engineering Dept. as a research intern for the past two years. His research topic involved the analysis of non-rechargeable electrochemical cells. In addition, he is a member of IEEE, NSBE and the UB varsity football team.

Kevin Bryant graduated from UB with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in June 2009 (Summa Cum Laude). He recently earned his M.S. in Electrical Engineering in June 2011 from UB. During his undergraduate years as a research intern, he was mentored by Dr. Jonathan Bird, Electrical Engineering Dept. His research entailed working on techniques of semiconductor micro-fabrication and their application in the realization of semiconductor nano devices.

Anny Caceres graduated from UB with a B.S. in Pharmacology and Toxicology in June 2010 (Summa Cum Laude). She was mentored by Dr. Richard Rabin, Pharmacology and Toxicology Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. Her research involved investigating interactions between ethanol and the activities of neuronal functions. She is currently enrolled in the PhD. Program in Pharmacology at the University of Pittsburgh.

Brianna Clark graduated from UB with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in June 2010 (Cum Laude). She was mentored as a research intern by Dr. Jennifer Zirnheld, Electrical Engineering Dept./Energy Systems Institute. Her research focused on signal processing which is used in many electrical devices. She is currently employed with National Grid as an Associate Engineer in Distribution Planning. She is currently enrolled at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the M.Eng. Electrical Engineering program.

Joseph Diehl is currently enrolled as a senior in the Civil Engineering Dept. at UB. He has been mentored Dr. Gilberto Mosqueda, Civil Engineering Dept. as a research intern for the past two years. His research entailed investigating the performance limit states of seismically isolated buildings with elastomeric bearings.

Ian Duncan graduated from UB with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 2011. He was mentored as a research intern by Dr. Kevin Hulme and Dr. Kemper Lewis, New York State Center for Engineering Design and Industrial Innovation. His research involved participating in the development and operation of dashboard modeling a speedometer and tachometer. He won 2nd place for Technical Research Exhibit Oral/Poster Presentation at NSBE Region I Conference. He was admitted to the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering program at UB for Fall 2011.

Dr. Folarin Erogbogbo graduated from UB with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering in September 2004 and earned his PhD in Chemical Engineering from UB in June 2009 funded by the NSF IGERT Program. His graduate research topic was entitled “Silicon Nanocrystals and Biophotonic Applications Thereof”. He is currently employed at UB as a Research Assistant Professor at the Institute for Lasers, Photonics and Biophotonics and serves as a mentor for several LSAMP research interns and instructor for LSAMP/CSTEP Summer Research Program’s “Research Methods” course.

Mark Glasgow graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Biotechnology in June 2009. He was mentored by Dr. Kate Rittenhouse-Olsen, Biotechnology Dept. as a research intern. His research entailed investigating the production and purification of monoclonal anti-bodies. He recently earned his M.S. Public Health in June 2011.
Ron Heichman graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering in June 2011 (Cum Laude). He was mentored by Dr. Puneet Singa, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. His research involved studying the kinematics and dynamics of UAV’s to derive a mathematical model describing the position of each helicopter with respect to the chief helicopter. He served as SHPE President/Technical Liaison (2009-2011). He is currently enrolled at UB in the Aerospace PhD program.

Aggrey Jacobs graduated from the University at Buffalo with B.S. in Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering in June 2009 (Cum Laude). He was mentored by Dr. Ram Sridhar, Computer Science and Engineering Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. He was awarded the NSF funded SUNY LSAMP BD Fellowship in the MS program in Computer Science at Stony Brook and recently enrolled in PhD Program in Computer Science at the UB for Fall 2011 where he was awarded the Homeland Security Fellowship to support his doctoral studies.

Anne-Marsha Joseph graduated from the University at Buffalo with B.S. in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering in June 2009. She was mentored by Dr. John Crassidis, Mechanical and Mechanical Engineering Dept. as a research intern. Her research entailed investigating the stabilization of a mini-satellite. She enrolled in the M.S in. Mechanical Engineering Program at Stony Brook University after completing her studies at UB. She was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011 and received her MS in Mechanical Engineering in 2011.

Richard Linares graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering in June 2009 (Cum Laude). He was mentored by Dr. David Forliti, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. He participated in experimental studies on controlling turbulent combustion and mixing. His research presentation won second place at the 2008 CSTEP Statewide Conference. He recently earned his M.S. in Aerospace Engineering at UB in June 2009. He was accepted to Aerospace Engineering PhD program for Fall 2011 at UB.

Regina May is currently enrolled as a senior in Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering majors. She has been mentored by Dr. Bina Ramamurthy, Computer Science and Engineering Dept. as a research intern. Her research focused on MapReduce-Hadoop distributed file system technology which powers applications such as Google.

Nercy Moreno graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering as well as a B.A. in Math in February 2011. She was mentored by Dr. Venkat Krovi, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. Her research involved virtual prototyping (VP) which is used to improve the engineering design process. She has enrolled in the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering program at UB for Spring 2011. She was awarded the NSF funded SUNY LSAMP BD Fellowship to support her graduate studies.

Buay Nihal graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. Mechanical Engineering in June 2010. His mentor as a research intern was Dr. Venkat Krovi, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. His research entailed utilizing virtual prototyping (VP) to improve the engineering design process. He is currently enrolled at UB in the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering program. He was awarded the NSF funded SUNY LSAMP BD Fellowship to support his graduate studies.

Richard Linares graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering in June 2009 (Cum Laude). He was mentored by Dr. David Forliti, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. as an undergraduate research intern. He participated in experimental studies on controlling turbulent combustion and mixing. His research presentation won second place at the 2008 CSTEP Statewide Conference. He recently earned his M.S. in Aerospace Engineering at UB in June 2009. He was accepted to Aerospace Engineering PhD program for Fall 2011 at UB.

Dr. Shola Olabisi graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering at the University at Buffalo (Cum Laude). In addition, he completed M.S. in Electrical Engineering at UB in Sept. 2007. He recently completed his PhD in Electrical Engineering at UB. He was a recipient of the Schomburg Fellowship to support his graduate studies. His mentor and graduate advisor was Dr. Jennifer Zirnheld, Electrical Engineering Dept./Energy Systems Institute. His graduate research topic was entitled, “Electric Explosion of Aluminum Metallized Film”. He is currently employed with General Electric-Transportation Division (Erie, PA).
Francis Perez graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering in June 2009. Her mentor as a research intern was Dr. Sheldon Park, Chemical Engineering Dept. Her research focused on investigating the effects of expressing a protein G peptide fragment in bacteria. She recently completed her M.S. in Chemical Engineering at UB in 2011.

Adonis Pimienta-Penalver graduated from UB with B.S. in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering in June 2011 (Magna Cum Laude). His mentor as a research intern was Dr. John Crassidis, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. His research involved investigating an alternate method to approximate the solution to Kepler’s equation for elliptical orbit. He was admitted to PhD program in Aerospace Engineering at UB for Fall 2011.

Jonathan Rivera graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University at Buffalo in June 2011 (Cum Laude). He was mentored as a research intern by Dr. Andrew Whitaker, Civil Engineering Dept. His research topic was entitled, "Behavior of Squat Walls on Lateral Loading". He was recently admitted and enrolled in the M.S in Civil Engineering program at UB. He was awarded the NSF funded SUNY LSAMP BD Fellowship to support his graduate studies.

Dr. Sean Semper graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering in June 2005. He completed M.S. in Aerospace Engineering at UB in June 2008. In addition, he recently completed his PhD in Mechanical Engineering at UB in Aug. 2011. His mentor as an undergraduate research intern as well as his graduate advisor was Dr. John Crassidis, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department. His graduate research topic was entitled, "Decentralized Geolocation and Optimal Path Planning Using Limited UAV’s".

Osaka Shepard graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in June 2010. His mentor as a research intern was Dr. Venkat Krovi, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. His research focused on examining the use of computational analysis and virtual prototyping tools such as SolidWorks/COSMOS to simulate a hexapod. He was admitted to the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering program at UB for Fall 2011.

Souleymane Sow graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Aerospace and Electrical Engineering in June 2010 (Cum Laude). His mentor as a research intern was Dr. David Forliti, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Dept. His research topic was entitled “The Dynamics of Turbulent Transition in Jet Diffusion Flames”. He is currently enrolled in the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering program at Purdue University.

Nicholas Torres graduated from the University at Buffalo with a B.S. in Computer Science in June 2010 (Summa Cum Laude). His mentor as a research intern was Dr. Bina Ramamurthy, Computer Science and Engineering Dept. His project entailed assisting Dr. Ramamurthy’s research team with building the framework for community involvement in digital resolution. He is currently enrolled in the M.S. in Computer Science program at UB. He was awarded the NSF funded SUNY LSAMP BD Fellowship (2010-2012) to support his graduate studies.

Antonio Upia graduated with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University at Buffalo in June 2010. He was mentored as a research intern by Dr. Jennifer Zirnheld, Electrical Engineering/Energy Systems Institute. His research topic was entitled, “Rechargeable Electrochemical Energy Storage Mechanisms”. He was recently admitted and enrolled in the M.S. in Electrical Engineering program at UB for Fall 2011.
Michael Williams graduated with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University at Buffalo in June 2008. He was mentored as an undergraduate research intern by Dr. Folarin Erogbogbo, Chemical Engineering Dept. His research entailed performing surface functionalization and characterization of silicon nanoparticles. He earned his M.S. in Natural Sciences – Interdisciplinary Studies at UB in Feb. 2011. He was admitted to the UB School of Medicine for Fall 2011.

Jude Safo (left) was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2010 to 2011. He received his Master’s degree in 2011 and started the Ph.D. Program in Nuclear Engineering at MIT this fall. In 2010 he received the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship that he will be using at MIT for his doctoral studies. As an undergraduate, he worked as Research Assistant at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven National Lab in the Department of Energy SULI program. This summer he was selected to participate in the Nanosystems Initiative summer program in Munich, Germany. “After completing my Ph.D., I intend to commit myself to a life of research and mentoring much in the likeness of the Professors who inspired me”

Dr. Shayri Greenwood was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. She completed her doctorate in Biopsychology this summer. The initial impetus for her research was a desire to help find a cure for epilepsy because of her brother’s severe illness. She will be pursuing a Post-Doctorate next fall working in Dr. Wilma Friedman’s lab at Rutgers University. Dr. Brenda Anderson, her faculty mentor characterizes Shayri as follows: “Shayri is an amazing student. She has made tremendous growth as a student, and her dedication is exceptional. Her project has been challenging at every stage, and yet she steadily makes progress.” Not only an excellent researcher and teacher already, she has made it a top priority to encourage other UREP students. She has presented Success in Science Empowerment workshops to UREP and low income students, helped recruiting efforts for UREP STEM graduate students and mentored minority undergraduates presenting their research at STEM conferences.

Catherine Depeine (seen with the research team she trained in Madagascar) was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011 and is currently completing her Master’s Thesis on the social behavior, vocalizations, ranging behavior, and diet of woolly lemurs. Catherine went to Madagascar to do research in summer and fall of 2010 funded by travel scholarships from The American Society of Mammologists and The National Society of Primatologists. Once in Madagascar she led and trained local teams. She was responsible for the research project from start to finish and learned a great deal about perseverance when she had to wait two months to obtain a research permit. For nine weeks, her team and spent an average of five days a week, eight hours a day searching for a nocturnal lemur. Catherine received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention in 2011.

Jason Hall was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. He started working in a lab in Pharmacology because low undergraduate grades prevented him from entering graduate school. In the lab he did so well that a faculty mentor thought he was a good candidate for graduate study and advocated for him with the department and to get BD funding. Jason has currently advanced to candidacy and will be completing his doctorate while doing research at the Mayo Clinic in Florida. He is co-author on several articles including: Li, F.Q., Mofunanya A, Fischer V, Hall Jason, Takemaru K. (2010) “Nuclear-cytoplasmic shuttling of Chibby controls beta-catenin signaling.” Mol Biol Cell. 21, 311-22.

Carla Neckles was a BD student at Stony Brook in 2009 and is completing her BD funding in 2011. She is currently a doctoral student in Chemical Biology and has passed her qualifying exams. In 2010 she was awarded an NIH Chemical Biology Training Grant. She recently presented her research at the New York State Structural Biology Group.

Dr. Milton Jackson was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. He received his doctorate in Computer and Electrical Engineering and received a corporate Post-Doc through ASEE and Bentley Systems where he was working on research related to the Smart Grid. He is currently an adjunct lecturer at SUNY Farmingdale and Stony Brook University.
Dr. Inefta Reed was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. She completed her Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics this summer and started a Post-Doc this fall at Stony Brook funded by the New York State Underrepresented Graduate Fellowship (Turner) Program.

Manuel Rivera was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. He received his MS in Computer Science and was working as a clinical laboratory administrator at Laboratorio Clinico La Merced in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He is currently in his first year of a professional doctoral program in pharmacy (Pharm.D.) at the Medical Sciences Campus-University of Puerto Rico.

Kevin Hauser was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. He entered as a masters’ student and is now in the doctoral program in Chemistry. He recently won an NIH Chemical Biology Training Fellowship and won an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention in 2011. His research is in “Modeling a Molecular Mechanism of Mitochondrial DNA Targeting by a Human Transcription Termination Factor.” Kevin recently won a photo competition for the brochure cover at the 2011 American Chemical Society meeting. Kevin is also developing materials to use to get young children interested in science.

Javier Monzon was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. He has advanced to candidacy is currently completing his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution. He is planning on becoming a Post-Doc at UCLA after he completes his degree. Recent presentations by Javier include: "Beyond mitochondrial DNA: An analysis of population genetic structure in northeastern coyotes using highly variable SNPs” presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists. Laramie, WY and "Climate change and species range dynamics in protected areas.” at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Pittsburgh, PA.

Yannick Rigg was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. As an undergraduate he was involved in a research placement in Atmospheric Sciences through a SUNY LSAMP collaboration with the NASA New York State Space Grant. His faculty mentor on this project identified him as a student with significant potential. BD, in partnership with his mentor, decided to advocate for him to the department for graduate admission. He would not have gotten interested in graduate study or been admitted to graduate school without this collaboration. He completed his MS in Atmospheric Sciences this summer.

Vincent Koomson was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. He received his MS in Mechanical Engineering and is currently working at Rockwell Collins in Virginia. He is working on designing the materials used to build airplanes. He is currently applying to Ph.D. programs.

Pierre Xavier was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008 in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He received his MS degree and is currently working for the Defense Contact Management Agency (DCMA) as a Computer Engineer and is planning on applying for an MBA next year.

Stacy Cobb was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010 in Applied Math and Statistics. She received her MS and worked as a Researcher in the Harvard School of Public Health in the Epidemiology Department. She is interested in Autism and started her doctoral program in Statistics at the University of Georgia this fall.

Trichelle Harris was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. She received her MS degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics and is currently employed as a Statistician at Publishers Clearing House. She is interested in biostatistics and has applied to a doctoral program at Washington University in St. Louis where she hopes to continue her studies. She was recently a co-author on an article “Comparison of Rare Variant Tests”.

Alexis Santana was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. She has passed her qualifiers and is completing her Ph.D. in Genetics. As a BD student she has actively recruited UREP STEM students to graduate school at the ABRCMS conference and in other venues. Alexis graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in biology in August 2008. She worked on two research projects on campus: “Characterization of Mitotic Proteins” which she presented at the 2006 SUNY New Paltz AC$^2$ Summer Research Program and “Changes in Structure and Electron Density of Cadmium Sulfide Clusters With Zero to Four Organic Ligands Attached”

Cindy Thomas was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. She has passed her qualifiers, has successfully defended her thesis proposal and is completing her doctorate in Molecular Genetics and Microbiology.

Emmanuel Asare was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011 in Genetics. He is currently working on completing his Ph.D. Recently he did an oral presentation at the Preparing for the Professoriate Conference in Albany on “Alanine scanning mutagenesis of poliovirus protein 2C.”

Luisa Torres was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. She is a doctoral student in pharmacology. She received an honorable mention from the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship in 2011. Luisa recently co-authored an article: Sun, K., L. Torres, and D.W. Metzger, *A detrimental effect of interleukin-10 on protective pulmonary humoral immunity during primary influenza A virus infection*. J. Virol, 2010.

Vladimir Valdez was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. He received him MS in Computer and Electrical Engineering this summer and is currently employed at MITEQ and plans to go on for his Ph.D. in a few years.

Tracey Evans was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. She completed an MS in Atmospheric Sciences and is currently a laboratory manager at the Marine Sciences Center at Stony Brook. She is currently applying to doctoral programs to resume her studies.

William Caraballo was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. He received his MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering and is currently employed as an engineer by Otis Elevator in New York.

Andrew Henry was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2006 to 2008. While there he did research at the Department of Defense. He received his masters in Engineering Science and is currently employed at Cardinal Health in Phoenix Arizona as a Chem/Pharm Tech.

Baaba Blankson was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. She completed her Masters degree in Biopsychology this summer and is applying to MD/Ph.D. programs for the following year.
Emmanuel Garcia is a BD student at Stony Brook from 2010 to 2012 in Biopsychology. He has already produced a ground breaking video called “Belief” about children growing up in religious cults.

Chrisnel Lamy was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. He received his MS degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics this summer and is applying to doctoral programs.

Yesenia Miranda was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. She received her MS in Biomedical Engineering this summer. She is currently employed as a Research Assistant in the Pharmacology Department at Stony Brook and plans to go on to her doctorate.

Gustavo Tinta was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2008 to 2010. He is currently completing his MS in Physiology and Biophysics and working with the SUNY AGEP program.

Marc Laroque was a BD student at Stony Brook from 2009 to 2011. He received his MS in Engineering Science this summer. He is planning to continue on for his Ph.D. and return to his native Haiti to work on long term science policy and planning.

Antonio Upia is a BD Fellow at UB where he is an M.S. student in Electrical Engineering. He is doing his research at the Energy Systems Institute (ESI) on the characterization of energy storage devices and exploding conductors and has recently been focused on non-thermal plasma and its applications, a potential therapeutic tool for cancer treatment. Antonio has co-authored papers accepted by the *IEEE Transactions on Plasma Science Journal* and the *IEEE Pulsed Power Conference*. He has worked on helping minorities in engineering by actively participating in the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), as well as events hosted LSAMP. Antonio also helps promote engineering at UB by presenting demos of projects done at ESI to high school students and prospective students and hosts tours for the Buffalo-area Engineering Awareness for Minorities (BEAM) program.

Beynan Ransom is a BD fellow at UB in the MS program in the Civil, Structural, and Environmental Engineering. His research focus involves hydraulic and hydrologic studies to assess dam performance, as well as local community input to determine cultural uses within the affected watershed. The results of this work will further the integration of human and ecosystem services in restoration design of dam affected watersheds. Beynan was first introduced to the field of environmental restoration when he worked for the Onondaga Nation following the completion of his Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering. As the Nation’s environmental technician, he worked with the *Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damages Trustee Council* to incorporate cultural values of the Onondaga Nation into the restoration of Onondaga Lake. He plans to pursue his interest of incorporating cultural and ecological values in Civil and Environmental Engineering by applying to the Ecosystem Restoration through the Interdisciplinary Exchange doctoral studies program at UB and actively participates in the Native Graduate Student Association.

Alecia Bernard is a BD Fellow at the University of Buffalo (UB) in Chemical Engineering. Her research involves the very current environmental issue of oil spills. The aim of her research is to eliminate the spilled oil by breaking it into small stable droplets that can be eventually eradicated by bacterial and solar decomposition. Alecia has participated in graduate school panels to share her experiences transitioning from an undergraduate student to a graduate student. She has also participated in the *Tech Savvy* program, which encourages young girls to pursue college degrees in the sciences. Alecia’s current goals include earning her Ph. D in Chemical Engineering and using her knowledge to make a positive effect on the world.

Antonio Upia is a BD Fellow at UB where he is an M.S. student in Electrical Engineering. He is doing his research at the Energy Systems Institute (ESI) on the characterization of energy storage devices and exploding conductors and has recently been focused on non-thermal plasma and its applications, a potential therapeutic tool for cancer treatment. Antonio has co-authored papers accepted by the *IEEE Transactions on Plasma Science Journal* and the *IEEE Pulsed Power Conference*. He has worked on helping minorities in engineering by actively participating in the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), as well as events hosted LSAMP. Antonio also helps promote engineering at UB by presenting demos of projects done at ESI to high school students and prospective students and hosts tours for the Buffalo-area Engineering Awareness for Minorities (BEAM) program.

Corie A. Ellison, a BD fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009, is a Ph.D. candidate in Pharmacology and Toxicology. Corie is part of a multidisciplinary team interested in assessing exposure to organophosphorus pesticides in Egyptian cotton field workers to determine if there are neurotoxic effects. As part of this research, Corie has traveled to Menoufia University, Egypt where he helped train a team of physicians, scientists, and students on DNA isolation and
In addition to his research work, Corie has helped mentor several students in the Pharmacology and Toxicology department. Corie has also given several presentations on how to have a successful graduate career to undergraduate students interested in pursuing an advance education in research.

Nicholas R. Torres is a BD Fellow at UB where he is a M.S. candidate in Computer Science. His research is in the area of vehicular ad-hoc networks (VANET). Currently Nicholas is focusing on the security aspects of these networks. In addition to his studies at UB, Nicholas is involved in tutoring math and science to middle school students at the Buffalo Native American Magnet School (K-8th grade), volunteering as much time as possible in the classroom.

Robert M. Namulala is a BD Fellow at UB in the Interdisciplinary MS Program at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. His goals include obtaining his PhD and becoming a leading research professor in Systems Biology. His research is in the analysis of protein structure and how that affects the fundamental understanding of what causes disease states, such as cancer and Alzheimer’s disease. Robert is studying the protein structure of bacterial ribosome’s (cell’s protein factories) for drug targeting using bioinformatics and protein structural analysis at the Hauptman Woodward Institute. Currently, Robert is preparing to enter a graduate exchange program in systems biology between UB, the University of Luxembourg and the Free University in Amsterdam. The CanSys Program is a European-U.S. Interdisciplinary Master's Program fusing Systems and Cancer Biology. The goal of CanSys is to address the considerable shortage of research professionals in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors.

Adonis Pimienta-Penalver is a BD Fellow at UB in the doctoral program in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering. He is studying the dynamics and controls of aerospace systems. Currently, Adonis’ research efforts consist of developing an accurate and fast method to find an approximate solution to the classical mechanics “Kepler’s problem” (finding the position or speed of two bodies over time, given their mass and initial position and velocity) using computational and numerical methods. He is also currently acting as Orbit Team Leader for UB-Nanosat, a student-led long-term competition to build and prepare a satellite to be put into orbit. Aside from his academic life, Adonis has been volunteered for several non-profit organizations to promote science and arts in the Buffalo community.

Andres F. Alzate is a BD Fellow at UB in the MS program in Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. His research involves numerical modeling of fluid mechanics and microorganism growth of algae in enclosed systems with the goal of understanding their interdependent relationships in order to develop the potential use of algae as a viable resource for applications such as bio-fuel production or waste water treatment processes. During Alzate’s first year as a graduate student he developed a mathematical model of algal growth with embedded influences of fluid turbulence. Plans for his second year of study include utilizing a bioreactor apparatus which was designed and constructed during summer research in 2011. The physical model will complement the analytical model and serve as verification for his research hypotheses.

Bethany Rankin is a BD Fellow at UB in the doctoral program in Pharmacology and Toxicology. Her current research focuses on the design and development of anti-cancer agents that mimic breast cancer susceptibility protein (BRCA1) and repress human estrogen receptor alpha (hERα) signaling, and consequently breast cancer tumor growth. She has presented her research at several conferences, the most recent entitled, "Morpholinoaniline Derivative Targeting Human Estrogen Receptor (hERα) as novel Anti-Cancer Agents," presented at the 2011 ASPET Experimental Biology Conference. As an undergraduate at Tougaloo, Bethany developed an interest in breast cancer research. From this and other research related programs and honors, including Historically Black College and University Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) and Intercultural Cancer Council (ICC) awards, she realized the importance of research programs in the development of minority scientists, and is very interested in the development of future scientists. She volunteers at the local Native American school and aids teachers in developing intriguing, effective ways to reach inner city youth.
Brittany Peoples is a BD fellow at UB pursuing a MS in the Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Epidemiology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Her goals include obtaining a Ph.D. in Epidemiology, becoming an educator and pursuing a career in research studying health disparities among minorities. Her current research focuses on health disparities in bone marrow transplant donor registration within the United States. This research will help to identify what can be done to both increase the number of minority donors and increase awareness about bone marrow donation. Brittany works as a volunteer with the Summer High School Research Program at Roswell Park, where she works with high school and undergraduate students with interests in science and medicine. Through the Burrell Academic Scholar Program at Buffalo State College, she has also worked on numerous community initiatives including The Family25 Inc, in which she became a mentor and tutor for low-income and minority elementary and middle school students from urban districts.

Jonathan Rivera is a BD Fellow at UB in the MS program in Civil, Structural, Earthquake and Environmental Engineering. His current research involves the construction and cyclic testing of low aspect ratio reinforced concrete shear walls, which serve as the primary lateral force resistance system in safety related nuclear structures. A major objective of the testing is to develop robust numerical analysis techniques that will accurately predict the shear strength of these walls. At the beginning of the fall semester he will also be volunteering in the UB Buffalo Public Schools Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Partnership.

Oswald Dadson is a BD Fellow at UB where he is a M.S. student in Pharmacology and Toxicology. His research is examining organophosphorus pesticides and their effects on Egyptian cotton field workers. His thesis project will focus on measuring the levels of exposure of Egyptian cotton field workers to the OP pesticide profenofos. Oswald has served as a mentor in the 2011 Collaborative Learning and Integrated Mentoring in the Biosciences Undergraduate Program (CLIMB UP) in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. He has participated in poster presentations at the 50th Annual Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., as well as, the UB 7th Annual Celebration of Academic Excellence, where he won an Award of Excellence for his research. Oswald plans to continue his research in a Pharmacology and Toxicology doctoral program.

Jesús M. Velázquez was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey in 2004. Subsequently, he worked in various pharmaceutical companies. He is currently a doctoral student in the Department of Chemistry working on the fabrication of metal oxide nanowire arrays and their device applications. He has published five peer reviewed articles as a first author. He has also been the recipient of several distinguished awards for his work and leadership including Who’s Who among Graduate Students in American Universities and Colleges, UB Honorary Scholar, and a NASA funded Harriet G. Jenkins Fellowship. He is the first recipient of this incredibly competitive fellowship that will provide a tuition waiver and full stipend for three years of doctoral studies. During his tenure as a NASA-Harriet G. Jenkins fellow, he was selected to conduct research at NASA Ames Research Center in California under the supervision of the Chief of Science and Exploration. His results led to an ongoing collaboration between the UB and NASA and he has been nominated to be a part of the NASA Ambassador’s program disseminating NASA’s vision for an engaged STEM workforce. For several years he has worked with middle school students at the Native American Magnet School where he has been responsible for the elaboration of creative experiments that seek to engage middle-school students and inspire them to consider careers in STEM disciplines. Over the summers of 2009 and 2010, Jesús has served as a peer mentor for REU participants. Recently, he participated in Innovation Station, a summer program at UB designed and piloted in 2010 to expose, engage, and educate rising elementary school students to the exciting world of STEM disciplines.

Buay D. Nhial is a current BD Fellow at UB pursuing an MS in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Buay is currently working in the Virtual Reality Lab (VRLab) on the development of a new system for endovascular teleoperative access (SETA), a device constructed to perform endovascular therapy, a surgical procedure that is less invasive compared to traditional vascular surgery. While continuing his academic endeavors, Buay is striving to develop his master’s research topic related to his field of interest which comprises of conceptual design, modeling, controls and prototyping (rapid and virtual).

Ron Heichman is a BD fellow at UB pursuing a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering. He is currently on a project that focuses on minimizing the error of state estimation for orbital systems and determining collision probability. Ron has been interested in the engineering field since he was in high school, when he began working with a university professor in the field of aerospace engineering.
Since then, he has been very involved in various student groups and professional organizations that have helped him develop and continue to pursue his passion.

Ivonne M. Ferrer was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Chemistry. Her research involves the synthesis and study of metal oxides (i.e., hafnia and zirconia) monolithic structures with hierarchical porous architecture. Her results have been submitted for publication to an American Chemical Society Journal. A patent is pending on the innovative application of the methanol oxide monoliths synthesized in her research group. Ivonne has presented her work in multiple regional and national scientific meetings such as The Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy, as well as the American Chemical Society. She has been involved in promoting Chemistry and motivating students from underrepresented groups to seek research opportunities. She has been a mentor to students in the UB Chemistry Dept.’s Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program and provided workshops at her alma mater, the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey, on the Next Generation of Micro & Nano Technology. She also enjoys giving back to the community being a volunteer for National Chemistry Week at the Buffalo Science Museum and for the Science Fun Night at the Buffalo Native American Magnet School.

Jahmil Campbell was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009 and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Electrical Engineering and is also working on his Master’s in Control Systems at Gannon University. He is a member of several professional organizations and has attended various conferences, such as, the IEEE Pulsed Power Conference, where he presented his research on “The Methods to Increase Electrical Breakdown Threshold of Polystyrene Insulators.” As an undergraduate, Jahmil participated in the UB SUNY LSAMP summer research program where he learned how to conduct research. This experience paved the way for his pursuit of a Master’s and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. He has received various awards for his research talents, including the National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant, the Engineering Undergraduate Fellowship Award and the LSAMP Research Excellence Award.

Epaphrodite Uwimana was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He is currently working for the United States Census Bureau in their department of Information, Technology and Services. Epa has worked as a program analyst for M&T Bank and Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation, and has volunteered his time at Kaleida Health.

Daniel Gavahi was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He graduated in 2010 with a Master’s degree in Civil Engineering with a focus on Structural and Earthquake Engineering. He also holds a Bachelor’s degree in Architectural Engineering from the California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo. Daniel’s main interests lie in seismic and blast resistant design. He is currently an engineer at Hinman Consulting Engineers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Barnard Onyenucheya was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He has a Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Electrical Engineering from UB. He currently works for General Electric.

Keith Ward was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He is a graduate of the University at Buffalo (UB), with degrees in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research. He currently is employed at General Mills as a Systems Engineer.

Courtney Saenz was a BD student at Buffalo from 2007 to 2009. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biophysics and Biochemistry at UB in the Roswell Park Graduate Division.
Pablo E. Guzmán was a BD Fellow at UB from 2007 to 2009. He received his Bachelor’s from Chicago State University in 2006 where he participated in undergraduate research with Professor LeRoy Jones II. This work made him realize that a career in science was for him. He earned his MS from the University at Buffalo (UB) in 2009. Pablo is currently a Ph.D candidate in Organic chemistry at Emory University working with Professor Huw M. L Davies.
David Yambay graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering. David has performed research since his freshman year under the guidance of Professor Stephanie Schuckers in the Biomedical Signal Analysis Lab. David has had the opportunity to publish some of his research findings prior to graduating this May. David has visited with the Department of Defense and several local and national politicians discussing his research. David was awarded second place this year at the Annual Statewide CSTEP Student Research Conference in the technical division. This summer David began his graduate work at Clarkson University in electrical engineering.

Brooke Clare, a civil engineer student completed a successful junior year. Brooke has spent the past two summers doing faculty guided research at Clarkson University with the McNair Scholars program in the Civil Engineering department developing an alternative binding material used to supplement cement. Her research and academic achievements helped her achieve several awards including third place in the Technical Research Experience competition, at the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) fall regional conference, and first place in Engineers of Tomorrow Technical Bowl. In addition to her many accomplishments this year, Brooke expanded her academics internationally as she took the spring 2011 semester to study abroad in Hong Kong. Brooke presented her research at the University of Buffalo’s annual McNair conference, as well as, Clarkson’s SURE symposium. Brooke is a member of Women in Science and Engineering (WISE), where she helps plan and organize events to enhance women’s skills in the STEM fields. She also is Clarkson’s Academic excellence intern for the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and member of Clarkson’s emerging Leaders program.

Theodore Glave graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering. Theodore was a McNair Scholar at Clarkson and completed a summer Research Experience (REU) at the University of Buffalo. Theo presented his research at NSBE Region 1 Conference two years in a row and at the NSBE National Conference taking first place both years. Theo presented his research at the CSTEP statewide conference in the technical division and took first place two consecutive years as well. He was also part of the NSBE Clarkson team who beat Cornell University to win the Engineers of Tomorrow Technical Bowl. Theo won Boeing's Flight Competition Judge’s award and in 2010 was named Battelle Collegiate Scholar. Theodore won Clarkson Universities Institutional Diversity Initiatives award and is a member of the National Honor Society. Theo spent the summer at GE as a summer intern, and he plans to start his graduate program at Texas A&M in engineering this fall.

Rama Yakubu graduated in May with great distinction in Biomedical Science. Rama was a member of the Honors Program at Clarkson. Rama completed a summer internship with the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), as a Merk Scholar in Pennsylvania. Rama worked on siRNA lipid nanoparticle delivery vehicles in the RNA therapeutics department. Rama begins a MD/PhD program at Albert Einstein University this fall.

Emmanuel Asare graduated from Clarkson University with a BS in Biology in 2009. As an undergraduate Emmanuel was an excellent student with a passion for science and a very strong interest in research. He was a member of Clarkson’s Honor’s Program and prior to leaving Clarkson presented his undergraduate thesis on campus’ “phylogenetic relationships among Australian agamid lizards using nuclear mitochondrial DNA Data.” He was an RA and a TA and completed a summer of research as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. As an undergraduate Emmanuel also completed a summer of research at Fordham University as an intern at the American Museum of History. Currently Emmanuel is a PhD student at SUNY Stony Brook where he is an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow.
Casey Boyle is studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan and expected to graduate in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science. Casey reports that through his ULSAMP undergraduate summer research experience he learned the importance of research as well as the time and effort required to make sound and informed decisions regarding research. Further, he credits his LSAMP experience as his motivation to continue performing research in the future.

Christopher Castorena completed his Bachelor of Science in Operation Research in 2009 at Cornell University. While at Cornell, he participated in the 2008 Cornell University LSAMP Summer Research Program. It was the LSAMP experience that allowed him to explore her interests and figure out what he wanted research in graduate school. Currently, he is pursuing a PhD in Computational Biology at Duke University in Durham, NC.

Selisa Rollins attended Arizona State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering in 2010. She participated in Cornell University LSAMP Summer Research Program in 2008. She stated that her participation in the program served as a great introduction to rigor of conducting academic research. This program influenced her decision to ultimately pursue a PhD.

Justine Fisher is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Mississippi State University. Recently, he was awarded the William Parker Memorial Scholarship and the S.D. Bechtel Jr. Foundation Engineering Scholarship. He is planning to pursue a PhD in Architectural Engineering.

Andrew Watson received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Rutgers University in May 2011. As a LSAMP Research Scholar he enjoyed his experience in LSAMP because it afforded him the opportunity to network with students, staff and professionals. He is pursuing his Master’s Degree from Rutgers University in Sustainability.

Darvin Griffin, a Mississippi State University alumnus, became a LSAMP Research Scholar in 2008 at Cornell University and he was mentored by Lawrence Bonassar, Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Biomedical Engineering & Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Darvin is now a PhD student at Cornell University in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. He was awarded a NSF Graduate Fellowship Award in 2009. Further, Darvin mentors undergraduate researchers that participate in the Cornell University LSAMP Summer Research Program.

Maurice Bailey- earned his Associates in Biotechnology in 2010. Upon completing his AS degree, Maurice transferred to Rochester Institute of Technology under the ULSAMP consortium to pursue Biological Sciences under the auspices of Professor Osgood. His research on The Possibility of Cytokines Influencing Bacterial Biofilm Production by Nontypeable Haemophilus Influenzae was presented in the LSAMP conference at Cornell University. Maurice is currently, conducting research at Brookhaven National Lab.

Leslie Courtad—earned her Associates in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Biology and Chemistry in 2010. Leslie graduated with honors, a member of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) and is currently at University of Texas pursuing pre-medical program. Leslie will graduate in 2012 with expectations to enter medical school in the fall 2012 term. While at Monroe
Community College, Leslie participated in the Model United Nations program, Collegiate Science Technology Entry Program forums focusing on career awareness and leadership development.

Shawn Gist—earned his Associates Degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Environmental Sciences in 2011. During the summer of 2009, Shawn participated in the SUNY Upstate to the Baccalaureate Program at Binghamton University. Shawn conducted research on Roadside Disposition of Nitrogen Compounds within Binghamton area. The summer of 2010, Shawn will set out to complete his Bachelors in Science at SUNY Fredonia pursuing a program in environmental and agricultural science.

Shartrice Roberts earned her Associates Degree in Biology in 2010. During the summer of 2010, Shartrice participated in the SUNY Upstate to the Baccalaureate Program at Binghamton University. Shartrice conducted research on Evaluation of DRD2 as a pertinent Gene for the aggressive temperment in Equus Caballus. In the fall of 2010, Shartrice transferred to the University of Rochester to pursue a degree in Biology and Public Health.

Yusuf Abdi enrolled at Monroe Community College and participated in the Summer ULSAMP program in the summer of 2010. He has transferred to SUNY Geneseo to complete a BS degree in Applied Mathematics. In the summer of 2011, Yusuf worked as a Teaching Assistant in the summer program sponsored by ULSAMP. Yusuf taught 15 college freshman math review and problem solving applications along with faculty in the program.

Efigenia Bonano earned her Associates in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Chemistry in 2010. During the summer of 2011, Efigenia participated in the SUNY Upstate to the Baccalaureate Program at Binghamton University. This fall, Efigenia enrolled at the University of Massachusetts to pursue Bachelors in Microbiological Sciences.

Mohamed Mohamed earned his Associates Degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Biology and Mathematics in 2011. Mohamed participated in the SUNY Upstate to the Baccalaureate Program at Binghamton University. His research The Effects of Monoamine Depletion on Motor Performance and L-DOPA-Induced Dyskinesia in the Hemiparkinsonian Rat won him first place in the Natural Science category of the CSTEP State Conference. Mohamed is now at Binghamton University completing a Bachelor’s in Chemistry.

Carlos Wu Bu earned his Associates in Engineering Science in 2009. While at Monroe Community College, Carlos was active in the undergraduate Engineering council, CSTEP forums and outreach activities. He enrolled in Rochester Institute of Technology to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree in Industrial Engineering, Carlos graduated in 2011. He is currently employed at Delphi Inc. as an Engineer.

Mary Ramirez earned her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Biology in 2010. During the summer of 2010, Mary conducted research through the SUNY Upstate to the Baccalaureate Program at Binghamton University. In the fall of 2010, Mary transferred to pursue a Bachelor Degree in Biology at the College at Brockport.

Biribwa. D. Arinaitwe, was a math/science major at Onondaga Community College during 2008-2009. As a LSAMP scholar, she maintained a 3.71 GPA. She was named to Phi Theta Kappa, Provost Academic List and served as a math & biology tutor in the program. Biribwa completed two scientific research programs at the Binghamton University Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. Biribwa transferred to Binghamton University where she just completed her bachelor’s degree program in pre-med, graduating on Binghamton’s dean’s list and was the first recipient of the Harpur Fellows Program where she traveled back to Uganda to established the ‘Rehabilitating the Ex-LRA Abductees, One Stich at a Time’ project.

Kennedy M. Mihigo, a Provost Academic Award recipient, member of Phi Theta Kappa and an LSAMP scholar, Kennedy graduated from Onondaga Community College in 2009 with an associate degree in Mechanical Technology while completing his program with a 3.67 GPA. Before transferring to Rochester Institute of Technology, he completed a 10-week LSAMP sponsored scientific research experience at RIT in high-efficiency, high gain power amplification based for wireless transmitters based in syncrodyne amplification.

Lisa L. GreenPope, a 2008 math/science graduate at Onondaga Community College, was one of the first students to enroll in the LSAMP program. Before leaving OCC, Lisa received awards from the National Coca-Cola Scholarship, SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, Allyn Honor's Award, Faculty Endowed Award
for Academic Excellence and was Vice President of Phi Theta Kappa before transferring to Binghamton University. Lisa participated in BU’s Bridges to Baccalaureate REU program and a 2009 internship at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center. Lisa graduated magna cum laud from Decker School of Nursing and is now pursuing her master’s degree in public health at the University at Albany.

Manuel E. Santana, a 2011 graduate of Onondaga Community College in engineering science, finished with a 3.90 GPA as an LSAMP scholar. Manuel transferred to L.C. Smith School of Engineering at Syracuse University where he has been accepted into the graduate program for mechanical engineering. He is pursuing his career goal to design high efficiency environmentally friendly energy systems. Manuel received a B.S. in Environmental Biology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in 2009. At OCC, he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and physics. Manuel participated in summer research in the area, designing a synthetic jet actuator module at Syracuse University.

Christian A. Sias, attended Onondaga Community College as a math/science major in 2010-2011 and joined the LSAMP program. Christian made the Provost’s List with a GPA of 3.16. This fall, Christian will be studying at University of Maryland Baltimore County and applying to UMBC’s B.S./Master's Dual 5-year program in Applied Mathematics. This past summer, he participated in 10-week scientific research project in structural chemistry sponsored by LSAMP at Cornell University.

Sarah E. Pluff, a 2010 graduate of Onondaga Community College in math/science, was very focused on her goal to study medicine, which led her to become an LSAMP scholar. While at OCC, Sarah was nominated for the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, president of Phi Theta Kappa and conducted summer research in exploring the differences between two DNA binding assays at Binghamton’s Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. Sarah finished with a 3.63 GPA. Currently a senior at Upstate Medical University in their medical technology program, Sarah received the Minorities Honor Scholarship (Hispanic) and completed research in respiratory syncytial virus in children while maintaining 3.72 GPA. She will be enrolling in their physician’s assistant program next academic year.

Raquel Auwae is a sophomore Bioengineering major at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She participated in the RPI Summer LSAMP Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project titled, Identification of Heparan sulfate 3-O-sulfotransferase 1(3-OST1) using Proteomics Approach. In addition to bioengineering, she is interested cell & molecular biology. The LSAMP program has given her “a better understanding of what scientists and engineers do, and what it’s like to be in their shoes doing research.” After participating I the program she has decided to pursue graduate study.

Ivan Valerio, is a Junior Applied Physics major at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He participated in the RPI Summer Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project entitled, Pressure Effects on the Morphology of Mammalian Cells. Ivan believes that “physics is not just to discover new facts or information about the world around us, but also to apply those new discoveries and improve technology that will allow us to advance as a society.” He plans to continue with physics in graduate school and enter the professoriate. Joining LSAMP has allowed him to expand his horizons and provided him with a better understanding of laboratory research. His research experience has increased his desire to attend graduate school.

Laura Lopez Cruz, is a junior majoring in mathematics at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus. She participated in the RPI Summer Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project entitled, Assessment of Gustiness for Pantex2 site in West Texas. She was nervous about participating in the LSAMP research experience, but her passion for mathematics kept her enthused throughout the semester, as she explored the field and discovered new aspects that truly fascinated her. She presented the results of her project in the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM) joined with the American Chemical Society Junior Technical Meeting and the Inter-institutional Seminary of Mathematical Research (SIDIM). She is now interested in pursuing a Ph.D.

Shaniqua Johnson, is a sophomore majoring in chemistry at Cornell University. She participated in the RPI Summer Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project entitled, Astrobiology :Microenvironments and their effects on RNA polymerization. Shaniqua came into the
program during the summer after her freshman year to get research experience early in order to gain experience and learn what area of chemistry she wanted to pursue. One of her favorite quotes guided her in her outlook. ‘In order to experience life, you have to Experience everything. Regret nothing.’ After participating in the LSAMP program, she now plans to go to graduate school and study forensic science.

**Morgan Jackson**, a sophomore majoring in biology at Villanova University. He participated in the RPI Summer Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project entitled, *Amyloid Fibril Core Sequence of a 39-Residue Peptide (PAPf39) from Human Prostatic Phosphatase*. Morgan started conducting research after his first year of school. His academic interests have led him to a mathematics and computer science major, with a strong interest in the field of bioinformatics. After participating in the LSAMP research program, he now plans to pursue a combination of bioinformatics and molecular genetics for his graduate studies.

**Jade Benjamin**, is a senior majoring in Biomedical Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She participated in the RPI Summer Research Program in 2011 and worked on a project entitled *Drug Loading of Naproxen Sodium on the Degradation Characteristics of Polycaprolactone*. Jade has been focused her whole college career and dedicated to STEM research. After participating in the LSAMP summer program, she has set up a road map for her engineering future. She plans to obtain her master’s degree in Tissue Engineering with a Nanotechnology application with a nervous tissue concentration, then go on to obtain a Doctorate in Biological Engineering involving genetic engineering. She wants to pursue this research path in order to help find cures for genetic diseases or cancer.

**Luticha Doucette**, Ms. Wheelchair New York, overcomes disability and engages in research and community service. Luticha has participated in ULSAMP for the past two years researching on computer languages and programs that are used in molecular visualization. She has presented posters at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. Luticha is also a member of the Professional Chemical Fraternity: Alpha Chi Sigma and a Disability Rights Advocate.

**Corey Mack** earned his BS degree in spring 2011. As an ULSAMP student developed and entered the Collegiate Green Vehicle Competition. Corey has also developed a system of emergency housing using large shipping containers. Always active in the community Corey is shown here working with high school students preparing for the “First Robotics Competition.

**Jennifer Cadestin** is a junior who is majoring in biology with a pre-med concentration and a minor in psychology. She is a Dean’s List scholar and Wellslink Scholar. After Cadestin attended a mini-medical school program with the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, “I realized a field in science was something I wanted to achieve,” she says. Cadestin is a volunteer in the SUNY Upstate Medical University’s Family Resource Center. She plans to become a pediatric neurologist.

**Janique Cheesman** is a senior who is majoring in environmental engineering. She is a McNair Scholar who also obtained the EPA Greater Research Opportunities Fellowship. Cheesman decided on a career in science, “When I realized how much of a positive contribution I could make to society by using my skills in engineering and science,” she says. Cheesman plans to pursue graduate degrees in sustainable engineering.

**Michael A.C. Foulkes** is a senior who is majoring in chemistry and mathematics with a minor in biology. Foulkes is a Dean's List scholar and a recipient of the Leon M. Woods Academic Scholarship Award and a participant in the Renée Crown University Honors Program. His internships include the Doctor’s Hospital in the Bahamas and the Oxford Traditional Medical Program.
Foulkes is applying to graduate programs, medical schools and for job opportunities.

**Dennis Frazer** is a junior biomedical engineering major. He was accepted into the Renee Crown Honors Program in 2010. Frazer researched neural regeneration as an intern at the Syracuse Biomaterials Institute.

Frazer aspires to become a physician. That goal says has “always been my dream.” He is also interested in becoming a research scientist and focusing on biomedical engineering.

**Frances Julian Gonzalez** is a third-year undergraduate student majoring in aerospace engineering and he intends to minor in physics and mathematics. Gonzales is a recipient of the Igor Sikorsky Scholarship, a three-time recipient of the Henry Street Settlement Youth Scholarship and he is in the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science PRIDE Circle of Honors. Gonzales hopes to work at Sikorsky Aircraft or conduct research at Syracuse or Cornell universities.

**Kemardo Henry** is a senior majoring in biochemistry. He received the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Henry is also a Renee Crown Scholar who has been on the Dean’s List every semester while at Syracuse. Henry plans to continue his studies and pursue a doctorate degree. He plans to explore the medical properties of the chemicals produced by plants.

**Joseph Ilourie** is a senior who is majoring in biology with a minor in psychology. Ilourie is a Ronald E. McNair Scholar who has also received the Emerging Student Leader Award from Morgan Stanley. He is also a National Society of Collegiate Scholar. Ilourie is continuing his second year of research in the ophthalmology department at the SUNY Upstate Medical School. He plans to continue his studies and earn master’s and doctorate degrees.

**Mireily Mir** is a senior majoring in mechanical engineering. She has been on the Dean’s List three times. Mir is interested in addressing people's special needs through mechanical engineering by improving the design of everyday products used by the elderly and children. She plans to pursue a doctorate degree.

**Sofia Alia Pezoa** is third-year undergraduate student majoring in biology with a minor in Spanish. She is conducting a distinction in biology thesis. Last summer Pezoa was a LSAMP research fellow and received an honorary mention for her research at the Syracuse University Summer Research Symposium. She plans to attend medical school.

**Amiya Quidley** is a junior who is majoring in chemical engineering with a minor in information management and technology. She is a Dean’s Scholarship recipient. Quidley is a member of the National Society of Black Engineers and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. She had an internship at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University through the Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program. Quidley plans to conduct medical research to develop treatments diseases and disorders.

**Luis F. Romo** is a graduate student who is pursuing a master’s degree in biomedical engineering. The medical device company Romo founded, HELIOS Innovative Technologies Inc., earned the first-place and grand prize positions at the 2011 New York State Business Plan Competition. Romo is a member of the Student Philanthropy Council and a researcher at the SUNY Upstate Medical School. He was an LSAMP student during his undergraduate career and is now the LSAMP graduate assistant and helps coordinate student events for the program.
Zenille Saunders is a senior who is majoring in environmental engineering and political science. She is a Coronat Scholar who was inducted into the Chi Epsilon Civil and Environmental Engineering Honor Society this year. Saunders was also a Cramer Scholar at the Interdisciplinary Center at Herzliya, Israel. She is applying to graduate schools and plans to earn an advanced degree in environmental engineering. Zenille is very active on campus and is currently serving as the president of the Syracuse University chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

Asia Terry is a senior who is majoring in mechanical engineering. She received the Pride Circle of Honor and Circle of Achievement award while studying at Syracuse University. Terry realized she wanted to pursue a career related to math and science after her high school teachers introduced her to engineering. Terry is preparing for graduate school.

LaToya Welch is a graduate student at Syracuse University pursuing her Master's Degree in Information Management. As an LSAMP student she earned a Bachelor of Science in Information Management and Technology degree. She currently works for an IT company in Vienna, VA. LaToya also has the honor of being a Gates Millennium Scholar. Throughout her years in the LSAMP program, she had the opportunity to network and strengthen her academic and communication skills.

Theodore Williams is a senior who is majoring in environmental engineering with an environmental policy minor. He is the Emerging Researchers National Conference engineering and technology winner. He is also the winner of the Invention and Creativity Competition and the Annual Life Science Symposium. Williams plans to attend graduate school and plans to study renewable energy/sustainable engineering.
Dr. Husniyah Abdus-Salaam received a B.S. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University, a M.S. degree in Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and a Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University. She is currently employed as a Systems Engineer at Intel Corporation in Phoenix, Arizona. “Dr. Eric Cheek introduced me to engineering my freshmen year, while I was exploring different areas that would allow me to use my love for mathematics. However, it was not until I was given the opportunity to conduct research under the guidance of Dr. Clinton Lee, and NCLSAMP that I considered the possibility of obtaining a graduate degree.”

Jerry Adams received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University, and a M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University. “I knew that engineering was for me when I realized how much I enjoyed math and developed an interest for wanting to create technology. I grew up thinking I would someday create an actual iron man suit. Of course I didn't but that desire compelled me to become an engineer to study the art of creating something that was useful or simply making something work better. My involvement with LSAMP granted me the exposure I needed while in undergrad to inspire me to pursue graduate school and continue my desire to furthering my research in Automatic Control Theory. That desire led me to obtaining my MSEE at Purdue University with my thesis centered in Autonomous Control Theory by applying Model Predictive Control to solve a flight control problem for a Cessna - 182 Aircraft. Upon graduating from Purdue University, I began my engineering professional career with ExxonMobil in VA as a Control Systems Engineer.

Sheldon Abrams is currently attending North A&T State University, pursuing a B.S. degree in Computer Science. “I realized that the STEM areas were for me when I experienced the power of computing. Being associated with the High School Computer Competition, sponsored by the Black Data Processing Associates, revealed to me the dynamics of this era. Previous to that discovery, I always had an interest in computers, but I had no idea of the full extent of the reach of the computer. Today, living in an era of information, computers are a central tool in any field across most modern disciplines. From prediction, to calculation, to automation, the power of computation opens the realm of knowledge in a way not previously humanly possible. It is the reason why I am a computer scientist today.

Brandon Ball graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. “I realized STEM was a good program when I wanted to gain undergraduate research experience and learn more about attaining advanced degrees through the program. I also enjoyed getting a stipend to help out with out-of-state college expenses. I conducted research on "Bone Conduction", to assist army soldiers in communicating with each other without cover ears during combat, which will help them make better decisions in hostile environments.

Jessye Bemley received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Industrial and Systems Engineering, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University. “I was introduced to STEM at a young age by my parents. Participating in various programs showed me all the interesting concepts you can learn and apply to everyday life using STEM. I want to share that with other young people.”

Dr. Tanina Bradley received a B.S. degree in Engineering Physics in 2004 from North Carolina A&T State University. She was a member of Cohort II of the Bridge to the Doctorate program, and completed a master’s degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She returned to NCA&T to pursue a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, and will graduate in May, 2012.
Charnell Chasten attends North Carolina A&T State University, and is currently pursuing a B.S. degree in Chemistry. She is currently studying abroad in Costa Rica. “Life is not worth living unless you live for others,” my grandparents frequently said. With this quote in mind, I sought out to live by this value and find my niche. I know that I have always had a fascination with science, even at an early age. As a result, my mother was forced to purchase safety plugs for the electrical outlets to prevent me from sticking objects into the sockets. In hopes of witnessing a reaction, I would often mix cleaning and cosmetic products. This interest has led me to pursue a career in health sciences so I can help others and exercise my love of science.

Jonte Douglas attends North Carolina A&T State University, and is currently pursuing a B.S. degree in Technology. “I realized STEM was for me when I talked to Dr. Murphy, the Program Manager of the NCLSAMP Program and she recruited me to be a NCLSAMP Achiever while I worked as a camp counselor the summer before attending school. I am very excited to earn a degree in the STEM discipline and a pursuing a graduate degree in the STEM discipline as well.”

Erica Echols graduated from North Carolina A&T State University, with a B.S. degree in Chemistry, and the University Of South Florida, with a M.S. degree in Environmental Science and Policy. She is currently an Academic Coordinator at South Carolina State University. “As a member of the NC-LSAMP program at NC A&T SU, I was afforded the opportunity to perform undergraduate research a professor in my department (Chemistry), present my project at LSAMP conferences, attend the HBCU-UP Conference in New Orleans, LA, and also gain knowledge about summer internships and other opportunities. After gaining undergraduate research experience, I was encouraged to apply to summer internships. I applied and was accepted to an internship at Cornell University’s CCMR (Cornell Center for Materials Research) REU. It was this summer that opened my eyes to graduate school and I decided to pursue a Master’s degree in the STEM field. Nearing graduation, a conversation with the NC-LSAMP director, Dr. Marcia Williams, enlightened me of a Bridge to the Doctorate opportunity at the University of South Florida. I received a BD fellowship and attended USF- St. Petersburg to obtain my Master’s in Environmental Science and Policy. The NC-LSAMP program allowed me to build a network of people who are invested in the success of students. It instilled in me a passion for higher education and STEM research. I hope to inspire students to take advantage of all opportunities that come their way and to be open to where the path of life may lead them.”

Kenny Esho graduated for North Carolina A&T State University and received a B.S. degree in Biology, and a M.S. degree in Biology from Drexel University. Kenny is currently attending the Morehouse School of Medicine pursuing a medical degree. “I chose to go into STEM because I realized that I loved science and math when I was in high school. I really enjoyed biology and also like to help people, so I thought that what a better way to bridge those two things together than to become a doctor”.

Jamil Grant graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering. “I realized a STEM career was for me when I was very young. As a child, my curiosity of how things worked was always great. When I became of age to realize that there was a profession that merged science, math, and real world problem solving, I was naturally drawn in to engineering.”

Dr. Al-Aakhir Grimes-Rogers graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering, and received a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of South Florida. Dr. Rogers was a member of Cohort I of the Bridge to the Doctorate program at NCA&T, and the 2nd BD cohort at USF. He is currently a Senior Researcher on the Technical Staff at Draper Laboratory. “While pursuing my Master’s degree, I participated in a summer internship at NASA JPL and it was that moment that the light turned on. I was affirmed from the group leader and praised for the good work that I completed that summer. That moment clearly defined that ‘I could do this’...obtain the Ph.D.

Franshaun Hardy received a B.S. degree in Computer Engineering, and is currently pursuing a M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University. “I realized STEM was for me in the 3rd Grade, when I built a sample motor for the Science Fair. I am continuing my LSAMP project, Facial Expression Recognition, as my thesis in graduate school.

Kori Higgs received a B.S. Degree in Biological Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University. The LSAMP project has helped transform landscape surrounding Sockwell Hall into a demonstration of how to restore natural functions of an urban environment. It has helped also recruit new students into Biological Engineering because they are impressed with the impact our work has on the campus.

Elaina Jones received a B.S. degree in Architectural Engineering with a minor in Engineering Physics from North Carolina A&T State University in 2003. She completed her master’s degree in Civil Engineering as a member of Cohort I of the Bridge to the Doctorate program at NCA&T. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M University.

Dr. Kenneth Jones received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering in 2003 from North Carolina A&T State University, and was a member of Cohort I of the Bridge to the Doctorate program at NCA&T. Upon completion of his master’s degree in Computer Engineering, he was accepted into the Electrical and Computer Engineering doctoral degree program at NCA&T, and defended his dissertation in the 2011 fall semester.

Nollele Jones attends North Carolina A&T State University and is pursuing a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering. “I realized that STEM was something that I was willing to pursue after a physical science experiment in high school, which involved the class making homemade lotion from borax and beeswax. I really enjoyed the experiment and it was cool that you could make something out of everyday materials.

Na’ilah Kituku received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University. She is currently employed as a General Engineer at National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)/ Department of Energy (DOE). “I always believed that I was going to be an architect until I discovered engineering. I took an engineering course my senior year in high school, and during this course I realized there was an Architectural Engineering discipline. It was then that I knew I was going to college to study Architectural Engineering. However, I do not believe I was completely convinced on completing my undergraduate education in engineering until I began doing research. I was able to conduct my research through the NC-LSAMP program, the most influential program during a time when I reached a crossroad in my life: stay in the STEM field or not. This program pushed me into doing research and that research is ultimately what “sealed the deal” for me in continuing my education in a STEM field.”

Jordan Ortiz attends North Carolina A&T State University, and is currently pursuing a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering (Aerospace). “I realized that choosing a STEM major was the best route for the main objectives I wanted to complete in my future. I was able to think technically in secondary school, so I knew I wanted to broaden that ability and find out how far I could take my potential. As a senior completing my BS in Mechanical Engineering, with a concentration in Aerospace Engineering, the light bulb clicked when I started to excel and learn new things daily. The course work is never boring and it’s the type of environment that forces you to think outside the box. So many opportunities have been set in front of me with scholarships and internships as well, so this is just the beginning for me. I participated in research my first year in the LSAMP program, which was 2010-2011. It by far has been one of the best experiences I have had while in college. The undergraduate research opportunity gave me the chance to obtain hands on experience in the lab. I was out in the field testing and networking as well. As a junior in college I was already a part of a research project that could have the potential to improve lives in the medical field. This caused me to think, ‘who at 20 years of age could say they did that?’ Currently I am a senior graduating in May of 2012. This summer I will be going to Officer Candidate School to become commissioned in the United States Coast Guard, and then become a Pilot. I plan to get my master’s degree as well while I am serving in the USCG.”

Mathew Reader attends North Carolina A&T State University and is pursuing a B.S. degree in Computer Engineering. “I realized that a STEM major was for me during my senior year in high school. I took electronics courses during my junior and senior years, learned about the field through hands-on activities such as building circuits on a head board, and building power supplies. In doing this, I became very fascinated with these experiences and my ability to read a schematic. So I asked my teacher what professional field I should pursue, to continue learning about building circuits and other electronic components. He replied that I should consider electrical engineering. Currently, I am a junior at North Carolina A&T State University studying electrical engineering, and in my second year of the NCLSAMP program continuing the research I started my sophomore year. After obtaining my undergraduate degree from NCA&T, I plan to attend graduate school for a degree in electrical or chemical engineering.
Emmanuel Rowe received dual degrees from North Carolina A&T State University (B.S. in Electrical Engineering) and Morehouse College (B.S. in Mathematics). He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, and is a Research Assistant at Virginia Commonwealth University. “I had a calculator watch that would always break. I asked my mother to buy me precision screwdriver set to fix it. One day on the school bus while fixing said watch, one of my classmates said ‘Emmanuel, you are always fixing that watch. You must be an electrical engineer.’ Then it clicked. My research project while participating in NCLSAMP was on the Growth of Yttrium Barium Copper Oxide on Silicon with a Strontium Oxide buffer layer using Pulsed Laser Deposition.

Dr. John Shelton received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2000 from North Carolina A&T State University. After working in industry, he returned to his alma mater in 2005 to pursue a master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. John was a member of Cohort I of the Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort at NCA&T. Upon completion of his master’s degree, John enrolled into the Mechanical Engineering doctoral degree program at the University of South Florida. He defended his dissertation in October, 2011, and is currently completing his postdoctoral studies at Carnegie Mellon University and is funded through a Department of Energy Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Chantel Simpson- attends North Carolina A&T State University and is pursuing a B.S. Degree in Earth and Environmental Science. “I realized I wanted to major in a STEM field when my great-grandfather was diagnosed with cancer. I would like to pursue a graduate degree in toxicology through the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program.

Renard Spratling received a B.S. degree in Computer Science from North Carolina A&T State University, and a M.S. degree in Information Technology from University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is currently a Business Analyst at Wells Fargo, and an Adjunct Professor at Guilford Technical College. “I realized STEM was for me when my parents bought our first home computer. I was in the sixth grade when they bought the computer, and we waited over two weeks for someone to come set it up. So I figured out how to set it up myself. From there, my interest and intrigue with the world of technology was realized.”

Teneil Sivells- Attends North Carolina A&T State University, and is currently pursuing a B.S. degree in Biological Engineering. “I realized biological engineering was for me when my advisor, Dr. Godfrey Gayle, came to my high school to recruit for the program. He and a couple of students that had come with him explained the difference I would be making on the world by committing myself to this particular branch of engineering. Natural resources, especially water, are particularly valuable for the environment in the future. My LSAMP project consists of recording temperatures at 3 locations on campus, and checking the recordings weekly to make sure the machines are working properly. This project is just a part of the “nature culture” lab that my mentor, Dr. Manuel Reyes, has set up on A&T’s campus, and we are making an effort to develop innovative creations for the future of our environment.”

Tariq Walker- Attends North Carolina A&T State University is currently pursuing B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He has been accepted into North Carolina State University to pursue a M.S. degree in civil engineering with a concentration in structures. “I have the opportunity to participate in undergraduate research through the North Carolina Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (NC-LSAMP) program under the mentorship of Dr. Taher Abu-Lebdeh. My research focuses on improving the tensile strength, ductility and toughness of Very High Strength Concrete (VHSC) by comparing VHSC with VHSC with embedded fibers (i.e. Polypropylene fibers, PVA fibers, and Hooked End steel fibers).

Andrew Zac-Williams- Received B.S., and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University. “I always took my toys and home electronics apart as a kid, so naturally I made my way as an engineer. I attained a master's degree which was strongly influenced during my tenure as an LSAMP scholar. The workshops and engineering conferences led me to successfully pursue as master’s degree. My graduate research provided the necessary engineering skills needed for my current role as a senior applied mechanics leader at Cummins Mercruiser Diesel based in Charleston, SC.”
“During the junior year of my bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering, and my first year in the LSAMP program, I was conducting research on radio-frequency transmitters for a tire material property study. In independent research, I learned that the same devices that were being analyzed and identified for tires were also used in the development of inner cochlear implants of babies who were born deaf. I thought to myself “WOW”; the impact engineering has on the capacity for sustaining and improving human life was profound. It was then that I realized that I wanted to explore the bridge between medicine and bioengineering. I went on to pursue a Masters in Bioengineering followed by a Medical Doctorate. My desire is to bridge these two avenues in the realm of anesthesiology and sensorium technology. I am particularly grateful for the opportunity afforded to me from the NSF grants. I was privileged to participate in countless presentations, conferences, professional development and educational activities through the LSAMP, and Bridge to Doctorate program. The NSF resource is phenomenal in that it provides an avenue to cultivate minds, particularly minorities, to the realm of unimaginable endeavors. This program has shaped my graduate education and I am delighted to have been a selected scholar. I thank you dearly for this opportunity and look forward to carrying the mission, professionalism and poised mind for research and service throughout my career. Thanks again!”

NC-State University

Javon Marcell Adams received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University. He is currently a Ph.D. student in the Civil Engineering Transportation Systems program. His achievements include 2010 Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellow, and 2009 recipient of the Black Alumni Society Graduate Scholarship. “A STEM career likely has always been the path for me, even before I knew it. I’ve always excelled at math and science but, beyond that, I have always been passionate about problem solving whether it was in the form of simple puzzles or complex calculations. A career in an engineering discipline has allowed me to utilize those strengths. Also, I am highly competitive so I desired a career path that would allow me to face new challenges that would have an impact on the lives of many. I am reminded of the reason I chose this career path every time I utilize my understanding of the principles behind a problem to develop a new method to resolve that problem in my current Ph.D. research.”

Cynthia Andujar is currently majoring in Mechanical Engineering at North Carolina State University, with an expected graduation date of May, 2012. Her achievements include member of Pi Tau Sigma, and the Dean’s List for each semester since her freshman year. “The programs offered via MEP assisted in my journey by gaining responsibility and realizing the impact I have on others. I am honored to have been selected to be a START mentor, STP counselor, and a volunteer for the Overnight Stay to represent my university. At the ASME conference at Virginia Tech, students received a tour of the Robotics and Mechanisms Laboratory. I remembered I was so astounded by all the different robotics in the lab and knew I wanted to pursue a similar field. However, I still wanted to combine my passion for fine-arts with engineering. When I attended the HENAAC Conference at Walt Disney World, I was in awe with how engineering supported the arts, especially in the field of audio-animatronics. After that conference, I received an internship at Walt Disney World in audio-animatronics, which confirmed my passion for applying engineering to support the art of fantasy.”

Melissa Bebb completed a B.S. degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in 2007 at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), and participant in the Penn State University Summer Research Opportunities Program in 2005. “I transferred to North Carolina State University in 2004 from UNC-Pembroke. I knew that I enjoyed math/chemistry and wanted to do something related to the health care field, but didn’t know how to translate that into a degree and subsequently a career. I spent the first few semesters researching degrees and decide on a Chemical Engineering degree from NC State. While I didn’t have the opportunity to participate in the freshman programs offered by the Minority Engineering Programs office, the office played a key role in my educational development throughout college.

Thomas M. Bolden received B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering at North Carolina State University, and pursuing a master’s degree in Electrical Engineering. His achievements include a GEM Fellowship, NACME Scholarship, Navy Relief Foundation Scholarship, AFCEA General Emmet Paige Scholarship, Marine Corps Foundation Scholarship, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and the Eta Kappa Nu Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society. “My interest in the STEM field came from my affinity as a child for playing with computers and electronics, and always wanting to know how they operated. This childhood interest coupled with my love for science and math, once exposed to it in elementary school, is what has propelled me along the path I am on today. Pursuing a degree within a STEM field such as engineering is NOT an easy task. But during my time here at NC State, the Minority Engineering Programs (MEP) office has been a constant source of support and direction. Their active involvement and interest in the recruitment and retention of minority students into the College of Engineering is a major part of the reason I came to NC State and have been able to do well.”
Khalia Braswell is a senior Computer Science and Communications major at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include Chair of the Black Students Board, Mentor for the START program, and Region II Publications Chair for the National Society of Black Engineers. “I was in high school when I decided that I wanted to pursue a career in a STEM field. I made the decision to attend NC State as a result of attending the Minority Engineering Program’s Overnight Stay. After seeing so many African-American engineers, I knew this was where I wanted to be. Shortly after that program, I was accepted into the Summer Transition Program (STP). The program was a good introduction to campus life, and it allowed me to make a lot of friends. Once the school year began, I automatically placed into the START mentoring program. I am grateful for this because my mentor still helps me whenever I need her. Since then, I have also become a mentor to several students and it is truly a rewarding experience. I feel that it is important to have a mentor because it helps to have someone that looks like you in your discipline that can help guide you along the way."

Jasmine Nicole Jarvis

Kyle Linnard Davis received a B.S. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from North Carolina State University, and is currently a Ph.D. student in Biomedical Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. His achievements include, Chancellor’s Fellow at Washington University, Eta Kappa Nu Electrical Engineering Society, and Leadership Alliance member at John’s Hopkins University. “While at North Carolina State University, I was an active participant in the MEP programs from the time I decided to attend. I began by attending the overnight stay where I confirmed that I would attend North Carolina State University. From there I was a participant in the STP program and got a head start on my undergraduate coursework and met people that I would continue to develop a relationship with.”

Larrisha Rene Gregory (Nobles) received a B.S. degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include Caldwell Scholar, Beckman Scholar, and Mulkey-Shelton Leadership Award. “My journey in the STEM field began as a participant in the Summer Transition Program at NC State. Through this program I gained an appreciation for good study habits, mentors, and relationships with peers that propelled me through my undergraduate career. I had successfully passed my first college course, learned my way around a new campus, and met future tutors thanks to STP. In the fall following STP I was able to participate in the START program which gave me a mentor to help answer my many questions and give advice that helped me through my freshman year. This gave me a great start as I pursued my undergraduate degree in chemical engineering.”

Chasity Holt is currently a senior at North Carolina State University, majoring in Computer Engineering. Her achievements include Vice President of the National Society of Black Engineering, and 2010 Dean’s List. “I realized a STEM career was for me after my internship at SAS Institute Inc. this past summer. Getting hands on experience in the company showed me that there is more to engineering than what we are taught in school and being in the work atmosphere was a motivation to push through the remainder of my academic career. My involvement as an STP (MEP Summer Transition Program) student and head counselor has also been very beneficial for me. I built communication, networking, academic, and leadership skills being involved in the program and I am able to share the many things I gained with others who are eager to be better students and people. As a STP student, the program gave me an early support system coming into college and allowed me to be comfortable away from home.”

Justin Hicks received a B.S. degree in Biomedical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2011. He is currently an Associate Researcher in the Radiation-Induced Osteoporosis Laboratory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His achievements include a NIH Research Grant Diversity Supplement, Tau Beta Engineering Honors Society, Golden Key International Honor Society, and the Larry Keith Humility Award from the UNC School of Medicine. “My Ah-ha moment when I realized that STEM was a career for me was my freshman physics class which proved to be challenging; however, I realized I had a natural knack for problem solving in which I excelled. While pursuing my bachelor’s degree, I participated in many of the minority engineering programs at NC State University which I attribute my collegiate success to. I applied all of the lessons learned from this summer program which allowed me to find early success in engineering and I do not believe I could have reached the same level of achievement without the Summer Transition Program.”

Braxton Z. Jackson is currently a junior majoring in Nuclear Engineering with a minor in Africana Studies at North Carolina State University. His achievements include the Caldwell Fellows program, NC State Chancellor Leadership Scholarship and Walton Family Scholarship. “I have participated in almost all of the programs offered through the Minority Engineering Programs Office including: Summer Transition Program (as a counselor and incoming freshman), Overnight Stay (as a host for the high school student), and START (as both a mentee and mentor). My participation in these programs has truly served as my guide through the rigorous engineering curriculum by providing me with accessible resources that have helped me succeed in my major.”

Chasley Holt is currently a senior at North Carolina State University, majoring in Computer and Electrical Engineering with a minor in Psychology. Her achievements include Dean’s List, and the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society. “The moment I realized a STEM career was for me was actually in middle school. I had always enjoyed and done really well in my math and science courses. I completed an in-depth project about a Computer Software Engineer and became intrigued by the occupation. In high school I took several engineering related course as well as honors and Advanced Placement math and science course. I interned with the NCSU Electrical and Computer Engineering department my senior year in high school and that helped me even more realize where I wanted to attend school and what degree I wanted to pursue. I participated in the MEP Overnight Stay and STP, which crucially helped my transition from high school to college.”
Joy Marie Johnson received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2007, and a M.S. in Electrical Engineering from MIT in 2009. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Electrical Engineering at MIT. Her achievements include NCSU Honors Program, Intel GEM Ph.D. Fellow, MIT Presidential Fellow, and Sigma Xi Research Honor Society. “While at NC State I was involved in the Summer Transition Program (STP) as a participant and the MEP Mentoring program (START) as a mentor for other minority engineering students. STP definitely put me two steps ahead of the game when entering as a freshman with no background in the sciences. It gave me the confidence and the resources to choose a major in engineering and thrive. Additionally the MEP and Dr. Mitchell introduced me to summer research programs which one in particular (NNIN at Cornell University) changed my life. It was there that I met my lifelong mentor who inspired me to go for a PhD in this field by simply asking the question “Why not?”

Tiana S. Lewis received a B.S. degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2010. Her achievements include National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and NSBE Academic Excellence Chair. “As a freshman, I was unsure if a degree in Engineering was right for me. I didn’t know if my outgoing nature would be stifled by sitting behind a desk and staring at a computer screen. Fortunately, a mentor from NC State’s Minority Engineering Program introduced me to the wonderful field of Industrial Engineering which allowed me to combine my need for efficiency with my love of people. I have been able to make major impact in multi-million dollar companies with calculus and a smile, which is the most rewarding thing my degree has given me. I am proud of my work, and I am proud of myself, and I am happy I found my niche in engineering.”

Veronica Mbaneme received a B.S. in Biological and Agricultural Engineering at North Carolina State University after completing an A.S. Science degree a Wake Technical Community College. She is currently a first year Biology and Agricultural Engineering doctoral student at NCSU. Her achievements include the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship, 2010 Ray Church Memorial Scholarship, and the Graduate Research Fellowship. Early in my undergraduate tenure at NC State University (NCSU), I often found myself contemplating the role I would play in society. While enrolled in a contemporary science, technology and society course, which revealed the social consequences of scientific and technological applications, I developed a personal connection with biological engineering (BE) research and education. Learning about one of the great dilemmas of our day, petroleum-based fuels, really hit home for me. During the present economic recession, I have personally witnessed family members struggle to provide necessities, including gas for transportation, food for nourishment, electricity for heat and even shelter. These personal experiences led me to realize the direct importance of BE research and its beneficial applications to society. This in turn drew me to questions associated with how I may be able to help society suffering from the current energy crisis and corresponding harmful environmental impacts.

Kevin McCants-Brown received dual degrees in Aerospace Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University. He is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Aerospace Engineering at NCSU. “Growing up, I was always fascinated with aviation and space flight, but my choice to pursue a degree in aerospace engineering came much later. After a long discussion with a friend in the engineering program, I realized that aerospace would be a fun and exciting way for me to turn my most passionate interests into a career. I decided to perpetuate this act of mentorship in my own way by later becoming an STP summer counselor. I found that being able to share my college experiences and provide advice to rising engineering students was enriching for me, as I hope it was for the students.”

Matthew E. McFarland received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2010, and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Systems and Information Engineering at the University of Virginia. “Growing up in a family with two parents who are engineers pre-determined for me the career field I am currently pursuing. My parents placed me in various math and science camps over the summer, which ultimately sparked my interest in engineering. However, it was not until completing a summer business camp the summer before my senior year that I officially decided engineering was for me. I felt engineering was the only career field I could truly display my creativity and fulfill my passion for solving complex challenges. Being a predominantly white school, the MEP at NC State gave me the support and network I needed to excel in engineering. It helped make my transition from high school to college as simple as possible by providing me an upper-classman mentor and events that introduced me to other minority students. It also helped provide me with leadership opportunities for me to give back by helping guide underclassmen engineering students as a mentor.”

Tammy L. Montgomery received a B.S. in Industrial Engineering, and M.S. in Integrated Manufacturing Systems Engineering from North Carolina State University. Her achievements include Institute of Industrial Engineers, and the National Society of Black Engineers. “I knew that I wanted to pursue a STEM career before starting college; however it was my participation in a summer internship at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC) that set me on my current track in consulting. My path to this point was influenced greatly by Minority Engineering Programs (MEP). The START program and E144/E145 courses were a key part of my development during my first year of college. My continued participation in MEP sponsored programs and events throughout my career at NC State exposed me to scholarship opportunities and significantly expanded my professional network. Of particular importance is my experience as a Program Coordinator in MEP. I was able to give back to the MEP program and its students while reaping all of the benefits of being a part of the MEP “family.”
Amalia Iselda Osborne is a junior majoring in Biomedical Engineering and Biochemistry at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Multicultural Students Affairs Freshman Honors Convocation. “Before attending high school I participated in a STEM summer program called GEMS (Gains in Education of Mathematics and Sciences) at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. Once successfully completing this program I knew that I wanted to pursue a career within the STEM field. My decision was further emphasized the next fall when I was admitted into the Biotechnology STI Program at North Point High School for Science and Technology. The Minority Engineering Program at NC State has given me a place to call home. It has allowed me to have mentors that I can depend on for help and support when family is so far away. The MEP Overnight Stay is the reason why I attended North Carolina State University and I believe it is the best decision I have ever made. The STP program helped me to adapt to life as a college student, as well as make close bonds with friends in which I still have today.

Andrew F. Pita received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University. His achievements include Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, IEEE, and Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society. “Being that my dad was an electrical engineer, technology was always around me while growing up. Between my upbringing and my talent in math and science, engineering was a natural career path choice. As Hispanics only make up roughly 2% of the population at NC State, the programs through MEP helped me adjust to the large college campus. The Summer Transition Program allowed me to gain insight into the college culture and allowed me to develop a family of friends that I could rely on throughout my college career and even to this day. MEP also gave opportunities through SHPE for me to explore and expand my leadership skills not only within MEP, but at a campus level as well. I can honestly say that MEP was instrumental in guiding me along my journey through college and onto my professional career.”

Kristopher Rawls is a sophomore at North Carolina State University, majoring in Biomedical Engineering. His achievements include North Carolina State University Scholars Program, and the North Carolina State University Goodnight Scholar. “I first decided that engineering was for me when I went to my first conference for the National Society of Black Engineers. This conference taught me about the different possibilities in engineering and it showed me that I could help make the world a better place. After doing my own research I decided that I wanted to pursue biomedical engineering. During my senior year in high school, I participated in the Minority Engineering Programs Overnight Stay at NC State University. As a participant, I was paired with an upperclassman in engineering to see what college life was like at NC State. This was honestly one of the greatest experiences I have had, because it was here that I validated that engineering was for me.”

Francisco Rodriguez received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University. His achievements include Vice President of Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and University Scholar. “Participating in activities helped me network with and learn from the best Engineers in the US and worldwide. I am very thankful for the support and motivation I received from the Minority Engineering Program at NC State University.”

Andrew Pablo Santos is a junior majoring in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Spanish at North Carolina State University. His achievements include the NC State Merit Scholarship, IBM Thomas J. Watson Scholarship, project lead for Engineers without Borders, and Dean’s List since his freshman year. “I am a junior studying chemical engineering at North Carolina State University. As an undergraduate I am involved as a START Mentor in the Minority Engineering Program, undergraduate researcher, Engineers Without Borders project lead, a University math, physics and chemistry tutor and as a member of Presbyterian Campus Ministries and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. My destiny was solidified when I visualized my first simulation while in Hangzhou, China, as an undergraduate researcher. I am now sure that I will pursue a PhD after graduation.

Brittany Strachan received a B.S. degree in Computer Science, and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Computer Science at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include Caterpillar Scholar Athlete, Dean’s List, All-ACC Academic Team, Weaver-James-Corrigan Award, and Jerry J. Collier Scholarship. “I always knew that my strength would be something technical. Throughout grade-school, math and science were always my strong points. My love for computer science came in the 11th grade when I took a computer applications class for an elective. One of our final assignments was to design a simple webpage, and I thought it was so interesting how little pieces of code put together in a certain way could produce such an interesting product. My senior year in high school, I took an AP Computer Science course and after that class, I knew my major would be computer science. I had one more confirmation I made the right choice when I took a Software Engineering course. During this course, I got to learn the entire process of designing software. I realized there was a lot of documentation that went along with managing a project; it wasn’t simply coding. When I had fun doing even the not-so glorious things in my eyes, I knew computer science would be a good fit for me.”

Roman Nicholas Torres is a senior, majoring in Mechanical Engineering at North Carolina State University. His achievements include ASME President, and mentor for the Peer Mentoring Program, and Student Advancement Retention Teams. “I’m currently a senior pursuing my Mechanical Engineering degree at North Carolina State University. I realized that mechanical engineering was the perfect field for me when I began work at BMW. I have always had a passion for automobiles and BMW allowed me to fully realize that this is the field I want to work in for my career. Through the MEP (Minority Engineering Program) at NC State I was able to meet other minorities in engineering and network. After meeting other minorities I began to admire the Latino culture and in an effort to fully embrace it, I helped start the first Latin fraternity at NC State.”
Brooke Noel Wages is a junior Mechanical Engineering major at North Carolina State University. Her achievements include the Dean’s List, Marathon Petroleum Scholars Program, Xerox Technical Scholar, and Intel Scholar. “I knew I wanted to be an engineer well before coming to NC State University but I wasn’t sure if I would be able to handle the rigorous curriculum. During my freshman year, the Minority Engineering Program showed me what engineering is and how I could not only make it but excel. Through their recommendation letters, interview tips, and resume pointers, I was able to be a competitive applicant for awards and scholarships, and last semester I was awarded a full scholarship and a paid internship as a Refining Engineer with Marathon Petroleum for my Junior and Senior year.”

University of NC at Chapel Hill

Michelle Ajumobi is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. During the summer of 2010, Ajumobi participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Gary Glish, Chemistry Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Ajumobi’s research project title was CID of Sodiated Peptides Using Tandem Mass Spectrometry. The SMART experience has allowed Ajumobi to get involved with research much earlier in her academic career than she thought possible. Ajumobi served as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador in 2010.

Gabriell Brown is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biology and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Brown participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Willett, Biology Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Brown’s research project title was Genetic Variation in T. Calificinicus using PCRs and Sequencing. Originally considering a career in the medical field, Brown now has a very strong interest in seeking a career in research.

Igal Buckay is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Physics. During the summer of 2011, Buckay participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Falvo and Dr. Superfine, Nanoscience Research Group (NSRG), served as his faculty research advisors. Buckay’s research project title was The Mechanics of Fibrinolysis. Buckay believes that his experience in conducting biophysics research will help him to decide what area of physics to pursue as a career.

Lina Carballo is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Applied Science and Biomedical Engineering. During the summer of 2010, Carballo participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Jay Brenman, Cell and Developmental Biology, served as her faculty research advisor. Carballo’s research project title was Identifying Therapeutic Targets of AMP-activated Protein Kinase (AMPK) using Drosophila melanogaster. Carballo would like to pursue a MD/Ph.D. because she wants to use science to improve patients lives.

Teni Coker is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Psychology and Biology. During the summer of 2010, Coker participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Corbin Jones, Biology Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Coker’s research project title was Using RNAi in Sperm Exhaustion to understand De Novo Genes in D. melanogaster. Coker’s future goal is receive her MD and Ph.D.

Catherine Dial is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Dial participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Chris Fecko, Chemistry Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Dial’s research project title was Dye-Mediated Photo DNA Damage. Dial was considering medical school prior to her SMART experience, but is now considering pursuing a Ph.D.

Brandon Durant is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Psychology and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Durant participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Clyde Hodge, Bowles Center for Alcohol Studies, served as his faculty research advisor. Durant’s research project title was Increase in Ethanol Self-Administration via AMPAR Activation in Two Rodent Strains. Durant’s believes that his SMART experience has helped him to better understand the objectives of the research in his field of study.
Keia Faison is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biology. During the summer of 2011, Faison participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Christopher J. Fecko, Chemistry Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Faison’s research project title was *Dye Sensitized DNA Photodamage Quantification*. Faison plans to pursue a career that involves research.

Dylan Greenleaf is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Environmental Sciences. During the summer of 2010, Greenleaf participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Matthew Redinbo, Chemistry Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Greenleaf’s research project title was *Engineering the Simultaneous Expression of Two Nuclear Receptors in E. Coli*. Greenleaf’s SMART experience has made him very interested in pursuing a career in academia.

Darius Jones is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Psychology and Japanese. During the summer of 2010, Jones participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Mark Wightman, Chemistry Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Jones’ research project title was *Investigating the Purpose of Neurotransmitters*. In the future, Jones plans to continue to seek out undergraduate research experiences. Jones received the Hayden B. Renwick Academic Achievement Award in 2010 and 2011 and served as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador 2010 and 2011.

Asif Khan is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Psychology. During the summer of 2010, Khan participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Wenbin Lin, Chemistry Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Khan’s research project title was *Hybrid nanoparticles for Platinum-based chemotherapy*. Khan’s research experience fueled his passion for academic research and he plans to pursue a career in the medical research field.

Tiffany King is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. During the summer of 2011, King participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Laura Miller, Mathematics Department, served as her faculty research advisor. King’s research project title was *Valveless Pumping of Sea Squirt Hearts*. King plans to continue conducting research until she graduates and is considering a career in research. She is currently serving as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador.

Honorio Lara is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During the summer of 2011, he participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program.

Ryan Lovingood is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and still has time to decide on a major. During the summer of 2011, Lovingood participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Alfred Kleinhammes, in the Physics and Astronomy Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Lovingood’s research project title was *Dielectric Contrast Agents for Illuminating the Reservoir for Deep Reading*. Lovingood’s immediate plans are to continue working with his current research lab until he graduates. He hopes his lab experience will get him closer to discovering what he would like to pursue in graduate school.

Russell Maxwell is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biostatistics. During the summer of 2010, Maxwell participated in the Science and Math Achievement Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Zefeng Wang, Pharmacology Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Maxwell’s research project title was *Alternative Splicing of 3’ UTR in VEGF-A*. 
Miranda McNear is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Exercise and Sport Science. During the summer of 2010, McNear participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Michael Falvo, Physics and Astronomy Department, served as her faculty research advisor. McNear’s research project title was *Cell Culture, Microscopy, and Magnetics for Single Cell Drug Delivery Experimentation*. McNear said that her SMART experience made her more open to the idea of becoming a researcher in a laboratory instead of a doctor. McNear served as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador in 2010.

Tally Miller is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Nursing. During the summer of 2010, Miller participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Katie Lee served as her faculty research advisor. Miller’s research project title was *Neuron Navigator*. Miller’s research experience has shifted her interest from the clinical nursing field to nursing research. Miller presented her poster at the ABRCMS Conference in Charlotte, NC; November 2010 and began Nursing school, May 2011.

Dominique Moore is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Psychology and Mathematics. During the summer of 2011, Moore participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Jason Surratt, Environmental Science and Engineering, served as his faculty research advisor. Moore’s research project title was *Chemical Characterization Of Organic Compounds Found In Fine Aerosol (PM$_{2.5}$) From The NC Coastal Fire Smoke During June 2011*.

Hans Peng is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Business Administration. During the summer of 2010, Peng participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Richard Superfine, Physics and Astronomy Department, served as his faculty research advisor. Peng’s research project title was *Fibrin Fiber Recoil Dynamics*. Peng is now considering a math-science based career like engineering or physics because of his research experience. Peng presented his research at the 2010 Sigma Xi International Research Conference.

Kinsley Richardson is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Chemistry. During the summer of 2011, Richardson participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Sean Washburn, Physics and Astronomy Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Richardson’s research project title was *Gas-Sensing Nanowires*. Being a Chemistry major and working in a Physics lab gave Richardson an opportunity to get out of her comfort zone. Richardson says her experience strengthened her passion for research and she is now considering a future in pharmaceutical research. Currently, Richardson is serving as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador.

Andres Rojas is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biology and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Rojas participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Ian Davis, Genetics Department served as his faculty research advisor. Rojas’s research project title was *Ewing’s Sarcoma, Lentivirus, and Cre-Lox system*. Rojas believes that research is a big field and there is room for everyone. Rojas is considering doing research in the future.

Gabriell Seider is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Studio Art and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Seider participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Sean Washburn, Physics and Astronomy Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Seider’s research project title was *Magnetic Photoreceptive Nanowires in Polydimethylsiloxine*.

Tierra Simmons is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Business Administration and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Simmons participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Jill Stewart, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, served as her faculty research advisor. Simmons’ research project title was *Pathogens in Water: Impact of Swine CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) in Surface Water*. Simmons’ plans to apply to the Gillings School of Public Health.
**Eryusalem Tessema** is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biology and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Tessema participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program. Dr. Ann Erickson, Biochemistry/Biophysics Department, served as her faculty research advisor. Tessema’s research project title was *Cleavage of the Ubiquitin Ligase RNF13 by Proteases*. Tessema’s future goal is to do clinical research along with practicing medicine.

**Scott Widemon** is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Biology and Chemistry. During the summer of 2010, Widemon participated in the Science and Math Achievement and Resourcefulness Track (SMART) program and Dr. Kate Lee served as his faculty research advisor. Widemon’s research project title was *In Vitro Response To Kinase Targeted Therapy In Clear Cell Renal Cell Carinoma*. Widemon’s career goal is to work as a lab tech in an academic research lab after graduation before entering graduate school. Widemon served as an Office for Undergraduate Research Ambassador in 2010.

**Misty Lyn Green** received a B.S. degree in physics, and M.S. degree in mathematics and physics from North Carolina Central University as a B.D. Scholar. She is currently a second-year Ph.D. student in the Nanoengineering program at North Carolina A&T State University. “During my life I have worked to demonstrate my ability to adapt and overcome, and due to this attitude, I have enjoyed my past and present endeavors. I have had several lab positions throughout my schooling and am currently the Lab manager for the Nanomaterials Department at the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, a program started in 2010 by a joint partnership of UNCG and NC A&T State University. I was one of the first students to be part of the program, and I am currently working on my dissertation for my PhD. in Nanoengineering under the supervision of Dr. Ajit Kelkar.”

**Wanida Lewis** received a B.S. in chemistry from Saint Augustine’s College, a M.S. in analytical chemistry with a minor in biochemistry from North Carolina Central University, and will graduate from North Carolina State University in 2012 with a Ph.D. in Food Science. Her achievements include NC-LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Research Fellowship at North Carolina Central University, and several scholarly publications. “I participated in an NSF- funded summer internship in the Food Science Department at North Carolina State University, and it was that moment that the light turned on. I was praised for the good work that I completed that summer and was asked to start an independent research project which continued until my junior year. That moment clearly defined that I could go on to obtain a Ph.D. The hard work from the research project paid off as my research was published that summer. While pursuing my Master’s degree through the NSF funded that opportunity as I was a member of the 1st NSF NC-LSAMP cohort at NC Central University.”

**DeLauren McCauley** received a B.S. in chemistry from North Carolina Central University, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry as a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Additional achievements include being named as a Meyerhoff Graduate Fellow.
**Courun Williams** is a senior biology major at North Carolina Central University. His achievements include SROP Research Fellow, Duke University, SRI Research Fellow, Davidson College, and REU Research Fellow, North Carolina State University, and NCLSAMP Research Fellow, North Carolina Central University. I knew as early as the first day of biology class in high school that I wanted to pursue a career in biology. Knowing what I want to do with my life has helped me focus on preparing for a career in research from day one; it has also given me access to tools and support I don't believe I would have received otherwise. My research interests have grown to include botany, genomics, pathology, and ecology with each research experience I undertook.

**Aja Moore** received a B.S. degree in chemistry from North Carolina Central University, and a M.S. degree in chemistry as a BD Fellow at North Carolina Central University. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Energy and Environmental Sciences at North Carolina A&T State University.

**Merton Pajibo** received a B.S. degree in Environmental Sciences from North Carolina Central University. He was also a BD fellow majoring in earth science at NCCU. He received a GEM Fellowship to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at Duquesne University.

**University of NC at Charlotte**

**Danielle L. Anderson** received a B.S. in civil engineering at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. I knew since high school that I wanted to be in a field that set me apart from others, where I could learn a unique set of skills as well as make an impact on society. Civil Engineering would help me to achieve all of these things. Very important factors in my success were programs promoting and supporting students in STEM disciplines (i.e. PRODUCE and LSAMP). These organizations provided me with the resources, such as tutoring, scholarships, and internship opportunities, which are essential in thriving in STEM disciplines. I had an opportunity to intern with Duke Energy Carolinas within various departments from 2008 to 2010. Even as an intern, I had an important role in helping to provide a service that has had an unprecedented impact on society...electricity! I had an idea that engineering was a good fit for me, but the support, opportunities, encouragement given to me at UNC Charlotte helped validate my decision.

**Tiffani A. Teachey** received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, and M.S. in Engineering Management from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is currently employed as Assistant Lead Mechanical Engineering at the Shaw Group. “The moment when I realized engineering was for me, was when I started UNC Charlotte the summer of my freshman year at the University Transition Opportunity Program (UTOP) in which I was able to represent as a Producing Readiness of Diverse University Cohorts in Education (PRODUCE) student. PRODUCE served as a vehicle to my college and career success, because I was able to gain access to a wealth of resources ranging from mentoring, tutoring, funding, and various networking opportunities, which ultimately led to me obtaining my mechanical engineering degree. As a member of various professional organizations, I will continue to positively impact the community and be an advocate about the importance of STEM to our youth.”

**Cavell R. Jenkins** received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is currently a Business Process Manager in Global Marketing Operations for SAP Americas.

**Kaja Q’Trell Richard** received a B.S. degree in Biology, and B.S. degree in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He also completed a M.S. degree in Molecular Medicine at the University of South Florida. He is currently a researcher at Axiom Diagnostics, in Tampa, Florida. “After pursuing my Master’s in Molecular Medicine at USF; I decided to teach science. For two and a half years, I taught biology, chemistry and physics while tutoring after school programs and personal sessions. Considering my background, I made a change of career into industry research. I recently, received an opportunity and pursuing biological and chemical opportunities as a contractor in Tampa, FL.”
Marisha Faith Bailey is a senior Biology major at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and is expected to graduate in May, 2012. Her achievements include SEP Scholar at UNC Chapel Hill and PRODUCE Scholar at UNC Charlotte. “I decided I was going to become a biology major in my freshman year and joined NCLSAMP after attending a presentation conference. I always enjoyed learning about the human body; however I have a greater appreciation of the field by being exposed to broader opportunities within the field. Armed with greater knowledge, I have set my mind on being a medical research doctor.”

JeVon T. Wilson received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and MBA from High Point University. He is currently enrolled in the Leadership Development Program at BB&T. “While pursuing my Bachelor’s degree at UNC Charlotte, I switched majors from Architecture to Mechanical Engineering. It was at this moment that I realized STEM was for me. Soon thereafter, I was able to secure an NSF funded summer research internship at Cornell University. During this research program, I had the privilege of designing leading edge carbon composite suspension springs. The LSAMP program was a major part of my success at UNC Charlotte because it taught me how to become leader in the engineering world. Furthermore, LSAMP taught me the importance of giving back by becoming a mentor to future STEM students.”

Melanie B. Hazeley is currently a senior, majoring in Civil Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her achievements include the 2010 Black Student Union Harriet Tubman Award, Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholar, and the National Society of Black Engineering Academic Pyramid of Excellence Torchbearer.” During my undergraduate career, I had the chance to work alongside some amazing professional engineers in the Charlotte community and at Duke Energy, during my time in the Siting & Site Development and Project Management groups, where I have now realized my interest in systems, and a passion for integrated problem solving. I plan to pursue a Master’s degree in Industrial Engineering or Engineering Management in the immediate future.”

Fayetteville State University

Alexandra Marie Torrez is currently an undergraduate student majoring in Forensic Science with a concentration in Biology and a Minor in Chemistry. Her achievements include being named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2011 semester and as a FSU Honor’s Scholar for the 2008-09 academic year. Alexandra is currently an Undergraduate Research Scholar with the NCLSAMP program, and Student Assistant in the Forensic Science Program. Other achievements include membership in the FSU Bio Phi Chem Science Club, FSU Innovative Curriculum Approach for Mathematics and Science (FICAMS) program, and FSU Opportunities for Talent Expansion in Interdisciplinary Education for Minorities in Undergraduate Math and Science (OpTIMUM) program Scholar.

Deanna Sutton is currently a junior biology major at Fayetteville State University, and is expected to graduate in 2013. Her achievements include the Tideland Electric Company Scholarship of North Carolina, and participation as an NCLSAMP Scholar. Deanna is also a scholar athlete and member of the Men and Women’s Cross Country Team at FSU. Deanna’s future goals include continuing in the LSAM program as a Research Scholar, and continuing research that positively impacts our environment.

Adrian Devon McLean is an undergraduate student at Fayetteville State University majoring in Mathematics, and plans to graduate in May, 2012. His achievements include participation in the NCLSAMP program as a Research Scholar, an intern for the Research Experience for Undergraduates in Applied Mathematics, intern in the Ronald E. McNair Achievement Program, and a scholar in the FSU Innovative Curriculum Approach for Mathematics and Science program. He is also President of the FSU Math Club, a member of Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, and a tutor in the Center for Promoting STEM Education and Research.

George Alvarez is a chemistry major at Fayetteville State University, who will graduate in December, 2012. His achievements include working as an Undergraduate Research Assistant in the Department of Chemistry and Physics, Dean’s and Chancellor’s Lists in 2010, and recognition in the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in 2011. I am currently majoring in chemistry with a minor in biology (concentration in pre-medicine), and performing biochemical reproductive research. After graduating in December 2012, I am planning to pursue a Ph.D. /M.D. at either Johns Hopkins, UNC-Chapel Hill, or Duke. This December I will be participating in an intensive medical internship call Tropical Pathology and Infectious Disease Association, which is based in Cuzco, Peru.
Quincy Orlando Peterson is a junior majoring in biology at Fayetteville State University. His achievements include a NCLSAMP Scholar, Member of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, Chancellor’s List in 2009, and Dean’s List in 2010 and 2011.

Jamiel McMichael received his B.S. degree in Computer Science, from Fayetteville State University, and M.S. in Internet Engineering from Marlboro College. He was a participant in the NCLSAMP program at FSU and is currently employed as an engineer with IBM.

William Grant Sheffield is a senior biology major at Fayetteville State University. His achievements include Chancellor’s List for 2010, and NCLSAMP Scholar. My career goal is to become an oral surgeon and open my own office. I am dedicated to the dentistry profession and often advocate to my peers the importance of maintaining good dental hygiene. After my career has started I will invest in purchasing a bus that does dental work pro bono for those in need.

Charlie Lawrence, a former NCLSAMP Scholar, received a B.S. in biology from Fayetteville State University, and is currently pursuing a M.S. in Forestry at North Carolina State University. He is currently enrolled in the AGEP program at North Carolina State, and is a Graduate Research Assistant.

Richard Bazzelle received a B.S. in biology in 2009, and is currently pursuing and M.S. degrees in biology at Fayetteville State University. His achievements include participating as a NCLSAMP Scholar as an undergraduate, and HBCU STEM Scholar as a graduate student. Publications with faculty include, KM Lodhi, MA Lodhi, S Burgado, P Petty, R Bazzelle and RL Grier IV, “Comparison of denaturing and non-denaturing gel electrophoresis methods for RNA analysis”, and KM Lodhi, MA Lodhi, S Burgado, R Bazzelle, L Gittens and RL Grier IV “The Identification of Cell Phone uses from Latent Fingerprints”

Winston-Salem State University

Avery R. Andrews is a sophomore Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include the Honor’s Society, Class President for the Student Government Association, Dean’s List, and NC Space Grant Undergraduate Scholar. “While pursuing my Bachelors degree, I participated in a summer research pre-REU program at Winston-Salem State University. It is at that research program that I really got to work with graduate students and it inspired me to further my education by pursuing a Ph.D. in Computer Science.”

Crystal M. Batts is a Computer Science and Mathematics major at Winston-Salem State University. Her achievements include participation in the Advancing Robotics Technology for Societal Impact (ARTSI) Research Group, LSAMP Scholar. “With technology and the economy constantly changing I strongly believe that robotics will somehow play an important role within various tasks for humans and animals. I am interested in up and coming robotics technology. I would also like to expand my knowledge with Java and C++ programming and pursue a graduate degree.”

Jason N. Brooks is a senior Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include Duke Energy Scholarship, and the Computer Science and Technology Award. “While pursuing my Bachelors degree, I participated in a summer internship at the University of Alabama and that was the summer I decided that I wanted to pursue graduate studies. I was affirmed from my research mentor that I would be a great candidate for a graduate program. I knew that I at least wanted to attain a master’s, and later on the Ph.D. at some point in my life.”
Jeremy T. Brooks received a B.S. degree in Chemistry with a concentration in Biochemistry from Winston-Salem State University. He is currently a Research Assistant for Dr. Maria Ngu. His achievements include Treasure for the Beta Omega Chapter of Lambda Upsilon Honorary Chemical Society, STEM Scholarship, member of WSSU chapter of the American Chemical Society, and National Society of Collegiate Scholars. “While pursuing my Bachelor’s degree and researching careers, I began to understand the passion I had for the pharmaceutical field. I attended several higher education programs that allowed me to gain essential knowledge of how to reach my desired career in the pharmaceutical field. The moment I determined my passion in life, I knew my next step was to attend graduate school and pursue my PhD in Pharmaceutical Science.”

Kionna S. Davis is a sophomore Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. Her achievements include Chancellor’s Scholar, Dean’s List, and ARTSI Student Researcher. “As a freshman at Winston-Salem State University I immediately joined ARTSI, and later LSAMP. Through these programs I learned that Computer Science was more than coding, it could be really fun! I learned to participate in research and to make research presentations. Practicing for the Olympiad has been enjoyable and I know we will do very well this year!”

Jacqual S. Hicks is a senior Information Technology major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include LSAMP Scholar, HBCU-Up Scholar, and NASA GIS Researcher. I plan on attending graduate school to further my studies in the field of Information Technology. By obtaining a Master’s degree in Information technology I will increase for marketability and gain more knowledge so that I will be better prepared for a leadership role in a company”.

James P Hill, Jr. is a senior Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include LSAMP Scholar, Computer Science and Technology Scholarship, Summer REU at Rice University, Technical Assistant at the C.G. O’Kelly Library, and participation in ARTSI. “Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently; meaning failure does not always have to be a bad thing, as long as you tried, and as long as you made it into a learning experience.”

Jimmy D. James II is a sophomore Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include LSAMP, ARTSI Research Group, Robotics Team competition, Treasurer for Toastmasters, and Sophomore Treasurer for the Student Government Association. While pursuing my B.S. degree, I have participated in many organizations such as LSAMP that have helped me realize that graduate study will help me achieve the goal of being the best that I can be.”

Antwan D. Johnson is a sophomore Information Technology major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include LSAMP, Toastmasters, and Volunteer for the Association of Governing Boards. “While pursuing my Undergraduate’s degree, I have participated in a summer Volunteer Program at the Association of Governing Board, shadowing IT and CS graduates, and that experience helped me gather quality insight of my future. I was affirmed from the group leader and praised for the good work that I completed that summer. That moment let me know I am fully capable of earning an Undergraduate degree in Informational Technology. I am also considering graduate study.”

Khendr’a Reid is a junior Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. His achievements include WSSU Chancellor’s Scholar, President of the Association of Computing Machinery, and Toastmasters, LSAMP, Winston-Salem State University ARTSI Robotic Team, ARTSI Pre-REU Research, SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience), North Carolina State University REU. “The summer after my freshman year I participated in a research experience that allowed me to work with robotics. This opened my eyes into what are I wanted to focus in with my degree. After attending conferences I understood that I needed to continue my education after my Bachelor’s degree and the speakers at the conferences help me understand that. They told me that I could obtain the Ph.D. and excel in the Computer Science field.

Sri Lanka S. Owen is a senior Chemistry major at Winston-Salem State University. Her achievements include Dean’s List, LSAMP, and Beta Omega Chapter of Phi Lambda Upsilon, and Summer REU at Winston-Salem State University.
**Nelsonia A. Worsley** is a sophomore Computer Science major at Winston-Salem State University. Her achievements include LSAMP, Secretary of Toastmasters, Computer Science Olympiad Team, and ARTSI Research Group. “While joining ARTSI I realized how much I enjoy research, and how creative I am in the computer science field as a whole. I also enjoy giving back. In the last two years I have helped middle school students with their robotics projects and I hope to help many more in the years to come.”

**University of NC at Pembroke**

**Kennan Collins** graduated UNC Pembroke in 2003 with a B.S. in Computer Science. While attending UNCP, he did research with Dr. Hwang and presented at several conferences. Kennan was also an active member of the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) student organization. Through AISES, Kennan was selected to attend IBM’s Native American Recruitment weekend in Albuquerque, NM in 2003. After graduation, he received employment as an IT Specialist with IBM.

**Korey Revels** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2007, with a B.S. in Biology with a biomedical emphasis. While attending UNCP, Korey conducted research and presented his findings at various conferences. He was a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) student organization. Currently, he is studying Chiropractic medicine at Life University and is expected to graduate in May 2012.

**Shunda Deese** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2005, with B.S. degrees in Chemistry, Physics and Biology. While attending UNCP, Shunda was very active in the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) student organization and served as President for two consecutive years. She was a tutor during the academic year and housing counselor during Summer Bridge years 2004-2006 for UNCP NC-LSAMP from 2004-2006. Currently, Shunda is a Pharmacy Technician at Womack Army Hospital, in Ft. Bragg, NC.

**Lee Ryan Lowery** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke with a B.S. degree in Biology in 2006. He was accepted into both the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and UNC Chapel Hill School of Medicine. Lee graduated in 2010, from UNC-Chapel Hill with a MD. He is currently employed at Pitt County Memorial Hospital as an OB/GYN resident.

**Kameron Richardson** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke with a B.S. degree in Biology, with an emphasis in Botany. While attending UNCP, he was very involved with research and presented his findings at numerous conferences. Kameron was also an active member in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) student organization, for which he served as regional student representative for two consecutive years. Upon graduation, he was accepted into the Interdisciplinary Biological Research Program at the University of South Carolina. In 2011, Kameron taught Biology for the UNCP/NC-LSAMP Summer Bridge class.

**Tala P. Smith** was in the 2004 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated with a B.S. degree in Biology in 2008. While attending UNCP, Tala was a member of the Weightless Lumbee Team, and presented at several conferences during her participation. She is currently attending the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and is expected to be in the 2012 graduating class.

**Elizabeth Locklear** was in the 2004 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated in 2008 with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics. While at UNCP, she was very involved with the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) student organization, which she served as regional student representative. Upon graduation, she attended graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill, and received a degree in Radiologic Science. She is currently employed as a Cardiovascular Specialist.
Andrew McMillan was in the 2005 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated in 2007 with a B.S. degree in Environmental Science. While attending UNCP, Andy was involved in the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) student organization. While at UNCP, he also conducted research in Costa Rica with the Organization for Tropical Studies' NAPIRE (Native American & Pacific Islander Research Experience) program, and on campus. Andrew is currently in his second year at the University of Arizona, pursuing a master’s degree in Environmental Science.

Hannah Woriax graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2009, with a B.S. degree in Biology. While attending UNCP, she was very involved in research, presented at several conferences, and participated in various outreach activities. Hannah was also an active member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). She is currently attending the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and is expected to be in the 2014 graduating class.

Iner Lowery was in the 2006 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated in 2010 with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics, with an emphasis in pharmacy. While at UNCP, Iner conducted research under Dr. Meredith Storms, and presented her findings at numerous conferences. Upon graduation, she was accepted into the UNC Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy.

Brittany N. Locklear is a Transfer Fellow and a senior majoring in Biotechnology. Throughout Brittany’s college education, she has been exposed to research. She was selected as the first UNCP Farm Bureau Scholar, and conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Velinda Woriax in 2010, and is currently conducting research at the UNCP Biotechnology Research and Training Center under the mentorship of Dr. Len Holmes. Brittany has also presented her research findings at numerous conferences, and is active in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

Kayla Cummings is a Transfer Fellow and a senior majoring in Science Education. Public education is a tradition in Kayla’s family. Since her collegiate career began, she had been very involved in outreach activities through various programs and research. Kayla is the current President and regional student representative of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). Upon graduation, she plans to pursue her master’s degree.

Daniel K. Locklear was in the 2005 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and a Transfer Fellow majoring in Environmental Science. Daniel was the second student at UNCP to be chosen for the Organization for Tropical Studies’ NAPIRE (Native American & Pacific Islander Research Experience) program in 2010, and presented his research findings at the SACNAS and AISES conferences.

Darryl Locklear, II is a chemistry major, and a Transfer Fellow from Catawba College. Darryl goal is to become a physician. Since enrolling at UNCP, he has joined the Weightless Lumbee Team, and performed microgravity experiments aboard NASA's C-9 with Robeson Community College. He also presented research findings at the State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research & Creativity Symposium (SNCURCS) in November 2011, and is involved in the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES).

Ryan F. Locklear was in the 2002 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated with a B.S. degree in Environmental Science in 2007. After graduation, he was employed by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. In 2011, Ryan taught Environmental Science to the UNCP Summer Bridge class.

Reese Bell was in the 2002 Summer Bridge class, at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics in May 2007. While attending UNCP, Reese worked on campus as a BraveTech (Student Computer Specialist), and started a computer sales, repair, & networking company in the local area.

Austin Lowry is a physics major at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and is participating in Ultrasound Research with Dr. William Brandon. Austin is also working with the Dr. Jose D’Arruda’s Telescope Project. Upon finishing his degree, Austin plans to attend graduate school to earn his MS/Ph.D. in Astronomy. His ultimate goal is to be a NASA Researcher, studying black holes, dark matter or acoustic levitation.

Tiffany Dial graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2010 with a B.S. degree in Biology. Under the mentorship of Dr. Velinda Woriax, Tiffany conducted research and presented her findings at three conferences. She has returned to UNCP to pursue a Masters in
Science Education with an emphasis on Biology emphasis. Tiffany is currently employed by the UNCP TRIO, and is a tutor for undergraduate science courses.

**James Travin Deese** was in the 2004 Summer Bridge class at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and graduated in 2008 with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics. James is currently pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree at UNC Chapel Hill and is expected to graduate in 2013.

**Brandon Locklear** graduated from UNC Pembroke in 2006 with a B.S. in Chemistry and Physics. While at UNCP, he was a member of the Weightless Lumbee Team. This team received a NASA grant to perform microgravity experiments aboard NASA's C-9. As a result of research produced through this project, Brandon presented at several conferences and participated in various outreach activities. He was accepted into graduate school at Colorado State University.

**Janet Sanford** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2006 with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics. While at UNCP, she was an alternate for the Weightless Lumbee Team. Janet presented at several conferences and participated in various outreach activities. She was accepted in graduate school at Colorado State University and was interviewed for their LSAMP program. Janet is currently pursuing a graduate degree Forensic DNA and Serology at the University of Florida.

**Indee Smith** graduated from UNC Pembroke in 2006 with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics with an emphasis in Molecular Biotechnology. While attending UNCP, she was very involved with various research projects and presented at several conferences.

**Gene Deese** graduated from the University of North Carolina Pembroke in 2003, with a B.S. degree in Computer Science. While at UNCP, he participated in research with Dr. Hwang and presented at several conferences. Gene was a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) student organization, and was selected to attend IBM’s Native American Recruitment weekend in Albuquerque, NM in 2003. Gene is currently employed by UNCP as a Data Analyst through a grant program.

**April Oxendine** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2004, with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics. April was very involved in research during her tenure at UNCP. As a member of the Weightless Lumbee Team, she received the honor of attending and presenting a paper at the 54th International Astronautical Congress in Bremen, Germany in 2003, with Dr. Tim Ritter. The Weightless Lumbee Team received a NASA grant to perform microgravity experiments aboard NASA's C-9. As a result of research produced through this project, April presented at several conferences and participated in various outreach activities. She is currently employed with the Campbell Soup Company.

**Jeremy Emanuel** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2005, with B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Physics. He currently works for DuPont-Raleigh.

**Dr. Katisha D. Smith**, an alumna of North Carolina A&T State University, and 2005 Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, defended her dissertation in December, 2010, entitled, "Theoretical and Experimental Evaluation of a Simple Cooling Pad for Inducing Hypothermia in the Brain and the Spinal Cord Following Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury", and is currently employed as a STEM professional as a Senior Aerospace Engineer at QinetiQ North America in Cleveland, OH.

**Arsenio O. Jeffreys** received a B.S. degree in Life Sciences at Winston-Salem State University, and is currently majoring in Computer Science and Information Technology. His achievements include ARTSI, the Dean’s List at WSSU, and LSAMP. While pursuing my bachelor’s degree at Winston Salem State University, I have completed a summer internship, which I really enjoyed, and I look forward to participating in more activities through LSAMP.

**Tanisha Bethea** is a junior majoring in chemistry, with a minor in Spanish at Fayetteville State University. Her achievements include Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, NCLSAMP Scholar, OpTIMUM Program Scholar, and Dean’s List in 2010-2011. She has also worked in the District of Columbia Department of Health.

**Harvey H. Hall III**, received a dual degrees in Mechanical Engineering (minor in Math), and Physics from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His achievements include being the first minority to graduate from the institution’s dual degree program. He also received an award for the Best Flight Design for the Boeing National Flight Competition in 2007 and 2008, and the Herman E. Thomas Award. "Being a first generation college student from my family, I appeared on the UNC Charlotte campus full of potential but with no guidance, direction, and much uncertainty. I was pioneering upon a new frontier in which neither I nor the people in my life had little knowledge of. Then I was introduced into the LSAMP program where I was giving the nurturing and grooming I needed to become the young professional I sought to be. The LSAMP program became the wind beneath my wings to ensure that I soared high as possible in my field of study.”
Esteban Martinez is currently a senior at Drexel University majoring in Biology with a concentration in Cell and Molecular Biology. In 2010, Esteban co-authored his first publication entitled “Mass action kinetic analysis of multidrug resistance transporters expressed in confluent cell monolayer.” It will be featured in 2011 printing of the textbook The Structure of Biological Membranes. Esteban hopes to acquire his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and further advance science through his research.

Lee Serpas decided to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry at Drexel University. Lee is currently conducted research in the area of “Activation of Tris (Amino-Pyrazole) Zinc Bromide Through Template Analysis” under the guidance of his faculty mentor, Elizabeth Papish, Ph.D. After attaining his Bachelor’s degree, Lee aspires to go on to medical school and get his M.D.

Francisco Guevara, from a young age, demonstrated an interest in the different fields of science. After graduating from John B. Alexander Health and Science High School, he chose to major in Chemistry at Drexel University. He is currently in his senior year and is conducting research in Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization-Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS). Francisco presented a poster on his research at the American Society for Mass Spectrometry Conference in summer 2011. Francisco aspires to get his Ph.D. in Chemistry and to continue in the field of research.

Ryan Powell chose to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University. After completing his freshman year, Ryan conducted research, and subsequently completed his first co-op experience at The National Institute of Standards and Technology where he was credited with his first publication entitled “Modeling the Effects of Outdoor Gasoline Powered Generator Use on Indoor Carbon Monoxide Exposures — Phase II”. He was most recently awarded the prestigious NASA MUST or Motivating Undergraduates in Science & Technology Scholarship. Ryan aspires to obtain his Masters in Chemical Engineering and his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. In the future, he would like to become a college professor as well as to start his own engineering firm.

Rhea Thompson she is a senior at Drexel University majoring in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Cell, Molecular Biology, Genetics and Biochemistry. Rhea is conducting research on the characterization and application of Drosophila as a model for CHARGE syndrome. She was recently credited with her first publication in Human Molecular Genetics entitled “Kismet/CHD7 regulates axon morphology, memory and locomotion in a Drosophila model of CHARGE syndrome.” Most recently, she participated in the prestigious Amgen Scholars Summer Program in San Diego, CA. Rhea aspires to have a hands-on career that enables her to impact and interact with others through her scientific contributions and research.

Aja Carter has had a love for dinosaurs and paleontology from a very young age. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, specializing in Paleobiology at Drexel University. During the summer after her freshman year, Aja conducted research in synonymizing fossil collections at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Aja will now be entering her second year at Drexel. She plans to continue her education and obtain her Ph.D. in Paleobiology.

Claudia Gutierrez is a sophomore enrolled in an accelerated five year program from which she will obtain both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Biomedical Engineering at Drexel University. She is presently conducting research in mechanical alterations in endothelial cells in diabetic conditions. After the completion of her accelerated program, Claudia will attend medical school. When not in the lab, she can be found teaching salsa classes as the president of Drexel's Salsa Dance Club.
Paul Lachaud, throughout his schooling, acquired a strong interest in chemistry, physics and mathematics. After completing high school at Central High School of Philadelphia, he is now completing a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia with a minor in Materials Science and Engineering. During the summer of 2011, Paul conducted research investigating “Poly(3-hexylthophene) as an organic hole-conductor in extremely thin absorber photovoltaics.”

Walter Hinds completed his undergraduate education at Cornell University in Biological Engineering. Upon completion of his degree, he was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship. In fall 2010, Walter enrolled as a Ph.D. student in Biomedical Engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. Since then, he has successfully achieved his Ph.D. candidacy and is looking to make novel and significant contributions to the field of neurobiology research, while contributing to public health by aiding in the discovery of cures for neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s. After spending a few years in industry, Walter would like be become a professor and faculty advisor for future generations of scientists and researchers.

Ryan Rebozo completed his undergraduate education at Rutgers University in New Jersey with a degree in Ecology and Natural Resources. Subsequently, he was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship. In fall 2010, Ryan enrolled as a Ph.D. student in Environmental Sciences at Drexel University. He is currently conducting research in the area of pollination ecology in order to develop new conservation strategies for rare plants and insects.

Andrea Partridge graduated from Drexel University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. In 2010, Andrea was awarded the prestigious NSF Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship that allowed her to enroll in the Master of Science program in Biomedical Science with a focus on Microbiology and Immunology. Andrea successfully completed several laboratory rotations during her first year at the end of which she transitioned into the Ph.D. program in Biomedical Science. Upon obtaining her doctorate, Andrea hopes to expand field of knowledge of HIV/AIDS therapy and research.

Camilla Nix completed her undergraduate education at Syracuse University in Upstate New York with a degree in Biomedical Engineering in 2010. Subsequently, she was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship and enrolled as a Ph.D. student at Drexel University in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems. During her first year, Camilla conducted research in the area of cell mechanics using a dielectrophoretic device. She hopes to pursue a career in research and development on treatment and diagnostic options for cancer and disease.

Quincy Brown, Ph.D. completed her undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University. After several years as a professional in the private sector, Quincy decided to go back to school for her graduate degree. In 2005, she was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship and enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate Computer Science at Drexel University. In 2009, she successfully completed her Ph.D. studies. Currently, Dr. Brown is an Assistant Professor in the Computer Science department at Bowie State University.

Dannielle Solomon-Figueroa was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering from Tulane University in 2005. In 2006, she was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship to attend Drexel University. She is currently a PhD candidate in Biomedical Engineering studying the effects of hyperglycemia on endothelial cell response to strain and extracellular matrix signaling. Dannielle hopes to complete her Ph.D. studies in 2012.

Rafael Mulero began his undergraduate career at Delaware Technical Community College, and later matriculated to Drexel University majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Rafael completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2005, and was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship. He continued his studies as a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics. Rafael hopes to complete the requirements for his doctoral degree by June 2012. The focus of his graduate research is nanopore/micropore sensors for macromolecule and bacteria detection.
Roberto Salomé has always had an interest in computing. This led him to pursue Computer Engineering at Drexel University. He is also a member of the Pennoni Honors College at Drexel. Blending his interests in writing and computers, he completed his first co-op experience at Comcast Corporation as a technical writer. His subsequent internships were as a quality assurance analyst at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP and as an infrastructure engineer at CIGNA. After experiencing three very different workplaces, he soon found an interest that unified them all — digital security. Roberto’s future plans are to pursue research in developing solutions to improve digital communication and network security.

Andrew Hyatt matriculated to Drexel in fall 2009 in the hope of making his dreams to become a medical doctor a reality. Andrew is a Biological Sciences major and a member of the Pennoni Honors College at Drexel University. In the summer after his freshman year, Andrew performed research on the “Design & Construction of a MicroRNA Inhibitor: A Tool to Investigate Alzheimer’s Disease Pathogenesis.” Subsequent to this experience, Andrew completed his first cooperative education experience with Ethicon, Inc. of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) family of companies as a Biosurgical R&D Intern. His experience was tremendously successful and he has since returned to J&J to complete his second co-op assignment in another area of the company. He is looking forward to enrolling in medical school in the future.

Kelly Lopez attended Drexel University as a Biology major and took an active role in student life. She was President of the Society of Hispanic Engineers, and a member of the Pennoni Honors College and Tribeta Biological Honors Society. After completing her undergraduate education, Kelly was accepted to Jefferson Medical College where she was awarded first place in the 2009 Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society research presentation competition for her lecture on refugee health and tuberculosis screening in Philadelphia. After teaching for a few years as a teaching assistant in the Drexel Department of Biology instructing nursing students in Microbiology, she is currently enjoying her Family Medicine clerkship at Jefferson Dept. of Family and Community Medicine and wishes to pursue a career in a surgical specialty. Her anticipated graduation date is August, 2013.

Samuel Laurencin was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Drexel University. In 2005, he was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship. Currently, he is enrolled as an M.D./Ph.D. student in Chemical Engineering at Drexel and anticipates graduating in 2013. His research interests are biomaterials, drug delivery, biomechanics and regenerative medicine.

Non Yok received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Drexel University. In 2005, he was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship to continue his studies. In June 2011, Non received a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. His research focused on new approaches to improving organisms detection and gene prediction in metagenomes. Currently, he is employed as an Adjunct Professor in Mathematics at Rowan State University.

Angel Lucena, an honored marine corp veteran, worked in industry for a number of years before attending Drexel University where he later received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. In 2005, he was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship to continue his studies. In June 2011, Angel received a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences. His dissertation focused on examining the consequences of sPLA2 inhibition following traumatic brain injury (TBI). In support of the LSAMP program, Dr. Lucena is currently serving as an Adjunct Faculty/Lab Supervisor in the Department of Biology at Community College of Philadelphia until he returns to employment in industry.

David A. Delaine earned his BS degree in Electrical Engineering in 2005 from Northeastern University was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship to attend Drexel University, where he later received a Master’s of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Drexel University in 2007. As a recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, David is a Ph.D. candidate in Drexel’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His current research includes the development of novel power generation techniques through power scavenging with Stirling Engines, and the electrical poling of polymers. David is an active member IEEE, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), and the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE).
Ezekiel Crenshaw completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2010. While an undergraduate, he was a member of Cheyney University Keystone Honors Academy. He was also member of Beta Kappa Chi. As an LSAMP undergraduate he conducted research at the Wistar Institute as well as the Los Alamos National Laboratory for two consecutive summers through funding from the Department of Energy. Mr. Crenshaw is presently attending Drexel University as a Ph.D. candidate in Biological Sciences as a 2010 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship recipient. Ezekiel’s area of research focuses on understanding amloid precursor protein through mRNA transport.

Sami Atif graduated with Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from Cheyney University in 2004. As an undergraduate, was a member of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program participant, Sami received his MS degree in Applied Mathematics from Delaware State University (DSU) in 2009. Sami has two publications, “1-Soliton solution of complex KdV equation in plasmas with power law nonlinearity and time dependent coefficients” in Applied Mathematics and Computation October 2010; and “Solitons in Relativistic Plasmas by He’s Variational Principle” in Applied Physics Research November 2010. Presently, Sami is in the 5th year of his graduate study and anticipates receiving his doctoral degree in Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics from DSU in May 2012.

Anwar Atif completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science in 2005 at Cheyney University. After graduation, Anwar worked as a high school mathematics teacher at the Harambee Institute in Philadelphia. In 2006, with funding from the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, he was able to continue on to graduate study at Delaware State University where he is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Mathematics.

Michaeline Hebron graduated in 2008 from Cheyney University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. While she was an undergraduate, she completed research internships at the Wistar Institute and the Los Alamos National Laboratory through funding from the Department of Energy. In 2011, Michaeline was awarded an HBCU STEM Fellowship to attend Georgetown University for the Masters of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Yaminah Watson completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry in Cheyney University in 2011. As an undergraduate she conducted research on the investigation of inhibitory / homing receptors and adhesion molecules on impaired B Cells in aged individuals as compared to young. It is Yaminah’s plans to attend graduate school in near future.

Michele Thompson completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2010. Presently, she is pursuing a Master’s degree in Aquaculture at the University of Arkansas, Pinebluff.

Antonette Todd-Atif completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2004. As a recipient of the prestigious 2006 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she attended Delaware State University and completed an Master’s of Science degree in Plant Science. After graduation, she worked as a Research Technician at Delaware State University. At present, Antonette is a Ph.D. candidate in Plant and Soil Sciences at the University of Delaware.

Kimberly Lewis graduated in 2009 with Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University. As of Fall 2011, Kimberly is a Masters candidate in Biology at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, PA.
Michline Brice completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2006. In 2008, Michline completed a Master’s degree in Biology from Delaware State University as an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient. At present, she is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Food Science and Technology at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore.

Carolyne Ochieng completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2010. As an undergraduate, her research focused on antibody response to influenza A viruses. Carolyne’s plans to attend graduate school in near future.

Gordon Taylor conducted research at the Los Alamos National lab in the summer of 2006. At Cheyney, Gordon’s research focused on the determination of a plant protein diet for the marine fish, Cobia (Rachycentron canadum). He completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from Cheyney University in 2009. After graduation, Gordon worked at the Cheyney University Aquaculture Research and Education Center. Currently, he is pursuing a Master’s degree in Aquaculture at the University of Arkansas, Pinebluff.

Shileen Bynum completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry at Cheyney University in 2003. Afterwards she completed a post-baccalaureate program at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2008, as a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, matriculated to Temple University and completed an Masters’s of Science degree in Microbiology and Immunology in 2010. Currently, she is employed as a laboratory technician at the University of Pennsylvania.

Brandon Harrison completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology at Cheyney University in 2008. During his undergraduate study he completed the Nanotechnology certificate program at Pennsylvania State University. After graduation, he worked in U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) in a microbiology laboratory in Philadelphia. At present, he is employed at IBM in Wappingers Fall, New York.

Carolyne Ochieng completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University in 2010. As an undergraduate, her research focused on antibody response to influenza A viruses. Carolyne’s plans to attend graduate school in near future.

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Brandon Harrison completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology at Cheyney University in 2008. During his undergraduate study he completed the Nanotechnology certificate program at Pennsylvania State University. After graduation, he worked in U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) in a microbiology laboratory in Philadelphia. At present, he is employed at IBM in Wappingers Fall, New York.

Omar Melton graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry and a Minor in Mathematics from Cheyney University in 2011. As an undergraduate, Omar completed the Nanotechnology Certificate program at Pennsylvania State University at a nanomanufacturing facility during his undergraduate study and received an Associate of Science degree in Nanotechnology.

Denis Madende graduated magna cum laude from Cheyney University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology in 2010. He is currently a Master’s candidate in Materials Engineering a Drexel University as a recipient of the Dept. of Education’s Graduate Assistantships in Areas of National Need Fellowships in Renewable Energy Technologies and Infrastructure Networks (GAANN-RETAIN).

Paul Gwengi Anam completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology at Cheyney University in 2011. While he was an undergraduate student, he interned over the summer as a researcher with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) with the Division of Oncology / Blood and Marrow Transplantation.
Tyra Cooper completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology at Cheyney University in 2008. After her degree completion, she worked in U.S. Fishery and Wildlife. Currently, Tara is working in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Bridget Parker graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Cheyney University. While an undergraduate she attended summer research program at Wistar Institute. In 2009, she was awarded a HBCU STEM fellowship to enroll in a Master’s program in Human Wellness and Performance / Biology at the University of Pittsburgh.

Nwakfor Ebelechukwu completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science as the valedictorian of the class of 2011 at Cheyney University. While he was an undergraduate student, he conducted research on an analysis of BMI for untreated patients in a primary care facility at Thomas Jefferson University. He is now enrolled in a Master’s program at Norfolk State University.

Shawn Baylor is a senior in Biology at Cheyney University. He is currently conducting research in platelet adhesion on titanium and polyurethane biomaterials under shear stress. He was a recipient of a 3rd place Excellence award in the Life / Biological category for his research presentation at the 14th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference in 2011.

Monica Effi is a sophomore majoring in both Biology and Chemistry at Cheyney University. She is currently conducting research on the response of Camelina sativa to NaCl salinity. Monica was a recipient of a 2nd place Excellence award in the Life / Biological category for her research presentation at the 14th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference in 2011.

Ryan Willis was awarded Bachelor degrees in both Chemistry and Biology from Cheyney University. He also received a certification in nanotechnology from Pennsylvania State University. Ryan has taught Chemistry and Physics for the Philadelphia School System and has instructed a Physics course at Cheyney University. He is currently pursuing an advanced degree in Biochemistry while working as an advisor and tutor at Cheyney University.

Deylan Moore is a senior majoring in Biology at Cheyney University. Deylvan is conducting research on the effects of an IL-28 molecular adjuvant on the immunogenicity of a Hepatitis C DNA vaccine which is part of a joint research collaboration between Cheyney University, Drexel University’s College of Medicine, and the Department of Pathology of the University of Pennsylvania.

Lennan Boyd is currently a senior at Cheyney University majoring in Biology. Lennan’s research focus is in the testing of IL21 cytokine as an adjuvant for a HIV-1 clade A/C consensus-based envelope DNA vaccine for use in South Africa. She was a recipient of a 1st place Excellence award in the Life / Biological category for his research presentation at the 14th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference in 2011.
Simone Waters is a senior majoring in Biology at Cheyney University. As an LSAMP scholar, she has conducted research in the area of electroporation and its role in the study of the human papillomavirus.

Brian Mason is currently a biology major attending Cheyney University. He has conducted research at the Wistar Institute on the “Augmentation of Vaccine-induced CD8+ T cell Responses to Influenza A Virus Nucleoprotein in Young and Old Mice through Blockade of an Immuno-inhibitory pathway.

Charles Owens is a Biology major at Cheyney University. As an undergraduate, he is conducting research on zooplankton in relation to salinity and location.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA (CCP)

Marcella Stokes had shown her dedication to her country and her career through her successful completion of seven years of distinguished military service only to be followed by an Associate of Science degree in Engineering Science at the Community College of Philadelphia and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University. In her current position as Project Engineer with the General Services Administration of the United States Government in the Design and Construction Division, she provides innovative solutions to support the mission of the construction and effective, sustainable, and transparent development of the government building infrastructure.

Tamika Wilson is another dedicated student and professional. She graduated from the Community College of Philadelphia in 2005 with four Associate Degrees, including one in Mathematics and Engineering. She co-founded a chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and received many awards for her leadership, hard work and dedication. Tamika proceeded to immerse herself into a Chemical Engineering program at Drexel University and merged those skill into a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce and Engineering. Tamika’s research interest included: rheology, biosensors design and fabrication and viable pathogen detection and quantification. She is currently a Project Manager at Monnell Chemical Senses Institute and manages a variety of sensitive research projects that aim to improve the human condition.

Kianna Richardson graduated from Community College of Philadelphia (CCP) with an Associate of Science and an Associate of Arts in Culture, Science and Technology with a concentration in Nutrition in 2009. Additionally, while serving as president of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at CCP, she also worked for the BTL Foundation which is a charity organization in Delaware whose mission is to provide, health, job oriented education, and humanitarian services to the needy in the United States and India. After graduation, she matriculated to Drexel University and worked as an intern in the clinical nutrition department at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, where she had the opportunity of shadowing a dietitian and learning patient nutrition intervention strategies. In 2011, she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition (Magna Cum Laude) from Drexel University. Kianna is presently a participant in the Sodexo Health Care Services New York /Philadelphia Metropolitan Dietetic Internship program and endeavors to take on leadership roles in the community and in nutrition organizations such as the American Dietetic Association.

Andro-Marc Pierre Louis earned an Associate of Science degree in both Mathematics and Computer Science before matriculating to Temple University in 2005. He later received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry (Cum Laude) and completed the requirements to become a Certified Chemist. With support from the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, Andro-Marc successfully matriculated to graduate study at Temple University and is currently working to complete his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry.

Bolatito Ajayi attended Community College of Philadelphia for one year to strengthen her academic profile before transferring to Cheyney University in 2004. She later attended Cheyney for two years and emerged with two Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Chemistry. In 2006, as a recipient of the prestigious LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she was able to matriculate to graduate study at Delaware State University, where she completed a Master’s of Science degree in Applied Chemistry in May 2010. Currently, Bolatito is employed as a Quality Control Laboratory Manager at NanoHorizons Inc.
Joseph Heard scrutinized data received from the heavens at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) for three summers between 2006-2009. At BNL, Joseph worked in the Physics Lab collecting and analyzing data related to axions, hypothetical elements in space. A 2007 Community College of Philadelphia graduate, Joseph took his experience and skills to the University of Arizona in Fall 2007, where he majored in Mathematics and minored in Astrophysics. He later transferred to Syracuse University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics in May 2011. At present, Joseph is working as a Lab Assistant, Department of Physics at Florida A & M University, where he plans to continue his education and pursue a doctoral degree in Physics.

Alma Blassengale represents the best in scholarship discipline for besides achieving high grades in her academic career, she has a scholarly repertoire for continuously learning everything about science. Alma earned an Associates of Science degree in Chemistry in 2003, and matriculated to Temple University where she was later awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 2006. As a recipient of a 2006 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Alma continued her education at Delaware State University and was awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Chemistry in 2008. Her research focused on the degradation of steroidal hormones in soil affected by various environmental factors. After graduation, Alma matriculated to Drexel University as a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering. Due to unforeseen family circumstance, Alma had to take a leave of absence from her doctoral studies and is currently working as a laboratory assistant in the Department of Biology at CCP. She hopes to return to Drexel to complete her doctoral studies in the near future.

Adedotun Adebamiro attended Community College of Philadelphia and then transferred to La Salle University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 1999. He continued his studies at the University of Pittsburgh and was awarded a Ph.D. degree in Cell Biology and Molecular Physiology in 2006 and an MD in 2008. His dissertation focused on serine protease regulation of the epithelial sodium channel. Currently, Adedotun is an internal medicine resident at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut.
Denzil Roberts began his educational career at Delaware State University with a BS degree in Physics and Pre-Engineering in 2003, and a MS degree in Physics in 2005. Denzil continued on to obtain his Ph.D. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Robert’s Ph.D. dissertation was titled “Gallium Arsenide-Based Quantum Cascade Lasers for Mid-Infrared Operation at 3-5pm Grown by Molecular Beam Epitaxy”. Denzil served as an AMP tutor while an undergraduate at DSU for Algebra, Calculus and Physics I & II. Dr. Roberts currently serves as a faculty member of Engineering at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Rachell Garner is currently a junior at Delaware State University double majoring in mathematics and math education. This summer Rachell was selected to participate in the AMP International Experience Summer 2011 study abroad trip to China where she conducted research in plant ecology. She currently serves as the Treasurer of the Junior Class for the Student Government Association, 2011-2012. Rachell is an active student member of the AMP Program where she facilitates peer-led tutoring workshops in college algebra and trigonometry for her fellow DSU students.

Renee Roberts earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Delaware State University, and a Ph.D. degree in Molecular Microbiology and Immunology /Veterinary Pathobiology from the University of Missouri. It was in June 2006, during her first summer internship at UMBC when she recognized the STEM fields as her true professional calling in life. Renee served as a peer mentor and tutor during her years at Delaware State University. At the moment, Renee is working as a Research Assistant at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Adae Amoako earned his undergraduate degree in Biology and Chemistry from Delaware State University in May 2007. As an undergraduate, Adae participated in numerous research internships at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, Yale University’s School of Medicine, and the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics at the University of Michigan. These internships allowed him to solidify his passion for clinical medicine and research. Mr. Amoako is currently in his fourth and final year at Ross University School of Medicine. He hopes to secure a position in Internal Medicine or Family Medicine residency where he can only not take care of patients, but also continue doing clinical research.

Mahlet Mersha earned her undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Texas-San Antonio. She completed her Masters Degree in the Biological Sciences at Delaware State University through the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship program. Her research focused on how the Dopamine autoreceptor DOP-2 interacts with GPA-14 to modulate C. elegans learning and behavior. Mahlet is fascinated by the human brain and how it controls everything within the body. Currently, Mahlet is a Ph.D. candidate in Neuroscience at Drexel University’s College of Medicine.

Anthea Aikins is an alumnus of Delaware State University (DSU). She completed her doctoral studies from the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Missouri. During her matriculation at DSU, she was involved in the LSAMP program. Anthea believes the mentorship and guidance she received also played an instrumental role in nurturing her interest in scientific research. Dr. Aikens is now at the New Jersey Medical School University Hospital, working as a Post-doctoral fellow conducting clinical and translational research at the Cancer Center in Newark, New Jersey. Her current research focuses on understanding the mechanisms of Leukemia, specifically, Chronic Myeloid Leukemia, also known as CML.

Justin Davis is a senior in engineering physics at Delaware State University. During his college career he has completed an internship with Disney World, as well as at DSU. Justin also contributed to the publication entitled “Development of an autofluorescence spectral database for the identification and classification of microbial extremophiles” which was published in the SPIE Digital Library as a proceeding. After graduation, Justin plans to enroll in graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. degree in Physics.

Marissa Brady received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biotechnology from Delaware State University in May 2008. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate recipient, was able to continue her studies and later received a Master’s of Science degree in Natural Resources in December 2011. Her research focused on combining telemetry and mark-recapture methods to study the population dynamics of American eels in Delaware. Marisa plans to attend University of Miami as a Ph.D. candidate in Marine Biology and Fisheries in Fall 2012.
Roderick King is sophomore in majoring in Biology at Delaware State University (DSU). He has been awarded several scholarships including: the AMP Program, the Luna I. Mishoe Scholarship, the Aspire Scholarship, and scholarships from S.M.I.L.E and the Cancer Federation. He has also been recognized on Delaware State University’s President’s List two semesters in a row for academic excellence. Through the help of the LSAMP International Experience Program, Roderick had the opportunity to travel with other DSU AMP students to China for six weeks during the summer of 2011 where he conducted research in ecology. Currently, he is an intern working in a neuro-genomics research lab studying splice variants in Caenorhabditis elegans.

Agyenim Amoako earned his Bachelor of Science degree in both Biology and Chemistry from Delaware State University (DSU) in May 2006. As an undergraduate, Agyenim was awarded the DSU Annual Outstanding Leadership Award, was the President of the Alpha Chi Honor Society, and was recognized on the President’s List for six semesters and the Dean’s List for four semesters. He has research experience in the Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology from Duke University. He also served as a student researcher at the University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, as well as at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine in the Department of Cardiology. Agyenim says that he has always loved science and is interested in researching how diseases affect the entire world. Dr. Amoako recently graduated from Ross University School of Medicine and is currently in the process of applying for a residency position.

Mollee Crampton attended Delaware Technical & Community College for her Associates Degree in Applied Science (Biotechnology). She continued on to earn her Bachelors of Science in Biology (Biotechnology track) at Delaware State University in May 2011. She completed an NSF internship, Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in 2009, which confirmed her desire to conduct research in the biological sciences. At Delaware State University, she participated in a mentorship program designed to help incoming STEM and Agriculture freshmen to be stronger students and remain in their program, even through the difficult science classes. After graduation, as a 2011 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, Mollee is now enrolled as a Master’s candidate in Molecular Biology and Genetics at the University of Delaware.

Adrianne Brown is a senior at Delaware State University majoring in Biology. As an LSAMP scholar she conducted research on the validation of 454 sequencing derived transcription factors in the common bean (Phaseolus vulgaris L.).

Talaysha Lingham received a Bachelor of Science degree in Food and Nutrition Science from Delaware State University in 2010. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she is currently a Master’s candidate in Food Science Microbiology. Her research is focused on the study of the antimicrobial activity from vinegar on foodborne pathogen and bacteria species isolated from catfish.

Darius Wheeler was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Delaware State University in 2008. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he was able to complete a Master’s of Science in Applied Mathematics in May 2010. Currently, Darius is enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Mathematics at Northwestern University.

Jennifer Hampton is an undergraduate student at Delaware State University majoring in Natural Resources / Concentration Fisheries Management. As an LSAMP scholar, she is Documenting Habitat Use and Residency of Adult Atlantic Horseshoe Crab (Limulus polyphemus) in Delaware Bay Through Passive Acoustic Telemetry.

Franz Delima knew he wanted to study STEM since he was a little kid running around his parent’s farm in Haiti. He dreamed of becoming an Engineer. Franz received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Delaware State University in December 2008. While an undergraduate student Franz was an active member of LSAMP. He also completed an internship with AstraZenca Pharmaceuticals in 2006 and 2007. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, Franz completed his Master’s of Science degree in Applied Optics in August 2011. He worked on the publication “A. Marcano O., F. Delima, Y. Markushin, and N. Melikechi, “Determination of linear and nonlinear absorption of metallic colloids using photothermal lens spectrometry,” J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 28, 281 (2011). Currently, Franz is employed as a laser technician for Light Age, Inc.
Ar'Quette Grant was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in 2009 at Delaware State University (DSU). As a recipient of a LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she completed a Master’s of Science degree in Food Sciences and successfully transitioned to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University as a Ph.D. candidate in Food Sciences in Fall 2010. Ar’Quette attests that her matriculation through DSU and the LSAMP Program gave her the strength, endurance, and responsibility needed for her to complete her PhD and enter the scientific world as an expert in my field. Three of the four summers as an undergraduate student were spent in summer internships where she gained experience in various fields of study ranging from: molecular botanical research to field research working with sharks and eels. These experiences, mixed with classic classroom teaching, gave her a greater appreciation for STEM, and helped her to hone her research interests to the area of food science.

Tiara D. Turner received her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in December 2007. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Tiara was able to matriculate to Delaware State University and complete a Master’s of Science degree in Applied Mathematics in December 2010. After completing the Master's program in Applied Mathematics at Delaware State University she received a fully funded scholarship from the Federal Department of Education Title III Program to continue her education at DSU as a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Mathematics. In 2010, Tiara co-authored a paper entitled "Detection of Periodic Motion of Visually Obscured Human Beings using UWB Radar" in the fourth International Conference on Environment and Engineering Geophysics. Although she is very proud of her accomplishments, Tiara attests that the LSAMP and the Bridge to the Doctorate Program gave her the support and structure she needed to succeed and for that she is very grateful.

Maurice Smith received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics with an Emphasis in Engineering from Delaware State University in December 2008. As a recipient to the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he completed his Master’s of Science degree in Optics in May 2011. He is currently employed by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s Division of Employer Accounts. His plan is to start his own business in the near future with government funding.

Alicia Revis Magnum completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from Delaware State University in 2005. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she was able to complete her Master’s of Science degree in Natural Sciences at DSU in 2009. Alicia is presently employed as an Environmental Senior Technician at the North Carolina Division of Air Quality.

Tori Alexandra Owens earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Riverside in the Biological Sciences. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she matriculated to Delaware State University, where she completed her Master’s of Science degree in Biological Sciences in December 2011. Tori received a 1st Place Excellence award at the 13th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference for her research presentation on the differential glycan patterning of CXCR4 in neuroblastoma cell lines. Tori is now employed with Nemours Center for Childhood Cancer Research at A. I. duPont Hospital for Children as a Laboratory Research Technician. She plans to work for a year and will then apply to Medical Schools for 2012 and possible 2013 admissions.

Isaac Basaldua received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Delaware State University (DSU) in May 2009. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he was able to pursue graduate study at DSU. He is currently completing a Master’s of Science in Applied Optics.

Rochelle Young was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Biology in 2009 from Delaware State University. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she was able to complete a Master’s degree in Biology at DSU in May 2011. Rochelle attests that when she stood up to defend her thesis, she had gained a level of confidence, self-worth, and resilience that she has never seen in herself, but she knew she had earned with the support of LSAMP.

Stephanie Nieves is a Mathematics/Computer Science major at Delaware State University. As an LSAMP research scholar, she conducted research in the stochastic particle-based model of cell rearrangements.
James Arthur Cooper received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Lincoln University, and his Ph.D. degree in Biomedical Science from Drexel University in December 2002. After graduation, Dr. Cooper conducted post-doctoral research at University of Pennsylvania, before accepting a tenure-track position at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as an Assistant Professor in Biomedical Engineering. In Dr. Cooper’s words, “The LSAMP program has shaped my career by providing funding to programs which have given me the time and attention to develop my maturity as a scientific researcher. I first came into contact with an LSAMP funded program at Lincoln University, PA which showed me the attention and devotion I would have to place on my studies in order to succeed. Since then, whenever I have had hard and stressful times in my studies or my research, I look back on the AMP programs which have influenced my career path and become motivated to succeed. I am thankful that I was a part of the LSAMP program and hope to continue to contribute to its legacy in helping minorities achieve their academic goals.”

Shani Samuel received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Lincoln University in May 2009. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, Shani was was able to matriculate as a Master’s candidate in Chemistry at Delaware State University in the Spring 2010. Her current area of research focuses on the comparison of whey protein encapsulated vitamins by homogenization and classical complex coacervation techniques.

Rene Oats received her Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Lincoln University in 2005. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, she matriculated to Temple University, where she later received a Master’s of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 2009. Rene is currently Ph.D. candidate in Structural Engineering at Michigan Technological University with interests in product development and engineering research.

Norrisca Charles is a junior at Lincoln University majoring in Environmental Science. As an LSAMP scholar, she conducted research on alternative fuels, in particular, the investigation of ammonia borane hydrolysis at Duquesne University.

Terrell Myers is a junior at Lincoln University majoring in Biology. As an LSAMP scholar, he conducted research on the effects of mental stress on coronary blood flow in humans at Penn State Hershey Heart and Vascular Institute.

Shavona Burton is a sophomore majoring in Biology at Lincoln University. As an LSAMP scholar, she conducted research on the role of Connexin43 in the skeletal response to mechanical unloading at Penn State College of Medicine.

Patrick Iheiirika is a sophomore in Biology at Lincoln University. As an LSAMP scholar, he is participating in research in mitochondrial targeted triphenylphosphonium derivatives for the treatment of metastatic melanoma at the University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine.

Candice Lynch is a junior at Lincoln University majoring in Chemistry. As an LSAMP research scholar she conducted a pilot study of a potential novel heterologous prime-boost cancer vaccine.
Nandima Koroma completed Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics and Mathematics Education at Lincoln University in 2009. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Nandima was able to matriculate to Delaware State University where she is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Mathematics.

Krystaufeux Williams was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Lincoln University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University in 2002 as part of the 3/2 dual degree articulation agreement between the participating institutions. As a 2003 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, he attended the University of Delaware, but later matriculated to Delaware State University and was awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Physics. Upon graduation, Krystaufeux enrolled at Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) where he earned a Master’s of Science degree in Materials Science and Engineering in December 2010. With support from the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), Krystaufeux is currently continuing his studies as a doctoral student and has passed his Ph.D. qualifying examination at Penn State. He has also been guaranteed employment by NRL upon graduation.

Shakera Guess completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish in 2007 at Lincoln University. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Shakera matriculated to Delaware State University where she later received a Master’s of Science degree in Chemistry in May 2010. She is currently employed as a Laboratory Technician / Associate Scientist at Critical Path Services, LLC, a contract research organization that offers GLP-compliant laboratory analysis, toxicology consulting, and technical writing services to the pharmaceutical, crop protection, and chemical industries.

Eric Jamison II received Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemistry and Anthropology and a Minor in Mathematics in May 2006. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Eric matriculated to Delaware State University where he later was awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Applied Chemistry. Currently, Eric is a Ph.D. candidate in Public and Community Health at the University of Maryland - College Park.

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NJIT)

Jefferson Cuadra completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. As a 2010 participant of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, Jefferson is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University. His research area is focused on multiscale characterization of mechanical behavior of advanced composites via a data-driven modeling approach.

Shivon Boodhoo received her Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology. As a participant of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate, she was able to attain a Master’s of Science degree in Industrial Engineering / Engineering Management from NJIT in 2006. After working in industry for a number of years, Shivon has returned to NJIT as an Undergraduate Advisor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and is now enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Industrial Engineering. In December 2011 she passed her dissertation proposal and is on track to graduate in May 2012.

Marlena Brown received her Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2004. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, she matriculated to graduate study at NJIT and attained a Master’s of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Engineering / Engineering Management in 2006. Marlena is currently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Biomedical Engineering at Rutgers University and is on track to complete her degree by May 2012. Her goal is to one day establish a non-profit healthcare community center that educates urban youth about healthcare issues, diseases, and preventive care.

Edward Musa received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering with a Minor in Applied Mathematics from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2004. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he continued his studies and was awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Information Systems in August 2006. After graduation, Edward worked a Lehman Brothers and later moved to Barclays Capital as an Assistant Vice President / Business Community Management Analyst. As of October 2010 he is working at Aegis Insurance Services in the IT area.
David Diaz completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2007. As a 2010 participant of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, Jefferson is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Biomedical Engineering at Drexel University. His research area is focused on the assessment of wound healing by non-contact NIR spectroscopy.

Aniel Padrino completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2010. Aniel was able to continue his studies as an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient and is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University. His research area is focused on myocyte cytoskeletal structure changes on native and glycated collagen.

Jennifer Dorn received her Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science Summa Cum Laude from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2004. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, Jennifer was able to complete a Master’s of Science degree in Information Systems / Engineering Management in 2006 with a 4.00 GPA. After graduating, Jennifer was employed by Lockheed Martin where she entered the Information Systems Leadership Development program.

Glendon Scott is a senior in Biomedical / Electrical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His current research focuses on centralized versus distributed motor learning in pre-programmed controlled oculomotor system, an analysis of adaption. This study tests the hypothesis that if someone has a strong ability to adapt one oculomotor system, then they will also have a strong ability to adapt another oculomotor system and vice versa.

Jay Vargas is a junior in Electrical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His current research focuses on the modeling of magnetic-field-assisted assembly of semiconductor devices. His research project received a 1st Place Excellence award in the Engineering Category at the 14th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference in October 2011.

Michael Williams is a junior in Electrical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His current research focuses on automatic image orientation detection with low-cost sensors.

Angel Royer received a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems through the joint program between Rutgers University and the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in 2004. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she was able to continue her education at NJIT and complete a Master’s of Science degree in Information Systems in 2006. She is currently employed as a Software Engineer at IBM in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Kens Josias received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in 2004. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he was able to continue his studies at NJIT and was later awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Chemical Engineering in 2006. After graduation, Kens was employed by as an engineer for the United States Army at Fort Monmouth. As of 2009, he has been working at DuPont Corporation.
Jennifer Bullock is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at Temple University. Jennifer received a 2011 Temple LSAMP research fellowship to work with Dr. Judy Zhang to study “Hetero-aggregation of Oxide Particles and the Impact on the Oxide Reactivity”. Former President of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Jennifer is very interested in attending graduate school for chemical engineering.

Virginia Kocieda received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Temple University in 2007. Through her participation in the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, Virginia was able to enroll as a Ph.D. candidate in Microbiology and Immunology at Temple. In 2010, she served as Vice President of Temple’s Graduate Student Association. Currently, she is continuing her doctoral study as a National Institute of Health (NIH) Training grant recipient. Virginia desires to pursue a career in higher education and research where she wants to help “train the next generation of scientists.”

Esteban Martinez is currently a senior at Drexel University majoring in Biology with a concentration in Cell and Molecular Biology. In 2010, Esteban co-authored his first publication entitled “Mass action kinetic analysis of multidrug resistance transporters expressed in confluent cell monolayer.” It will be featured in 2011 printing of the textbook The Structure of Biological Membranes. Esteban hopes to acquire his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and further advance science through his research.

Mark Calloway is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at Temple University. Mark has been a student leader in STEM since his arrival on campus. His professional area of interest is in renewable and alternative energy, and he expects to join a progressive firm committed to urban sustainability.

Abosed Salewa Ogunmefun is a senior in Engineering Technology at Temple University. Salewa worked on the LSAMP sponsored website development for the regional Mathematics, Engineering & Science Achievement (MESA) initiative to promote STEM achievement among minority middle and high school students. She is very interested in pursuing her advanced degrees in environmental engineering.

Mbalu Forneh-Delo is a junior in Mechanical Engineering at Temple University. Mbalu has served in a number of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) leadership positions, as Secretary and incoming Vice President. She received a 2011 Temple AMP research fellowship to study “Engaging and Motivating Students in an Engineering Enrichment Environment”, part of an on-going research protocol into diversifying the engineering pipeline. Mbalu plans to work in weapons design for the U.S. Navy.

Eric Francis-Wright is a senior in Civil Engineering at Temple University. Eric is an active student leader through his fraternity, support of the NSBE’s pre-college initiative (PCI), and role as a peer mentor for Temple’s GEARUP initiative. He recently worked on a research study entitled “Polymeric Solvents for the Removal of Emerging Contaminants”, and is very interested in additional research opportunities through the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program.

William Maignon was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Temple University in May 2011. As an undergraduate, William served as a mentor/peer coach for the GEARUP program. In Fall 2011, as a recipient of an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, he was able to successfully matriculate to the University of Delaware as a Master’s candidate in Electrical Engineering.
Romaric A. Nsidze is a junior in Electrical Engineering at Temple University. Romaric serves as a 2011-2012 AMP Ambassador. He is responsible for outreach, information sharing and recruiting diverse STEM students to participate in LSAMP workshops, seminars and community service events. Romaric organized the first AMP International STEM & Entrepreneurship workshop with the Fox School of Business. A native of Cameroon, with a 3.75 GPA, Romaric is exploring opportunities in light rail transportation here and abroad.

Ighiwiyisi “Michaela” Amadasu is a junior in Biophysics at Temple University. Michaela serves as a 2011-2012 AMP Ambassador. In addition to her service with LSAMP, she is a leader in a number of STEM related student activities on Temple’s Health Sciences Campus, including serving as a mentor in the STEP-UP pre-med program. Michaela helped organize Temple’s MESA biomedical summer camp, working in partnership with the United States Navy to expose minority middle and high school students to research on health disparities.

Gene Council is a senior in Electrical Engineering at Temple University. Gene served on the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Region 2 Board as the Danger Zone coordinator for the Greater Philadelphia Region. She received a 2011 Temple LSAMP research fellowship to support her study “Educating with Spatial Augmented Reality.” Gene is also the incoming President of the Temple NSBE chapter.

Kenneth Carter is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at Temple University’s College of Engineering. Kenny served as a GEARUP STEM counselor, as well as Membership Chair for Temple’s award winning mid-size National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) chapter, which received “Chapter of the Year” from National NSBE in 2010 and 2011. Kenny is currently pursuing his Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University with support from the Greater Philadelphia LSAMP.

Nana Yaw A. Essuman is a senior in Information Technology at Temple University’s College of Science & Technology. Nana helped develop Temple’s LSAMP-maintained MESA website. He is an emerging expert in web and mobile application development and plans to continue in the field of IT, systems and entrepreneurship.

Uduak Udoeyo is a junior in Biology at Temple University’s College of Science & Technology. Uduak received a 1st Place award for research presentation entitled “Titanium dioxide doped with palladium nanoparticles for sensing hydrazine” at the 2011 Temple Undergraduate Research Symposium. She is also a Minority Access to Research Careers 2011 scholarship recipient.

Alexander Gonzales is a junior in Mathematics and Spanish at Temple University’s College of Science & Technology. Alexander is also a recipient of a 2011 LSAMP Award for academic excellence and a member of Temple’s Honors program. He was also selected in 2011 to be an Honors Peer Coordinator.

Enoch Kotei received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Temple University. As a 2007 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, Enoch was able to successfully matriculate to graduate study and was subsequently awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Biology in 2009 from Temple University. His research focused on upregulated expression of histone deacetylase (HDAC)-related corepressor mSin3A in the presence of hepatitis B x antigen. Presently, Enoch is pursuing an M.D. degree at the University of Illinois, Chicago, with an interest in academic medicine and research.
Amaliris Gonzalez received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Temple University in 2007. With support from the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, she was able to continue her studies at Temple as a Master’s candidate in Biology. In 2010, Amaliris transferred to doctoral study has a Ph.D. candidate in Biology. She plans to pursue a career in higher education and research.

Justin Griggs completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics at University of California, Santa Cruz in 2007. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, he successfully matriculated to Temple University and later was awarded a Master’s of Science degree in Mathematics in 2010. Justin is presently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate in Materials Engineering at Drexel University.

Nejea Davis was awarded her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry / Biochemistry from Temple University in 2007. As an LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, she was able to continue her studies, and subsequently was able to attain a Master’s of Science degree in Analytical Chemistry from Temple University in 2010. Nejea is first author on publications in the Journal of Analytical Chemistry and the Journal of Chromatography. Her career goals are teaching and research at a university including “direct, international collaborative research benefiting developing nations.”

James Lunden completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at Temple University in 2007. With support from the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program, he was able to continue his studies as a Ph.D. candidate in Biology at Temple University. He is interested in the mechanisms of coral calcification and potential impacts of ocean acidification on cold-water coral communities. In 2009 and 2010, James was an instructor at Temple’s ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp serving middle school students from groups historically underserved and underrepresented in STEM fields.

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (UD)

Joanna Adadevoh is a senior Chemical Engineering major at the University of Delaware (UD). She has received numerous scholarships during her time at UD and is an active member of the RISE/LSAMP Program. Joanna expects to pursue a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Her research is on modeling the effects of ammonia on the glycosylation patterns of monoclonal antibodies. It is an important research topic because it has to do with ensuring the safety and efficacy of therapeutic drugs to consumers. Joanna is also the 2011-2012 Co-President of the UD chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers, a member of the UD Gospel Choir and the Delaware African Student Association.

Ariel Roach graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor’s of Mechanical Engineering degree and a minor in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Delaware. Ariel was a RISE/LSAMP Program participant, a McNair Scholar, on the Dean’s List numerous times and a UD Merit Scholarship Recipient. Ariel was awarded 1st place in the Biological Sciences category of the 2010 Philadelphia LSAMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference. Ariel has studied abroad in Melbourne and Tasmania, Australia, and was the President of the NSBE UD chapter for two years, as well as being involved in many other student organizations. Ariel is an Associate Engineer at Merck & Co. and will be attending Drexel University in spring 2012 to pursue a Master’s Degree in Engineering Management.

Bianca Morales is a senior at the University of Delaware majoring in Environmental Engineering with a concentration in Biotechnology and minors in Chemistry and Economics. She has received RISE Program/LSAMP scholarships. She has always had a love for math and science but knew it was what she wanted to pursue after studying abroad in Grenoble, France the winter of her sophomore year of college. She plans on staying at UD for one extra year to take more classes and hopes to get a full-time job after graduation and eventually get an MBA.

Robert Christian Paul is a junior Civil Engineering major at the University of Delaware. He has been interested in techniques and structures from a young age. Christian (as he is known) has worked as a research assistant at UD performing work on the tear film of the eye. Christian has been an active participant of the RISE/AMP Program and hopes to pursue a Master’s Degree in Civil Engineering after graduating from UD.
**Daniel Baumzweig** is a junior, Mechanical Engineering major at the University of Delaware. At UD Dan is a participant of the RISE/LSAMP Program. The things he has learned at UD, as well as through the RISE/AMP program have helped him attain an engineering internship this past summer at a company that manufactures a variety of fluid valves. He has put to use many ideas he learned in his classes while learning new things as well. He believes he would not be where he is today without the UD RISE/LSAMP Program.

**Kevin Sadeghipour** is a senior Mechanical Engineering major and Sustainable Energy Technology minor at the University of Delaware. Currently, Kevin is performing research at UD in thermo-chemical solar hydrogen production. This research involves the development of a mechanical system which sustainably produces hydrogen gas using concentrated solar energy, zinc oxide powder, and water. He is also testing the condition and handling of zinc oxide powder to be used in a future powder handling publication. Kevin is an active participant in the RISE/LSAMP Program and believes that programs such as RISE/LSAMP are necessary to continuously offer support in many different forms to students pursuing degrees in STEM fields. Kevin is also an officer of the UD Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) chapter.

**Marcus Whitchett** is a junior studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Delaware. This past summer, he interned at a municipality in his town. It was there that he worked with a surveying crew, recording elevations and gradients to be recorded for the replacement of new roads. He is an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers and currently holds the position of co-finance chair in his respective chapter at the University of Delaware. Marcus is also a scholarship recipient and active participant of the RISE/LSAMP Program.

**Mark Oteiza** is a senior, Mechanical Engineering major with minors in Mathematics and Economics at the University of Delaware. Mark conducts research on ultrasound micro-bubbles and is writing a thesis on shape optimization. He has contributed three years of service to the U.S. Navy as a student, was a part of the SEAP program before university, and has been a co-op in the SCEP program since, working at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division. Having taken a half dozen graduate courses since his sophomore year and given his affinity towards research, Mark plans on pursuing a doctorate in his field after graduation.

**Melynda Schreiber** graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Biomedical Engineering in January, 2011. Under the advisement of Jill Higginson, she was able to research the brain signals (EEG) in reaching tasks. On stroke rehabilitation, Melynda worked in the Biomedical Rehabilitation Partnership (BRP) on functional electrical stimulation of dorsi flexors and plantar flexors. After research opportunities in physics, neuroscience, rehabilitation engineering and physical therapy, she was able to define some of her long and short term goals. As a 2011 LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship recipient, Melynda is currently a Master’s candidate in Biomechanics and Movement Science at UD. With the guidance of the LSAMP programs, she plans to continue her education and pursue a doctorate degree related to a STEM field.

**Myles Powell** is a senior, majoring in Civil Engineering at the University of Delaware. He has been a part of the RISE/LSAMP Program for slightly more than three years. A lot of the inspiration to continue with his field of study has come from the RISE/LSAMP Program. Some of his college highlights include being on the Dean’s List and a construction management internship this past summer. Myles is a RISE/LSAMP Program scholarship recipient, he serves as an officer in the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) UD chapter and as a Career Ambassador for the University’s Bank of America Career Services Center.

**Sharnita James** is a junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Delaware. This past summer, Sharnita had the opportunity to encourage younger generations to pursue a career in engineering. She was in charge of a college readiness session, which educated 14 and 15 year olds on anything related to college (applying to, choosing a major, campus life etc.). She organized lessons that explored the different fields of engineering. Sharnita is a RISE/LSAMP Program scholarship recipient and an officer in the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) UD NSBE chapter.

**Matthew Wegryn** is a junior, Mechanical Engineering major at the University of Delaware. After experiencing multiple types of engineering through classes and having an internship with Grotto Engineering Associates, he realized that Mechanical Engineer fits him very well. In the future Matt plans on continuing his education to the graduate level. Matt is an active participant in the RISE/LSAMP Program and a scholarship recipient.
Tayler Wennick is a junior, Civil Engineering major at the University of Delaware. According to Tayler, RISE/LSAMP has helped her to achieve the highest level of academic standards possible. She was named a Latino Student of Distinction, received numerous scholarships, and been on the Dean’s List every semester. She has also been able to take part in research. Tayler is currently working on Non-Destructive Testing techniques with Professor Thomas Schumacher. She is also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of Women Engineers. After college, Tayler plans to attend graduate school.

Etambuyu Akapelwa is a junior at the University of Delaware pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. Not only does she believe in encouraging minorities to take an interest in obtaining degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, but she also tries to serve as a positive example to promote retention within these fields. Since joining RISE/LSAMP, she has received an award for Outstanding Achievement in French and continues to be an active student on campus who enjoys volunteering her time to RISE/LSAMP when asked. She has also served on the Executive Board of the National Society of Black Engineers two years in a row, previously as Fundraising Chair and currently as the chapter Treasurer.

Nicolette Grannum is a sophomore, Mechanical Engineering major at the University of Delaware with a minor in Mathematics. Nicolette hopes to intern over the spring to get a hands-on experience in the field of engineering. The RISE/LSAMP Program is helping her meet her future goals. Nicolette is a RISE/LSAMP scholarship recipient.

Marlyse Williams-White received a Bachelor of Environmental Engineering and a Minor in Civil Engineering from the University of Delaware in May 2004. As a recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate fellowship, she was able to continue her studies at UD and attained a Master’s of Science degree in Environmental Engineering in 2006. She later matriculated to Pennsylvania State University and earned a Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Engineering in 2010. Currently, Marylse is serving as an Officer in the U.S. Air Force.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (PENN)

Jamol Pender is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Operations Research and Financial Engineering and president of the Wesley L. Harris Scientific Society at Princeton University. As a Penn LSAMP scholar, through the submatriculation program, he received a BSE in Electrical Engineering with a Minor in Mathematics in 2007, and a MSE in Systems Engineering in 2008. He is currently researching queueing theory inspired by problems in communication centers.

Raina Wallace is currently a medical student at Mount Sinai School of Medicine of New York University. As a Penn LSAMP scholar, she received a BAS in Biomedical Applied Science in 2008, and served as president of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). As a participant of the LSAMP undergraduate research program, Raina conducted research in neurology at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and co-authored a paper entitled “The Role of Transcription Factors Cyclic-AMP Responsive Element Modulator (CREM) and Inducible Cyclic-AMP Early Repressor (ICER) in Epileptogenesis” which was published in *Neuroscience 2008*. Through the Minorities in International Research Training program, Raina also conducted research in pathology at the Dunn School of Pathology at Oxford University in 2006.

Charlotte Rivera is a senior in Bioengineering at the University of Pennsylvania. As a Penn LSAMP scholar, she serves as the president of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and is presently conducting research in vibrotactile and auditory feedback for robotic minimally invasive surgery.

Lauren Frazier is currently a Master’s student in Computer Science at the University of Pennsylvania. As an undergraduate LSAMP scholar, she conducted research and co-authored the paper "Fault Detection in Partially Connected Networks". The paper received 1st Place at the 13th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference, 1st Place at the Einsteins in the City International Conference, 1st Place at the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Regional Conference, and 2nd Place at the NSBE National Convention. In her spare time, Lauren enjoys video games and performing Shakespeare on campus.
Elana Cooper received her Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania in 2009. She has taken charge of her career aspirations, and during and after attending Penn, she exemplified herself by participating in a series of the annual LSAMP Research Symposia and won first and second prizes on at least three occasions. Her skill level continued to grow and be enhanced as she studied abroad at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in China. The opportunity to implement research in lower limb biomechanics with professors at the HKPU clinics helped and influenced diagnosis and treatment protocol with new designs and manufacturing processes. Her experience in research at AI DuPont Hospital for Children in diagnostic electromyography on Cerebral Palsy patients and later research at the City College of New York incorporating principles of cell/microbiology, materials science and mechanical engineering supporting the development of living tissue surrogates for connective tissue restoration, have given her a perspective and background to advance and become a leader in the area of biomedical science and engineering. She was requested by her undergraduate professor, who moved to City College of New York, to come and work on his research and finish her Ph.D. Elana is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. Program at CUNY researching: “Decellularization of the Nucleus Pulposus to develop ECM/Hydrogel Constructs for Intervertebral Disc Repair”. She anticipates completing her Ph.D. in 2014. Elana demonstrates the impact of undergraduate research as catalysis for graduate success.

Yonas Solomon is a junior majoring in Computer Science at the University of Pennsylvania. As an LSAMP scholar, he is conducting research on sentiment analysis of online social media. Yonas received a 1st Place – Excellence award in the Mathematics / Computational Sciences at the 14th Annual Philadelphia AMP Research Symposium and Mentoring Conference in October 2011.

Mehdi Charfi is a Junior majoring in Systems Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. As an LSAMP scholar, he is conducting research on cross-dock modeling and analysis.

Norma Brown is a Junior majoring in Bioengineering at the University of Pennsylvania. As an LSAMP scholar, she is presently conducting research on nanoparticles and B7-H4 superparamagnetic iron-oxide nanoparticles target cancer-expressing protein B7H4.

GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGION LSAMP (4) ALLIANCE SUPERSTARS

Regina Cagle, E.I.T., is currently a project engineer at EA Engineering, Science & Technology, an environmental consulting firm in the Baltimore area. Trained in environmental engineering at Drexel University (College of Engineering-Class of 2008), Regina has applied both her project experience and post-graduate studies to expand her capabilities, including engineering design and analysis and environmental compliance in stormwater, energy, and solid waste projects. Regina became driven to hone her technical skills after working with Drexel University’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders to design a water distribution system for a small village in El Salvador. In addition, Regina contributes to her technical work the invaluable perspective of her graduate work in sustainability as a Fulbright Scholar to Ecuador, and as an environmental policy intern at the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Through academic and public service commitments across the US and abroad, Regina has developed the ability to bridge the gap between people with language, technical, and academic differences, and continually uses these skills to mentor and develop those around her through her education and engineering outreach efforts.

Richard A. Able Jr. is a dedicated and persistent individual who has proven to be passionate about the advancement of science. A native of Philadelphia, PA, Mr. Able graduated with a BA in Biology from Cheyney University of Pennsylvania in 2004. Integrative in his approach toward problem solving, Mr. Able recognized early on the importance of acquiring the skill sets of various disciplines. During the summer of 2003, he was certified in Nanofabrication Manufacturing Technology through the Engineering Department of Pennsylvania (Penn) State University. The knowledge acquired at Penn State qualified him to accept a NASA funded research position, which led to the design and utilization of a nanotechnology laboratory at Cheyney. After graduating from Cheyney in 2004, Mr. Able was selected as a NASA-NAFE O Ames Academy Scholar under the supervision of Dr. R.H. Rubin. The focus of his research involved the investigation of
spacecraft obtained astrophysical data and contributed to one of NASA’s primary goals: “Determining the Origins of Life”. Recently, Mr. Able successfully defended his graduate research work entitled *Real-time measurement of glial progenitor chemotactic migration*, under Dr. Maribel Vazquez, Department of Biomedical Engineering, City College of New York, and completed his Ph.D. in Biochemistry on January, 2012. Dr. Able is currently employed with Merck & Co. Inc.

Steven L. Jones, Ph.D. began his undergraduate career at the Community College of Philadelphia, and later matriculated at Temple University, where he subsequently completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology / Cognitive Neuroscience. In 2005, Steven was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship and matriculated at Drexel University to begin his graduate studies in the department of Neurobiology and Anatomy. In October 2007, he presented his research on “Possible Functional Consequences of Microgravity-Dependent Myosin II Downregulation in Neurons” at Africa’s First International Conference on Mission to MARS: The African Perspective in Nigeria. During the final two years of his Ph.D. studies, Steven received financial support for his research from the National Institutes of Health. In spring 2011, he defended his dissertation entitled the “Consequences of Developmental Changes in the Actomyosin and Microtubule Cytoskeleton on Axonal Morphogenesis” and was awarded a Ph.D. degree in Neuroscience in June 2011. Currently, Dr. Jones is continuing his research in a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Pennsylvania in the Department of Biology.

Yolanda Williams-Bey, Ph.D. began her undergraduate career at the Community College of Philadelphia and became an LSAMP academic scholar earning honors until transferring to Cheyney University of Pennsylvania in 2001. During this period, Yolanda was worked part-time and participated in the astronomy club, the Student National Medical Association, the National Organization for Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers and also managed to be involved in sports as captain of the basketball team. She was selected for numerous national academic honors and volunteered at Thomas Jefferson University’s Physical Therapy department. Three years later, she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biological Sciences. In 2005, she was awarded the prestigious NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Graduate Fellowship and matriculated at Drexel University to begin her graduate studies in the area of Biological Sciences. In June 2010, Yolanda was awarded a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences at Drexel University. Her dissertation illuminated “The Effect of Regulatory T cells on an Age-altered Specific CD8 T Cell response following Influenza Infection.” Dr. Williams-Bey is currently a Postdoctoral Associate, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) recipient at the National Institute of Health.

Ekene Arinze is a sophomore at Drexel University in Information Technology. During the summer preceding her sophomore year, Ekene conducted research on the use of technology in community healthcare. Ekene worked on gaining a better understanding of how patients use the Internet to search for health-related information and the utility of such information. Ultimately, these findings will be used to redesign an existing prototype user interface.
Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico LSAMP


Dr. Agustín Díaz is a postdoctoral research associate in Chemistry at Texas A&M University and a 2011 Ford Foundation Fellowship recipient. His research work is on the surface modification of zirconium phosphates with applications in areas such as drug delivery, emulsion stabilizers and fire retardant catalytic support. Agustín was a PR-LSAMP Bridge-to-the Doctorate Fellow Cohort I. During his Ph. D. studies Agustín mentored over 40 undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented groups. He completed his PhD in Chemistry in 2010 at University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus. Agustín has six publications in peer review journals, two submitted, and three manuscripts on preparation. Agustín in conjunction with his mentor is filling two patents on the application of zirconium phosphate nanoplatelets on drug delivery.

Karinel Nieves Mercéd graduated summa cum laude from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus (UPR-RP) with a B.S. degree in chemistry in May 2007 and received the Merck Award, the Isidoro Alberto Colón, and the Alumni Association medals. She pursues a Ph. D. in the synthesis of bioactive abeo-sterols against Mycobacterium tuberculosis in the UPR-RP, mentored by Dr. Abimael D. Rodríguez. She was a fellow of the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) Bridge-to-the-Doctorate Cohort V. She has received the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program fellowships. As an American Chemical Society (ACS) member, she has presented scientific posters at local and national conferences.

Griselle Hernández Cancel completed her B.S. degree in Chemistry in 2006 from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). Currently she is pursuing a PhD degree in biochemistry. She was selected to participate as a fellow student in PR-LSAMP (Bridge-to-the-Doctorate Program) Cohort IV, having the opportunity to participate in multi-disciplinary activities. She has worked in an innovative education program where as a T.A. of the Department of Chemistry she has contributed in the development of new inquiry base laboratory experiences for the General Chemistry. She has presented her research findings in meetings such as ACS, SERMASC and SoTL Conferences. She has also been a NASA Space Grant Fellow.

Dr. Francisco Solá López is a former LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort III. He completed his PhD degree in Chemical Physics in four years in 2009 at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). His research was on in-situ microscopy of carbon and silica based nanostructures. He conducted great part of his work at The National Center for Electron Microscopy at Berkeley. He published seven journal articles and one patent during his doctoral work. He was a recipient of the ORAU award and participated in the 58th Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Lindau, Germany. In September 2009, Dr. Solá-López has been working in the Structures and Materials Division at NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH. Recently, he demonstrated a new approach to image aerogels at the nanoscale by scanning electron microscopy in collaboration with Carl Zeiss Company (Nanotechnology 22, 175704, 2011).

Carlos A. Rodríguez earned a B.S. in Biology in 2007, at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate student he participated in the PR-LSAMP mentored undergraduate research program that allowed him to collaborate with research on declining frog populations in Puerto Rico. His work was presented at Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM). After graduation, Carlos began his Masters degree in Biology at UPR-RP, and in the winter 2008 was awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship (Cohort V). During his pursuit of graduate school he presented his work at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology (Portland Oregon, 2009), and has coauthored two articles. He is currently scheduled to graduate in December 2011.

Giomara La Quay Velázquez obtained her B.S. in Biology from the Universidad Metropolitana in 2010. In 2008 she had the opportunity to participate as an exchange student in the Universidad Estadual in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and, in 2009 in the Sevilleta LTER Research Experience for undergraduates were she looked at soil nutrients dynamics. These experiences lead her to work in Guatemala looking at carbon pools dynamics in mountainous ecosystems. These experiences allowed her to present their work on the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM) and in the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. She currently continues her work with Dr. Restrepo while pursuing a M.S. degree in Ecology and recently became a PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort IX at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus.
Dr. Angel A. Martí is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Bioengineering at Rice University in Houston. He obtained his B.S. and Ph.D. degree in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). From 1996 to 1999 he was awarded the Alliance for Minority Participation Excellence Award. During his graduate studies Dr. Angel Martí studied the photophysical properties of metal complexes, held the NSF GK-12 Education and published 5 manuscripts. In 2004 he was accepted to Columbia University as a postdoctoral research scientist under the mentorship of Dr. Nicolas Turro, the world’s most renowned Photochemist. Currently he is interested in developing multifunctional composite molecules with applications in medical treatments.

Ida G. Pantoja-Feliciano completed her B.S degree in Biology in 2007 at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate, she participated in the PR-LSAMP in 2005-06. In 2007, she became a PhD graduate student in Biology at UPR-RP, focused in the area of Microbiology. During her first two years of graduate studies, she was a PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort V. Currently she is member of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM). She was selected to participate in PR-AGEP and also served as teaching assistant for the Microbiology Course in the UPR-RP. She is pursuing her doctorate degree seeking to understand the dynamics of transmission of the bacterial microbioda and antibiotic resistance genes. In 2009 she was an intern in the Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology, Berne, Switzerland.

José I. López is a Ph.D. Chemical Physics graduate student at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). While at UPR-RP, José is mentored by Dr. Gerardo Morell, working on renewable energy research projects involving anodic materials for Lithium ion rechargeable batteries. As a graduate student he received the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) Graduate Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII and his research work has been presented in national scientific meetings sponsored by the Materials Research Society (MRS). José offers science workshops to high school teachers in order to improve their knowledge on basic concepts and how they can motivate and nurture Hispanic students to pursue careers in STEM fields.

Barbara Caeñas Montes obtained her B.S. degree from University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2006. Barbara participated as an undergraduate PR-LSAMP scholar. She received her M.S. degree in Chemistry from UPR-RP in May 2011. Her field of research are in the chemical and electrochemical characterization of metalloocene derivatives intercalated in zirconium phosphate for potential use in biosensors and drug delivery applications. She is the recipient of the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IV, the AAAS Caribbean Robert I. Larus Award in 2008 and the NSF-GK-12 Fellowship in 2010. Barbara is currently pursuing her Ph.D. studies in Inorganic Chemistry at UPR-RP and is in her second year of the NSF GK-12 Fellowship.

Dr. Daniel Caballero-Rivera is a former LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort I. He completed his Ph.D. degree on November 201 at University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). His doctoral research was in the areas of structural biology and ion channel biophysics. He has submitted two manuscripts describing his findings and are currently under review at peer-review journals. Dr. Caballero-Rivera has been working as a post-doctoral research associate at UPR-RP since February 2011. He has collaborated on the development of novel mutations in the intracellular domain of the neuronal subunits found in the brain of chronic smokers. This breakthrough has led him to submit a patent for the development of transgenic mice lines that are insensitive to nicotine.

Edward Aviles obtained a B.S. degree in Chemistry in 2006 from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). Currently he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Bioorganic Chemistry and expected to graduate in May 2012. He began his graduate studies sponsored by the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort IV and subsequently has been awarded Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) and the National Science Foundation GK-12 fellowships. His research focuses on the study Secondary Metabolites with Anti-Infective Properties from Marine Invertebrates. He has published several peer-review articles and presents them at local and national conferences such the 43rd IUPAC World Chemistry Congress.

Yamixa Delgado Reyes completed her BS in Industrial Chemistry in 2007 from the University of Puerto Rico Humacao Campus (UPR-H), where she was a PR-LSAMP scholar. In 2008 she was accepted as a graduate student at the UPR Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) to pursue a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biotechnology. She received a PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VI and has been awarded the A. P. Sloan Fellowship. The focus of her doctoral research is the effect of chemical glycosylation on the development of protein formulations with biomedical and pharmaceutical applications.

Daniel E. Soltero completed his BS degree in Electrical Engineering in the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPR-M), where he worked as a lab assistant and did research in control systems and robotics. During undergraduate studies, he attended the MIT Summer Research Program twice, where he also worked in robotics projects. He just finished his first year as a M.S./Ph.D. student at MIT’s Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department. He works at the Distributed Robotics Laboratory, in MIT’s Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab (CSAIL), where he is doing research in optimization and adaptive control to generate paths for robotic persistent tasks. Daniel is a recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and MIT’s Lemelson Presidential Fellowship.
Ana V. Longo obtained her BS degree in Biology in 2005 from University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) and completed a MS degree in Biology in 2008 at UPR-RP. As an undergraduate, she participated in the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program under the mentorship of Dr. Patricia Burrowes. Ana is now working towards her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Cornell University. Her thesis project focuses on the host-pathogen dynamics of the amphibian-killing fungus Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis (Bd) in direct-developing frogs in the Puerto Rican tropical forests.

Dr. Mitk’El B. Santiago-Berríos obtained his BS degree in Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2000, where he was a PR-LSAMP Fellow. He continued his doctorate studies in Inorganic Chemistry and obtained his PhD degree in 2007 under the mentorship of Dr. Jorge Colon. His dissertation was centered on the development of amperometric biosensors. Mitk’El participated in different workshops and mentoring activities under AGEP program. In 2007, Dr. Santiago received the Provost’s Academic Minority Fellowship at Cornell University where he completed a Postdoctorate Fellowship under the supervision of Dr. Héctor D. Abruña. Dr. Santiago currently is a faculty member at the Universidad Metropolitana in Cupey, Puerto Rico. He is studying charge transfer mechanisms in organic-inorganic interfaces for solar harvesting applications using quantum dot semiconductors.

Natalia Cordova graduated from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2007 with a BS in Mathematics. As an undergraduate, she was a LSAMP scholar and conducted research under the guidance of Dr. Reza Emamy. She received the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship at Colorado State University, where she completed a master’s degree, also in Mathematics, under the mentorship of Dr. Michael Kirby. She is now a PhD student in the Neuroscience program at Princeton University. She is an author in an article that was published in the journal Psychological Science and is an author in three additional publications that are in preparation.

Jennifer Carpena Núñez is a Ph.D. student in Chemical Physics at the University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) where she received her B.S. and M.S. in Physics. Jennifer participated in the Puerto Rico LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program Cohort V, and has participated in several internships at NASA JPL and LARSS at Langley Research Center. Her current research involves the usage of highly specialized In-Situ electron microscopy probing techniques for understanding the electro-mechanical behavior of structures at the nanoscale. Jennifer currently belongs to the NASA Ambassador Virtual Community. She has been recently awarded the NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship.

Yanira Enríquez obtained her B.S. degree in Chemistry in 2006 from University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). She is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Analytical Chemistry at UPR-RP and her thesis project involves the detection of the bacteria Pseudomonas aeruginosa. She participated in the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort IV and was awarded with the Puerto Rico Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (PR-AGEP) sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2008 and 2009. Presently she is part of the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She is a member of the ACS and ECS and has presented in several national and international meetings.

Kennett I. Rivero earned a B.S. in Chemistry in 2007 from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). A year later, he joined Raphael G. Raptis research group in Inorganic Chemistry as a LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VI. He is working in the synthesis and structural characterization of Iron-Oxo pyrazolato clusters. In 2009, he was sponsored by NSF to attend the Lindau Meeting of Nobel Laureates. Kennett has been a visiting student in the University of Oxford, where he worked in Computational Chemistry, and in the NCSR Demokritos (Greece), carrying out Mössbauer spectroscopic experiments. He has also been PR NASA Space Grant Fellow.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>成就及研究领域</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diana V. Silva Brenes</td>
<td>获得化学博士学位，研究海洋生物的再生机制。曾在UPR-RP做化学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard B. García-Lebrón</td>
<td>获得计算机科学博士学位，研究算法。曾在UPR-RP做计算机科学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myreisa Morales Cruz</td>
<td>获得化学学士学位，研究有机化学。曾在UPR-RP做化学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marla S. Rivera</td>
<td>获得生物学学士学位，研究微生物学。曾在UPR-RP做生物学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omar Delannoy-Bruno</td>
<td>获得生物学学士学位，研究癌症生物学。曾在UPR-RP做生物学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>José A. González Feliciano</td>
<td>获得化学博士学位，研究分子生物学。曾在UPR-RP做化学研究。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson E. Rivera-Vélez</td>
<td>获得化学学士学位，研究电化学。曾在UPR-RP做化学研究。</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuel Delgado</td>
<td>获得生物学学士学位，研究生物学。曾在UPR-RP做生物学研究。</td>
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Diana V. Silva Brenes graduated with high honors from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP), and received the Merck Index Award for students “who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of chemistry”. As an undergraduate she conducted research on synthesis and bioactivity of marine natural products and submitted her first publication. Upon entering graduate school she was awarded the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort V and she is currently pursuing her doctoral degree in organic supramolecular chemistry under the mentorship of Dr. Jose Rivera. She has presented research results in various national and international conferences, including an oral presentation at the 2011 IUPAC annual meeting in Puerto Rico.

Richard B. García-Lebrón graduated from University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus (UPR-RP) in 2011 with a B.S. in Computer Sciences. As an undergraduate he conducted research on LDPC-Codes, Experimental Mathematics, Latin Squares, Augmented Reality, Bioacoustics and Spectral Algorithms. He presented most of his research results at several local and national conferences. Following graduation Richard was awarded with the NSF LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IX, where he is currently pursuing a M.S. in Applied Mathematics. Upon completion of his M.S. he plans to follow a Ph. D. in Computer Science and contribute in the area of Spectral Algorithms.

Myreisa Morales Cruz completed her BS in Chemistry with honors in 2011 at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate she served as a research assistant and LSAMP research mentor in Biochemistry for two years under the supervision of Dr. Kai Griebenow. She participated in the RISE summer internship program at Rutgers University in New Jersey, where she worked at Dr. Lawrence Williams Organic Chemistry Laboratory. After graduation she was accepted at the Graduate Program in Chemistry at UPR-RP and received a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IX.

Marla S. Rivera graduated with honors from Interamerican University in 2010 with a BS in Biology. As an undergraduate, she participated as a technician for microbiology laboratory and then she participated in a research project at the Institute of Neurobiology at Medical Sciences campus of the University of Puerto Rico in the area of locomotion behavior. She then worked at Dr. Carlos R. Cabrera at the University of Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) student doing research in electrochemical biosensors. In 2008, she received the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VI. Her graduate research work is on water electrolysis, specifically on the oxygen evolution reaction. Nelson has been mentored by Dr. Carlos R. Cabrera and has collaborated with Dr. Thomas Valdez at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) with. Currently he is finishing his MS degree in analytical chemistry. Nelson has been the recipient of a AAAS poster presentation award and has presented his research work in national and international forums. Such as the ACS National Meeting and The World Congress in Fuel Cells held in Quito, Ecuador.

Omar Delannoy-Bruno obtained a B.S. in Biology at the University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus in 2011. As an undergraduate, he was an LSAMP scholar. He worked as a NSF-REU participant studying the development of breast cancer profiling using gold nanospheres. He presented his work in various scientific symposia including the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), the Society for Neuroscience (SFN), the Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society (MCCS) and the American Chemical Society (ACS). After graduation Omar was awarded with the NSF LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate fellowship in UPR-RP Cohort IX. Omar is now working with functional genetics of regeneration mechanisms in the sea cucumber Holothuria glaberrima.

Manuel Delgado obtained his BS in Biology at the Interamerican University University in 2003. As an undergraduate he participated in summer internship programs in NASA and USDA and also performed research in Puerto Rico. His results were presented at the PR-LSAMP PRISM. Following graduation, Manuel was accepted in the Biology graduate program and was awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort V. He also participated in Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) and Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate (AGEP) Fellowships. During his doctoral studies Manuel has published some of his findings in the Journal of Neuroimmunology, and received the following awards: Who’s Who Among American Universities and Colleges in 2009 and Honor Mention on the Specialized Neuroscience Research Program (SNRP) meeting in 2010.

José A. González Feliciano obtained a B.S. degree in Biology in 2004 from the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus (UPR-Ag) where he participated in mentored undergraduate research sponsored by PR-LSAMP. Jose is a PhD student in Molecular Biology at UPR Rio Piedras (UPR-RP). During his graduate studies he has received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort III. Jose has participated in the Translational Control meeting at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. His research aims to characterize how IL-3 expression is modulated during T cell activation. Recently his scientific manuscript entitled “Translational Control Role of the Human IL-3 Adenosine/Uridine-Rich Element” was submitted to a peer review journal. Jose’s research aims towards the development of effective therapies against leukemia and other diseases.
Christian Morales Guzmán earned a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2010. During his undergraduate studies he worked in organic chemistry research and performed the synthesis of fatty acids with bioactivity against leishmaniasis and malaria. As an undergraduate student he also worked in a laboratory of cytopharmacology in the creation of a transgenic model of cichlid fish. As part of his scientific formation he presented his results in the PRISM. He is currently doing his Ph.D. in biochemistry at UPR-RP where he is working in the development of a new technique for crystallization of membrane proteins. In 2010 he was awarded with the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship becoming a member of Cohort VIII.

Luis F Padilla –Morales obtained in 2007 his B.S. in chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate he conducted research in Dr. Jose Lasalde’s lab. in the areas of Neurobiology and Biophysics. Luis presented his research work at the 2007 Annual American Chemical Society Meeting and the LSAMP- PRISM annual meeting. His undergraduate research work was published in scientific Journals such as Chemistry, Physics of Lipids and the Journal of Membrane Biology. Currently he is completing his Ph.D. at the UPR-RP as a RISE Fellow and he expects to graduate on 2012 in order to pursue a career in academia.

Annette Negroni-Miranda received her B.S. degree in 2009 at the University of Puerto Rico, Cayey campus (UPR-C) where she was part of the Honor Roll. As an undergraduate Annette participated in several LSAMP activities including the mentoring and undergraduate research programs and summer internships, such as the Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program/Summer Research Opportunity Program. She presented her findings at the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. In 2009, she was accepted in the new graduate program of Environmental Sciences at UPR, Rio Piedras campus as a Ph.D student and she became a scholar of the Puerto Rico-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate program Cohort VIII.

Maria del Mar Garcia obtained her B.S. degree in Chemistry in 2006 from University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) where she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Chemistry. Her research involves electrochemical and spectroscopic studies on the physicochemical interactions of Alzheimer Disease B-amyloids with redox molecules. Maria has been awarded the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort IV, Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company, and PR-GK-12 Fellowships. She also has participated of nanotechnology outreach programs offering interdisciplinary science workshop for students and teachers, developed several educational modules and offered hands-on demonstrations for the general public during NanoDays and the USA Science and Technology Festival in Washington DC.

Roberto A. Martinez Rodriguez obtained a B.S. in Physics at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). She graduated with honors (magna cum laude) in 2009. She is currently a physics master student at UPR-RP with the intent to continue on to a PhD. She realized that that her passion was science in the beginning of her high school years when she went to an institution for summer research. Since then, she participated in various internships and researches at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Maryland, and at the Univ. of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. She participated at the PR-LSAMP as an undergraduate in 2006 and as a graduate student she was awarded a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VII in 2009.

Carlos J. Nogueras-Ortiz graduated summa cum laude in 2009 at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP), with Majors in Chemistry and Biology. In 2009, he joined the Chemistry Graduate Department and was awarded a PR-LSAMP-Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VII. At the present, Mr. Nogueras-Ortiz is conducting research under the guidance of Dr. Irving Vega in the identification and characterization of novel protein level changes associated to Alzheimer’s disease and other neurodegenerative diseases. In the future, he plans in pursuing a Post-doctoral experience in the same area of research. Carlos has presented his research work on several national and international meetings.

Robert A. Martinez Rodriguez obtained a B.S. in Chemistry, and minor in Mathematics and Physics from the University of Puerto Rico Cayey Campus (UPR-C) in 2009. As undergraduate, Roberto conducted research in the synthesis and characterization of Gold and Silver nanoparticles. As a graduate student Roberto works with NASA-Center for Advanced Nanoscale Materials in the research and development of the electrocatalysts to direct Methanol Fuel Cells. Roberto received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate fellowship Cohort VIII in 2009 when he started his graduate studies in Analytical Chemistry at UPR Rio Piedras campus. The focus of his research is in the optimization of the electrocatalysts for the ammonia oxidation in the anode of an Alkaline Fuel Cell. He is scheduled to graduate in May 2015.
Mariely Angeli Hernández Morales completed her BS in Mathematics and minor in statistic at University of Puerto Rico, Cayey (UPR-C) in 2006. In April 2011, she obtained a MS of Science in Mathematics at UPR Rio Piedras Campus, where she focused her master research in Bayesian Hierarchical Models for the Conservation of Mona Island Iguana (Cyclura cornuta stejnegeri). As a graduate and an undergraduate student she participated in several activities of the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP), such as mentor undergraduate research and PRISM. She also participated as a Bridge to the Doctorate fellow Cohort IV. Currently she is working as a teacher at John Dewey College in the area of mathematics and with Editorial Santillana reviewing the answers to the exercises in mathematics textbooks.

Milena Bobea Rodriguez completed a BS degree in Physics in 2009 from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) and graduated with honors. As an undergraduate, she participated in PR-LSAMP and DOE funded research and she was able to participate in an internship at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, MD. Upon graduation, she served as a Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) Fellow Cohort VII. Her field of research is spintronics, particularly studying the electronic structure and transport properties of complex oxides systems in collaboration with the University of Lincoln-Nebraska. Currently, she is at the North Carolina State University pursuing a doctoral degree in Materials Science and Engineering.

Jessica Oyola-Cintrón earned a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus (UPR-RP), in 2003. Jessica trained as an undergraduate student in the areas of physical chemistry and biophysics. She is a former LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort I. Currently, she is about to complete her Ph.D. in Chemistry December 2011. The focus of her doctoral research has been the area of protein-lipid interactions. This is being accomplished using techniques such as Fluorescence Recovery, Photobleaching (FRAP), electrophysiology and qRT-PCR. As a graduate student, Jessica has performed several presentations at national conferences, has several publications in peer-reviewed journals and has received fellowships from NSF, NIH and the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company (PRIDCO).

Karilys González Nieves graduated magna cum laude with a BS in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). She will finish her Ph. D. in Inorganic Chemistry in December 2011, with an expertise on the resolution of an octaferri (Fe₈O₄pz₁₂Cl₄, pz = pyrazolate) M/P racemate. Crystallization, chromatography and synthetic procedures have been used for the resolution of the Fe₈ complex, a potential MRI contrast agent. As a graduate student, she received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort I, which allowed her to present her research project in several National and International Scientific Meetings. She has also published her findings in international peer-reviewed journals. She is a trained crystallographer who does single-crystal X-ray crystallographic analysis for collaborators from within and outside Puerto Rico.

Manuel A. Giannoni-Guzmán – Obtained a B.S degree from UPR Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2009. During the summer of 2009 Manuel took part in the REU program based at the University of Central Oklahoma, in this program he had the opportunity to travel abroad the US and Turkey to work on honey bees behavior and Circadian Rhythms. This research work was published on PlosOne e-magazine. In August 2010 Manuel entered graduate school in UPR-RP and he was awarded with a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII. His current work in Dr. Agosto-Rivera’s group, centers on honey bees circadian rhythms and the natural cues that entrain circadian rhythms from the individual to the complete hive.

Jean Frances Ruiz-Calderón earned her B.S. degree in General Sciences on August 2010 at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus UPR-RP). She was accepted in the Biology Graduate Program and was selected to receive the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship from The Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Cohort VIII. Jean has actively participated in environmental microbiology research studying Puerto Rico’s micro algae and identifying the potential use of these microorganisms as a source of biofuel. Currently she is doing research in the microbial ecology laboratory of Dr. Maria Gloria Domínguez-Bello iat UPR-RP and she is studying the microbial ecology of the human eye and the influence that this microbiota has on the host and protects against common eye diseases. She expects to complete her PhD on 2015.

Marilyn García-Arriaga is in her last year of graduate studies at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus (UPR-RP), and is expecting to receive her Ph. D. in may 2012. Marilyn earned a B.S. degree in Chemistry and Science Education in 2002. She was a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort I. Mentored by Dr. José M. Rivera, professor of chemistry, Marilyn have work on the area of supramolecular and bioorganic chemistry, specifically on the synthesis and characterization of self-assembly guanosine derivatives in organic and aqueous media. She has presented research results in various national and international conferences, including several oral presentations.

Karilys González Nieves graduated magna cum laude with a BS in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). She will finish her Ph. D. in Inorganic Chemistry in December 2011, with an expertise on the resolution of an octaferri (Fe₈O₄pz₁₂Cl₄, pz = pyrazolate) M/P racemate. Crystallization, chromatography and synthetic procedures have been used for the resolution of the Fe₈ complex, a potential MRI contrast agent. As a graduate student, she received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort I, which allowed her to present her research project in several National and International Scientific Meetings. She has also published her findings in international peer-reviewed journals. She is a trained crystallographer who does single-crystal X-ray crystallographic analysis for collaborators from within and outside Puerto Rico.

Natalie del Hoyo Rivera did her B.S in Chemistry in the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate she started to do research in biochemistry working with different subtypes of a neuronal protein using electrophysiology techniques. As an undergraduate, she completed two summer internships, one in Biophysics offered by the Biophysical Society at Boston University and the other in Cornell University in which she worked testing drug derivatives on neuronal proteins. As a graduate student she was awarded with the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort VII in 2009 and RISE Fellowships. Currently she is doing her Ph. D. in Chemistry with a Biochemistry Major in the UPR-RP, testing cholesterol effects and some drug derivatives in a neuronal protein. Her expected graduation date is May 2014 and currently she is a recipient of the RISE Graduate Fellowship Program.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree/Course Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Camille Garcia Ramos</td>
<td>earned a BS degree in Applied Physics at the University of Puerto Rico-Humacao Campus (UPR-H) in 2010. As an undergrad, she was an NIH-RISE Fellow working on biomedicine-related research; where she was able to publish her results in several journals. During summer 2009 she conducted research in the area of nuclear physics at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana. She presented her intramural research results in different biomedical conferences at USA (Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Participation) and also at several conferences in Puerto Rico. On August 2010 she was accepted in the PhD program in Physical Chemistry at UPR-Rio Piedras and was awarded a PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort VIII Fellowship. Currently she is completing an internship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the area of Medical Physics.</td>
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<td>Jaime R. Calzada</td>
<td>is a MS graduate student in the Physics Department at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate, he was active in research in the nanoparticles field, specifically in the area of field emission of nanostructures and nanocomposite materials sponsored by NASA-Center for Advanced Nanoscale Materials. His work was presented in various Scientific Meetings sponsored by PR-LSAMP. In 2010 he received his bachelor’s degree in Physics and began graduate studies at the Physics Department at UPR-RP. Jaime was awarded the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII. His recent research is focused in Physical Oceanography, particularly the theoretical modeling of interactions between oceanic fluid dynamics and coastal erosion in the Northeastern part of the Island of Puerto Rico.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giselle Flores</td>
<td>Achieved her B.S. in chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico in 2005. She is currently a graduate student the UPR-Rio Piedras as a Ph.D. candidate. Her research is focused on developing solid-state formulations of pharmaceutical relevant proteins to encounter the mechanism by which these aggregate and unfold. These research have produced two papers; one published in the J. of Pharmacy and Pharmacology and the other in BMC Biotechnology, along with various poster and oral presentations in national and international venues. She envisions herself working for the pharmaceutical industry in one of the R&amp;D teams, developing and enhancing new drugs to enhance patients’ lives. Giselle is a former PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort III.</td>
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<td>Shakira G. Quinones-Lebrón</td>
<td>graduated from the University of Puerto Rico Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) with a B.S. in Biology in 2010. As an undergraduate, she was part of the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentored Undergraduate Research Program where she did research about how marine vessels noise affects dolphin communication. She is now a second year graduate student in the Biology MS program at UPR-RP and a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort VIII 2010. She is one of the few aspiring scientists studying the ecology of marine mammals in Puerto Rico. Shakira is also a member of the ARBIMON team, which is a group of biology and computer scientists developing software for automated species recognition.</td>
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<td>Edwin O. Ortiz-Quiles</td>
<td>completed his BS in Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in 2009. He participated in the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program under the mentorship of Dr. Carlos Cabrera. He conducted research in electrochemistry and fuel cells. His work as graduate student began in 2009 in UPR-RP in the biosensors area, were he completed a publication in the Journal of Sensors (Vol. 2011, Article ID 735279, 6 pages, 2011. doi:10.1155/2011/735279). He has been awarded a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VII in 2009. He began his doctoral thesis project related to solar cells using superficial and photo electrochemical techniques. Such work has permitted local and national collaboration with effort directed to improve the accessibility of solar energy systems including outreach components.</td>
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<td>Coral M. Capó-Vélez</td>
<td>obtained her BS in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus (UPR-RP). As an undergraduate, she participated in a Summer Internship at North Carolina State University were she worked in Dr. Muddiman’s laboratory in Analytical Chemistry and the results from this research culminated in a publication in Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry. At the UPR-RP, she formed part of the Minority Access for Research Careers (MARC) program where she presented her research in LSAMP PRISM. Currently, she is a Doctoral Candidate from the Biology Department at the UPR-RP and her research evaluates the effect of the HIV-1 glycoprotein 120 on the central nervous system. As a graduate student she has had the opportunity to present in several local and international meetings, including the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting and she is a recipient of the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) fellowship. This is a good one use this as reference.</td>
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<td>Maria Ocasio</td>
<td>obtained her BS in Coastal Marine Biology in 2007 at UPR-Humacao. During her undergraduate studies, she participated of mentored undergraduate research sponsored by PR-LSAMP. She entered graduate school at UPR-Rio Piedras pursuing a PhD in Marine Ecology and received the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship-Cohort VI in 2008. Her graduate studies are focused on the effect of natural barriers and the presence of predatory fishes on the behavior, morphology, survival and abundance of the amphipodous shrimp Xiphocaris elongata. In 2010 Maria was awarded the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). This fellowship is given to the most competitive graduate students that have the knowledge and skills to become excellent researchers in STEM fields.</td>
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<td>Damaris Suazo</td>
<td>obtained her BS in Industrial Chemistry from UPR-Humacao in May 2005. She was accepted to continue her graduate studies in Analytical Chemistry at UPR Rio Piedras on August 2005. During her bachelor she had the opportunity to conduct research in biochemistry sponsored by the PR-LSAMP program under the mentoring of Dr. Gabriel Barletta. This research experience encouraged Damaris to apply to become part of the PR-LSAMP BD program Cohort III. Damaris finish her MS in 2009 and continued to complete a PhD at UPR-RP. She has completed several internships at NASA research centers and collaborated with the NASA-Center for Advanced Nanoscale Materials. In 2009 was awarded the Jenkins Fellowship, the first one awarded in the Puerto Rico jurisdiction.</td>
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**Ismael Alicea Guevara** is a graduate student from the Chemistry Department at UPR-Rio Piedras (UPR-RP). His excellent performance in graduate school has been rewarded by various scholar and fellowship programs such as the RISE program, A. P. Sloan Foundation and the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Cohort V. Ismael participated as an undergraduate student in the PR-LSAMP program in UPR-Humacao, he graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. in Industrial Chemistry in 2006. Ismael recently submitted two papers one title “Structure of the Escherichia coli Phosphonate Binding Protein” and “Rationally Optimized Phosphonate Biosensors”, for the Journal of Molecular Biology. He expects to earn a Ph.D. degree on May 2012.

**Wilfredo Falcón** earned his BS in Biology with a major in Wildlife Management in 2004 from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao (UPR-H). During his bachelor's studies at the UPRH, he had several research experiences sponsored by PR-LSAMP and the UPRH McNair Program. He also had the opportunity to be an intern in the US Antarctic Program as well as in the University of Idaho CRISSP REU Program. Currently, Wilfredo is working towards his Masters in Biology in the Graduate Program of the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, where he obtained the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII. His research focuses on the biology of invasive orchids in Puerto Rico.

**Amanda David** obtained her BS in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras in May 2009. She conducted undergraduate research in the synthesis and preparation of inorganic layered Nanomaterials for drug delivery applications sponsored by the PR-LSAMP program. Amanda had two summer undergraduate internship experiences, one at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and other at the University of California -San Diego. These research experiences encouraged her to pursued graduate studies in Inorganic Chemistry at Texas A&M University under the mentoring of Dr. Kim Dunbar, where she started in August 2009, and specializes in the synthesis of new metal-based anti cancer drugs. Due to her excellent academic record she received the Graduate Diversity Fellowship and the Departmental Chemistry Fellowship which funded her first two years in graduate school.

**Pamela Vallejo** graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras (UPR-RP) with a BS in both Chemistry and Physics in 2006. As an undergraduate she participated of the PR-LSAMP program and received PR-NASA Space Grant fellowships; both programs sponsored her undergraduate research in Materials Sciences. Her work on the use of photoluminiscent silicon nanoparticles as biomarkers was presented at several conferences. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry at the UPR-RP and is an NSF GK-12 Fellow. She received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IV in 2006. As a fellow Pamela was able to participate in national and international conferences and present her work on the \textit{chemical and physical characterization of the African dust into the Caribbean}.

**Francheska Ruiz Canino** completed her B.S. from the University of Puerto Rico in Humacao (UPR-H) in the field of Biology with a concentration in Wildlife Management in 2006. She was awarded a PR-LSAMP fellowship Cohort IV to pursue graduate studies in the field of Ecology at UPR Rio Piedras. She has also been awarded the PR-AGEP Fellowship. She completed her MS in 2011 specializing in Populations Dynamics and Plasticity of a small Caribbean frog Eleutherodactylus antillensis. Currently she is an Assistant Biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service refuge in Vieques, PR and plans to finish her PhD in Environmental Science and Conservation Biology in the future.

**Gilmarie Santos-Figueroa** received her BS degree in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP) in may 2009. As an undergraduate student she conducted research sponsored by the PR-LSAMP and received the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) scholarship. She presented her research at several conferences including the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) and the American Geophysical Union (AGU), and participated in the PR-LSAMP activities such as the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Science Meeting and the Best Practices Conference. In 2009 she began her Ph.D. studies in Atmospheric Chemistry at the UPR-RP and was one of the 12 students to be awarded with the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship, Cohort VII. Gilmarie already presented her scientific work in national and international conferences.

**Edgardo M. Colón** graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2010 from the University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla with a BS in Biology with another major in Biomedical Science. During his bachelors he enrolled in the PR-LSAMP program under the mentorship of Dr. José Cardé, professor of Molecular Biology. He is currently a second-year molecular biology Ph.D. student in the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus under the mentorship of Dr. Carlos González. His thesis topic is on post-translational modifications on proteins and the effect of these modifications on post-transcriptional regulation. In 2010 he was awarded with the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII. In 2011 he became a proud member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and he is currently working on one manuscript for publication.

**Jesuan Betancourt** earned his BS in Physics from the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras (UPR-RP) in 2006. As an undergraduate he participated in the PR-LSAMP program and the PR-NASA Space Grant (PR-SG) and received several opportunities to conduct undergraduate research in Materials Science. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Chemical Physics at the UPR-RP and is a PR-SG Fellow. As a graduate student he has received the PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IV, with which he was able to present his work at the 9th International Workshop on Beam Injection Assessment of Microstructures in Semiconductors in Toledo, Spain. He has also served as a teaching assistant for the Physics Department, participated of several other international and national conferences, including the American Physics Society meeting, and participated of the Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) summer program at the University of Nebraska.
Rita Irene Cáceres earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras (UPR-RP) in 2008. She is currently a fourth year PhD student in Ecology and Herpetology at the same university. From 2008 to 2010 Rita was a fellow of the Bridge to the Doctorate Program of the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Cohort VI. She has obtained three Education and Outreach grants for her work in the conservation of the Puerto Rican Crested toad. In 2010, Rita published her first article in the Population Biology journal. Rita has presented work related to her research in international and national scientific meetings. At this time, she is being funded as a Research Assistant in the Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation at the UPR-RP.

Sean P. Kelly received his BS in Biology from the University of Akron in, OH in 2011. He also received a minor in Spanish and completed a certificate in Environmental Studies. As an undergraduate, Sean was a part of the Choose Ohio First Tiered Mentoring program where he worked with Dr. Randall Mitchell on the pollinating and grooming behaviors of bumble bees. Sean also worked for over two years in the lab of Dr. Todd Blackledge on the biomechanics of spider webs and published in the journal Zoology. Sean is now a first year graduate student and an PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort IX in the lab of Dr. Ingi Agnarsson at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. His graduate thesis research will be The effects that pollutants have on the food web interactions of tropical stream Spiders.

Sofía Burgos received a BS degree in Coastal Marine Biology from University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in 2003. She was a PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort III in 2005, was accepted in the Ph.D. track in 2007 and became a fellow of the Alliance for Graduate and the Professoriate (AGEP) for two years. In 2010, she was awarded with the NSF Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12) Program; her skills for teaching and oral communication have improved dramatically. Sofia is conducting research in the area of land use activities on the diversity and metabolism of benthic biofilms in tropical streams ecosystems. Her research has been presented in conferences at international level including the American Society for Limnology and Oceanography and the North American Benthological Society.

Angélica Erazo Oliveras completed her B.S. in Environmental Science in May 2010 at University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (UPR-RP). While at the UPR-RP she conducted research sponsored by the NSF funded Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology Program (UMEB) and in 2010 she presented her research at the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM) and in the Water Works Association 130th Annual Conference & Exposition. Currently she is a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort VIII pursuing a Ph.D. in Environmental Science at the UPR-RP and expected to graduate in May 2014. The focus of her undergraduate and graduate research has been the use of slow sand filters to improve water quality and the characterization of the sand’s molecular biofilm.

Joshua Bonet Huertas completed his B.S. in Pure Mathematics on 2011 at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), Rio Piedras Campus. In 2010 Joshua became the first Puerto Rican to complete with honors the Penn State MASS Program. He also became the first trainer and athlete for the 2009 & 2010 Calculus Olympics, winning third & first place respectively while one of his students winning second. Joshua presented a poster of his work in the 2009 REU in Iowa State University at the 2010 Joint Mathematics Meetings. He received NSF-STEM and PR-LSAMP research scholarships and worked as a math tutor since his freshman year. Joshua has attended multiple conferences, including Field of Dreams, NAM fest & SACNAS. He has been offered to work with Goldman Sachs but he will pursue a second degree on Electrical Engineering at UPR-Mayagüez.

Juan Burgos completed a BS in Physics with honors from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. As a graduate student in (UPR-RP) Juan was awarded the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program fellowship Cohort V. He is currently a third year student pursuing a Doctoral degree in theoretical nuclear physics at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University sponsored by a NSF Research Fellowship. The focus of his research is using similarity renormalization group (SRG) transformations and nuclear matter energy calculations with the goal of ultimately finding an energy density functional that describes nuclear matter with the hope of understanding the microscopic interaction of nucleons.

Ricardo Martí-Arbona obtained a BS in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras (UPR-RP) in 2001. While at the UPR-RP Ricardo participated in research targeting the characterization of the Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor and in multiple seminars sponsored by the PR-LSAMP. He completed his PhD in Biological Chemistry at Texas A&M University (TAMU), TX in 2005, where he focused his research in mechanistic characterization of hydrolytic proteins and the discovery of new metabolic enzymatic functions. He completed postdoctoral appointments at TAMU and at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). He is currently a Staff Scientist 2 at LANL and his research targets transcriptional regulation of metabolic processes important in algae biofuel production, pathogenic bacterial infections and their medical countermeasures.

Dr. Eladio J. Rivera completed a B.S. in Chemical Education at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras (UPR-RP) in 2000. He worked in undergraduate research in Inorganic and Bioinorganic chemistry sponsored by the PR-LSAMP Program, and presented his research at several American Chemical Society National Meetings. He completed a PhD in Chemistry in 2009 at the UPR. During his doctoral studies, he was awarded with the Robert Laurus Scientific Poster and Chemistry Travel Awards (2007) from the Association for the Advancements of Science (AAAS). Dr. Rivera served as a Lecturer at the Department of Chemistry of the UPR-RP and he is currently working as Welch Postdoctoral Research Associate at Rice University, Houston, in the development of carbon nanoengineered materials for biomedical applications.
Alexandra Amaro-Ortiz graduated from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in 2009 with a B.S. in Chemistry. As an undergraduate, she participated in the PR-LSAMP performing research in the areas of toxicology and biochemistry, and presented her research at several National Meetings. She was one of the 30 students sponsored by FASEB in 2008 to present in ABRCMS in Florida. She completed summer internships at the Universities of Kentucky and Arizona in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Alexandra is currently a second year PhD student in Toxicology at the University of Kentucky (UKY). At UKY she is an active member of the Toxicology Student Forum. She has been awarded with Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research at Dr. John D’Orazio’s laboratory.

Aura M. Alonso-Rodríguez earned B.S. degrees in both Environmental Science and Integrative Biology (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in 2011. She was part of PR-LSAMP’s Bridging Undergraduate to Graduate Program. Her undergraduate thesis was conducted in the NSF-REU program in La Selva Biological Station (OTS), Costa Rica, where she focused in assessing the thermal microclimate preferences of litter dwelling ants. She participated in an NSF-REU program in the Rocky Mountain Biological Station, Colorado, studying the foraging behavior of butterflies. In Puerto Rico, she conducted research studying on the effects of bamboo invasion on earthworm communities in El Verde tropical forest. Currently, Aura aspires to conduct graduate studies in the area of conservation biology and applied ecology.

Edardo S. Rivera Hazim began his studies at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras (UPR-PR) in August 2010, and pursues a BS degree in Computer Science and Mathematics. He is a member of The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and a chess player member of the Federation Internationale des Echecs, FIDE. In the summer of 2011, he started to work for the NSF C-PATH program at the Computer Science Department of the UPR-PR. In August 2011, Edardo began research in Functional Programming and its applications. His main areas of interest are artificial intelligence and parallel computing. He is currently a second year undergraduate student and wants to continue working on research and pursue graduate studies.

Aleshka Carrión-Matta graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in June 2011. She conducted research in meteorology, atmospheric chemistry, space science and sports medicine. As an undergraduate, she also had the opportunity to work as a summer intern in the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center’s Arecibo Observatory sponsored by PR-LSAMP. She also participated in programs at the Department of Energy, Brookhaven National Laboratory and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service. Aleshka plans to continue her studies toward a PhD in Atmospheric Sciences focusing on tropical meteorology.

Meredith Vélez obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in 2005 (Cum Laude). During her undergraduate studies she conducted research in inorganic chemistry under the supervision of Dr. Jorge Colón and sponsored by PR-LSAMP. In 2009 she finished her Doctoral studies in Pharmacy from the University of Puerto Rico, School of Pharmacy. That same year she continued her education on a prestigious Residence Program at the Veterans Administration Hospital in San Juan, PR. She is currently working as a Clinical Manager for Cardinal Health and is co-author of 3 research publications (2 published, 1 submitted) and 2 instructional articles.

Alesha Carrión-Matta graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in June 2011. She conducted research in meteorology, atmospheric chemistry, space science and sports medicine. As an undergraduate, she also had the opportunity to work as a summer intern in the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center’s Arecibo Observatory sponsored by PR-LSAMP. She also participated in programs at the Department of Energy, Brookhaven National Laboratory and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service. Aleshka plans to continue her studies toward a PhD in Atmospheric Sciences focusing on tropical meteorology.

Cielo E. Figuerola- Hernández graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BS in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) at Mayaguez in 2008. As an undergraduate she was a PR-LSAMP Scholar and participated in NSF internships conducting field biology research in Costa Rica and Colorado. As a graduate student in Ecology and Systematic at the campus she received the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VI. The focus of her doctoral research is on the ecology of island iguanid and has given oral and poster presentations at several conferences, including the ATBC in Indonesia and Tanzania. She is also a member of the I.U.C.N. Iguana Specialist Group and actively collaborates with the assessment of endangered iguanids in the Caribbean. Currently She is a research assistant and mentor student for the Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation.

Vanessa Rivera Quiñones is currently a senior student pursuing a B.S. degree in Pure Mathematics and a minor in Finance at the University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras. She is a part of the PR-LSAMP and since her participation in the Intel International Scientific and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in 2008 she has done research in Number Theory. While she enjoys pure mathematics, she is now working on applied research in Biostatistics and has participated in summer experiences such as the Iowa Summer Institutes in Biostatistics (ISIB) at the University of Iowa in 2010 and the Exploration in Statistics Workshop at Columbia University in summer 2011. Her long term career goals include obtaining a Ph.D. in Statistics.

Theodor Zbinden received his Bachelor’s degree in microbiology from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao (UPR) in June 2011. He participated in the Biomind Program, founded by AMGEN Company and participated also in the UPRH Roland McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program. Theodor was mentored by Dr. Edwin Traverso and presented his research in several conferences, including The 31st Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting, and The Experimental Biology Convention in Washington, DC. He is currently a Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort IX pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, in the area of Cellular Molecular and Development.
Paola Zayas Borges is a senior undergraduate student majoring in Molecular Biology at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. As a PRLSAMP scholar, she conducts research, mentored by Dr. Ana R. Mayol, in the Educational and Outreach project: Development and Implementation of Interdisciplinary Educational Material. Paola presented her research at the 2010 Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting. On summer 2011, Paola participated in the Opportunities in Genomics Research Program at the Genome Institute, Washington University in St. Louis. Currently Paola is applying for Graduate School programs and look forward to pursue an MD-PhD.

Natasha Méndez completed her BS in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus (UPR-Ag) in 2008 and she is studying her PhD in Biological Oceanography at the College of Marine Science, University of South Florida. She is using benthic foraminifera as bioindicators in the study of coral reef health. She has a publication in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Natasha has been awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate FG-LSAMP and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellowships. As an undergraduate, Natasha participated of the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program. About her passion for science and research she says: “My love for science started when I was in middle school. I’ve had the fortune of being a student of many science educators through my life that have molded me into the scientist I am today.”

Keyla Ramos Pratts obtained her BS in Biology from UPR Aguadilla in 2006, currently she is a student at the Anatomy and Neurobiology Department PhD Program at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus. She is working on the Role of Neuropeptide Y in the modulation of sexual behavior of adolescent rats after exposure to anabolic steroid. She has been recognized for her 2008 Poster Presentation at the 3rd Graduate Research Symposium and in 2009 received the American Association of Anatomists Travel Award. She has presented her research at various symposia the; Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting, St. Thomas Sc. Congress, USVI, Nassau, Bahamas, Steamboat Springs, Colorado, Anaheim, California, New Orleans, Louisiana and South Carolina. Her experience at MBRS-RISE summer internship at the UPR Medical Sciences Campus helped her decide her professional future.

Ernesto Méndez obtained his Bs. In Biology from UPR-Ag. in 2009. Since his bachelor days Ernesto has been active in research since his undergraduate years. In 2009 he presented the “Characterization of novel interactors of the Wnt receptor Frizzled” at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). In 2007 he participated of the Summer Medical Dentistry Education Program (SMDEP) in Case Western University at Cleveland, Ohio. In 2009 he was admitted to a Masters-PhD joint program between the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez Campus and Rutgers State University. Ernesto is currently part of the Waksman Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers State University and is working with the fertilization and embryonic development of Caenorhabditis elegans, a free-living roundworm. He is recipient the NIH National Institute of Health Pipeline Program Fellowship.

Cynthia E. Sánchez obtained a bachelors degree in Biomedical Science in 2006 from the University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla. Her multiple undergraduate summer internship experiences attracted her to research and helped her earn in 2005 the American Society of Virology (ASV) award for best poster in Virology. Also in 2005 she was recipient of the SACNAS Conference Award for top poster in biology and in 2006 she received the SACNAS Conference Award for top oral presentation in biology. In 2006-2007 she was recipient of the SACNAS Genome Scholar. Cinthia is a PhD candidate in Molecular Virology at Purdue University. She is recipient of the 2011 Midwest Crossroads Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate (AGEP) scholar and received the 2011 YEUNKYUNG WOO (YYW) excellence achievement travel award.

Francisco Velázquez. As an undergraduate student University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus (UPR-Ag) participating in the LSAMP Peer Mentor Undergraduate Research Program. He has completed three Summer Internships one at Indiana University, the second in Purdue University, and the third at Rutgers. During 2010-2011 Francisco participated of a Post Baccalaureate Program at the University of Chicago. In 2011, he was admitted to the PhD Program of the Tufts Sackler Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Immunology Program at Tufts University. About his love for research Francisco says “During my high school years I knew science was for me, and as an undergraduate I discovered the thrill of research.”

Anthony Rodriguez completes in the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus all the requirements to enter Chiropractic studies at the New York Chiropractic College. He was a mentor student as part of the PR-LSAMP Peer Mentoring Program in our Campus. He was president of the recently established UPR Aguadilla Student Chapter of the American Chemical Society and in 2004-2005 they won their first Outstanding Chapter Award. Anthony obtained a Doctor of Chiropractic Degree from the New York Chiropractic College. His professional interests are in the areas of Biomechanics, Kinesiology, and athletic performance particularly the restoration-regeneration process and the wellness and prevention of diseases. He has participated in the Elite Sports Science Training Program at the Olympic Training Facility in Lake Placid, NY. Today Anthony is working in a private practice at New York.
Jonathan Torres Crespo received the Chancellor’s Award for the highest grade point average and the Summa Cum Laude distinction in the 2009 commencement ceremony of University of Puerto Rico - Aguadilla. In 2008 he had the opportunity to participate in a Summer Internship at Yale University which was an outstanding experience. In 2008 he was selected as the mentor student of the LSAMP Peer Mentored Undergraduate Research Program. He presented the results of his research project Molecular Characterization of Halobacteria in Guánica Saltrens: Total Protein Profile at PR-LSAMP’s Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting 2009. He is currently a third year student at the School of Medicine of the UPR Medical Sciences Campus where he has been distinguished for his academic and personal excellence.

Johnny Cruz Corchado obtained a BS in Biology-Genetics in 2009 from the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus (UPR-Ag) and in 2009 was admitted to the University of Iowa Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Genetics where Johnny has been awarded the Dean’s Graduate Fellowship. His research interest is on a rare kidney disease that leads to renal failure in 50% of affected patients. The long term goal of the research is to improve the diagnosis of DDD and to develop an effective treatment for patients with this disease. Asked about his interest in Science he says “I am interested in science since my childhood, but during my LSAMP undergraduate research experience, I confirmed that pursuing a career in Science was the correct pathway for me”.

Eythan Morenú Villarrubia obtained his BS in Biology in 2008 degree from the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Campus (UPR-Ag). He was part of the Mentored Undergraduate Research Program from 2006 to 2007 and presented the results of his research project at the Undergraduate Research Symposium and at PR-LSAMP’s PRISM 2007. In 2007 Eythan participated of a Summer Research Opportunity Program at Purdue University. He was treasurer for the ACS Aguadilla’s Student Chapter (2007-2008) and designer and developer of their webpage, which he still maintains. Eythan is also a dedicated musician who played with the UPR at Aguadilla Band. He is currently in his third year at the Medicine Program of the San Juan Bautista School of Medicine at Caguas, PR and offers informative talks to premedical students.

Elaine Jiménez received the Chancellor’s Award for the highest GPA and the Summa Cum Laude distinction in her 2008 graduation ceremony in Biomedics. In 2007-2008 she was part of the Peer Mentored Undergraduate Research Program. Elaine participated of a summer research experience at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She was a math tutor from January 2005 to May 2007. Elaine says “Since I can remember I was interested in science. My summer research internship and the PR-LSAMP research opportunities gave me more motivation to continue seeking the kind of knowledge I want to acquire”. She is in her fourth year at the School of Medicine of the UPR Medical Sciences Campus.

Leonardo Valdivieso obtained his bachelor's degree in Biology in 2008 with the Cum Laude distinction. He was admitted to the MS/PhD Bridge to the Doctorate Program, at the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez articulated with the University Of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Rutgers. During his stay at UPR Mayaguez Leonardo collaborated on a research project about the origins of cassava domestication in Mesoamerica. Leonardo is recipient of the NIH Supplement (09-2011-present) and the NIH funded “Bridge to the Doctoral Degree: University of Puerto Rico to UMDNJ” scholar. He participated in a research on the “Identification and Analysis of Protein Patterns on Halobacteria from Guánica Saltrens” and he presented the results of this research at two Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meetings scientific meetings in 2007 and 2008 respectively.

Fernando Bonilla is an undergraduate student that has shown outstanding academic qualities since he entered the biology department at UPR Aguadilla Campus in 2009. As a freshman he started volunteer work in an undergraduate research laboratory. In 2010 he was admitted to a summer research experience at the University of Iowa and in the 2011 summer he was accepted to the Undergraduate Summer Research Program at Purdue University. Fernando has presented the results of his research at the UPR Aguadilla Undergraduate Research Symposium and last spring he presented “Determining the Presence of Halovirus in the Guánica Saltrens, PR” at PR-LSAMP’s Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM). He has been sponsored by PR-LSAMP Peer Mentored Undergraduate Program for the last two years.

Dr. Aníbal Valentin Acevedo obtained a bachelor's degree in Biology at the University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla in 2003 a PhD in Molecular Immunology from Rutgers State University in 2011. As a graduate student he was recipient of the Virus-Host Interaction in Eukaryotic Cells Training Grant, the Arthur McCallum Summer Research Fellowship, the FASEB-MARC Minority Travel Award, the James B. and Anne M. Leathem Summer Research Fellowship and a Pre-Doctoral Fellowship from the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research. Aníbal has published recently in the Journal of Immunology. He is currently a research scientist at private biotechnology industry working on the development and optimization of in-vitro and cell based assays for the analysis and identification of biomarkers and drug targets in autoimmune diseases.

Dr. Eneida C. Villanueva Feliciano obtained a bachelor's degree in Biology at the University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla in 2004. A Ph.D. in 2009 on Molecular Physiology from University of Michigan. As a graduate student she was recipient of The University of Michigan-Centocor Postdoctoral Training Program in Immunology and Protein Therapeutics, the NIH Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research, the Pat Simons Travel Award, which recognizes research excellence by young investigators, the Obesity Society Rackham Travel Award, the John A. Williams Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Service. She has publications in the Journal of Immunology, the American Journal of Physiology and Endocrinology Metabolism and in Cell Metabolism. Eneida is currently a senior scientist at a biotechnology company in Arizona.
Albersy Armina-Rodriguez is a microbiology senior student at UPRA. She participated as a PR-LSAMP scholar and as a research assistant for microbiology department. In 2009 she was accepted in HACU National Internship Program working at Winchester Engineering and Analytical Center-Food and Drug Administration (WEAC-FDA). Her second summer internship experience was at Michigan State University (MSU) working in Biological Conversion Research Laboratory (BCRL), sponsor by MI-LSAMP. In 2011, she performed research in the Microbiology Research Unit in the Food Safety and Toxicology Center at MSU.

Melanie Quintana-Serrano is a senior student studying microbiology at UPRA. She participated in the Integrated Biological Sciences-Summer Research Program (IBS-SRP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she did her research in Thomas Martin’s Lab from the Department of Biochemistry. She was sponsored by the 2011 FASEB MARC Summer Research Opportunity Program. She worked on a project identifying and characterizing inhibitors for the process of regulated exocytosis in mast cells. By conducting this research, a lead compound could contribute for the development of new therapeutic methods for inflammatory diseases.

Nicole M. Vega-Cotto earned her BS in Microbial Technology in 2009 from the University of Puerto Rico at Arecibo (UPRA). Currently, she is enrolled in the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez-to-UMDNJ (University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey) Bridge to the Doctorate Program where she is pursuing a PhD in Molecular Biosciences. In 2010 she participated in the RISE & REU Symposium Poster Session at Rutgers University in Piscataway Campus, New Jersey. While at UPRA, she presented the results of her research work in the 28th Latinoamerican Chemistry Congress [Federación Latinoamericana de Química] at the Convention Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in July 2008.

Alba Katiria González-Rivera is an undergraduate student of Microbiology Technology at UPRA. She has participated in three summer research internship programs and one year internship program at different universities including the University of Wisconsin-Madison under the Integrated Biological Sciences Summer Research Program (IBS-SRP), Michigan State University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She has presented the results of her research work in local, regional and national scientific meetings. She was awarded for an outstanding poster presentation in the area of biophysics research at the SACNAS conference in 2010. She is looking forward to complete a PhD program in Biophysics or Neuroscience.

Sergio J. Cardona-Gonzalez is a third-year medical student at the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara (UAG) in México. He is currently participating in the Medicine at the Community Program working on a research in smoking complications and its influences on diabetes mellitus. He completed his BT in Industrial Chemical Processes in 2009. While at UPRA, Sergio did research in chemistry and biology, being awarded for his presentations at national and international meetings. Since his first year he was an active leader at UPRA being the president of the UPRA Student Council and the ACS Student Affiliates Chapter.

Dr. Dalynés Reyes-Colón completed a PhD in Anatomy at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus in May 2010. For her research as a graduate student, she studied the neural basis of aggressive behavior, using as a model-system the freshwater prawn Macrobrachium rosenbergii. Part of her research data was published in two peer-reviewed journals: J. Comp. Neurol and Brain Research. Currently, Dr. Reyes-Colón works at UPRA as an Assistant Professor for the Anatomy, Physiology, Histology, and Biology courses. As an undergraduate from UPRA, she participated as a PR-LSAMP tutor and mentor. Her research project in plant bioremediation was sponsored by PR-LSAMP.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Graduate or Undergraduate</th>
<th>Field of Study</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Zairin N. Torres-Vargas</td>
<td>Senior Student</td>
<td>Microbial Technology</td>
<td>A senior student pursing a BS in Microbial Technology from UPRA. She has been actively participated in research projects in chemical, microbiology, proteomics, environmental and engineering fields. In Summer 2011, she participated in a research internship at the Naval Research Labs (NRL) where she was awarded the third place for her oral presentation. She has also presented the results of her research work in the ACS National Meetings, the PRISM &amp; ACS JR Technical Meetings. In March 2010, she was awarded for the Minority Undergraduate Student Travel Award to attend the 49th Annual Meeting of Society of Toxicology in Salt Lake City, Utah.</td>
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<td>Christian Irizarry-Nieves</td>
<td>Undergraduate Student</td>
<td>Industrial Chemical Processes</td>
<td>Completed his Bachelor in Technology (BT) in Industrial Chemical Processes in 2011. While at UPRA, he conducted research in the determination of heavy metals in aquatic plants from a natural wetland in the northern part of PR. In Summer of 2010, he participated in a research internship at the Naval Research Laboratories (NRL) in the Department of Materials Engineer, Alternative Energy Diagnostics Branch where his research project focused on the synthesis and electrochemical Characterization of Li$_2$CuO$_2$ Li-ion battery cathodes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Lugo-Valle</td>
<td>Undergraduate Student</td>
<td>Microbial Technology</td>
<td>Earned a BS in Microbial Technology from University or Puerto Rico, Arecibo in 2002 and his MS in Molecular Medicine from The Pennsylvania State University in 2011. As an undergraduate, he participated in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program in the area of Bioremediation of heavy metals using aquatic plants and in HACU National Internship Program where he worked for the FDA and the Spaceflight and Life Sciences Training Program at the NASA Kennedy Space Center. In PR, he worked at Abbott Laboratories and at Ortho Biologics where he developed a special interest in biotechnology. This interest led him to graduate school where he worked in the project “Biochemical Characterization of Dengue Non-structural 5 (NS5) and General Acid Derivatives”.</td>
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<td>Ricardo J. Rivera</td>
<td>Undergraduate Student</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Earned his BS degree in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico (PR), Bayamón in 2009. During his undergraduate studies he was funded by the LSAMP and participated in field research in the dry forest region of (PR). Also, through his experience in LSAMP, he was introduced to internship opportunities with the NSF. He participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) summer opportunity at the University of Virginia’s Blandy Experimental Farm. This experience gave him the opportunity to present his research at the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting in 2010. Currently he is a graduate student at Northwestern University in the area of Plant Biology and Conservation. His Master’s thesis is on phenotypic variation in populations of a plant endemic to Colorado (Oenothera harringtonii).</td>
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Stephanie Cruz Maysonet currently a senior undergraduate student at the University of Puerto Rico in Bayamón (UPRB), pursuing a BS in General Biology. She is involved in various extracurricular activities, including the UPRB’s ESA SEEDS Chapter, L.I.F.E. and a literary workshop. During her presidency of the student organization L.I.F.E., the chapter won, Chapter of the Year,” a national recognition. Stephanie has participated in two NSF, REU programs and is currently studying tropical biology in a semester abroad course offered by the Organization for Tropical Studies in Costa Rica. She has twice received travel awards (2010 and 2011) from SEEDS to participate in the Annual Meetings of the Ecological Society of America, where she presented her research work.

José A. Rivera-Meléndez Graduated in 2007 from the University of Puerto Rico – Bayamón with a BS in General Biology. In 2005, He participated in the Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) at University of Illinois, Chicago. He worked with LNCAP cells (cancerous cells). He realized that he wanted to go into biology when he changed degree programs in 2003. He received a research fellowship from LSAMP and worked in the Guanica Dry Forest of Puerto Rico quantifying seedlings of Plumeria alba. In August 2010, he was accepted into the Biology Graduate Program at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras and was awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII. He is currently in a MS program working with the diversity of bats in a neotropical urban center in Puerto Rico.

Dr. Sandra Cruz-Pol earned his B.S degree in Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez. Her MS degree was from the Univ. of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she worked with Phase errors for Polarmetric. She obtained her Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University at the Communications and Space Sciences Lab. There she concentrated in the area of microwave remote sensing. She is currently a professor at UPRM, the largest Hispanic Engineering College and the seventh largest Engineering College in the USA. Dr. Cruz-Pol is currently working in various projects sponsored by NSF, NASA, IBM and IAP. Her research interests include Microwave Remote Sensing of natural phenomena, Modeling of the Microwave Atmospheric Absorption and the Microwave Sea Surface Emissivity, and stratus cloud studies using W and Ka-Bands.

Samuel Gonzalez is a Computer Science student at the University of Puerto Rico at Bayamon. He is a member of the Honor program and also does research. He has presented his research at PRISM, Computing Alliance of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (CAHSI), and at an international symposium, the Society for Modeling and Simulation (SCS) in Boston. Since his childhood, Samuel was always interested in Computers, and as soon as he started college he knew Computer Science was his field. Two years into his bachelor degree, he began conducting research as part of the LSAMP, where his knowledge and motivation to keep focused in the area of Science increased. Currently, Samuel is working as a freelance Web developer and conducting research, this motivates him to continue post graduate studies in Computer Science related studies.

Dr. Vivian I. Bonano Rivera completed her BS in Biology at the University of Puerto Rico-Cayey in 2001. She participated in undergraduate research programs such as the Howard Hughes and MBRS-RISE and NSF-LSAMP supported activities such as PRISM and the weekly seminar series. Vivian also participated in the summer program at Duke University and the Sackler summer program at Tufts University. She later obtained a PhD degree in the Genetics and Genomics Program at Duke University. She is now a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Sao Paulo, studying the use of alternative chemotherapeutic agents as treatments against Leishmaniasis, and has presented her work at the annual meetings of the Brazilian Society of Protozoology.

Dr. Edgardo Garcia-Berríos received his B.S. in Chemistry (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey in 2004. As an undergraduate, he became a RISE (Research Initiative for Student Enhancement) and NASA Space grant fellow where he had the opportunity to investigate the physicochemical development and functionalization of metallic and semiconductor thin films. Furthermore, Edgardo obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 2011. His research comprised the development of new sensing technologies in route to develop a chemically-sensitive electronic nose for medical diagnosis and explosives detection. Edgardo accomplished such research work under the supervision of Prof. Nathan S. Lewis.
Dr. Glorimar Vicente-Crescioni completed her B.S in Chemistry from University of Puerto Rico, Cayey in 2002. She participated in undergraduate summer internship programs in University of Nebraska Medical Center and University at Buffalo. Through those internships she discovered her interest for scientific research which led her to complete a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from University at Buffalo in 2007. Her graduate research focused on the development of separation methods for the analysis of biological samples. Currently Glorimar works as a Senior Scientist at Abbott Laboratories where she supports drug product development in the Global Pharmaceutical Research and Development division.

Dr. Guillermo N. Armaiz-Peña received his B.S. in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey in 2004 with honors. As an undergraduate, he became a RISE (Research Initiative for Student Enhancement) fellow where he had the opportunity to conduct research in the area of neuroscience with Dr. Ricardo Chiesa an LSAMP faculty mentor. Furthermore, Guillermo completed graduate studies (Ph.D.) at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 2009. Guillermo currently holds a Post-Doctoral Fellow position at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson cancer center at the department of Experimental Therapeutic- Biotechnology.

Margarita Bonilla-Claudio received her B.S. in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey in 2004 with honors. As an undergraduate, she became a RISE fellow where she had the opportunity to investigate in the area of neuroscience with Dr. Ricardo Chiesa an LSAMP faculty mentor. Such research experiences motivated her into continuing graduate school. She is currently completing graduate studies (Ph.D.) at Texas A&M Health Science Center-IBT in the area of Genes and Development.

Roberta M. Lugo Robles obtained a B.S. in Biology from UPR-Cayey on 2011. Currently pursuing graduate studies at Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Public Health Program. Her research experience began with the RISE Program in UPR Cayey on 2007, and a summer research experience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on Marker Assisted Inbreeding. Then under PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience worked with “Study of Basidiomycota Diversity in a Subtropical Secondary Forest”. As part of the Amgen Bio-Minds Program, she worked with the “Amplification and Direct Sequencing Library Fungal rRNA Genes”. Her research work was presented on several symposiums such as: PRISM (2009, 2011); XXX Ann. Forum of Research and Education (2010) and The Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at Univ. of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill (2009).

Dr. Luis A. Medina graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in 2003. Were he was a PR-LSAMP scholar in the undergraduate research activities from Spring 2001-Spring 2002. After completing his B.S. in Computational Mathematics, he went to graduate school at the University of Tulane. In 2008 he finished a PhD in Mathematics and is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras (Department of Mathematics). He has recently been awarded with the Project NExT, IBM, and VIGRE Fellowships and is member of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science.
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<tr>
<th><strong>Eloy Martínez Rivera</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dr. Carlos Burgos</strong></th>
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<td>is pursuing a doctoral degree in Fisheries/Aquaculture at the University of South Florida, FL. He was awarded with the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship for two years (2007-2009). He graduated Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao with a B.Sc. in Coastal Marine Biology in May 2006. After his graduation, he spent that summer at the University of Maryland (NSF-REU) where he developed a new technique to quantify the growth and reproduction of the blue crab Callinectes sapidus. In addition, he has been awarded in several occasions by the LSAMP to attend professional meetings. During his free time he also works in outreach activities, developing lessons, workshops and other activities for students (4th grade to K-12).</td>
<td>graduated in 1996 with a B.S. in Industrial Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao. As a PhD student, Carlos worked under the advisory of Dr. John A. Soderquist developing new organoborane reagents for the asymmetric synthesis of homoallylic and propargylic alcohols. At the same time, he was a part-time Professor at the University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus. After his PhD graduation in 2002, he was accepted as a Post-doctoral fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA. Since 2004 he works at Merck Sharp &amp; Dome where he is now a Senior Process Scientist at the Global Technical Operations Department.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maria Vega Rodríguez</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dr. Belinda Rosario</strong></td>
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<td>received her B.Sc. in Coastal Marine Biology from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in 2004. There she was a PR-LSAMP undergraduate scholar for two years (2001-2003). In 2008 she graduated with a Master’s Degree in Marine Science from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus. In the present she is a PhD candidate at the Institute for Marine Remote Sensing from the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida (USF), and a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow. She hopes to contribute with the essential educational outreach necessary for the conservation of our global marine oceans and ecosystems.</td>
<td>obtained her B.S. in Industrial Chemistry in 2000 from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao. She began research as an undergraduate and continued graduate studies in Analytical Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Under the guidance of Dr. Carlos Cabrera, she worked on the assembly of carbon nanotubes and participated as a NSF-NASA Fellow. She completed her PhD in 2009 and is working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry of the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao, where she began her scientific career.</td>
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<td><strong>Dr. Luis Fernando Santana</strong></td>
<td><strong>Said Daibes Figueroa</strong></td>
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<td>was an undergraduate PR-LSAMP fellow and obtained a B.Sc. in Marine Biology from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in 1991 where he was an LSAMP scholar. After his graduation, he stayed briefly in the University of Hawaii at Manoa and then moved to pursue a PhD degree at the School of Medicine in the University of Maryland. In 1996 he received his doctoral degree in Physiology under the advisory of Dr. W. Jonathan Lederer. In 2001 he moved to the University of Washington where he is now a Professor at the Department of Physiology and Biophysics. Research in his laboratory focuses on cardiac and vascular smooth muscle. His publications are included in some of the most prestigious national journals such as the <em>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA</em>.</td>
<td>graduated with a B.S. in Physics from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in 1999. He began research under the sponsorship of PR-LSAMP. Said continued graduate school at the University of Missouri and finished an MS, CNMT in the area of Radiology. His expertise has led him to work as a Medical Physicist in the Biomolecular Imaging Center at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital, Columbia, Missouri. There he is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the micro-PET and micro-SPECT/CT for the Center of Single Photon-emitting Cancer Imaging Agents. His research projects are centered in the use of molecular labels for the imaging of different cancer cells. He is also a Health Physicist for the Radioactive Materials Safety Branch of the U.S. NRC (United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission).</td>
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<td><strong>Sheila Serrano</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dr. Betzaida Castillo</strong></td>
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<td>completed a B.S. degree in Microbiology in May 2011. While she was an undergraduate, she performed research in the project titled: <em>Characterization of Exopolimeric Substances from Bacillus spp. isolates in the Cabo Rojo Salterns</em>. She was a Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation scholar for two and a half years and was able to participate in many of the program’s activities on the island. The program also sponsored her visit to MIT, where she participated in workshops on the subject of genetics, biostatistics, biochemistry, proteins and others. She also participated actively in the University’s Table tennis team. She is now enrolled at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus pursuing a Master’s Degree in Industrial Hygiene.</td>
<td>completed a B.S. degree in Industrial Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao in May 2002. While she was an undergraduate student and a PR-LSAMP fellow Cohort I, She began her research determining the catalytic activity of proteins in organic solvents. She then began graduate school and participated in the Bridge to the Doctorate Program at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Betzaida worked under the supervision of Dr. Kai Griebenow determining the structural dynamics of different proteins upon their PEGylation. She graduated with a PhD in Biochemistry in May 2009 after publishing her work in various scientific articles. She is currently making her second post-doctoral appointment.</td>
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Emmanuel Santa-Martinez is pursuing a major in General Biology at the University of Puerto Rico, Humacao. He belongs to the Honors Program, Amgen Bio-Minds, PR-LSAMP and McNair Programs. He has participated in several summer internships. In 2009 he performed research in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior Biology at the Mountain Research Station – U of Colorado. Last summer, he conducted research at the Case Western Reserve University, in Cleveland, Ohio through the SPUR Program. During the regular academic year he does research with plant invasive species at his home institution. Emmanuel’s future goal is to obtain a PhD in zoology or ecology. His greatest dream is to become a university professor and conduct research.

Madeline Candelaria Custodio is a senior student with academic excellence at the University of Puerto Rico in Mayagüez. She will obtain her bachelor degree in Chemical Engineering on May 2012. She completed one year and a half, performing internships in Abbott Pharmaceuticals Laboratories as a Process Engineer. Since January 2011, she has been collaborating in the Pharmaceutical Engineering Research Laboratory in the University of Puerto Rico, performing research to evaluate the angle blades and blade velocity effects in growth behavior of high shear granulation. Madeline is also member of several organizations like AICHE – American Institute of Chemical Engineering, Golden Key Honour Society and Tau Beta Pi – Engineering Honor Society. After completing the bachelor in Chemical Engineering, she’s planning to continue graduate studies in Pharmaceutical Engineering.

Enery Lorenzo is an under graduate student attending to the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM). She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in the area of Industrial Engineering, where she schedules to graduate in December 2013. As a junior, she received the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PRLSAMP) fellowship. Currently Enery is conducting a research in the area of Biostatistics with Professor Mauricio Cabrera as her advisor. Miss Lorenzo will be presenting her work, Genetic Emergent Behavior: Cervix Cancer Case, at the 23rd Annual HENAAC Conference.

Nicole A. Blanco Vicéns is a 4th year Industrial Engineering student at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez campus. She is a member of the Dr. Mauricio Cabrera-Rios’ research group -The Applied Optimization Group at UPRM-. On summer 2011, she was sponsored by PRLSAMP to carry out the experimental design project “Optimization in Everyday Activities: The Rice Cooking Problem”, which led her to a second project entitled “Variational Analysis of Nanoproperties – Preliminary results. She holds an undergraduate research assistantship from UPRM CREST (Center for Biomedical & Energy-Driven Systems & Applications) where, besides her research duties, she is involved with community outreach by helping out to disseminate knowledge about Science and Technology in High Schools. She is also an active member of MAES (Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists).

Sergio Garcia-Vergara is a first year Graduate Student in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguéz with a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering in June 2011. As an undergraduate student, Sergio has been funded by PRLSAMP since May 2007 until December 2010 for his research on Power Electronics and Renewable Energy, and Control Systems. Sergio has also worked in research projects in the University of California at Berkeley (2010), and in the University of Purdue (2009) as part of prestigious NSF funded programs (SUPERB and SURF respectively)affiliated to LSAMP. He is now working as a Graduate Research Assistant under the supervision of Dr. Ronald Arkin in the School of Interactive Computing towards obtaining his PhD in Electrical Engineering.

Dr. Alberto M. Figueroa Medina completed his Bachelor in Science and Master in Science degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. He obtained his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. Currently, he is Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying at the UPR-Mayaguez, Deputy Director of the Puerto Rico Transportation Technology Transfer Center, and Coordinator of the FHWA Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program and the Summer Transportation Research Exchange Program. His research interests are in the areas of highway geometric design, road safety, mass transit systems, and transportation sustainability. Alberto was born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and he is a product of the public school system. He participated in the Undergraduate LSAMP Summer Research Program in 1996.

Jaileene Perez-Morales is an Industrial Engineering senior student at the University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez (UPRM). As an undergraduate, she has served as a Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participants (PRLSAMP) Scholar and as a research assistant in the detection of potential cancer biomarkers in the Bio IE Lab at her Department. She has been an NSF REU scholar and presented her research at the IE Research Conference 2011 at Reno, Nevada. She was the winner of the first place in the IE Annual Research Fair at UPRM and plans to pursue doctoral studies in Biostatistics.

Saylisse Dávila graduated summa cum laude from University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering in May 2005. At the ceremony, she received the awards for outstanding student from the College of Engineering and the Department of Industrial Engineering. In December 2010, she obtained a PhD in Industrial Engineering from Arizona State University. The focus of her doctoral research was the development and application of data mining methods for the early detection of disease outbreaks. While pursuing her PhD degree, she obtained prestigious fellowships from the National GEM Consortium, Achievement Awards for College Scientists, Tau Beta Pi, among others. Saylisse is currently working as an assistant professor at her undergraduate institution.
**Dr. Maria Martinez-Inesta** graduated top of the class from the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez campus from the Chemical Engineering Department in 2000. As an undergraduate she participate in several of the PR-LSAMP activities. She pursued her doctorate degree from the University of Delaware. After graduating in 2005 she returned to her Alma Mater in Puerto Rico to become an Assistant Professor where she is now mentor to four graduate students. In 2010 she received the Distinguished Professor award of the Chemical Engineering Department for her contributions in teaching, research and service to the community. In UPR-M she has established a laboratory dedicated to the study of the structural changes undergoing during synthesis of supported metal catalysts using High Energy X-ray Scattering and to the development of synthesis methods of metal nanoparticles.

**Ubaldo M. Córdova-Figueroa** completed his BS degree in Chemical Engineering at UPR-Mayagüez. As an undergraduate he participate in several of the PR-LSAMP activities He move's to Pasadena, CA to pursue a PhD at Caltech under the advice of Prof. John F. Brady. In Caltech, he developed a simple theory to describe the directed motion of colloidal particles induced by surface chemical reactions. He graduated in 2008 and returned to Puerto Rico to become an Assistant Professor in Chemical Engineering at UPR-M. Prof. Córdova-Figueroa is the latest UPR-M faculty recipient of an NSF CAREER award, a highly selective grant that the National Science Foundation awards to junior faculty members who are likely to become academic leaders of the future. His research study transport phenomena and colloidal physics with special attention to propulsion mechanisms of biological and synthetic systems at low Reynolds numbers.

**Aldo Briano** is a second-year graduate student at Stanford University. He obtained his B.S. in Computer Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez in 2010. As an undergraduate he participated in the Mentored Research PR-LSAMP program with professor and mentor Rogello Palomera. Following graduation, Aldo was awarded the GEM fellowship, where he was sponsored by Texas Instruments to pursue his graduate degree in Stanford University. While working towards his bachelors Aldo won various entrepreneurial competitions including EnterPrize Business Idea 2010 and ReTo 2010. He was also awarded the "Entrepreneur in progress 2010" award by Grupo Guayacan INC.

**Carolina Briano** received her BS in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez campus in 2004. As an undergraduate she participated in several activities sponsored by PR-LSAMP. In May 2010 she received her M.S. in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics from the University of Rhode Island. Carolina Briano is an Engineering Project Manager at Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems where she is a graduate of the Engineering Leadership Development Program and a 2011 Woman of Color STEM Technology Rising Star Recipient.

**Virgilio Olivera-Olivera** obtained his bachelor degree as magna cum laude from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez in Crops and Agro-Environmental Science, specialized in Horticulture. During his bachelor he made three researches, one with Dr. Ramón Torres and the last two with Dr. Morales-Payan sponsored by Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP). Also he made two summer internships. One in Penn State University sponsored by “Summer Research Opportunity Program” (SROP) and the second one were in the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana sponsored by the “Plant Breeding Center”. In August 2011 he gets the “Bridge to the Doctorate Program“ Fellowship Cohort IX by the National Science Foundation, so he could start and complete his master degree. and continue to the PhD in agricultural science.

**Efrain Y. Aymat** graduated from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez in 2010 with a Bachelor in Chemical Engineering, and a Minor in Pharmaceutical Engineering. As an undergraduate he participated in the PR-LSAMP undergraduate research program and as a Chemistry tutor in the Chemistry Department. He also participates twice in Summer internships at Purdue University. In August 2011 he gets the “Bridge to the Doctorate Program” Fellowship Cohort IX by the National Science Foundation, so he could start and complete his master degree and continue to the PhD in Pharmaceutical Engineering at UPR-Mayagüez.

**Christian Rivera-Goyco** is currently a Chemical Engineering Ph.D. student in the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez Campus, where he also earned his B.S. As an undergraduate student he did research in the Bio-sensing, Renewable Energy and Catalysis areas and presented his works in the LSAMP Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meetings. He participated in the Wi(PR)EM RET2011 program where he worked with a high school teacher for the development of an educational modules. His current research project is the design of a catalyst for the Conversion of Cellulose to Bio-fuels. He was awarded with the PR-LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship Cohort IX (2011).

**Sergio L. Sierra-Bermudez** obtained a BS degree in Chemical Engineering at the University Of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez in May 2008. As an undergraduate he participated in several LSAMP activities including undergraduate research. Sergio began his MS in Chemical Engineering program under the mentorship of Dr. Carlos Rinaldi, where he earned the LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VII. In 2009, he attended the International conference on Magnetic Fluid in Sendai, Japan, where he presented his research findings. His research focuses in the use of Magnetic nanoparticles as probes in complex fluids for diverse applications.
Ana R. Cameron-Soto is a PhD student at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, enrolled in the Chemical Engineering program. She obtained a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering in May 2007. Ana is mentored by Dr. Aldo Acevedo, and she is working on the rheology of complex fluids to understand and develop oriented materials. As a graduate student she received the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) Cohort V. PR NASA Space Grant Doctoral Fellowship and Sloan Doctoral Fellowships. Also, her research work has been published and presented in national scientific meetings such as The Society of Rheology, NSTI-Nanotech and Materials Research Society congresses. Ana has voluntarily offered science workshops to high school students and to the general community to improve their knowledge on nanoscience concepts.

Rey F. Matos Rivera is a first year graduate student in the Department of Biology at the University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus (UPR-M). He's currently working with a NASA EPSCoR project, in which he will be developing new alternatives for remote sensing by developing hyperspectral systems to better observe how biodiversity is behaving, especially in tropical forests. He also received the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort XIX in 2011. He graduated magna cum laude from this same university with a B.S. degree on Industrial Microbiology in June 2003. While at UPR-M, he was part of the Honor Society group BBB and Golden Key, and he was twice part of the Honor Board. After college he worked as a microbiologist for Johnson & Johnson company named OMJ Pharmaceuticals, and then became a microbiologist consultant for several companies as Lilly, OMJ, Pfizer, Jansen, OBI, OMP and Cordis.

Denisse Soto-Aquino earned her B.E. in Chemical Engineering at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. Currently she is a doctoral candidate in Chemical Engineering under the mentoring of Dr. Carlos Rinaldi. As part of her thesis project, she studies the magnetoroheological properties of ferrofluids under shear and magnetic field by Brownian dynamics simulations. Those studies gave her the opportunity to participate in 11th International Conference on Electrorheological fluids and Magnetorheological suspensions (ERMR) celebrated in Dresden, Germany in August 2008, as well as many other presentations in national and international settings. In her undergraduate years Denisse participate in several PR-LSAMP activities and in 2007 she was awarded the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort V.

David N. Cuevas-Miranda, Ph.D., obtained his B.S. in Geology from UPR Mayagüez in 1998 and a M.S. in Geology from Saint Louis University, MO. He received his Ph.D. in Marine Sciences from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez in 2010. As a graduate student, David received doctoral fellowships from the NASA-Puerto Rico Space Grant, AGEP, and NSF-EPSCoR programs as well as a Graduate Student Grant from the Southeastern section of the Geological Society of America in 2006. Dr. Cuevas-Miranda has presented his research in several meetings included the Annual Meetings of the Geological Society of America (2004 & 2006) The LSAMP Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting and the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium (2008). Currently, Dr. Cuevas-Miranda is working for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and also as a professor in the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico.

Ruth Hidalgo-Hernández is a former PR-LSAMP student and Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow-Cohort V (2007) from UPR Mayaguez. Her BS and MS degrees are both in Mechanical Engineering under the supervision of Dr. O. Marcelo Suárez. Her research focused on the tribological characterization Al-B-X composites subject to mechanical wear as the need of lightweight materials (composite aluminum) for efficient aerospace applications. After concluding her degree as Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, she began working as Research Mechanical Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, specifically with the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) - Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory (GSL) under the Concrete and Materials Branch, in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Marietta E. Marcano-González is a Ph.D. student of Environmental Engineering in the University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus (UPR-M). She graduated with honors from this institution with a B.S degree in Mechanical Engineering in September 2010. While at UPRM, she was mentored by Dr. Yang Deng and served as PR-LSAMP undergraduate for Dr. Arturo Hernandez. She also participated several times as an intern with the US-Army Corps of Engineers. Following graduation she was awarded with the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort VIII as part of the PR-LSAMP program. Currently she is working in the research of titanosilicates for air purification applications.

Edgar Martí-ArbonZ received his B.S. and M.S degrees in electrical engineering from the UPR, Mayaguez in 2007 and 2009, respectively. He is currently working on his third year toward the PhD degree in electrical engineering at Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe Campus. He received the GEM fellowship from 2009 to 2010 and the dean fellowship from 2009 to 2011. His research interests include digital systems, power management and radio frequency integrated circuit (RF IC) design. On his career path, he worked as design engineer intern in the Power Management Group at Texas Instruments Inc., Manchester, NH, in summer 2009. In addition, he worked in an internship as design engineer at the Power Management Integrated Circuit (PMIC) group at Qualcomm Inc., Chandler, Az, during the summer of 2011.

Sonia L. Avilés Barreto completed her B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 2008 from University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. As an undergraduate she performed research on the areas of rheology and polymer nanocomposites as a PR-LSAMP scholar. Currently she is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Chemical Engineering at University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, where the focus of her doctoral research is the development of proton exchange membranes for energy-efficient devices and gas sensors applications. As a Ph.D. candidate she received the Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow Cohort VI and presents her research work in many national conferences as the 2010 AlChE National Meeting where she won the 2nd place on the poster competition and the 2010 ERN Conference where she won the 1st place on the oral presentation competition.
Luis González-Solá as a masters degree and LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort II Fellow Student in structural engineering at UPR-Mayagüez he developed an economic system that prevented severe damage or collapse on hillside concrete structures during seismic events. He has lectured at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla. Later he developed a series of video lectures that have been seen by more than 200,000 students. Disappointed with the current state of innovation in the construction industry he is planning to start in 2012 González-Solá Design & Construction, a company that will design and build thin shell concrete structures that require less quantity of materials and are more seismic-resistant than current structures. You can view his structural and academic work at www.gonzalezsola.com.

Olga C. Abreu Vega graduated magna cum laude in 2004 from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, with a B.S. in Biology. She was awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate Program Fellowship Cohort II during the first two years (2004-2006) of her Master’s degree in Marine Biology (UPR-Mayagüez). From 2006 to 2009 she became a General Chemistry Tutor and Laboratory Instructor teaching, facilitating and promoting freshman college students in the development of basic Chemistry skills. Olga gets a transfer to the Teaching Preparation Program at the same university, completing the Biology Teaching Practice on December 2010 and receiving her Teaching Certificate on August 2011. On January 2012 she will start her graduate studies at Interamerican University-San Germán, with a major in Science Education.

Elizabeth Padilla-Crespo is a Ph.D. candidate at the U. of Tennessee-Knoxville. She has a double degree in Industrial Biotechnology and Microbiology from the UPR-Mayagüez. As an undergraduate she performed research at Harvard Medical School, the DOE Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the U. of Wisconsin-Madison and the Georgia Institute of Technology. She has been the recipient of various prestigious awards among these a Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, the PR NASA Space Grant Consortium Fellowship Program, the HACU, Bureau of Land Management Scholarship and was selected as a 2009 NASA International Year of Astronomy Student Ambassador. She is a NSF-Fellow and currently working on developing molecular tools for improved detection of dechlorinating bacteria in the environment.

Miguel A. González-Santiago earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico in 2004. In 2004 he entered the UPR Mayagüez graduate program in Chemistry where he obtained and LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Cohort II. In 2007, he completed his M.S. in Chemistry and currently he is enrolled in UPR-Mayagüez Ph.D. in Applied Chemistry program. While in his graduated studies he had collaborated with the SONW and participated of the GLOBE programs, which impact k-12 students and teachers from PR school system in an effort to improve students’ interest toward STEM programs.

Alexis J. Morales Blanco received a B.S. (1995) and M.S. (1998) in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus. In May 2010, he obtained a Ph.D. in Applied Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico- Mayagüez Campus, where the focus of his doctoral research was the study of supramolecular host-guest interactions of cyclodextrins and calixarenes with different organometallics antitumor agents using solid state techniques and computer simulation. He began his career in the pharmaceutical industry. Since 2003 he has been at Hewlett-Packard Inc. working as a Member of the Technical Staff supporting the analytical operations and the development of new technologies.

Maribella Domenech graduated from the UPR-Mayaguez in 2006 with a B.S. in Industrial Biotechnology, a five-year multi-disciplinary program with specialization in biology, chemistry and chemical engineering. She participated in the PR-LSAMP and SLOAN programs. In 2010, she received a PhD in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. She was awarded with several fellowships including the Graduate Engineering Research Scholar fellowship (GERS) and Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company Scholarship (PRIDCO). In 2009, she was selected for an oral presentation at the Keystone Symposium “Extrinsic Control of Tumor Genes and Progression” Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Currently, she works as a postdoctoral researcher as part of the Institute for


Yaitza Luna-Cruz, BS and MS degree in Physics from UPR-Mayaguez. As an undergrad student she received the support of the AMP in various research and outreach activities. She is currently a PhD candidate at Howard University Program in Atmospheric Sciences in Washington, DC and a graduate fellow from the NOAA Center for Atmospheric Sciences. Studying the evolution of cloud microphysics associated with tropical cyclones using airborne measurements. As part of her research she participated in important field campaigns such as the NASA Student Airborne Research Program (2009) onboard: NASA DC-8 aircraft, NASA Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes experiment (2010) in NASA DC-8 aircraft and the NCAR ICE-T-2011 onboard the NCAR C-130 aircraft. Was recently selected to be part of the NCAR Advanced Study Program as a graduate visitor.
Abner Ayala-Acevedo was born in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico in 1988. He received his B.S in Computer Engineering, with specialties in Computing Systems and Hardware & Embedded Systems, from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez in May 2011. Abner participated in the LSAMP seminar series on engineering topics coordinated by Dr. Eduardo Ortiz. During Summer 2011, he joined the Human Ability and Accessibility Center at IBM Austin, TX. In Fall 2011, he started his PhD degree at Georgia Institute of Technology, GT-Bionics Lab. His main interests are assistive technology, mobile accessibility and brain-computer interface. His current research is focus on sensor signal processing for the Tongue Drive System.

Angel J. Rosado is a senior in the Inter American University in Bayamon, majoring in Computer Science and he is a member of the Honor Society. He works as a tutor at the University for Computer Sciences classes. He received a distinction in 2010 and 2011 by being included in the Dean's List for his excellent academic performance. During the summer of 2011 he participated in an internship in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship) Program. He is scheduled to graduate in May 2012.

Cristian A. Lopez-Martinez is working in his BS degree in Electrical Engineering. In the summer of 2010 he participated in WESEP REU Iowa State University (Wind Energy Science, Engineering and Policy Research Experience for Undergraduates. His summer experience was a 10-week program where he took courses, worked on two research projects, took different tours and met industry people related to wind energy, wind turbines and similar topics. This experience helped him in the following publication: “Modeling Operational Effects of Variable Generation within National Long-term Infrastructure Planning software”, co-author with Venkat Krishnan, Trishna Das, Eduardo Ibanez and James D. McCalley. Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy.

Rafael Yomar Nieves is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Chemistry at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus. As a PR-LSAMP scholar he is currently studying the association between age and cuticle color of workers of the little fire ant W. auropunctata, researching the relation of juvenile hormone in the little fire ant using gas chromatography.

Juan G. Rosado-Colon attends the Inter American University of Puerto Rico Bayamón Campus. He is currently a sophomore student in Computer Science. He currently participates in the LSAMP Undergraduate Research Program working in the development of a CubeSat, with Flight Software. During the summer of 2011 he participated in a summer internship developing the code for the GPS and the Attitude Determination System for a CubeSat prototype. He also participated in the Integration of the payload at the NASA Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility.

Rafael Fernandez-Casas obtained his bachelor degree from the Inter American University Bayamón Campus in Biology 2011. As an undergraduate student he performed research under the mentorship of Dr. Bert Rivera-Marchand sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Component of PR-LSAMP. He has participated in several scientific conferences sponsored by PR-LSAMP to present his research work. Rafael has served as peer mentor an . currently he is pursuing his master’s degree in Environmental and Ecological Sciences at the Inter American University Bayamón Campus.
Omar Emilio Torres Alamo is a senior in mechanical engineering from Inter American University, Bayamon Campus. He is completing an internship at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals since June 2011 working with capsules filler machine preventive maintenance task, in manufacturing area. Since August 2010 he has participated in mentored undergraduate research sponsored by PR-LSAMP: Seismic analysis in a small scale wind turbine, directed by Dr. Ottonel Diaz Nevarez. He has also participated in various NASA projects presentations with the Goddard Space Center Geodome in Bayamon, NASA Design Process at Michigan Tech University and in NASA STEM Team.

Elisamuel Santiago Ramirez is currently enrolled as senior undergraduate student on the Inter American University, Bayamón Campus (IAU-B), pursuing a BS in Computer Engineering. He started participating in PR-LSAMP mentored undergraduate research working in a project to do Statistical Shape analysis for objects that can’t normally be measured, resulting in a publication. He changed his investigation interest and pursued a project orientated in hardware programming. He is currently working with Dr. Hien Vo on the CubeSat project in which he programmed the magnetometer for the Control Altitude System for the Satellite. After success on that project he was able to travel and present his work to the Chief Engineer of NASA on May 27, 2010. He continues to program hardware and works on the CubeSat until he graduates in may 2012.

Yarira Ortiz-Alvarado graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Inter American University, Bayamon Campus with a B.S in Biology in 2009. She conducted research in the area of social insects on islands. As an undergraduate, she was granted three fellowships to travel to professional meetings to present her research. PR-LSAMP mentored undergraduate research was instrumental in guiding her scientific research and career path. At the moment, she’s working towards her master’s degree in Environmental Sciences and Ecology at IAU-B. In her thesis she works with hormones and proteins expression in social insects related to severe environmental changes. Also she’s working as a part-time instructor at IAU-B. She is a member of the Entomological Society of America (ESA) and the International Union for the Study of Social Insects (IUSSI).

Vilmarie Figueroa Nieves graduated cum laude with a degree in biology at the Inter American University, Bayamón Campus. She worked with Dr. Bert Rivera Marchand in an investigation on the aggressive behavior of fire ants (Solenopsis invicta) in PR. She participated in an internship at the IAU-B and in the summer 2008 she participated in an internship at the UPR Rio Piedras with Dr. Alonso Ramirez from the REU program in El Yunque Rain Forest. Currently, she is a masters student in the Ecology graduate program at IAU-B and works as a TA at IAU-B and at the Cardiovascular Hospital as a laboratory assistant and in the Royal Gardens clinical lab. She believes that the experience in PR-LSAMP program has enriched her with the scientific knowledge to be an outstanding scientist and professional.

Mairim Nieves-Nevárez is a fifth-year Electrical Engineering student at Inter American University, Bayamón Campus. Mairim participated in PR-LSAMP mentored undergraduate research in a project analyzing interactions between silver surfaces and ligands through computer simulation. She was accepted in the SURF 2010 program at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, obtaining her first professional engineering experience through research of SiO2 and SiN substrates for graphene devices. She presented her works at SERMACS 2009, AGMUS Research Symposium 2010, and PR-LSAMP PRISM 2010 and 2011. She is currently working with Dr. Vo in the Attitude Control Subsystem design for a CubeSat prototype. She will pursue graduate studies and research in autonomous systems and power engineering focused on renewable energy.

Alexandra M. Rivera Serrano is currently a student at the Inter American University, Bayamón Campus pursuing a degree in Biotechnology with minors in Microbiology and Biomedical Sciences. Since her sophomore year, she has worked in the lab of Dr. Iván Ferrer. In the summer of 2010 and 2011 Ms. Serrano participated in the Pediatric Oncology Education program at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, working with Dr. Schultz- Cherry in the Department of Infectious Diseases. Ms. Serrano has been the recipient of the Puerto Rico Alliance for the Advancement of Biomedical Research Excellence Award for three years. Additionally she is an active member of the PR-LSAMP.

Laura Roman is a student at the Inter American University, Bayamon Campus in Molecular Biotechnology. Since her sophomore year she has participated in the PR-LSAMP mentored undergraduate research program in the area or Molecular Biotechnology. Her research worked was titled Phytoremediation of Mercury by Chloroplast Engineering of Nicotiana tabacum. She obtained the PR-NASA Undergraduate Fellowship and co-authored the publication “Metallothionein expression in chloroplasts enhances mercury accumulation and phytoremediation capability”. In summer 2010 she participated in a study entitled Fluorescently tagged Sinorhizobium for early symbiotic visualization at the University of Minnesota. A second summer internship was at the University of Dayton where she transformed E. coli to produce hydrogen for fuel cell applications.

Pedro Carmona Serrano is a fifth-year engineering student at the Inter American University Bayamon Campus. Through his years of study he’s been in the Dean’s List for his academic progress. While at IAU-B he’s been mentored by Dr. Omar Meza, Professor of fluids mechanics. His interest in engineering has been in the areas of robotics and renewable energy accomplishing first place in a green house competition design in 2008. During the 2008-2011 he was awarded with the SMART grant for engineers and currently is working in the design of a mini wind energy conversion system (mini WECS). Pedro is currently sponsored by PR-LSAMP.
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yamil Camacho Ramos</strong></td>
<td>is a student at the Inter American University, Bayamón Campus with experience in various mechanical engineering processes that require independent application of scientific principles. Before joining the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program, he participated as an undergraduate research trainee under Prof. Amilcar Rincon-Charris in the research of Online Faults Detections, from 2008 to 2010. After joining PR-LSAMP in 2010, he began a new research under the supervision of Dr. Ottoniel Diaz Nevarez titled “Seismic Effects of Earthquakes on Wind Turbines”.</td>
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<td><strong>Brian Vázquez Ramos</strong></td>
<td>graduated from Inter American University of Puerto Rico: Bayamón Campus in 2008 with a Bachelor in Computer Science. As an undergraduate, he participated in the Puerto Rico Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) Mentored Undergraduate Research Program in a research on Modeling of Traffic Patterns of Bats to Assess Constraints on Population Size. This work was present in a scientific poster at the 34th Annual North American Symposium on Bat Research. After graduation, Brian is currently working as a computer programmer at Inter American University Bayamón Campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Carlos Rinaldi</strong></td>
<td>obtained a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez (UPRM), in 1998. As an undergraduate at UPRM he was supported through the LSAMP program undergraduate research. Later he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he participated in the School of Chemical Engineering Practice, and completed a PhD in (2002). He joined the Department of Chemical Engineering at the UPRM in 2004. Carlos Rinaldi was recognized as one of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) awardees and was recognized as an Emerging Scholar by Diverse Issues in Higher Education. Dr. Rinaldi’s research interests are in biomedical applications of magnetic nanoparticles and fundamental fluid physics.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Angel G. Rivera Colón</strong></td>
<td>is an undergraduate student from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Biotechnology with a minor in Chemistry. He was part of NASA’s STEM TEAM research between 2010 and 2011, member of the Campus’ Honor Program since 2009 and Member of the Dean’s List since 2010. Currently, he is a member of PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program, working on the Social Insects Research Laboratory, investigating defensive behavior in little fire ant Wasmannia auropunctata.</td>
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<td><strong>Victor A. Candelaria</strong></td>
<td>is a B.S. student at the Inter American University, Bayamón Campus in Mechanical Engineering. He participated in ASME university program in research to build a Human Powered Submarine. Currently he is a member of PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program working in the development of new shapes using Green’s Integral Methods. He also performs field experience working in Pfizer Pharmaceuticals LLC as a student engineer. After graduation in Bayamón, Victor is planning to work in the industry to gain knowledge about the modern industry and its challenges to create a healthier world.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jean C. Rivera-Lopez</strong></td>
<td>is an undergraduate student, at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus pursuing a degree in Biotechnology. In March of 2010, he started working as a research student under the mentorship of Dr. Iván Ferrer-Rodriguez in the LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program . His research focuses on the Molecular studies of the Thioredoxin reductase gene of Plasmodium yoelii. Mr. Rivera has presented his work in scientific meetings, including both, posters and oral presentations. He has been the recipient of the Puerto Rico Alliance for Advanced Biomedical Research Excellence Award for two years. Mr. Rivera has a desire to continue learning and enriching his scientific career and he will be pursuing a Doctoral degree in pharmacy.</td>
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**Dr. Bert Rivera-Marchand** is an associate professor of Biology at the Inter American University- Bayamón Campus. Bert participated in the PR Louis Stoke Alliance for Minority Participation from 1996-1998 working with Dr. Armando Rodriguez on bat eco-physiology. This study led to multiple national and international presentations and a publication in the Caribbean Journal of Science. This study led to a publication in Biotropica. After the MS, he completed a PhD in Ecology in Dr. Tugrul Giray's lab at UPR. His dissertation was on behavior and genetics of Africanized honey bees. This study led to multiple publications. He currently has a research lab that works on behavioral genetics of social insects where there have been up to 10 students sponsored by the LSAMP undergraduate research program.

**Carlos A. Ortiz-Alvarado** is currently an undergraduate student in the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón campus, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Biology. Carlos began his participation in the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Program in 2010. He has been part of a research in endocrinology for over two years and has had the privilege of traveling to present his work in scientific meetings. Carlos participates in two summer internships where he worked with endocrinological factors and genetic expression of social insects. He is currently in his senior year and plans to continue his research in graduate school.

**Norman J. Rivera** is a student from Inter American University of Puerto Rico Bayamón Campus; he is studying Mechanical Engineering with a Minor in Math. He won the 1st Place on the design of the Green house project for the course of Physics II. Currently he is working with Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP), Mentored Undergraduate Research Program. His area of research is in the “Construction and Evaluation of a Small Wind Turbine for Educational Purpose”.

**Derry Alvarez** received a B.S. degree in Biotechnology from Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus in 2008. During this time worked in Dr. Ruiz’s Biotechnology lab sponsored by PR-LSAMP and NASA Space Grant Consortium. In May 2011, he obtained an M.S. in the same University. His thesis research was in the development of a metabolic genetic engineering for mercury remediation by bacteria and plants. This work has led two research articles, one in Plant Biotechnology Journal and the other on BioMed Central.

**Carlos J. Rodríguez Feijoo** is an undergraduate Mechanical Engineering student at the Inter American University Bayamón Campus. Since his freshman year Carlos has participated as a fellow of the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP) in the Undergraduate Mentored Research Program under the mentorship of Dr. Omar Meza. His field of study is in the area of design and development of experimental models in the field of heat transfer. The aim of this project is to obtain live data of this process as it unfolds. After graduation he will continue graduate studies in Engineering.

**Francisco Ortiz De Jesús**, began in 2008 his studies in the School of Engineering of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus. Majoring in cellular and digital communications. After obtaining his BS degree in 2012, Francisco will pursue graduate studies in artificial intelligence and robotics. As a PR-LSAMP student he is working in the development of a weather station that will be installed at the University for effects of weather inclemency studies.

**Carlos R. Ruiz-Martinez** obtained BS and MS degrees in Chemistry in 1996 and 2000. As an undergraduate student Carlos was sponsored by PR-LSAMP and as a professor he has been active in PR-LSAMP programs practicing experiences acquired during his undergraduate years and new ones to enhance the students learning process. He was Founder Advisor of the American Chemical Society (ACS) Student Chapter at UPR Aguadilla and has acted as president and secretary for the Board of Directors of the ACS-PR’s Chapter. He received his PhD in Applied Chemistry from UPR Mayaguez in 2011. His research was on crystallographic studies of hemoproteins. As a doctoral student he was recipient of a GK-12 fellow from the National Science Foundation. Since 2000 he has been teaching Chemistry and Environmental Technology courses at the UPR Aguadilla.

**Eliezer Ferrá** is a senior at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón campus. He is schedule to graduate in May 2012 from his B.S in Computer Science. In the summers of 2009 thru 2011, Eliezer participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). During those summers he conducted research in computer security, focusing in authentication of parties. Eliezer presented his work at NIST and several conferences. His plans are to pursue a PhD in Computer Science and focus his research in Computer or Information Security.
Javier I. Espinosa Acevedo attends the Inter American University of Puerto Rico Bayamon Campus. He currently is Senior Undergraduate student in Electrical Engineering specializing in Controls. He participated in the PRLSAMP semester program conducting research in the Design of a Grid Portal. Javier is conducting research in the development of a CubeSat. Also he has researched on the following summer internships: Study of Fabrication and Energetic Properties of Porous Silicon at PENN State University (2009) and Attitude Determination System (2010) and Attitude Determination System for CubeSat Prototype (2011) at Louisiana State University.

José A. Osorio obtained his B.S. in Computer Science in May 2011 from Inter American University of Puerto Rico. While he studied, he participated in NASA Satellite Development Project in Goddard Space Flight Center. During his second internship, José worked in U.S. Census Bureau as an IT Analyst. After finishing his studies, José collaborated in a Summer Undergraduate Research program in National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) where he worked in Patient Matching Algorithms Research. Today, José is working as a Software Developer in a Consultant Company.

Fiorella Vicenty is an undergraduate Biology student in her senior year at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico Metro Campus. As an undergraduate, she has worked in community projects aimed at maintaining students in school and motivating them to desire a higher education diploma. She has also worked in the University of Puerto Rico’s FIESTA organization, were she promoted pedestrian and traffic safety throughout the collegiate community. She now participates in the Puerto Rico LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience. Her research project is in the area of establishing the incidence and prevalence of Helicobacter pylori in Puerto Rico and in the Rhesus monkeys in Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico, Caribbean Primate Research Center. Fiorella plans to obtain an MD.Ph.D. degree.

Daniel Mejia obtained a BS in Life/Biological Sciences from Inter American University Metropolitan Campus in 2011. For the last three years Bryan participated as a student researcher in the Puerto Rico LSAMP Program. During that time, he worked in the area of microbiology and the title of his project is, “Microbiological studies about water quality in a segment of Laguna Tortuguero, Vega Baja-Puerto Rico”, under the supervision of Prof. Ernesto Torres. Bryan attended several scientific meetings such as the Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning 2008, the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting-2009-2010, the American Chemical Society 236th National Meeting 2009, in Washington D.C. and the American Society for Microbiology 110th General Meeting 2010, in San Diego CA Daniel wants to apply to the Medicine School of the Medical Sciences Campus at the University of Puerto Rico.

Josean Sanchez received his B.S. in Life/Biological Sciences from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2010. For the last three years Josean participate in the Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience of the LSAMP program. During that time, he worked in the research project: “Microbiological studies about water quality in a segment of Laguna Tortuguero, Vega Baja-Puerto Rico”, under supervision of Prof. Ernesto Torres. He attended the Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning 2008 and the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting-2008-2010. Josean presented the results of his research project in the American Chemical Society 236th National Meeting 2009, in Washington D.C. Currently he is applying to Medical School of the Medical Sciences Campus at University of Puerto Rico.

Franco Marcano-Medina studies Mechanical Engineering in the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus. As an undergraduate, he has participated in the Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-LSAMP), and NASA Minority University Research and Education Program at Michigan Tech. In summer 2011, he researched in self-healing materials with Multi-Scale Energy System (Muses) Laboratory at Michigan Tech. He expects to graduate in 2013, and continue postgraduate studies in green engineering.

Rafael Rodriguez III is a Junior at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus. He is currently pursuing a B.S. in Computer Science, While at the Inter American University Rafael is mentored by Dr. Brett Isham and participates in the EISCAT Research project. He is a participant of PRSLAMP & CCCE (2010-2011) and did an Internship at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, SIECA. He has been awarded a MUST Scholarship for $10,000 dollars. Rafael’s research at Goddard will be presented by his NASA mentor Omar Haddad at the SpaceWire National conference. Has also been awarded a full travel scholarship by SACNAS to present this same project at the SACNAS Symposium to be celebrated in San Jose, California this fall.

Yandery Vera obtained a BS in Life/Biological Sciences from Inter American University Metropolitan Campus in 2008. From January 2007 to December 2007 she performed undergraduate research sponsored by the PR-LSAMP Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience. The theme of her worked was "Mosquito repellency exerted by a bio-insecticide impregnated paint” and “Microbiological studies about water quality in a segment of Laguna Tortuguero, Vega Baja-Puerto Rico”, under the supervision of Dr. Freddy Medina and Prof. Ernesto Torres, respectively. The results of her first project were presented at the American Chemical Society 234th National Meeting & Exposition 2007 in Boston Ms. Currently Yandery is a student of the Medicine School, Emory University, Atlanta GA.
**Raisa S. Irizarry Becerra** expected a B.S in Biomedical Sciences from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2011. Since 2009, she performs research under the supervision of Dr. Anne Frame. The title of her research project is: "Antibiotic properties of Azadirachta indica" and the same have been presented in the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting, PRISM, 2010 and 2011. Raisa has been awarded as “Outstanding Student” 2009 and 2010 at Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Metropolitan Campus. Currently, Raisa is an undergraduate student and her interest is to enter to the PhD. program at UPR Medical Sciences Campus (RCM), in the Microbiology and/or Zoology program.

**Evlin Reyes Pizarro** obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2008. Since 2007 to 2008, she performed research under the supervision of Dr. Rosa Brito. The title of her research project was: "Platinum surfaces modified with 3-mercaptopropionic acid and 16-mercaptopentadecanoic acid at different conditions. An electrochemical study". The results of this project were presented in the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting, PRISM/JTM 2007 in Bayamon-Puerto Rico and in the Congress of the American Chemical Society 234th National Meeting & Exposition 2007. On the other hand, Evlin attended to congresses, such as, Annual Best Practices Conference 2006 and 2007, 2006 BDP System Dynamics Congress Workshop, 2007 Climate Change and Education Conference. Currently, Evlin is student of PhD in Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus.

**Betzaida Torres Serrano** earned a B.S. in Biomedical Sciences in 2008 from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. During 2007 and 2008 she performed undergraduate research under supervision of Dr. Pedro Bendeuz and Dr. Anne Frame. The Research Projects in which she collaborated were: Medicinal Properties of Tropical Plants of Puerto Rico and the Biological Cycle of Trematode Paramphistomum cervis. Of these two projects, the second was presented at the LS AMP Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting 2008 in Arecibo-Puerto Rico. Currently, Betzaida is waiting to enter to the School of Medical Technology of the Interamerican University of PR-Metropolitan Campus.

**Isabel Benitez Alonso** earned a B.S. in Biological Sciences in 2010 from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. During 2007 and 2008 she performed undergraduate research in the PR-LSAMP Undergraduate Research Component under the supervision of Dr. Freddy Medina. The Research Project in which she collaborated was: Biological Activity of Pyrethroid Impregnated Paint Upon Daphnia Magna. This work was presented in the Congress of the American Chemical Society 236th National Meeting & Exposition 2009, at Washington DC. Currently, Isabel is enrolled in the Biology Master at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Bayamon Campus. Also, she works as Biotechnology Operator at the Pharmaceutical Eli Lilly of the Caribbean.

**Jennifer M. Colón Mercado** obtained a B.S.Summa Cum Laude, in Biomedical Sciences from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2011. Since 2008, she performed research under the supervision of Dr. Livier González, with the research project: "Plasmid DNA content of Bacteria from the Environment ". Between her presentations at scientific conferences she has the following: Poster presentation of her research project at the 2009 PR-LSAMP 9th annual Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning, and at the PR Society for Microbiologists Semi Annual Meeting at UPR-Humacao, where she obtained third place in the Posters Award Session. She Also presented in 2010 at the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) 110th General Meeting in San Diego, CA.

**Evlin Reyes Pizarro** obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2008. Since 2007 to 2008, she performed research under the supervision of Dr. Rosa Brito. The title of her research project was: "Platinum surfaces modified with 3-mercaptopropionic acid and 16-mercaptopentadecanoic acid at different conditions. An electrochemical study". The results of this project were presented in the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting, PRISM/JTM 2007 in Bayamon-Puerto Rico and in the Congress of the American Chemical Society 234th National Meeting & Exposition 2007. On the other hand, Evlin attended to congresses, such as, Annual Best Practices Conference 2006 and 2007, 2006 BDP System Dynamics Congress Workshop, 2007 Climate Change and Education Conference. Currently, Evlin is student of PhD in Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus.

**Betziada Torres Serrano** earned a B.S. in Biomedical Sciences in 2008 from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. During 2007 and 2008 she performed undergraduate research under supervision of Dr. Pedro Bendeuz and Dr. Anne Frame. The Research Projects in which she collaborated were: Medicinal Properties of Tropical Plants of Puerto Rico and the Biological Cycle of Trematode Paramphistomum cervis. Of these two projects, the second was presented at the LS AMP Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting 2008 in Arecibo-Puerto Rico. Currently, Betzaida is waiting to enter to the School of Medical Technology of the Interamerican University of PR-Metropolitan Campus.

**Isabel Benitez Alonso** earned a B.S. in Biological Sciences in 2010 from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. During 2007 and 2008 she performed undergraduate research in the PR-LSAMP Undergraduate Research Component under the supervision of Dr. Freddy Medina. The Research Project in which she collaborated was: Biological Activity of Pyrethroid Impregnated Paint Upon Daphnia Magna. This work was presented in the Congress of the American Chemical Society 236th National Meeting & Exposition 2009, at Washington DC. Currently, Isabel is enrolled in the Biology Master at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Bayamon Campus. Also, she works as Biotechnology Operator at the Pharmaceutical Eli Lilly of the Caribbean.

**Juan Daniel Rodriguez** obtained a BS in Biomedical Sciences from Interamerican University of Puerto-Rico Metropolitan campus in 2008. During his undergraduate years he joined the PR-LSAMP program conducting research in the development of the protocols for obtaining the pharmaceutical properties of the native plants of Puerto Rico, under the supervision of Dr. Anne Frame. Juan always said that the LS AMP program helped him to improve his labs techniques, to develop critical thinking, and the research experience encouraged him to apply to graduate school. Currently Juan is a student in Emory University Medical School from Emory, Atlanta GA.

**Cristina M. Rexach Arenas** in 2011 obtained a BS in Biological Sciences from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. She was among a selected group of undergraduate students that participated in the PR-LSAMP Program Undergraduate Research Component, during the period 2009 to 2011. Her research projects entitled: "Methane production maximization in a Biodigester of leaves and animal feces combined" and "Plasmid DNA content of bacteria from the environment", under supervision of Dr. Freddy Medina and Dr. Livier González, respectively. The results of this research projects were presented at the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting 2011, at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Bayamon Campus. Currently, Cristina expected to apply to the School of Medicine in the Medical Sciences Campus University of Puerto Rico.
Nadjah Soto in 2011 obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from Interamerican University (IAU) of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus. She was among a selected group of undergraduate students that participated in the PR-LSAMP Program Undergraduate Research Component, during 2010 and 2011. She participated in two different research projects: “Synthesis and Evaluation of New Quinolone-Fatty Acid Conjugates” and “Study of the protein immobilization on modified Au electrodes” under the supervision of Dr. Rosa Brito. She presented her work at the PR-LSAMP Best Practice Conference on Teaching and Learning in November 2010 at Ponce-Puerto Rico; and in the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting 2011, at IAU-Bayamon Campus. Nadjah will be applying to the Chemistry Graduate Program at the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus, in August 2012 to complete a Ph.D. in Chemistry.

Laila Hamid received a BS in Chemistry from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2011. For the period from January 2009 to May 2011, she was part of the Mentored Undergraduate Research Component of the PR-LSAMP Program. During that time she conducted research in the development of the protocols for obtaining the pharmaceutical properties of the native plants of Puerto Rico, under the supervision of Dr. Anne Frame. She attended the Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning in 2009-2010 and the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting 2009-2010-2011, which were celebrated in different campuses of the LSAMP alliance. In these congresses, Laila presented her research project, in poster and oral modality. In this moment, Laila is a student of the Pharmacy School at Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico.

Sara Fuentes obtained a BS in Biological Sciences from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus in 2011. She was a research undergraduate student of the PR-LSAMP Program, for the period August 2010 to May 2011. She worked in the research project: “Restriction Enzyme analysis of Plasmid content from environmental bacteria”, under supervision of Dr. Livier Gonzalez. She attended the Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning in November 2010 at Ponce, Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting-2011, at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Bayamon Campus. Currently, Sara is working in the Research Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at the Veterans Hospital of Puerto Rico.

Idializ Domínguez is a student of the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico Metropolitan Campus and she expect to obtain a BS in Biomedical Sciences in 2012. Currently she participates in the Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience of the LSAMP Program. Idializ conducted research in the development of the protocols for obtaining the pharmaceutical properties of the native plants of Puerto Rico, under the supervision of Dr. Anne Frame. In summer 2011 she had the opportunity to participate in a summer internship at the Medical University of South Carolina, under the mentoring of Dr. Morinelli. Her research work in the internship was titled “The effect of Resveratrol on the hormone Angiotensin II”. Currently, Idializ is participates in the INBRE-AABRE Program at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan campus. In the future, Idializ will be applying to Pharmacy School or graduate studies in Physiology at the Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico.

Bryan Hernandez received a B.S. in Life and Biological Sciences from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico Metropolitan Campus in 2011. For the last two years Bryan participates as a student researcher in the Puerto Rico LSAMP Program. During this time he worked in the area of microbiology and the title of his project is, “Microbiological studies about water quality in a segment of Laguna Tortuguero, Vega Baja-Puerto Rico”, under the supervision of Prof. Ernesto Torres. Bryan attended several scientific meetings such as the Best Practices Conference on Teaching and Learning 2008, the Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting/Junior Technical Meeting-2009-2010, the American Chemical Society 236th National Meeting 2009, in Washington D.C. and the American Society for Microbiology 110th General Meeting 2010, in San Diego CA. Currently he works for AMGEM pharmaceuticals as a lab technician.

Ronald E. Rodriguez is a third year B.S. in Biotechnology student at the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico. He has worked in various research institutions such as the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico and Ponce School of Medicine. He has participated in various programs such as PR-LSAMP which has helped him work in research at his home institution. In summer 2011, Ronald participated in the Pediatric Oncology Education (POE) Program at St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. He worked in the Department of Virology with Dr. Richard Webby. He has also participated in scientific meetings while being supported by PR-LSAMP including the Junior Technical Meeting and the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). His future goals include obtaining a Ph.D. degree in the Biomedical field.

Karla Franco is a senior student pursing a Bachelor in Science and a minor in French at Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico. Since 2010, she is a PR-LSAMP scholar working under the mentorship of Prof. Carmen Asencio. She has presented her work in different scientific meetings such as Junior Technical Meeting and ABRCMS 2010. In summer 2011, Karla participated in a summer internship at Vanderbilt University (Pharmacology Program) with Dr. Eva Harth. The overarching goal of the research was the development of versatile platforms of innovative vectors for cancer therapeutics, vaccine development and imaging reagents in nano-medicine. All these research experiences have helped her determine that one of her future goals would be attend a postbac program and then apply to graduate school.

Marie G. Clancey is a senior student from the General Science and Biology Departments at Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico. She worked as a PR-LSAMP scholar in undergraduate research with Prof. Carmen Asencio. Marie has presented her research work at the Junior Technical Meeting & PRISM and ABRCMS. In 2010 and 2011, respectively, she participated in summer research under the mentorship of Dr. Terry Watnick from the Nephrology Division of the PKD Center, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. In 2010, she worked with a human mutation in the Drosophila PKD2 Homolog. In summer 2011, she worked with a mutation in the Drosophila PKD2 Homolog. In the future, she is interested in doing research related to genetics diseases.
Efrain Rivera completed his B.S. in Biology from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in 2009, where he was a PR-LSAMP scholar. He participated in two different summer internship experiences in the Department of Microbiology and the Department of Plant Biology at North Carolina State University (NCSU). In 2009, he started his Ph.D. in Plant Biology, with emphasis in Molecular Cell Biology. He obtained a scholarship from the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD) at NCSU during his first year, and a two-year Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) fellowship.

Dianaliz Santiago obtained a B.S. in Biology from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in 2007. As an undergraduate, she participated as PR-LSAMP scholar and did two summer internships at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Rutgers University/UMDNJ. From 2007-2010 she participated in the Bridge to the Doctoral Degree Program at UMDNJ/Rutgers and the University of PR in Mayagüez. Currently, she is a Ph.D. candidate in Neuroscience at Rutgers University. Since 2009, she has been working in Dr. Maureen Barr’s laboratory studying the function of tumor necrosis receptor associated factors (TRAFs) in *C. elegans*. Dianaliz has presented her research at the CIC/SROP Conference, ABRCMS and the International C. elegans Meeting.

Oscar Vargas received a B.S. in Chemistry from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (PCUPR) in May 2008. As a PR-LSAMP scholar, Oscar conducted research in the laboratory of Dr. Margarita Rodriguez at PCUPR. He also participated in the Summer Research Institute for Biomedical Materials Science and Engineering (RIBSE) at the State University of New York at Buffalo in 2007. Oscar joined the graduate school at the Ohio State University in autumn 2008, and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Biological Chemistry working under supervision of Dr. Karin Musier-Forsyth.

Lissa Berroa is a second year medical student at Ponce School of Medicine (PSM). She earned a B.S. in General Sciences from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in 2008. She participated as a PR-LSAMP scholar and in her junior year, she participated in Research in Science and Engineering (RISE) at University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, working with bacterial signal transduction. In 2008, while working at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), she was awarded with the Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA). During her time at the NCI her contributions to breast cancer susceptibility project at Thomas Ried’s Laboratory led to various presentations to NCI colleague.

Noel Cruz graduated in 2006 from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (PCUPR) obtaining a BS in Biology with a Minor in Chemistry. As an undergraduate student, he participated for three consecutively years as a research student with the PR-LSAMP Program at PCUPR. During summer 2005, he participated in the Integrated Biological Sciences Research Program (IBS-SRP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. On 2009, he obtained his MS in Cell and Molecular Biology from the San Francisco State University. Currently, Noel is working as Staff Research Associate I in the Department of Cell & Tissue Biology at the University of California, San Francisco.

Neysha Martínez graduated from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in 2007, obtaining a B.S in General Science. As an undergraduate she was a PR-LSAMP Scholar. Neysha won the INRO Internship 2007 where she was selected to do a 2-year post-bac, becoming the first participant to conduct research in both NIH/NIAID branch in Montana and NIH/NIAID headquarters in Maryland. Currently she is pursuing an M.Sc in Industrial Pharmacy at University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus As a graduate student she has earned the Lilly Fellowship and the Lilly COOP Internship. She has presented her research in several scientific forums such as: Excipient Fest and IUPAC.

Raymond Isidro graduated from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in May 2010, obtaining a BS in General Sciences. Currently, he is a second-year student in the MD-PhD pilot program at the Ponce School of Medicine (PSM). As an undergraduate, he served as a PR-LSAMP scholar and undergraduate research student mentor. He has presented his research on the pathogenesis of colitis-associated colorectal cancer in national meetings including ABRCMS, where he was awarded a certificate of achievement for his presentation in cell biology; the AGA section of Digestive Disease Week and the ASIP 2011 annual meeting at Experimental Biology. During the summers of 2010 and 2011, he worked at the Blood-Brain Barrier and Neuro-oncology programs at the Oregon Health & Science University.

Yainyrette Rivera completed a BS in General Sciences from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico. In 2007 she decided to pursue a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences at the Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences. She has presented her work in different meetings including: ABRCMS, the 27th Annual Miami Breast Cancer Conference, and the Society for Neuro Immune Pharmacology. She has been awarded with important pre-doctoral fellowships for her outstanding career including MBRS-RISE and PRAABRE (Puerto Rico Alliance for the Advancement in Biomedical Research Excellence). Her thesis project investigates how depression management increases treatment adherence and improves immune system function in HIV-1 infected Puerto Ricans.
Maria González graduated from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in May 2005, where she obtained a BS in Chemistry. As an undergraduate, she participated in PR-LSAMP programs. After graduating, Beatriz was Vice-president of the Graduate Students Association (BGSA-UA), VP/Co-Chair of the Latino/a Association of Graduate Students in Engineering and Sciences (LAGEES) and member of the Graduate and Professional Student Council. Received the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD) for Ph.D.’s in Biomedical Science Award and a two year American Heart Association Fellowship to work at the University of Arizona Cancer Center.

Yolanda Rentas obtained a BS in Environmental Sciences in 2007 and a MS in Biotechnology in 2011 from Pontifical Catholic University of PR. As an undergraduate, she participated as a PR-LSAMP scholar (2003-2007) and presented her work in several scientific meetings including NCUR, CUR Posters on the Hill and BBB Biennial Convention. In 2006, she received a Citigroup Foundation Grant for a Community Summer Intern Program (CSIP) at “Centro Interpretativo de Las Salinas (CILS), Cabo Rojo”. She identified butterfly fauna in the area in order to establish a butterfly house at the CILS. She collaborated with the educational program Seeds for the Environment and her caricatures were used in a children’s book to illustrate environmental conservation and protection.

Janice Sotomayor obtained her BS degree in General Sciences with a minor in Biology from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in May 2010. As a PR-LSAMP scholar, she participated in the Bridge from Undergraduate to Graduate and in Undergraduate Research working with Dr. Lizette Santos-Santori and Dr. Adalgisa Batista. She presented her results at PRISM and ABRCMS. As freshman student, Janice was accepted in the NIST SURF Program to work with Dr. N. Lin at the NIST in Gaithersburg, MD. She also participated in Rutgers/UMDNJ SURF Program with Dr. T. Kinzy. In summer 2011, she participated in a Summer Research Program in collaboration with the Lee Moffitt Comprehensive Cancer Center. Currently, she is a second year medical student at Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Brenda J. Ramos Santana is a PhD candidate of the Applied Chemistry, Biophysics Program at UPR, Mayaguez. Her BS (1999) and MS (2003) degrees are also in Chemistry. She has received awards like the ACS Presidential Award Chemistry Ambassador in 2010; the Central New York to Puerto Rico Alliance for the Graduate Education and the Professoriate (CNY-PR AGEP) Fellowship 2004-2006 and the PR-LSAMP Academic Excellence Prize, UPR Mayaguez in 1997. Brenda’s passion for science started in her high school years during her Science Fair experiences. She was further motivated to pursue a career in science by her undergraduate research and internship experiences. Brenda participated in PR-LSAMP’s programs as an undergraduate and does it today as a professor at UPR Aguadilla where she has been working since 2005.
Carlos A. Mole is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science. Carlos attributes his internship experience at WSRC as the “critical moment for hearing the call of the STEM discipline.” He participated in internships at Washington Savannah River Company (Aiken, SC), and the National Nuclear Security Association (Los Alamos, NM). Currently, Carlos Mole is employed by Booz Allen Hamilton, a strategy and technology firm whose motto is “Delivering results that endure. Carlos’ life motto mirrors a similar focus.

Venetia D. Lyles is a 2009 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Chemistry. She is currently in the PhD program studying analytical chemistry at Louisiana State University and A&M College where she is a Louisiana Board of Regents and Southern Regional Education Board Scholar. Venetia’s internships at the Medical University of South Carolina and SCSU helped her realize her potential as a researcher. However, tutoring her fellow classmates helped her realize her ability to teach. “The gratification you feel when you help someone ‘get it’ is like no other feeling.”

Mollie Jenkins is a 2011 Junior Biology Major at South Carolina State University. Mollie entered the university in 2010 from high school as a sophomore. Mollie will make college history when she graduates in 2 1/2 years with a BS degree in Biology. Mollie interned with a USDA-ARS project entitled: “Identification of the Cecal Contents of Broiler Chicken”. She is the president and founder of Alpha Upsilon Chapter of Tri-Beta and the 2011 Outstanding Student of the year. Mollie plans to go to graduate school and study Forensic Science.

Arielle Wade is a 2011 Sophomore Biology major at South Carolina State University. As an entering Freshman, she was able to shadow a microbiologist researcher which led to her first summer research internship at Savannah River Site. Her project included working with different grades of oil sands and crude oil. Arielle says, “majoring in biology is a joy because she wants to learn about different components that make up earth materials and the human body. She first realized the STEM program was for her when she decided to become a surgeon.

Jessica Johnson is a 2011 Sophomore Biology major at South Carolina State University. As a freshman student she had the opportunity to intern at the United States Department of Agriculture in Athens, GA. As a result of the summer research internship, she has a pending publication with her research mentor in the Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease. Jessica’s love for the sciences and strong desire to be of service to children of the lower class has inspired her to attend medical school and focus on pediatrics.

Mizpha Fernander is a 2011 Senior Biology major at South Carolina State University. She has been recognized for Academic Achievement at the SCSU Spring Convocation in 2009,2010, and 2011. She came to the realization that STEM was for her when she was accepted into the SCAMP Summer Institute for Scholars program in June 2008. She also gained a tremendous amount of knowledge from three internship opportunities: ARS USDA Vegetable Lab in Charleston, SC; the Entomology Lab at SCSU, and the S.C. Department of Natural Resources Environmental Microbiology Lab.
Crystal Green, is a Freshman Nuclear Engineering major at South Carolina State University. Crystal won first place in Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Poster Symposium Competition. Crystal says, “I thoroughly enjoyed the research experience in California. I was amongst a very diverse group of fellow interns from all across the world. The lab sponsored various activities for us such as white-water rafting and sky-diving. I am very thankful for the experience and hope to return next year and work on a publication.

Jared Frazier is a 2011 senior biology major with minor in Chemistry from Augusta, GA. Jared college journey began at the age of 16 when, three days after graduation, he attended South Carolina State University in the Louis Stokes South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation Program (LS-SCAMP) Summer Institute for Scholars Program. He is currently a DOE intern in Paducah, KY with support from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. He plans to attend graduate school and major in molecular biology in order to achieve his goal of researching a cure for cancer and other diseases.

Marcelite (Marcy) Jenkins received a BS degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from South Carolina State University in 2004. During her tenure, Marcy reaffirmed her passion for math and engineering through two prestigious NASA internships. She received a MS in Engineering and Technology Management in 2006 from George Washington University. Marcy has become a trusted agent for her clients and continues to receive accolades for her contributions as a Project Manager (PMP®) and Systems Integrator within the US Intelligence Community.

Shenille Straker is a 2010 honor graduate from South Carolina State University with a B.S. in Biology. Her summer research project was published in the Nanoscale Journal at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Shenille has inspirations of going into holistic practices and encouraging healthy lifestyles. She has a personal testimony in transforming her mind into a new perspective of living a healthy life and practicing healthy behaviors. Shenille says, “her love for science and people will blend so wonderfully because everything in life involves science.”

Roy Lyles is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. He is working on his MS degree in Science with a concentration in cell and molecular biology at Florida A&M University. Roy has presented at the 16th Biennial Symposium in Atlanta, GA. Roy realized the importance of STEM during his internship experience at South Carolina State University and while attending a STEM conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Jared Murph is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Computer Science. He participated in the Booz Allen cyber cohort internship program, where he was the only student from a Historically Black College or University (HBCU). Murph’s diligent work within the cyber cohort gained him a number of industry recognized technical certifications. Murph began a permanent job assignment with the company on July 25, 2011.

Portia N. Gifford is a 2008 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Chemistry. She is currently pursuing her PharmD degree at the Medical University of South Carolina. As an ambassador for the HBCU experience, she believes if it had not been for internships and programs like LS-SCAMP, she would not have had the confidence to compete with other students from larger majority schools. Gifford credits the radiochemistry program at SC State with helping develop her interest in nuclear medicine. Upon graduation in May 2012 she hopes to seek a career as a Nuclear Pharmacist.

Arena N. Richardson is a 2004 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. She earned a PhD in Toxicology from the University of Georgia in May 2010. Arena held a one-year position as Post-doctoral Research Associate at the and in May 2011 she began a two-year position as a Post-doctoral Research Associate in the Emory University School of Medicine. Arena has recently authored and co-authored several scientific journal articles and a textbook chapter with her University of Georgia major professor and colleagues.
Abraham Georgia is a senior Nuclear Engineering major at South Carolina State University. He has received presidential pins for maintaining an outstanding GPA every year which open doors for him to intern at Y12 National Laboratory, SCSU, and Savannah River Laboratory since his freshman year. He realized STEM was for him when he interned at Savannah River Site. This opportunity allowed him to see the endless possibilities afforded to people in the STEM disciplines.

Christine Jones is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Health Physics. Christine’s award winning research presentation was entitled “A Study on How Lichens Affect the Atmospheric Pollution of Metals along Interstate Highway 1-26 in the Midlands and Low Country of South Carolina”. During 2010, Christine interned at Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico. She is currently hired at the Naval Reactors Facility in Idaho. After receiving security clearance, she plans to attend graduate school fully funded by the Naval Reactors Facility.

Ashley N. Graham, Miss SC State University 2010—2011, is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Health Physics. She will grace the pages of the September 2011 HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Queens issue of Ebony magazine. While at SC State, Graham participated in several activities and was a member of a number of organizations, to include: Sigma Pi Sigma National Physics Honors Society (Chapter Charter member) and American Nuclear Society; She is currently pursuing her Master’s Degree of Transportation at South Carolina State University.

Brandon Miller is a graduate from South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Industrial Engineering Technology. Miller was recognized for saving funds for the Federal Government only months after being employed. When he was offered an intern position in 2007 at Crane, IN for minority students, he realized the importance of STEM. Currently he is employed at Rock Island Arsenal, IL and attending St. Ambrose University in Iowa to obtain his MBA. Miller is the Regional Program Manager for Left Behind Equipment.

Dominick Kennerson is a 2002 graduate of SC State University and began participation in the SCAMP program is 1998. He was awarded the Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship for 2010-2011. Kennerson is currently a consultant with CryerHealth, a leading healthcare strategic alliance development firm. He has taught 5th and 6th graders at the KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) Academy in Washington, D.C. and was recognized as City Year’s Idealist of the Year (2007) for that work. Mr. Kennerson received his Master’s in Health Services Management and Leadership at the George Washington.

Deondre Glover is a 2011 Freshman majoring in Civil Engineering Technology at South Carolina State University. Glover is a 2011 USDA/1890 National Scholar. He secured over $100,000 in a scholarship award and other benefits as a recipient of the scholarship. The scholar will also be given a summer internship for each academic year and guaranteed job placement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture after successful completion of his bachelor’s degree. The aspiring civil engineer also explored his interests by interning with engineering firm Palmetto Associates for Instruction, Research, Design and Development.

Phillip Wilson is a 2011 senior majoring in Chemistry at South Carolina State University. Phillip is eligible to graduate a semester early due to enrolling in summer 2008 with the Louis Stokes South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation Program. In the summer of 2011, he was able to intern at Monsanto Co. in St. Louis, MO. The title of his project was: Method Validation CL and CLO in caustic. He has been involved in 1890 leadership organization, honors college, SCSU Executive Leadership Council and a ACS member. He plans to attend law school.

Kaliah Jackson, a junior chemistry major at South Carolina State University, captured first place for outstanding presentation at The National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) 2010 Southeast Regional Meeting. Kaliah competed for and received the award at the NOBCChE 2010 Southeast Regional Meeting, held in Atlanta, Ga. Her presentation was titled “Gold Nanoparticles as Inhibitors of Amyloid Aggregation in Alzheimer’s Disease.”
**Brian M. Collins** is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Computer Science. He graduated with the 2nd highest GPA in his major. Collins says his internship experience in Aiken, SC with Savannah River Nuclear Solutions for two years helped him realize the demand for STEM majors and wanted to continue to pursue a career in Computer Science. Collins is currently employed at SPAWAR in Charleston, SC an acquisition command for the Department of Defense.

**Shannon Blair** graduated in three years from South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology and a Chemistry minor. She is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Presently, Shannon is earning a Doctorate of Physical Therapy at Touro University Nevada. She hopes to specialize in neurology. Shannon says she wants to have her own practice, specializing in patients with neurological disorders or impairments, and says "I'm excited about the day when I will be referred to as Dr. Blair".

**Cedrick M. Collins** 2010 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Computer Science. Collins credits his research experience at one of the Nation’s Top Laboratory (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) working on High Speed Computing with Dr. Lee Hively, with helping to shape his desire to for a technology career working for the government. He is currently working for the DoD (Department of Defense) and serves as the Lead Front-End Developer and also over several other parts of the project. Collins believes the LSCAMP program played a critical part in his success.

A South Carolina native, **Dr. Ethell Vereen, Jr.** is an emerging leader in the environmental arena. He received his BS degree in Professional Biology with a minor in Chemistry from South Carolina State University in 2002. He immediately attended the University of Georgia (UGA) where he received his MS degree in Environmental Health Science in 2005 and in 2010 he earned his PhD in Ecology from the UGA Odum School of Ecology. Dr. Vereen is a Postdoctoral FIRST Fellow at Emory University in the Rollins School of Public Health and the Center for Global Safe Water.

**Brandon M. Collins** is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Computer Science. He graduated with the 2nd highest GPA in his major. Collins says his internship experience in Aiken, SC with Savannah River Nuclear Solutions for two years helped him realize the demand for STEM majors and wanted to continue to pursue a career in Computer Science. Collins is currently employed at SPAWAR in Charleston, SC an acquisition command for the Department of Defense.

**Jonathan Evans** is a 2010 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Nuclear Engineering. Jonathan is currently working for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a General Engineer in the Nuclear Safety and Professional Development Program in the Division of Risk Assessment in Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Jonathan believes that his internship experience at Harvard University made him realize how important STEM is for minorities. He is now currently networking with many professionals to place minorities in prestigious programs.

**Quincy F. Mack** is a 2009 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. Quincy’s internship at the Department of Energy Headquarters helped him realize the importance of STEM and his pursuit of knowledge in the engineering realm. He is currently employed by Newport News Shipbuilding and works in the Nuclear Reactor Services Engineering Department. He will begin pursuing a MS degree in Environmental Engineering from Old Dominion University in January 2012.

**Samantha Jones**, is a 2011 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS Degree in Biology. Samantha interned at USDA-ARS and received 3rd Place in Biological Science Presentations at the LS-SCAMP Summer Research Conference (2008) which resulted in a joint publication in Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. She also interned with the Department of Defense, and the Medical University of South Carolina-Hollings Cancer Center. Samantha is currently pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

**Aja Jhamerria Grant** is a May 2005 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Computer Science. She began her career at Duke Energy in June 2005 where she is still employed. She realized that STEM was for her when she saw how dedicated and committed Dr. Salley and Ms. Drayton are to the program, and interest and hearts of the students. Grant is currently enrolled at Strayer University where she is pursuing her Masters of Education concentrating in Education Management.
Alicia Y. Haire is an honors graduate of South Carolina State University with a B.S. degree in Chemistry. She earned a Master of Science degree in Biotechnology from Claflin University, where she conducted research on how conjugation of anti-proliferative drugs to gold-nanoparticles (AuNPs) enhances activity. "I knew a STEM discipline was for me at an early age. Educational shows like Mr. Wizard's World simply fascinated and inspired me." In her current position at South Carolina State, she provides instruction and guidance for science majors and additionally serves as the Biotechnician for the INBRE grant.

Harold Rickenbacker is a Sophomore Civil Engineering Technology at South Carolina State University. Harold has been recognized by the National Society of Black Engineers for excellence in engineering, through scholarships and other recognitions over the past few years. His participation in an internship this past summer at SPAWAR Atlantic Naval Weapons Station, has helped mold and shape him into a young, intellectual, and innovative engineer. Harold says, "The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary."

Kandyce J. Mack, is a 2002 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. In 2007, she received her BS degree in Dental Hygiene from the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) and in 2011 received her Master of Science degree in Allied Health from Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) (formally the MCG). She is currently a part-time instructor in the Department of Dental Hygiene at GHSU as well as a clinical hygienist contributing to the faculty practice of the University. She is currently working on her first publication, "Access to Oral Healthcare in the Georgia Prison System".

Melinda Kay Washington is a 2011, Summa Cum Laude graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Microbiology/Immunology at Georgetown University. Melinda’s ultimate goal is to attend dental school upon completion of her master’s program. She has always had an interest in research and has been doing so since 2008. Her research experiences includes working with the USDA in Athens, GA, USC’s Chemistry Dept., SCSU’s Entomology Dept, and Molecular Biology Dept.

Aaron B. Haire is a 2009 graduate of South Carolina State University with a B.S. degree in Biology. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) degree at Temple University in Philadelphia. While at SCSU, he was formally introduced to research at the USDA-ARS in Athens, GA. Aaron was honored as a 2006 LS-SCAMP Summer Undergraduate Research Internship Scholar for his dedication to his ARS mentor’s research and overall work ethic. Aaron’s passion and purpose for educating and healing others has led him to continue in the sciences.

Brooks McPhail graduated from South Carolina State University (SCSU) in May 2002 with a BS degree in Professional Biology and a minor in Chemistry. While attending SCSU she was a Louis B. Stokes South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participants (LS-SCAMP) scholar, tutor and mentor. In August 2008, Brooks graduated with a PhD in Toxicology from The University of Georgia and is currently an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Post-doctoral Fellow in the Agency of Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta GA.

Ebonie Fuller is a Senior matriculating at South Carolina State University in both Biology and Spanish. With hard work and dedication, Fuller pushes her self to achieve the goals that she has set before her. One of her goals to become a bi-lingual doctor. Her research experiences led to her recent co-authorship of a health intervention manuscript. She can not see herself working in any other area, the STEM disciplines is where her true passion lies. Fuller states, “Taking a retrospect at my own childhood, my only wish is to offer quality healthcare to children coming from low-income families.”

Kyle Alexander is a 2007 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS in Biology. He is currently in his last semester of study for the AS degree in Environmental Science from Harrisburg Area Community College. His goal is to obtain a Masters of Environmental Pollution and Control from Penn State Harrisburg. He currently employed at Drayer Physical Therapy in Hershey, PA as a physical therapy technician.
Bethany N. Smith is a 2006 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. She is also a graduate of Delaware State University’s Bridge to the Doctorate Program with an MS degree in Genetics. During her MS program she worked as a research specialist at the Medical University of South Carolina’s Hollings Cancer Center in the Department of Surgical Oncology. She is currently in the PhD program studying cancer biology at Clark Atlanta University where she is a Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) and Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Scholar.

Na’Im R. Moses, Esq., is a 2002 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Professional Biology. He earned his Masters Degree in Health Services Administration from The George Washington University in 2005. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Howard University in 2010. Although Na’Im went on to a career in law, he accredits much of his success to the training he received while a student in the Biological Sciences Department. The analytical and research skills he developed while at State have proven invaluable in his current career. Na’Im is currently an Associate at a law firm in Washington, DC.

Stacey Turner is a 2008 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Chemistry and double minor in Radiochemistry and Biology. Stacey has had internships with the USDA Cotton Research Center, Clemson University, and is currently an intern with Rite Aid Pharmacy. LSAMP helped mold Stacey into the student she has become by equipping her with the study skills needed for graduate school. She is currently a second year student at Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy in Clinton, SC where she will receive her Doctorate of Pharmacy in 2014.

Frederick Parker is a 2009 magna cum laude graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. Frederick says the moment he fell in love with SCAMP occurred during his summer internship in Athens, GA at the United States Department of Agriculture. The opportunity to work with well respected Ph.D.’s in the field of biology was definitely fulfilling. Frederick is currently attending the Medical University of South Carolina, where he is in studying for a career as a Physician Assistant.

William L. Bright, is a graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degrees in Biological Sciences. He joined the US Navy as a military officer and is currently supporting troops on the ground through Operation Enduring Freedom. The internship opportunities and advice SCAMP provided taught him the valuable traits of perseverance, motivation, and determination. His future goals include attaining a Ph.D from UGA and working with the CDC with a military management background. He is honored to aid and facilitate in the freedom of others reaching their goals.

Martavis D. Parker is a 2010 graduate of South Carolina State University with a B.S. degree in Computer Science. At SCSU, Martavis became co-founder of the SCSU Chapter of Upsilon Pi Epsilon. He interned at Santee Cooper in Moncks Corner, SC and the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, DC. The love and support of the LSAMP mentors and staff allowed Martavis to gain a position before graduation at the Harris Corporation in Northern Virginia as a Software Engineer. Recently, he accepted a position for Assurance Systems, Inc., in Norcross, GA.

Nicholas Cluster is a 2001 & 2003 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Mathematics and MAT in Mathematics Education. He was recognized at the “2007 SCSU Foundation Scholarship Foundation Gala” as one of SCSU’s “Shining Young Alumni” for his outstanding academic work. Cluster says the SCAMP tutoring sessions rekindled his love for mathematics and ultimately led to the realization that teaching mathematics was the career for him. Cluster is currently a doctoral candidate in Mathematics Education at the University of Georgia.

Samuel A. Sojourner is a 2009 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. He is currently enrolled at Delaware State University as a Bridge to the Doctorate student in Food Science Microbiology. Samuel realized fully the value of SCAMP while interning at the Russell Research Center Athens, GA with USDA-ARS in 2006 and 2007 as a lab assistant in the Poultry Processing and Swine Physiology Unit.
Sophie J. Holiday is a 2010 graduate from South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Radiochemistry. While enrolled at SCSU, Sophie was granted various opportunities, including research on polymer identification and research on radioisotope concentration measurements in groundwater. Due to her academic excellence at SCSU, Sophie was offered a co-op in 2007 in the Office of Federal and State Materials Environmental Management Programs (FSME), Radioactive Materials Safety Branch. Sophie accepted full-time employment in May 2010 as a health physicist working in the same office.

Jasmine Oliver is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of South Carolina State University with BS degree in Physics with Medical Physics Option. Currently, Jasmine is pursuing her Ph.D. in Applied Physics with Medical Physics Concentration at the University of South Florida where she is funded by the Bridge to Doctorate program. Jasmine conducted research under Dr. Zheng Chang at SCSU. Jasmine research experiences also include worked under Dr. Yasumasa Takano at the University of Florida with extended research at the National High Magnetic Field Lab in Tallahassee, Florida.

CoDanielle Green is a Senior Biology major at South Carolina State University. CoDanielle’s research experiences include the Medical University of South Carolina’s Hollings Cancer Center and the United States Department of Agriculture Russell Research Center. She is the co-author of the manuscript entitled *ABCA2 transporter deficiency reduces incidence of TRAMP prostate tumor metastasis and cellular chemotactic migration*. She also has another publication on the way! With the experiences provided through SCAMP, CoDanielle feels very prepared to pursue her dual MD/MPH degree.

Uchechi Egbuhuzo, is a graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology. While at SC State she served as Miss South Carolina State University. She is currently pursing a Masters Degree in Biomedical Science at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey where she also works as a graduate assistant in the UMDNJ Community Outreach Office. Uchechi’s undergraduate research internship at the University of Louisville broadened her horizon in the area of research. She now conducts research at the Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

Kára Deidra McCullough is a Junior majoring in Chemistry with concentrations in Radiochemistry at South Carolina State University. She interned in an Organic Chemistry lab at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, during the summer of 2011. She received an award of excellent participation and had a pending publication with her mentor. She has presented two posters at the Nation Health Physics Society meeting in West Palm, Beach, FL, and the other at NC State. Her post undergraduate plans are to pursue a degree in Nuclear Pharmacy at MUSC.

Denita Williams received a bachelor’s in biology from South Carolina State University in 2002. She continued her educational career as a student at the University of Georgia where she received both her master’s and doctoral degrees in toxicology. During her tenure at the University of Georgia, Denita published 8 peer reviewed articles; of which she served as primary author of three. To date, Denita’s graduate research has been recognized through awards at national, regional, and local scientific conferences. Currently Denita is an Oakridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Fellow with the Environmental Health Services Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Danzell Smith is a sophomore Biology major at South Carolina State University. He participated in the Summer Bridge program in 2010 and successfully completed it with a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the South Carolina State Honors College. This summer he completed an internship at MUSC in the Summer Undergraduate Research program working with Paget’s Disease of Bone. His post-undergrad goals are to obtain a M.D. /Ph.D. in the fields of geriatrics and gerontology. He was the student coordinator for the 2011 South Carolina Academy of Science Annual Meeting that was held on April 16th.

Robin Moss is a Senior Biology Major from Atlanta Georgia. She has received various awards during her tenure at South Carolina State University such as: Freshman of the year 2008-2009, Presidential Scholar Bronze Pin Recipient 2008, 2009, and 2010. From the age of 4 I knew that I wanted to study biology in college. I have interned at USDA-ARS Russell Research Center in Athens Georgia working Under Dr. Nelson Cox and studying Poultry Microbiology. Upon Graduation from South Carolina State University on May 4, 2012 I plan to attend Gumpton Jones School of Mortuary Science in Atlanta Georgia.
Allen T. Graham is a graduating senior at South Carolina State University. He is majoring in Mechanical Engineering Technology with a minor in mathematics. His hard work and dedication has earned him internship positions at Savannah River Site and the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant where he was recognized in the Paducah Sun for contributing to the Southwest groundwater plume project in Kentucky. Mr. Graham plans to attend graduate school at Embry- Riddle Aeronautical University obtaining his Masters of Aviation Science and MBA in Aviation.

Herschel R. Roberts is a senior physics major at South Carolina State University. He is a member of the Honors College and serves as Vice President of the Society of Physics Students. Herschel says “I’ve been interested in science since I’ve been very young”. He has interned at Firelands Regional Medical Center (Summer ’09); Clemson University Bioengineering Department (Summer ’10 and ’11).

Stanley Williams is a Junior Biology Major at South Carolina State University. He has earned a 3.7 GPA while actively participating in several organizations including NAAAHP, NAACP, Health Professions Society, Golden Key International Honor Society, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and is also 1 of 7 Drum Majors for the Marching 101 Band. Stanley says he knew STEM was for him when as a child he realized “science was something that came natural to me, the idea of taking an observation and building from it an experiment that can solve issues in all aspects of life”. Stanley plans to attend medical school.

Terrell Gibson graduated from Morris College Cum Laude in biology in 2006. He joined the program in Business Entrepreneurship at the California State University, San Bernardino, but soon after graduation, he discovered that science was his first love and enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Environmental Toxicology at the Texas Southern University in 2008. His doctoral research is in the bioassessment of metal exposure in the urban environment and in vitro lunar dust and metal toxicity. Terrell is scheduled to receive his doctorate degree in 2012.

Morgan Perry Davis, Jr. arrived at Morris College campus during the summer of 2006 armed with AP Calculus courses and ready to start his pre-engineering program. During the summers of 2007 and 2008, Perry participated in computer research projects at USC involving scientometric analysis. During the 2008-2009 academic year, he participated in a research project at Morris College that culminated in the publication of a paper in the Journal of the South Carolina Academy of Science (SCAS) in 2009. Perry is now on the second year of his PhD program in Computer Engineering at Tuskegee University.

Shekelia Baccus joined the HBCU-UP and SCAMP programs at Morris College in the summer of 2006 and soon became a star among her peers. After her sophomore year, she engaged in research with Dr. Edward Levin at Duke University Medical Center. In 2009, she won a $10,000 UNCF-Merck Undergraduate Science Research Scholarship award and during that summer, she participated in a research project at Merck. She enrolled at MIT in the fall of 2010 after graduating from Morris College Summa Cum Laude in May 2010. Her PhD education in Biotechnology is funded by the Novartis Institutes of Biomedical Research.

Jessica Mccoy graduated Magna Cum Laude in mathematics from Morris College in May 2011. While at Morris, Jessica participated in superconductivity research projects with her mentor Dr. J. Amirzadeh. In the summer of 2009, she gained a research internship at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina. Prior to her graduation, Jessica started preparing for graduate school and actively examined the electrical engineering programs at several engineering institutions. Jessica is presently in the first year of her doctoral degree program in electrical engineering at North Carolina A&T State University studying Electrical Engineering.

Quentin Ballard graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Mathematics from Morris College in 2005. He was a presidential scholar (2001-2004), and the recipient of the Luns C. Richardson Endowed Scholarship in the same year. His professor, Dr. Keith Johnson, testified that he has not met such a sharp mathematics student as Quentin during the 14 years he has been teaching at Morris College. Upon his graduation from Morris, he enrolled at the Virginia State University where he
obtained his master’s degree in Mathematics education. Quentin is now pursuing a doctoral degree in mathematics.

**Aposia Singleton** is currently enrolled at Morris College pursuing a degree in biology. Since her freshman year, she has exhibited seriousness, focus and determination to succeed. During her freshman year, she was selected to participate in a summer research internship at the USDA, ARS Charleston. In the summer of 2011, she participated in staghorn coral research as a member of the MUSC’s Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) at the Marine Biomedicine and Environmental Sciences Laboratories. Aposia plans to pursue a graduate degree in biology after graduating from Morris College in 2013.

**Oliver Holmes** is a junior mathematics major at Morris College. He is one of the rising stars in the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. After completing his sophomore year at Morris, he was selected to participate in summer research at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Oliver was featured on one of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory’s videos this summer (July 25, 2011). His mentor, Dr. Erdman, has invited him to return next summer to continue his significant work. Oliver plans to obtain a PhD in mathematics.

**Nathaniel Robinson** graduated Magna Cum Laude from Morris College in 2008. Nathaniel’s zeal for mathematics and research dates back to 2004 when he received SCAMP and HBCU-UP financial support to study and conduct research. He took his academic responsibility seriously and remained on the President and the Dean’s lists for four years while conducting research on campus and in the Savannah River Site in Aiken, S.C. In August 2009, Nathaniel earned a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Texas A & M University – Texarkana. Robinson expects to receive his PhD in Mathematics in 2013 from the University of Maryland.

**Caleb Eljach** is a senior majoring in Bioengineering, and has been involved in orthopaedic research at Clemson since the summer of 2010. He will be presenting his project on micropatterned surfaces for orthopaedic designs at the annual Biomedical Engineering Society Conference in October 2011. Caleb has co-authored one published article in the Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials and is currently working on two more articles. Caleb plans to attend graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. degree in Bioengineering, specializing in Orthopaedics. Caleb’s desire to represent his Hispanic heritage in engineering has led him to pursue a degree in medicine and technology.

**Amir Matlock**, a 2007 graduate of Clemson University’s Mechanical Engineering Dept., earned an MS degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan. He is currently employed as Associate Staff at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, MD. Amir’s role is the overall planning, execution and analysis of the Aegis Weapon System against ballistic missile threats. The moment Amir he realized he was born for rocket science was the moment he witnessed his first successful intercept of a ballistic missile.

**Andre Loyd** graduated magna cum laude from Clemson University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 2002. He is currently a PhD candidate in biomedical engineering at Duke University, where he is the James B. Duke Fellow and a National Science Foundation Fellow. Located in the Injury and Orthopaedics Biomechanics Laboratory, Andre’s research involves creating car crash dummies to reduce the number of deaths from car accidents. Andre can be seen talking about graduate school and about his research on Youtube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1o5LptpNTrw

**Kenneth Rice** completed the B.S. degree in computer engineering at Clemson in 2006 and the M.S. CpE degree in 2008. He is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree in computer engineering with an emphasis in computer systems. Ken has four journal papers and three conference papers published or accepted for publication and two additional journal papers and one conference paper currently under review. In 2008, Ken received the Harris Award for Outstanding Graduate Researcher at Clemson University.

**Dana Broughton** is currently an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Victory University (formerly Crichton College) in Memphis, TN. She earned her B.S. in Chemistry from Clemson University in May 2002 and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of South Carolina in May 2009. She completed her postdoctoral research at St. Jude Children's Hospital in Bio-Organic Chemistry. Dana is currently working on transitioning into patent law.
Brandon T. Tompkins, is a Ph.D. candidate at Texas A&M University in Mechanical Engineering. He graduated from Clemson University in 2005 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, and earned his MS in 2008 from Texas A&M. Brandon was one of the first two graduate students in the Advanced Engine Research Laboratory (AERL) at Texas A&M, helping to start the lab “from the ground up.” Brandon has been had co-op and internship positions with two Fortune 500 companies, Honeywell and Ford Motor Company, and was awarded fellowships from A&M for both his master’s and doctoral studies. His future plans include a position as a Product Development Engineer with MTU Detroit Diesel in Aiken, SC.

Charmayne Smith is a second year PhD candidate at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, pursuing a Materials Science and Engineering doctorate. She is currently working under a GAANN fellowship. Charmayne earned her BS degree in Ceramic and Materials Engineering from Clemson University in December 2009. She has authored one paper and co-authored two papers from her undergraduate career. During summer 2009 she took part in an REU program at the University of Bordeaux (France), with an additional subsistence grant from LS-SCAMP; Charmayne says, “when I melted my first sample and saw my calculations form into an actual glass, I knew I was on a path where I would always love my work and what I do.”

Robert J. Gilliard is a 2009 graduate of Clemson University with a BS in Chemistry. While at Clemson he coauthored five publications, received an American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellowship to conduct research at Case Western Reserve University. Robert was also the recipient of the ACS Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research and the Merck Index Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement in Chemistry. Robert says he was “sold on research” the moment he realized that he could create materials that previously never existed. Currently, Robert is in his third year at the University of Georgia, pursuing a Ph.D. in organometallic chemistry

Courtney Ward is a junior biological sciences major at Clemson University. Courtney has a 3.92 GPA. Active in campus life, Courtney has served as Vice President of the Clemson National Society of Black Engineers and as Financial Secretary of the Omicron Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Courtney participated in the LS-SCAMP-sponsored Math Excellence Workshop (MEW) and has served as a MEW tutor. Courtney says, “After attending and then working for MEW, I saw that STEM provides African American students with opportunities to succeed in areas that might not have been afforded to them.”

Anita P. Smalls is a 2010 graduate of Clemson University with a BS degree in Bioengineering. In conjunction with the LS-SCAMP program, Anita conducted research on flowcytometry as part of the NASA Undergraduate Student Research Program. Anita recently returned from a year in Germany, where she was a fellowship participant of the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals. Anita hopes to return to Germany for an internship. Anita says the experience has helped reinforce her decision to “better the lives of others through bioengineering.” Anita intends to pursue a graduate degree in tissue engineering.

James M. Gibert earned his BS, MS, and Ph.D. degrees in mechanical engineering from Clemson University. A National Science Foundation Fellowship and a South East Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Fellowship funded his doctoral work. Currently, he is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Clemson University. His research in the area of rapid prototyping has been national recognized, earning an Outstanding Journal Paper award from the Emerald Literati Network. In addition, his academic life has come full circle; this summer, he served as a faculty mentor for an undergraduate LS-SCAMP scholar, Freddy Paige.

Carla Heyward, a 2004 Math Excellence Workshop participant, is entering her fourth year as a PhD candidate in chemistry at Clemson University. Carla is a graduate research assistant in Dr. Joseph Kolis’s lab, researching crystal growth. She has already had one paper published in Acta Crystallographica Section E: Structure Reports Online, an open-access structural journal, and another was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Solid State Chemistry. As an undergraduate, Carla served as a PEER mentor.

Jason Ellis is an electrical engineering doctoral candidate at Clemson University. Jason began his research in wireless communication systems as an undergraduate at Clemson, working with Dr. Michael Pursley. In his senior year, Jason won an LS-SCAMP research award and graduated summa cum laude from Clemson in 2006 with a 3.95 GPA. He received his Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 2009, and has co-authored three conference.
papers as well as submitted a journal article for publication. Jason recently had the privilege of participating in a summer internship with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory.

**Walter Lee**, a May 2006 honors graduate, earned his BS degree in Industrial Engineering with a minor in Sociology from Clemson University. As an LS-SCAMP undergraduate researcher, he worked in Clemson’s Dept. of Engineering and Science Education to identify primary influences and sources of information used by first-generation college students when deciding on a college major. Walter is currently a doctoral student in Engineering Education at Virginia Tech, where he is also earning a Masters degree in Human Factors Engineering and Ergonomics. After earning his PhD, Walter intends to remain in academia as a professor and Minority Engineering Program director.

**Leidamarie Tirado-Lee** is a magna cum laude 2008 graduate of Clemson University. A biochemistry major, Leidamarie’s undergraduate career included induction into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest academic honor society, and Tri Beta Biological Honor Society; selection as a Federal Bureau of Investigation Honors Intern; service as a PEER mentor and tutor; and undergraduate research with Dr. Ted Bateman. Leidamarie won an LS-SCAMP research award for her presentation on her work in Dr. Bateman’s lab. Now in her fourth year of doctoral study in Interdepartmental Biological Sciences at Northwestern University, Leidamarie has qualified for an NIH-supported Molecular Biophysics Training Grant, and has had an article published in *Bone*.

**Monique McKiever** graduated summa cum laude this past May, 2011, with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and General and Departmental Honors. In the summer after her sophomore year, Monique participated in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) International Summer Research Scholars program, aided by a subsistence grant from LS-SCAMP. The HHMI program sent Monique to work under Dr. Maria Mota at the Instituto de Medicina Molecular, University of Lisbon, Portugal. McKiever says “I wanted to expand my research work and do something that might help eliminate malaria.” Monique began her studies this fall at Vanderbilt University school of medicine, and plans to be a physician.

**Frederick E. “Freddy” Paige**, now entering his junior year in civil engineering at Clemson, had the unique experience this past summer of doing research under an LS-SCAMP alumnus, Dr. James Gibert. Freddy, who participated in the Math

**Devin Gordon** is a sophomore Materials Science and Engineering major at Clemson University, was a 2010 participant in the Math Excellence Workshop. In 2011, Devin spent 10 weeks at the NSF Center for Layered Polymeric Systems at Case Western Reserve University. His research aided in the publication of a paper presented at a SPIE International Society for Optics and Photonics conference. Devin currently maintains a 4.0 GPA. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. degree in Materials Science and Engineering. Devin states, “I realized STEM was for me when I realized that the world is driven by technological innovations.”

**Michael Lemus** graduated magna cum laude from Clemson University in Bioengineering in May, 2009, and immediately began his graduate research under Dr. Ted Bateman, his undergraduate mentor. Michael started his research career in the summer after his freshman year, in an LS-SCAMP supported summer research position. His work with Dr. Bateman helped to earn him a spot with the HHMI Exceptional Research Opportunities Program, which placed him in Dr. Eva Nogales’ lab at the University of California Berkeley, using electron microscopy to study DNA change. Michale is now in his third year of PhD study, was recently awarded the prestigious NASA -Harriet G. Jenkins Predoctoral Fellowship.

**Shanna McCoy-Cook** graduated Cum Laude in Civil Engineering from Clemson University in May 2011. She is currently a Master’s candidate in the Construction Engineering and Project Management program in the Civil Engineering department at the University of Texas at Austin; this program is currently ranked third in the nation among like programs. A Math Excellence Workshop participant, Shanna has also participated in undergraduate research with Dr. Julie Trenor, investigating the effects of social capital on successful women in the engineering field. Shanna plans to continue her education and earn the PhD in Civil Engineering.

**Aaron R. Allen** is a second-year Master's student in the Optical Science and Engineering program at the University of New Mexico. He is currently in the second year of the Bridge-to-Doctorate Fellowship, A Math Excellence Workshop participant, he earned two B.S.
degrees, in physics and mathematics, from Clemson University. The most relevant undergraduate research to his current graduate program was an REU at Colorado working on a modulated laser system for laser cooling applications. His 2011 summer research at Los Alamos National Lab Aaron says, “My ah-ha moment was when I realized all of my technical questions in high school had physics answers.”

France Jackson, a new graduate student is doing research on computer networks and videogaming under Dr. Juan Gilbert, Chair of the Human-Centered Computing Division in the School of Computing at Clemson University. France, an industrial engineering Masters candidate, did her LS-SCAMP undergraduate research at Clemson under Dr. Scott Shappell. “Using a simulator, we examined the effect of passenger pressure on pilot weather decision making, ” says France. The experience attracted her to the human factors research. When Dr. Gilbert spoke at the LS-SCAMP research conference that August, she knew immediately that she wanted to work in his lab.

Cody Gathers is a junior at Clemson University, although by credits earned he’s already a senior. A biochemistry major with a 3.9 GPR, Cody’s undergraduate research site this past summer was the Medical University of South Carolina Summer Undergraduate Research Experience Program. Back at Clemson, Cody serves as a PEER mentor and as a tutor for General Engineering classes. He is an Army ROTC cadet and is active in his fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He is also a member of the Calhoun Honors College, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. “I’m excited about the future has to offer, and conducting research has motivated me even more to obtain an MD/PhD.”

Clifton Thomas graduated magna cum laude in May 2011 with a BS in Electrical Engineering. He is currently a PhD candidate at Georgia Tech. A Math Excellence Workshop participant, Cliff returned in the summer of 2010 to serve as a counselor for the program.

Jeremy Sullivan, a 2009 Math Excellence Workshop participant and a member of the Calhoun Honors College, is a Biological Sciences major. Until he participated in an academic internship last summer, Jeremy was firmly committed to medical school. Under the direction of Dr. James Morris, a genetics professor, Jeremy attended faculty meetings and sat in on meetings with graduate students. Dr. Morris showed him the editorial comments he was preparing for a journal article and introduced him to the process of writing a grant proposal. He also gave a class lecture. Jeremy says, “I can see how rewarding it is to share knowledge with students.” Although he still intends to obtain a medical degree, Jeremy is also considering MD/PhD programs.

Warren Godfrey is a senior in civil engineering at Clemson University. He has appeared on the Presidents List (perfect 4.0 GPR) for four of his six semesters at Clemson. Warren has been engaged in undergraduate research in civil engineering through Creative Inquiry, a program at Clemson designed to encourage more undergraduates to participate in research. Warren has also served as president of the University’s Spanish Club.

Deirdre Grate graduated magna cum laude in May 2011 with a BA in Biological Sciences and a minor in psychology. A Math Excellence Workshop participant, her varied interests as an undergraduate included white water kayaking and learning Japanese. Deirdre is currently studying to become a physician at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Earnest B. Johnson, a 2006 Math Excellence Workshop participant, graduated December 2010 from Clemson University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Earnest was invited to participate in a new, NSF-funded graduate program at Clemson in Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure. Earnest’s research will be in the area of coastal engineering, and involves analysis of the scour process. Earnest says, “My 18 months of graduate studies in the NSF program will hopefully be another positive that I can add to my Clemson career. It is my pleasure to give back to Clemson and to the world with what my research can bring.”

JaWone A. Kennedy earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering with honors in May 2002 and his Masters in December 2007, both from Clemson University. He is currently engaged in research for his PhD at Clemson, with a specialization in wireless communication systems. JaWone’s research has resulted in three conference publications and a journal submission thus far. He is a recipient of a PhD Fellowship from the Southern Regional Education Board. JaWone participated in the Math Excellence Workshop and later served as a MEW tutor for several summers.
Shiree N. Hughes graduated magna cum laude in May 2010 with a BS in Mathematical Sciences from Clemson University. Currently, Shiree is a doctoral candidate in Computer Science at the University of Florida, where she is a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow.

Jerome “Rome” Mason is a 2010 Math Excellence Workshop participant. Rome served as a student assistant with Dr. Allen Guest, the math professor whose Calculus I class he had just completed. “One thing I immediately learned,” says Jerome, “was that everybody does not learn in the same manner as I do. Dr. Guest also arranged for Rome to sit on graduate student presentations. Rome is “intrigued by the idea of solving questions through research,” and looks forward to participating in an undergraduate research experience. Rome is currently co-oping with Rolls Royce in Indiana.

Sameka Rouse graduated Summa Cum Laude in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Genetics. Sameka started doing undergraduate research in a molecular biology laboratory Fall semester of her junior year. Her project involved identifying potential drug targets for treatment of African sleeping sickness. Sameka says, “My experience with undergraduate research was academically fulfilling. I was able to enhance my critical thinking skills and application of knowledge.” Sameka is currently studying to become certified in Medical Laboratory Science at Carolinas College of Health Science in Charlotte, North Carolina, which will allow her to work in a clinical laboratory analyzing samples and interpreting results.

Erika Rhett received her BS from Claflin in Mathematics in 2000, a Masters in Mathematics from USC in 2002 and a Masters in Industrial Statistics from USC in 2009. Erika believes that the SCAMP program gave her wonderful opportunities to do research in the sciences and a chance to have hands on experience in labs. The first SCAMP internship she embarked on while still in high school actually gave her the privilege to come to Claflin for the first time for a presentation. Erika has been teaching mathematics courses at Claflin since 2003. She has taught several summers for the SCAMP Bridge Program.

Leonard Pressley is a 2002 graduate of Claflin University with a BS in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. He received his Doctorate of Physical Therapy from The University of South Carolina, an alliance institution, in 2006. Pressley states, “I benefitted from SCAMP internship by having the experience of working on a lab team that was very focused on its individual and very specific project goals but were also very aware of and motivated by the real world application of their research.”

Stephan Schaeffbauer obtained her BS degree in Biology at Claflin University in 2002 and her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Georgia 2006. As a student Schaeffbauer worked with the United States Department of Agriculture – Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Veterinary Service during the Exotic Newcastle Disease outbreak. Schaeffbauer completed a public health residency along with her Masters of Public Health at the University of Minnesota in 2008. Dr. Schaeffbauer is now working as an epidemiologist in the Veterinary Services North Carolina Area Office where she helps to protect North Carolina agriculture and the livelihood of farmers throughout the state.

Jessica Fuller is a Senior Biotechnology Major at Claflin University. Jessica received 1st place recognition in the LS-SCAMP State Research Conference. She has conducted research at: Claflin University, Morehouse College and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She realized that the STEM field was for her when she realized that she had a true passion for investigating issues that negatively impact society, especially the minority population. She found satisfaction in being able to develop solutions or alternatives to help lessen the burden of these issues that have a negative impact on the community.

Michalee Webb is a junior biology major with a minor in chemistry at Claflin University. “I have had a lot of help in my three years at Claflin University from many people but most of all from SCAMP and my SCAMP advisor, Ms. Cherry.” Michalee accredits the SCAMP Bridge Program for being a great help in her transition from high school to college in the summer of 2009. She is most excited about her summer 2011 internship in Athens, Georgia at the USDA- Agriculture Research Station “I have been and am very grateful to be a part of SCAMP, an organization that truly puts its students’ interest and well-being first.”
Chelsi Pinkett is a sophomore Mathematics major at Claflin University. She was recognized as the freshman with the highest GPA in her department her freshman year. In the spring semester of 2010, she was awarded the opportunity through SCAMP to work under one of Claflin’s associate professors, Dr. Nesan Sriskanda, researching Kepler’s Three Laws of Planetary Motion. Chelsi was able to go to NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida for a week to assist other students on a project during her research. She aspires to attain a Ph.D. in Mathematics and pursue a career in actuarial science.

Courtney McClain is a Sophomore Biology major at Claflin University. She has participated in SCAMP opportunities through Teacher-Student Research Shadowing and Public Health Research on Diabetes on the cities in South Carolina’s “Corridor of Shame”. As a STEM major, she has had the opportunity to attend NASA’s Space Florida Academy for a week. Courtney always had a passion for science kits, microscopes, and caring for others. Upon graduating, she plans on joining the United States Navy and continuing her studies to become an anesthesiologist.

Nankwanga Cherry came to Claflin University in 2000 through the SCAMP Bridge Program after participating in science and math enrichment programs at the university since 1996. Her participation in the SCAMP program allowed her to work as a tutor counselor and as a cancer researcher; which later led her to her employment as a Chemistry Lab Research Assistant and Math Lab Coordinator. She earned her Master of Arts Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from South Carolina State University in 2007. Currently, Nankwanga is employed as the SCAMP Coordinator at Claflin University.

Stephon Void, a 2005 and 2008 graduate of Claflin University. “I had the great pleasure of being part of the SCAMP my senior year as an Undergraduate researcher.” Stephon worked with senior faculty at Claflin in the field of cancer research. It was because of this experience and exposure to research that he was inspired to obtain a master’s degree. In 2008, Stephon graduated with a M.S. in Biotechnology with an emphasis on Protein Biochemistry Research from Claflin University. In the fall of 2008, he became a Lab manager/ instructor in the department of Chemistry at Claflin University.

Sierra Williams participated in the 3+2 partnership between Claflin University and Clemson University (both alliance institutions). In 2007, she received a degree in Applied Mathematics from Claflin University. Williams earned a M.S. in Computer Engineering from Clemson University, in August of 2009. She accredits her SCAMP experience for allowing her to intern at Clemson University with the Center for Advanced Engineering Fibers and Films (CAEFF) in Summer 2005. Currently, Ms. Williams is working as a Systems Engineer at Northrop Grumman. In 2011, she was awarded the Modern Day Technology Leader Award at the annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards.

Chase L. Graham is a 2011 graduate of Claflin University with a B.S. degree in Biochemistry. Chase states that the SCAMP program granted him the opportunity to do undergraduate research that spanned throughout his entire undergraduate matriculation as well as two summer internships. Presently, Chase is contracted with Bausch & Lomb, a worldwide leader in optical care and pharmaceutical company as a Chemistry Data Analyst. He works in the department of Chemistry focusing on implementing new Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) for product trending purposes.

Jasmine Addison, A Presidential scholar, is a senior at Voorhees College majoring in mathematics with a 3.50 GPA. Honors include: Dean’s List, Who’s Who Among College Students, and Top Freshman award. She spent two consecutive summers interning at the National Nuclear Security Administration’s (NNSA) headquarters, located in Washington, D.C., working in the budgeting department. She has also worked with the Voorhees College IT department repairing and updating student laptops, creating spreadsheets, and conducting basic troubleshooting over the phone. Jasmine is a part of many organizations including Ernest Everett Just Science Club, Math and Computer Science Club, Honors College, and the Student Support Service group. “Choosing mathematics as my major was a no-brainer to me”, Jasmine states.
Britney Smith, is a Senior Biology major with a minor in chemistry at Voorhees College. Britney has maintained over a 3.0 since her freshman year. She is a member of Elizabeth Evelyn Wright culture club, Rotaract club, Honors College, Pre-alumni council, Student Support Service, and a member of the Voorhees College cheerleader squad. During summer, participated in undergraduate research program at the Medical University of South Carolina where she worked on redox signaling in dysregulated in prostate cancer.

Brionca Walker is currently a senior Biology major at Voorhees College. Brionca was inducted in Honors College the spring semester of her sophomore year. She participated in numerous internships during her matriculation at Voorhees College. Her first internship was at the University of Michigan and her second internship was at Voorhees College as a peer tutor for the e-MART program. Summer 2011, she participated in an Undergraduate Research program at the Medical College of Wisconsin this past summer working in the Mattson Research Lab.

Monica M. Johnson is a Junior biology Major. She is a member of the Dean’s List, Alpha Kappa Mu, and Who’s Who Among Students In American Universities and Colleges.. Monica receives the presidential and Life scholarship for having academic excellence also. Monica has been involved with E-Smart Day Camp last summer and she also had the opportunity to go to New Mexico State University for an internship this summer.

Tyquan Parker is a 2011 graduate of Voorhees College with a BS degree in Computer Science. Mr. Parker completed internships with the Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration in such places as Aiken, SC, Las Vegas, NV, and Albuquerque, NM. “After my sophomore year at Voorhees through internship experience and the curriculum, I knew I could make a difference through STEM. I’m fortunate that Voorhees offered me the right tools to become successful!” said Mr. Parker. Tyquan is now an Associate Analyst in the Information Technology Leadership Program with Johnson and Johnson in Miami, Florida.

Nakeya S. Brown is a 2010 graduate of Voorhees College with a B. S. degree in Mathematics. Nakeya was awarded a Graduate Assistantship for the 2011-2012 Academic Year from The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville where she is working toward a Master of Science Degree in Mathematics. While at Voorhees, Brown was a NNSA Intern and was very involved in numerous activities and instrumental in getting others involved as well, member of Student Support Services Program, Circle K International, and The Mathematics and Computer Science Club, where she was President for two consecutive years.

LaTonya F. R. Gillespie is a 2009 graduate of Voorhees College with a BS degree in biology and minor in chemistry. With an intense curriculum Gillespie was a student athlete and served as Miss Voorhees College. She is currently a 2nd year Marquette University School of Dentistry student. LaTonya’s participated in internships at University of Massachusetts Medical School and Marquette University. LaTonya co-authored a publication in 2008 during her summer undergraduate research experience. LaTonya openly acknowledges that STEM programs and HCOP programs allowed her to advance her education as a minority along with steering her toward her dreams.

Carrie Lenise Smith graduated cum laude from Voorhees College in 2008 where she received a B.S. degree in Mathematics. Carrie was a member of the Mathematics and Computer Science Club, Sisters in Science, Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANNRS), and the Voorhees College and Clemson University Project Export Tiger Team. Carrie tutored fellow classmates and local children, of Denmark, South Carolina, in mathematics. After graduating from Voorhees College, she returned to her former high school and became math teacher. She is currently enrolled in the MAT program at South Carolina State University.

Tamara S. Webster, DDS, native of Stuart, VA, is a 2004 Summa Cum laude graduate of Voorhees College. She attended Howard University College of Dentistry to become a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. While matriculating through HU, she served as class president her last two years of dental school and graduated 6th in her class. She went on to complete a General Practice Residency at Palmetto Health Richland Hospital in Columbia, SC. Tamara is currently one of the seven dentist working with a group practice called Danville Dental Associates in Danville, VA.
Michael Smith, a 1999 *Summa Cum laude* graduate of Voorhees College with a B.S. degree in Biology. The STEM program opened many doors in his pursuit of a career in Medical Research. He earned his Ph.D. in Microbiology/Tumor Immunology from Howard University in May of 2007; his medical Degree from The Medical University of South Carolina in May, 2010 and completed Post-Doctoral Research at the Veterans Association Research Center, Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Smith has conducted numerous presentations and co-authored publications in the field of Cancer Research. He currently sits on the Board of Trustees of his Alma Mater, Voorhees College.

Erica Flores is a graduate of College of Charleston, earning a BS in Biology with departmental honors in 2011. She has been recognized for her outstanding undergraduate research at several conferences, including the South Carolina Academy of Sciences and the annual LS-SCAMP Undergraduate Research Conference. Her active involvement in research and teaching opportunities has prepared her to pursue a Ph.D. degree at the University of Miami, where she is currently studying evolution and developmental biology. After graduate school, she plans to become a professor to help provide the same opportunities for future minority students that she was given.

Brittany I. Johnson, a 2011 Computer Science graduate of the College of Charleston, is currently a Ph.D. student at North Carolina State University majoring in Computer Science. Her undergraduate research experience of three years was CIRDLES (Cyber Infrastructure Research and Development Lab for the Earth Sciences) with Dr. James F. Bowring. Awards and recognition included: 1st place in Math and Computer Science (SCAMP Research Conference 2009), best senior presentation (2010 McNair Summer Conference), and CofC’s Feature Face of the Class of 2011. While in college, she attended and presented at numerous science conferences including Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference - Atlanta, GA, 2010.

Onica Washington, from College of Charleston class of 2008, received BS degrees in Biochemistry and Chemistry. She is now at Duke completing a PhD in Biochemistry, and plans to complete the MD program once the PhD is completed. She hopes to complete a postdoc/residency and become a medical scientist. Some of her awards and activities at the College of Charleston included: Supplemental Instructor; Chemistry Tutor; and Departmental Honors in Biochemistry. At Duke University, she received the URM Diversity Fellowship in 2010. Onica realized that she wanted to pursue a career in science when she worked in her first biochemistry lab at the College of Charleston.

Angela Dapremont, currently studying abroad in La Rochelle France, is a College of Charleston sophomore majoring in Geology. She plans on continuing to graduate school in order to one day have a career at NASA. Though interested in space and science from an early age, she recalls being mesmerized while watching the “Return to Flight” space shuttle launch in 2005. Angela conducted research following her freshman year with Minorities in Marine and Environmental Sciences (MIMES). Her awards and recognition at this young age are many, including: New Student Leader Award from the College, Academically and Highly Distinguished awards for the Fall & Spring 2010-11.

Sylricka Foster is a Senior at the College of Charleston majoring in Environmental Geosciences. Included among her many awards recognitions are Distinguished Math Student (2010), a ROAR Scholar, and an Avery Scholar. Sylricka decided on a STEM major when, “I took an Environmental Policy class…” She recently completed a NASA-funded internship with the SC Space Grant Consortium, and is the Principal Investigator of a NASA Space Mission Design project. She and two other researchers will plan a mission to Mercury that will be presented in front of a panel of NASA scientists. Sylricka plans to attend graduate school.

Heyward Mack is a junior Biology major with a concentration in Molecular Biology and a Minor in Dance at College of Charleston. Heyward is the recipient of the Hibernian Society Scholarship, SC Life Scholarship, and Presidential Community Enhancement Grant. Heyward is also the Vice President of SCAMP. Heyward intends to finish his degree and continue education at the Medical University of South Carolina to become a doctor. He has served as a SCAMP tutor and counselor, both in organic chemistry and pre-calculus. According to Heyward, “I was inspired to be a tutor/counselor because of the beneficial effects that it had when I was a summer bridge student in 2009.”

Candice Ulmer is a College of Charleston Honors student double majoring in Biochemistry and Chemistry. Currently conducting research in Pharmaceutical Analysis, Candice will continue with the same topic for her Bachelor’s Essay. She plans to study analytical chemistry in a Ph.D. program. Candice was voted president of SCAMP for two years. She has also been a SCAMP tutor/counselor for the past three years. Candice’s
awards are extensive, and include: Palmetto Fellows, College of Charleston Presidential Scholarship, Silver Recipient (G.P.A.) – Excel Awards, Eugene C. Hunt Award – Excel Awards, and the McNair Scholars Program. She sincerely understands that science is a vital piece of her life.

**Kimberly Arnold** is a Senior at the College of Charleston majoring in Biology with a minor in Health. She is the recipient of several scholarships, including the Bill Gates Millennium Scholarship, and is a member of several campus organizations. As a McNair Scholar, Kimberly has conducted research for two summers at the College of Charleston (2010) and the Medical University of South Carolina (2011). Her strong interest in health has led her to the integrated field of public health. She feels that programs like SCAMP help to, “increase the opportunities for minorities and underprivileged students and expose them to various career options while providing a solid support system.”

**Tomika Caldwell** is a College of Charleston sophomore majoring in Biology and minoring in Business Administration. She is very outgoing in school and in her community as she takes on many leadership roles. Tomika recently became a ROAR Scholar at the well. Tomika has always been interested in the science of biology ever since her elementary years, but she realized she was a business woman too; so she put them both together and plans to pursue Health Care Administration in graduate school and in her career. Tomika hopes to become CEO of a hospital one day.

**Portavia Featherstone** received B.A. degree in Biology. While at the College of Charleston, her recognitions included: Dean’s List, Academic Award of Excellence, Nat’l Society of Collegiate Scholars, Nat’l Tech Honor Society, and SCAMP Conference presentation winner. In college she conducted two different research projects. She held memberships and offices in several organizations, including secretary of SCAMP. Portavia also served as Teaching Assistant for Human Sexuality (Spring 2010). Currently employed at Carolinas HealthCare System (CHS), she is applying to graduate schools to pursue a graduate degree in the field of Epidemiology.

**Dion Foster** received a BS in Biology from the College of Charleston in 2010. Dion says, “I wanted to be a physician growing up but by the time I had completed my undergraduate degree in Biology, I realized that I loved science on a molecular level more than I could have ever imagined!” Some of his special experiences as an undergraduate student included: tutoring in the SCAMP summer bridge program and Supplemental Instruction leader for Biology courses. His ultimate goal is to obtain Ph.D. degree in Biomedical Sciences from the Medical University of South Carolina and conduct research in Pathology and Cancer Biology.

**Casey Wadsworth**, a sophomore at the College of Charleston, is majoring in Biology and planning to attend a medical university in hopes of becoming a physician. During summer 2011, she participated in a Study Abroad trip to Brazil, as well as served as a pre-calculus tutor for the SCAMP Summer Bridge program. The study abroad experience “opened my eyes to so many things, including a different culture and language.” Also, she was hired by a math faculty member to be a Peer Facilitator, responsible for teaching orientation material to first-year students.

**Danielle Brandon** earned her BS in Biology from the College of Charleston in 2011. At the College of Charleston, she was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. Now, she is in the process of earning a Master’s Degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in the field of Microbiology and Immunology. She mostly credits her research professor in college for helping her to realize the endless opportunities that science could offer me. She has had great mentors who have inspired her to take chances.

**Whitney Gibbs** is a Senior Biochemistry major at the College of Charleston. She has been conducting summer and academic year research with Dr. Pamela Riggs-Gelasco for three years. Also a Ronald McNair Scholar, she plans to graduate in May 2012 and apply for graduate preparation program before heading to graduate school in pursuit of a PhD. Her current research topic is “Over Expression and Purification of the protein Frataxin from Drosiphila.” In 2010, she won 2nd Place in Chemistry I at the LS-AMP Science, Engineering, and Research Conference.

**Jan Enabore** is a sophomore biology major at the College of Charleston. His activities, honors and awards include: Supplemental Instructor for Biology 111, Honors College student and mentor, Charleston Honors Ambassador, Avery Scholar, founding member of World Change Coalition, and a volunteer in both the Literacy Outreach Initiative and MUSC Children’s Hospital. Additionally, he was awarded the “SCAMP Emerging Scholar Award” which recognizes a freshman who epitomizes the standards of SCAMP through academic achievement, undergraduate research, evidence of career preparation, and participation in the program’s activities. During summer 2011, Jan conducted research in the Dept. of
Edgar Hosey is a 2011 Electromechanical Engineering graduate of Denmark Technical College. Hosey graduated from Denmark Technical College with a 3.1 GPA. He is currently enrolled at one of the SCAMP Alliance schools (South Carolina State University) where he is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. Mr. Hosey is also a 2011-2012 SCAMP scholarship recipient at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

Chantel Whitted served as the 2009-2010 Student Government Association President for Denmark Technical College (DTC). Chantel is also a 2010 Associate in Science graduate of DTC. During her tenure, she had the opportunity to participate in a SCAMP conference hosted by the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina. She is currently attending Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina where she is pursuing a bachelor’s degree.

Michael Easterday Jr. is an Electromechanical Engineering major at Denmark Technical College. Michael participated in a SCAMP 2011 Summer Research Internship at South Carolina State University where he engaged in research relative to censor usage in robotics. After completing the Electromechanical Engineering program at Denmark Technical College, Mr. Easterday plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina.

Tyrome Sweet is a senior Computer Engineering major at Benedict College. Tyrome participated in the Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program in Computer Science and Engineering, at USC with support from SCAMP.

Martin Epps is a sophomore Biology major at Benedict College. Martin participated in the 2011 Summer Undergraduate Research Institute.

Brandon Wright is a senior Biology major at Benedict College, Brandon has participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Institute four summers working in biomedical research. He has worked with MBRS RISE Director Dr. Samir Raychoudhury since he was a SCAMP summer bridge participant.

Jaresha Taylor is a junior Chemistry major at Benedict College. Taylor participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Institute. His research interest is in environmental science.

Brittany Bates is a senior Physics major at Benedict College where she is a Challenger Center Student Assistant. Brittany also participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Institute. Her research area was engineering.

Che Suttton is a 2010 graduate of Benedict college with a degree in Biology. While at Benedict, Che was a SCAMP Scholarship/Student Research recipient. Her research internships include MBRS RISE at Benedict College and the Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, which resulted in a co-authored publication in The Journal of Biological Chemistry.

Jessica Carswell is a sophomore Biology major at Benedict College. Jessica participated in the 2011 Summer Undergraduate Research Institute.
Alvin Thompson is a 2009 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Computer Science. While at Benedict, Alvin completed a SCAMP Summer Internship and later served as the SCAMP Summer Program Co-Coordinator. He is currently completing a MS program in Computer Science at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA.

Lewis Graham is a 2002 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Physics. While at Benedict, Lewis participated in the SCAMP Summer Bridge program and was a scholarship recipient. He completed the MS degree in Physics at the University of South Carolina in 2008. He is currently working on the PhD in Physics at the University of South Carolina.

Juarez Jackson is a 2004 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Computer Science. While at Benedict, he was a SCAMP Scholarship recipient. He is currently employed at Lockheed-Martin as an Embedded Software engineer working on the C5 plane Program.

Kofi Whitney is a 2004 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Computer Science. While at Benedict, Kofi was a SCAMP Scholarship recipient. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Human Computer Interaction at Iowa State University. In 2008, Whitney was the recipient of the Iowa African American Hall of Fame, "Future is Now" Award and $1000.00 scholarship. This award is presented to students who display exemplary leadership skills, dedication to and interest in science, and excellence in research and technology, which will make a better society and a brighter future.

Leroy Magwood, is a 2004 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Physics. He participated in the SCAMP program while at Benedict. He earned a Ph.D. degree in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at the University of Iowa and has done postdoctoral work at Oklahoma State University.

Clara Jones is a 2008 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Biology. While at Benedict she participated in the MBRS RISE Student Research program. Clara has a MS in Biotechnology from Claflin University. She is currently teaching biology at Benedict College.

William Lenard is a 2003 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Mathematics. William is a former SCAMP scholarship recipient. He currently serves as assistant principal at Airport High School in Columbia, SC. Curtis Lane is a 2004 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Physics Graduate. Curtis was SCAMP scholarship recipient while at Benedict. He completed the MS degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin Madison. Curtis is currently working at Savannah River Site.

Celon Blair is a 2004 graduate of Benedict College with a degree in Physics. While at Benedict Celon was a SCAMP scholarship recipient. He completed a MS degree in electrical engineering at North Carolina State University. Celon has work experience with Intel Co. and as an Etch Process Engineer with Micron Technology.
Latasha Keller is a 2011 Biology graduate of Benedict College. After an outstanding academic career at Benedict, Latasha is currently pursuing a MS in Biology at Delaware State University.

Ronesha Rivers is a 2011 Electrical Engineering Major of Benedict College. She was a SCAMP Scholarship recipient and participated in Northwestern University REU - Engineering in the summer of 2010. Ronesha is currently enrolled in MS degree program in Electrical Engineering at Norfolk State University.

Annette Davis is a 2003 Computer Science graduate of Benedict College. While at Benedict, Annette participated in SCAMP Summer Research Student at Benedict College and the University of South Carolina. Annette earned the MS degree in applied Computer Science from Columbus State University. She is currently employed by the Georgia Department of Labor.

Ernest Jones is a 2011 Electrical Engineering graduate of Benedict College. He participated in the SCAMP Summer Research at Benedict College and in the 2010 REU Program in Computer Science and Engineering at the University of South Carolina. Ernest was accepted to Fairleigh Dickerson University in the MS in Electrical Engineering degree program.

Angela Davis is a 2003 Mathematics graduate of Benedict College. While at Benedict, Angela participated in SCAMP Summer Research Student. She earned the MS in Mathematics from Georgia State University. Angela is employed as a Management Analyst at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Clorissa Washington is a 2010 Biology graduate of Benedict College and was a SCAMP Scholarship recipient there. Clorissa is currently participating in a post-bacalaureate program as a student assistant in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of South Carolina Graduate Science Research Center.

Charlie Singleton is a 2011 Electrical Engineering graduate of Benedict College. While at Benedict, he was a SCAMP Scholarship recipient. Charlie is currently enrolled in the MS Electrical Engineering degree program at Norfolk State University.

Koyett Miles, graduated in 2007 with a BS degree in physics from Benedict College. He participated in numerous research internships as an undergraduate and won 1st place in the Physics/Engineering division of the SCAMP undergraduate Science and Engineering Research Conference and the HBCU-UP Research Conference. He is currently working on a MS degree and received the ITT Fellowship at California State University, San Bernadino. Koyett was one of the first undergraduates to participate in the NSF funded SEAGEP (South Carolina Alliance for Graduate Education Program).
Erica Green graduated from Allen University in May 2010. She is currently in the Post Baccalaureate Research Education (PRE) program in Biomedical Science at the University of South Carolina. Her plan is to start her Ph.D. in Biomedical Science after this PRE program. Erica’s first summer experience as an undergraduate was in 2007 at Allen University when she worked with Dr. O. Ariyo on Restriction digest of pGEM plasmids. Erica had a summer research internship at Stony Brook University in 2008 and was accepted during the summer of 2009 to the University of California, Berkeley for Summer Research program in Molecular and Cell Biology. She was selected to attend a training workshop in Biotechnology at National Institute of Health in January of 2010.

Alycia Albergottie graduated in 2009 from Allen University and is currently enrolled in a Masters’ program in the Arnold school of Public Health at the University of South Carolina, with focus on Epidemiology. Her Graduate Advisor is Dr. Wilfried Karmaus, who impressed her when invited by the SCAMP program to present a seminar at Allen University. Her first summer experience was in 2005 at SC State University under the LS-SCAMP program. Alycia interned at Los Alamos National laboratory, New Mexico in 2007 and her research was on Bioinformatics. In 2008, she interned at the University of Connecticut at the Department of Physiology and Neurobiology working on Brain cells.

Faith Bupe is graduated in 2009 from Allen University and made history at the 2008 Annual Science and Engineering Research Conference. She placed first in the division of Biological Sciences, a milestone for her university. During that year, Allen University was recognized as having the fastest growing STEM enrollment among SCAMP institutions in the state of South Carolina.

Justin Green is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics with an emphasis in Actuarial Science and a minor in Risk Management and Insurance. The research internships that Justin participated in through the South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation Program and the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Program enabled him to establish the foundation he needed for success as an actuarial scientist. His highlights of undergraduate career included being named on the President’s List and the opportunity to present a paper at the 2010 AERA and NCME Research Conference in Denver, Colorado. Currently, he is working as a South Carolina insurance producer. His plans are to complete the remaining portions of the actuary examination, the professional credential requirement to analyze statistical insurance data and help forecast risk and liability for payment of insurance benefits.

Lesley Joseph is a rising senior pursuing a major in environmental engineering and a minor in environmental studies at the University of South Carolina-Columbia. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental engineering. He currently works as a research assistant, trying to find innovative ways to bring clean water to the developing world. He also works with local community groups to assess their vulnerability to environmental hazards. On campus, Lesley is the president of Engineers without Borders (EWB-USC) and works with Students Advocating for a Greener Environment (SAGE). In his free time, Lesley plays tennis, watches sports, and reads books by inspiring people.

Michael Boone a 1997 graduate of the University of South Carolina. LS-SCAMP research student and a mechanical engineering major won more than $225,000 in national awards including fellowships from the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, Goldwater, and NASA, among others.

Kimberlye Davis was the first OCTech student who won a research award at the Annual LS-SCAMP conference held at SC State University. She transferred to SC State University and majored in Biology.

Jynae Robinson is a proud alumnus of South Carolina State University. During her tenure, she majored in Biology and Chemistry to prepare herself for her dream of becoming a Pharmacist. Upon graduation, she was offered an internship with the Department of Energy, Savannah River Site in Aiken, SC. At the site she researched and conducted bacterial experiments on oil-eating microbes. Ms. Robinson is currently working as a certified Pharmacy Technician with CVS/Pharmacy. Also, she plans to further her studies at Presbyterian College.
Whitney M. Boston is a 2008 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Chemistry and one of the first African American females to pioneer the Radiochemistry program at the university as well. She is currently enrolled in South Carolina College of Pharmacy (MUSC Campus) and a Pharm.D. May 2012 Candidate. Whitney was also a member of the SCAMP program where she gained much of her internship opportunities and found her desire for pharmacy.

Ashley R. Gathers is a 2009 graduate of Claflin University with a BS in Biochemistry. She has received numerous honors and awards including the Presidential Academic Award, Dean’s List, and Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. She is currently in the Medical Science Post-Baccalaureate program at Hampton University earning an MS degree. Ashley’s internships at the University of Pennsylvania and Eastern Virginia Medical School with Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters helped her realize how vital a career in the STEM area is and how participating in these programs are a helpful avenue for African-American’s to pursue careers in these areas.

Briosha Sanders is a sophomore Biology major as well as a Women and Gender Studies minor at the College of Charleston. She is an active member of the Honors College, SCAMP, the college’s National Organization for Women, and SCOPE (Safe Campus Outreach, Prevention, and Education). In Spring 2011, she was awarded the New Student Leader Award by the college’s Higdon Leadership Center and was nominated as Woman of the Year in campus diversity and leadership affairs. Pursuing an interest in Medicine, Briosha spent her previous summer shadowing doctors in a clinical rotation at the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System in Spartanburg, SC. Briosha shares that “I always knew I was interested in science and wanted to work in the medical field. When I performed my first dissection, I knew without a doubt that I loved science.”

Brooke King is a senior Biology major at the College of Charleston. She is serving as the president of the campus’ National Pan-Hellenic Council. Brooke volunteers at the Medical University of South Carolina in the Emergency Department as well as at MUSC’s Children’s Hospital. She plans to attend MUSC to become a pediatrician.

Joseph J. McLeod, is a 2001 graduate of South Carolina State University with a BS degree in Biology Education. He earned his Masters in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2003. He is currently the program manager/technical school liaison in the LS-SCAMP state office. McLeod credits SCAMP with providing him with unique undergraduate internships opportunities that have positively influenced his career. McLeod says that his work in the LS-SCAMP state office helps to continue to increase the recruitment, retention and development of underrepresented minorities in STEM disciplines.

Jessica D. Johnson is a 2010 graduate of South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics with a medical option. Ms. Johnson was afforded the opportunity to intern at Wake Forest University and Winston-Salem, NC and Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon. There she received experience by working one-on-one with medical physicists. She was a member of various activities and organization on the campus. She is currently pursuing her Master’s degree of Science in Transportation. Jessica says, “If you can dream it you can do it”!
Andrea Ansted (Elizabeth City State University) graduated with a BS in biology and pre-dental studies. She is currently teaching sixth-grade science at Henderson Middle School in Henderson, North Carolina.

Chantiel Awkard (University of Virginia), Class of 2012 majoring in biochemistry, was an honors society student in high school. She was also a scholarship recipient at U.Va., and a member of the executive board of the U.Va. chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. Chantiel served as a peer advisor for incoming students in 2009-2010.

Jamika Baltrop (Elizabeth City State University) received her bachelor’s degree in computer science with a minor in GIS and remote sensing and is continuing her studies in the Bridge to the Doctorate program at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Jamika conducted undergraduate research under Dr. Malcolm LeCompte in the Antarctic Temperature Mapping Team.

Ashley Barham (Bennett College for Women), from Newark, NJ, has been admitted to Duke University School of Nursing for fall 2011. Ashley was instrumental in implementing many community service activities at the college. During the summer of 2009 she was an intern at the Making a Difference in Nursing Program at Duke University. In the summer of 2010, she worked on a research project titled “Can Chemical Maps Indicate Interstellar Methyl Formate?” in the Center for Chemistry of the Universe track of the inaugural Virginia-North Carolina Alliance Summer Research Program at the University of Virginia.

Andrew Bennett-Jackson (University of Virginia), a member of the class of 2012 majoring in chemistry, was a director in U.Va.’s volunteer tutoring program and worked in the lab of chemistry professor and MacArthur Fellow Dr. Brooks Pate. Andrew attended the Alliance's first Summer Research Program in 2010, where he presented “A Fourier Transform Microwave Spectrometer with Double Resonance Capabilities.”

Ebonitta Boykin (Bennett College for Women) was the top 2011 graduate in the Division of Natural & Behavioral Sciences/Mathematics. She has been admitted to the Nursing Program at Duke University and will start her studies in fall 2011. Instrumental to her admission was a previous summer internship at the Duke CARE Program (Collaboration Around Research and Education) where she worked on “Evaluation of Preconception Care for Postpartum Care Benefits.”

Lanisha Brown (Bennett College for Women) received the “President’s Excellence Award” at the college and was also a constant presence on the Honors and Dean’s Lists. In the summer of 2009, she worked at the Ecological Research Station at La Selva Tropical Rainforest in Cost Rica with the Organization of Tropical Studies. In the summer of 2010, she was part of the Bioscience Undergraduate Summer Research Programs at the University of Utah,
focusing on Williams Syndrome. Lanisha is currently attending the UNC PREP (Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program) at Chapel-Hill.

**Justin Butler** (Johnson C. Smith University) graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in General Science. A member of VA-NC LSAMP from Spring 2009 - Spring 2011, he also mentored for LSAMP during the 2010-2011 year. Justin is currently attending American University of Antigua College of Medicine.

**Juliana Cano-Mejia** (University of Virginia), an engineering undergraduate, presented research at the 2010 Virginia Junior Academy of Science, and in 2011 at the VA-NC Alliance Annual Symposium. Juliana is also a writer for Spectra, the recently introduced journal of engineering and science research at the University. Juliana's article, “A Review of the Pathogenesis of Necrotizing Fasciitis by Group A Streptococci,” appeared in the spring 2011 issue. She is also a member of the NExT (Nano and Emerging Technology Club) at the University of Virginia.

**Tonisha Coburn** (Bennett College for Women), a Biology major, graduated in May 2011 and will start her master’s program in Biology this fall at North Carolina A&T University. She comes from a military family and started Bennett College after years of living in Turkey. During the summer of 2009 she was part of the CARE (Collaboration Around Research and Education) program at Duke University, working on the influence of different diets in prostate tumor growth and development. In the summer of 2010 she worked as a teaching assistant during the NSF Summer Academy.

**Francesca Crivellari** (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) is a senior majoring in chemical engineering. In 2011, she attended the University of Baltimore (Maryland) County Chemistry & Biochemistry Undergraduate Research Conference, an NIH-supported event devoted entirely to contributions from undergraduates from all over the Mid-Atlantic region. Francesca also serves on a residence hall community staff at Virginia Tech.

**Mariana Cruz** (George Mason University) completed her BS in civil and infrastructure engineering in spring 2011 with high GPA. During her stay at George Mason she was on the Dean’s List five times, tutored for the engineering school, and conducted summer research overseas. Mariana is going to the University of Delaware for graduate studies in structural engineering this fall.

**Jasmine Decarish** (Virginia Commonwealth University) majored in computer science and was vice-president in the VCU National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Chapter. Jasmine spent a summer at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland as a participant in the prestigious NASA Student Internship Program.

**Katrina Dix** (Bennett College for Women), a dual major in chemistry and biology from California, graduated in 2010. She was present in the Honors and Dean’s Lists during her years at Bennett College. She was part of the Chemistry Club and is part of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Beta Kappa Xi Scientific Honor Society. Katrina is currently working for a laboratory company in Los Angeles.

**Brittany Dollard** (Johnson C. Smith University) graduated summa cum laude in 2010 with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. She completed research at East Carolina University and North Carolina State University, and is currently in the physical therapy Ph.D. program at Howard University.
Carleasha Dorsey (Elizabeth City State University) received her undergraduate degree in biology minored in chemistry. She is currently a pharmacy student at Florida A & M University.

Bassam Dourassi (George Mason University) graduated in spring 2011 with a BS in electrical engineering. He was on the Dean’s List every semester during his undergraduate career. Bassam participated in the first annual VA-NC Alliance Summer Research Program, and is currently employed at Intel.

Rachael Dunn (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) is a member of the class of 2011 and is currently attending veterinary school, where she is the vice president of the class of 2014. While an undergraduate, Rachael worked in the Yuan laboratory at Tech, on the interactions among enteric viruses, probiotics, and the host immune system. The lab research activities focused on pathogenesis and innate and adaptive immune responses induced by enteric viruses, mechanism of immune modulation by probiotics, and development of safer and more effective vaccines against viral gastroenteritis. Rachael also held a 2009 summer research Multicultural Academic Opportunities (MAOP) internship at Virginia Tech.

Robyn Evans (Elizabeth City State University), Class of 2012, will receive her BS in mathematics with a minor in computer science. Robyn attended multiple conferences and presented research in 2009. She also participated in the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS), established by the National Science Foundation with the mission of developing new technologies and computer models to measure and predict the response of sea level change to the mass balance of ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica. Robyn worked with matrix multiplication through parallel computing.

Shantoya Evans (Virginia Commonwealth University), an electrical engineering major, served on the executive board of VCU’s chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. She was a scholarship recipient of the Hampton Roads chapter of the AFCEA (Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association) and the Society of Women Engineers.

Shavonda Evans (Elizabeth City State University) received her bachelor’s degree in biology and went on to work at Abbott Laboratories. She presented her research, “Effect of TRAIL on Estrogen Receptor Negative Breast Cancer Cell Lines HTB-129,” at the 2009 Virginia Tech Undergraduate Research and Prospective Graduate Student Conference.

Rachael Dunn (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) is a member of the class of 2011 and is currently attending veterinary school, where she is the vice president of the class of 2014. While an undergraduate, Rachael worked in the Yuan laboratory at Tech, on the interactions among enteric viruses, probiotics, and the host immune system. The lab research activities focused on pathogenesis and innate and adaptive immune responses induced by enteric viruses, mechanism of immune modulation by probiotics, and development of safer and more effective vaccines against viral gastroenteritis. Rachael also held a 2009 summer research Multicultural Academic Opportunities (MAOP) internship at Virginia Tech.

Avis Foster (George Mason University) completed her BS in applied mathematics with a minor in visual technology, graduating in spring 2011. For six semesters she was placed in the Dean’s List. Avis was selected by a group of faculty researchers in the Mathematics Department to work on an NSF-funded research project and presented her results both at George Mason and at national conferences. She is attending the University of Alabama for graduate studies.

Kaiem Frink (Elizabeth City State University) completed both his bachelor’s (computer science) and master’s (applied mathematics with a minor in GIS) degrees at ECSU. He was selected for Carnegie Mellon University’s “Information Systems in the Community” internship. Among other research projects, Kaim assisted with NASA grant proposals for the Purdue Terrestrial Observatory at the Rosen Center for Advanced Computing.

Taliah Glenn (Bennett College for Women) is a senior biology major from Newark, New Jersey. Taliah participated in the Collaboration Around Research in Education
(CARE) Prostate Cancer Program at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina in summer 2009. Taliah worked in the Freedland Lab and studied “The Effect of Smoking History on Time from Surgery to Biochemical Recurrence in Patients with Prostate Cancer Treated with Radical Prostatectomy”.

Lauren Griggs (University of Virginia) is majoring in engineering science with an emphasis in nanomedicine. Over the past two years, Lauren has been conducting research on tissue engineering. Her research focuses on repairing damaged tissue through nanofiber scaffolds. Lauren has been very active in the National Society of Black Engineers since her first year. She has been secretary and programs chair, and is currently the 2011-2012 vice president for the U.Va. chapter. Lauren also serves as a peer advisor in the U.Va. Office of African American Affairs Peer Advisor Program, mentoring incoming African American students.

Camille Grimsley (Johnson C. Smith University) is a member of the class of 2011, majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry. She was a participant in the 2010 Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation Mentoring Across Difference Program, an opportunity for students to receive guidance from and access to senior female industry executives, in order to ensure that promising student mentees are nurtured for success in a global society. Camille is currently applying to graduate school.

DeAnthony Heart (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) was the recipient of an Access College Foundation scholarship. He attended the 2011 American Institute for Aeronautics & Astronautics Regional I-MA Conference (Charlottesville, VA), the Revolutionary Aerospace System Concepts-Academic Linkages Competition (Merritt, FL), and graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in aerospace engineering. DeAnthony worked on a project with NASA’s Kennedy Space Team, and is now a Technology Analyst Intern at JPMorgan Chase.

Megan Hill (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) is a chemistry major and lab assistant with the Department of Chemistry at Virginia Tech. In the summer of 2011, she participated in the Center for Chemistry in the Universe track of the Alliance’s summer research program at the University of Virginia, at which she presented her research “Chemistry of Nitriles in Hot Cores.”

Charmel Holland (Bennett College for Women) from Durham, NC, recently graduated and will start her master’s degree this fall in Public Health at the University of Oklahoma. In the summer of 2009, Charmel went to Jamaica to work as part of the MHIRT (Minority Health International Research Training) program with the University of Alabama. This spring, Charmel presented her work at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Charlotte, NC.

Jonathan Jackson (Johnson C. Smith University), a 2010 graduate in computer science and information systems, was a member of the National Society of Black Engineers and a student ambassador to the HBCU-UP research program. Jonathan is currently employed as an information systems specialist at the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Michelle Jackson (Johnson C. Smith University), a biology major and 2011 graduate of JCSU, was awarded first place in the technology and engineering division for her poster presentation at the HBCU-UP 2009 National Research Conference. Michelle's presentation was titled “Investigating Factor Deficiency and Platelet Function Using Sonorheometry: Study of Patients with Coagulation Disorders.” Most recently, Michelle and her colleagues presented research at the 2011 meeting of the Ecological Society of America. She plans to attend graduate school in biomedical sciences.
Taler Jefferson (Bennett College for Women) graduated in 2010 and is pursuing a master’s degree in biology at Hampton University. While at Bennett, Taler participated in the Making a Difference in Nursing Program at Duke and also participated in the Pharmacy Technician Training Initiative (PTTI) at North Carolina A&T. She also served as a Black College Fund intern/ambassador, raising funds for eleven historically black colleges and institutions.

Corey Jenkins, Jr. (Johnson C. Smith University) graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in information systems engineering. Currently, Corey is interning at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington, working in the software engineering and architecture group. He will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall to complete a master's in software engineering.

Kiera Johnson (Elizabeth City State University) received her undergraduate degree in biology and is currently a pharmacy student at Elizabeth City State University.

Tifanny Johnson (Bennett College for Women) graduated in May 2010 and is currently enrolled in the pharmacy program at Florida A&M University. Tiffany graduated in the top five percent of her class. In the summer of 2008 she was chosen to intern at Duke University’s CARE (Collaborating Around Research and Education) Prostate Cancer Program. In the summer of 2009, she was selected for a research internship at the University of Washington’s Friday Harbor Laboratories.

Jade Jones (Johnson C. Smith University) is from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She graduated from JCSU in 2008 with a major in chemistry and minor in mathematics. She received a 2011 Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship for teaching in high-need secondary schools, and completed her master's degree from Purdue University in chemistry in 2011.

Kiara Jones (Saint Augustine’s College), Class of 2013, is a sophomore double majoring in chemistry and forensic science. She conducted research with the Undergraduate Research Experience in ocean, marine, and polar science in 2010 at Elizabeth City State University under the mentorship of Dr. Malcolm LeCompte. Titled “Survey of Post LGM Environment,” the research included analyzing soil samples supporting the possibility of an extraterrestrial impact that took place about 13,000 years ago. Kiara learned how to operate a scanning electron microscope, and how to extract impact markers from soil samples, among other skills necessary during this REU.

Bradford Knight (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), a chemical engineering major, is a junior and an honors student at Virginia Tech. In the summer of 2011, he interned with Exxon Mobil Chemical Company in Houston, Texas and learned about process contact engineering for the production of polypropylene.

Tarek Lahlou (George Mason University) finished his BS in electrical engineering in spring 2011. In 2009 he began working on a project titled “Radio Transmitter Localization for Health Care Applications in Rural Guatemala” and published a paper with his advisor. Tarek is pursuing a Ph.D. in electrical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and has been awarded the MIT School of Engineering Lemelson Fellowship.

Lauren Lee (Elizabeth City State University) has a BS in biology from ECSU and is currently in the graduate pharmacy program at Campbell University.
Matthew Manley (University of Virginia), Class of 2012, is a computer engineering major and two-time recipient of an NSF scholarship. Matthew is a member of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers). His undergraduate research project is creating software to automatically process internet routing information.

Ian McClenny (University of Virginia) will be a graduate of VA-NC Alliance institutions for both his undergraduate (U.Va. 2011, chemical engineering and material science) and Virginia Commonwealth University (currently in an MS program for chemical engineering). Ian was a Walter Ridley Scholar at the University of Virginia and conducted research at the Center for Electrochemical Science and Engineering. He mentored for the Bridge program at U.Va.'s Center for Diversity in Engineering. Ian expects to receive his master's degree in 2013.

LaToya McDonald (Saint Augustine’s College), a 2010 graduate in engineering and mathematics, is now in her second year of a Ph.D. program in mechanical engineering at Clemson University. While an undergraduate at Saint Augustine’s, she participated in the Minorities Accessing Research Careers Training Program funded by NIH and conducted summer research at the University of South Carolina on cryopreservation of deer mice oocytes. At the University of Wisconsin, she assisted in developing and testing properties of cancellous bone surrogates.

Ebonie McNeil (Bennett College for Women) was an Alliance scholar until her senior year, when she received a scholarship from the U.S. Department of Defense. A mathematics/computer sciences major at Bennett College, she also found time to tutor at the LSAMP program and at the Vance Chavis Library through the Spirit of Excellence Tutorial Program. She volunteered at Washington Elementary school in Greensboro, and currently works as a computer scientist for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

Deanna Monique Miller (Johnson C. Smith University), a summa cum laude member of the Class of 2009, completed undergraduate research on “Promoting University Studies in Technology and Computer Sciences among Minority Middle School Students.” She completed her Master of Science at Carnegie Mellon University with an emphasis on human-computer interaction in 2011, and is currently employed as a user experience designer at the digital consulting group Roundarch, in the Chicago area.

Alan Molina (University of Virginia) is vice president of the U.Va. chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). His research, “Fabrication of Nanofibrous Blend Polymer Scaffolding for Wound Healing,” under the direction of Dr. Edward Botchwey, received an award at the 2011 VA-NC Alliance Annual Symposium.

Shannon Oliver (Johnson C. Smith University), a 2009 graduate, completed a summer fellowship hosted by the Partnership for Minority Advancement in the Biomolecular Sciences (PMABS) and UNC-Chapel Hill’s Institute for Science Learning. She is currently attending North Carolina Central University's BRITE (Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise) program for her master's in pharmaceutical science, and expects to graduate in 2012.

Macarena Palominos (George Mason University) graduated with her BE in electrical engineering with a GPA of 3.9. On the Dean’s List for most of her undergraduate career, she was also very helpful in conducting the Summer Bridge Program in the 2009. Macarena is continuing her education by pursuing a master’s in systems engineering at George Mason University.
Reisha Parham (Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University) is an honors student and was an Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD) Undergraduate Scholar. Reisha participates in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the National Society of Black Engineers. She has made conference presentations at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, the Virginia Tech Undergraduate Research Conference, and the Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program Summer Research Internship Symposium.

Maurice Patterson (University of Virginia) participated in the 2009 Research Experience for Undergraduates in the Center for Diversity in Engineering at U.Va.. His research project was titled “Characterization of Pressure Transducers with Polyelectrolyte Gels.” Maurice currently works for the U.S. Naval Air Systems Command.

Nikita Patton (Bennett College for Women), a chemistry major, was accepted to the George Washington Carver Summer Program at the University of Arkansas, where she conducted her research “Preliminary Characterization of the Binding of the Peptide Derivative of an Important RAS GTPase Binding Effector for Abnormal Cells Signaling Mutant of the RAS Protein CDC 42.” Nikita worked as a business consultant at the United States Army Research Laboratory in 2010 and is now in graduate school at California State University, San Bernardino.

Shoteria Pearson (Bennett College for Women) is from Baltimore, MD and has been recently admitted to the MS in Public Health program at Meharry Medical College. In the summer of 2009, she interned at Duke University’s Care (Collaborating Around Research and Education) Prostate Cancer Program. She presented her summer research findings at the Northeast Alliance at Bennett and at the State of NC Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium Conference at UNC Wilmington. In the summer of 2010, Shoteria returned to Duke University, to participate in the Making a Difference in Nursing Program.

Charnee Pearson-Starling (Bennett College for Women), a biology major who graduated in May 2011, is from Washington, DC. Charnee was and a constant presence on the Honors Row and the Dean’s List. Charnee also dedicated time to be a Student ambassador at the Student Union Advisory Board, and was the president of the Biology Club. Charnee is planning on applying to a Bridge to the Doctorate program with a research focus on molecular biology.

Jennai Pettis (Elizabeth City State University) received her undergraduate degree in biology/pre-med and is currently a pharmacy sciences student at North Carolina Central University.

Michael Pheng (Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University) is a student in the honors program. In 2010, he participated in undergraduate research at the Center for Chemistry in the Universe at the University of Virginia. He was the recipient of a George C. Vaughan Scholarship at Virginia Tech for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Brittany Ralph (Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University) is a member of the student conduct committee, part of the VT Honor System. She also participates in the VT American Medical Women’s Association and the Ronald McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program. Brittany is the founding president of the African American Sisterhood and has been a summer intern with the Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program and with Ronald McNair. Brittany would like to be a biomedical researcher.
Sanjay Ramdon (Saint Augustine’s College) a 2011 graduate and engineering and mathematics major, was a member of the first VA-NC Alliance Summer Research Program (2011 chemistry track). He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Ohio State University, researching the degradation of Li-ion batteries using nanotechnology. While at Saint Augustine's, Sanjay received a full Presidential Scholarship, and tutored in mathematics and biology.

Darren Ramsey (Johnson C. Smith University) graduated cum laude in 2008. Darren participated in the University of Connecticut Summer Research Program for Minority Undergraduates, and is currently in graduate school at Ohio State University.

Pedro Rodriguez (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), a junior biochemistry major, Pedro also participates in the Residence Hall Federation at Virginia Tech. He attended the Center for Chemistry in the Universe track at the Alliance’s 2011 Summer Research Program, hosted at the University of Virginia.

Raedeen Russell (Saint Augustine’s College) graduated in 2010 with a biology degree. She went on to George State University, where she is currently working on her master's degree in microbiology. While at Saint Augustine's, Raedeen also attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Health Careers Access Science Enrichment Program and Medical Education Development Program. In addition, she conducted research at Stony Brook University's Center for Infectious Disease, Department of Molecular Genetics.

Nitrecus Simmons (Bennett College for Women) received an undergraduate degree in biology in 2009, was a Kaiser Family Foundation 2010 Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholar, and was a fellow in the entrepreneurial management program at CSU-San Bernardino, in partnership with the Integrated Technology Transfer Network. Recently, she was a legislative intern in the office of Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., where she focused on issues related to health policy implementation.

Prestina Smith (Bennett College for Women) graduated summa cum laude from Bennett College in May 2010. In the summer of 2008, she participated in the CARE Program at Duke University working on prostate cancer research. During the summers of 2009 and 2010, Prestina worked at the University of Florida on research titled “Mitochondrial cell death signaling.” She was a recipient of the President’s Excellence Award. Prestina is currently in her second year of the Bridge to Doctorate program at the University of California-Santa Cruz.

Oyita Uduana (Saint Augustine’s College) received his BS in engineering and mathematics before attending graduate school at Ohio State University, where he is a teaching assistant. In 2009, he presented his research, "Functionalization and Chaining of FeCo Magnetic Nanoparticles for Application in Regenerative Medicine," at Carnegie Mellon University. In 2010, Oyita and other Saint Augustine's colleagues presented at the Atlantic Assessment Conference.

Tiwana Walton (Elizabeth City State University) received her bachelor’s degree in mathematics from ECSU and is currently a graduate student at Old Dominion University. She works in the Aeronautics Systems Analysis Branch (aviation safety) of the NASA Langley Graduate Co-op. Her current research is on the portfolio assessment of aviation safety technologies, using statistics, probability, systems analysis methods and computer programs to predict whether NASA’s technologies will reduce the number of airplane accidents in the future.

Jaleesa Winley (George Mason University) is working on her BS in computer engineering. She was the secretary for the George Mason chapter of the National
Society of Black Engineers and has been a member since she was a freshman. Jaleesa plans to join the Army upon graduation.

Hiwot Woldesemayat (University of Virginia), a biology major who graduated from U.Va. in 2010, attended an REU at U.Va.’s Center for Diversity in Engineering. She also participated in a Post-Baccalaureate Research and Education Program at another Alliance institution, Virginia Tech, after graduation. Hiwot is currently working on her graduate degree in microbiology at San Francisco State University.

Kendra Woodberry (University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University) completed her Bachelor of Science at U.Va., where she was a president of the U.Va. chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and a Bridge program counselor. She is currently a Ph.D. student in chemical and life science engineering at VCU. In 2009, she co-authored the paper “Impact of ATRP Initiator Spacer Length on Grafting Poly(Methyl Methacrylate) from Silica Nanoparticles,” which appeared in Langmuir The ACS Journal of Surfaces and Colloids. Kendra worked in the Gupton Research Group at VCU.
Jermaine Barker is double alumni of Howard University with a Master’s of Science in August 2011 specializing in Molecular Genetics and a Bachelor’s of Science in Biology in May 2003. During his undergraduate years from 2000 to 2003, Mr. Barker was involved in numerous activities such as being a tutor coordinator for Hyde leadership public charter school. He was actively involved in tutoring and mentoring failing middle and high school students improve grades and get prepared for college.

Ms Neiunna Jones is attending Howard University pursuing her Ph.D. in Biology with an emphasis in Microbiology. She has been a recipient of the Teaching Assistantship award though her tenure as a doctoral student. She is also a member of the American Society of Microbiology (ASM), Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society, and an Associate Member of the Howard University Chapter of Sigma Xi. In addition to doctoral research she serves as a mentor for undergraduate students in the Howard University Science, Engineering, and Mathematics program (HUSEM) funded by the National Science Foundation.

Herman W. W. Fennell II is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Howard University. He will receive his degree in 2012. He is conducting research on Oryza sativa scaffold protein Receptor for Activated C Kinase 1 (RACK1) Mediated Environmental Stress Signaling Pathways. He has presented his research internationally. Herman received his bachelor’s degree in 1999 and master’s degree in 2003 from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Animal Health Science. He is a member of the American Society of Plant Biologist and Sigma Xi.

Dr. Eric Toran, who currently serves as an Associate Professor and Associate Dean in the School of Allied Health Sciences at Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL, received his master’s and doctorate degrees in Biology from Howard University in 1992 and 1996, respectively. Prior to his faculty appointment, Dr. Toran served as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University Of Nebraska Medical Center (Omaha, Nebraska). He is currently responsible for the management and instruction of Gross Anatomy, Neuroanatomy, and Pathophysiology.

Dr. Noël Manyindo completed his B.S. degree at Howard University in 2003. He later completed his M.D. and MBA degrees at Howard in 2007. He is currently at Harvard working on his MPH. This degree is expected in 2012. Dr. Manyindo’s research interests are Health Disparities, Major Depression, Diabetes, Obesity, and HIV Prevention. His career interests are Primary Care Medicine, Community-level Public Health Interventions, Social Medicine, and Global Health & Academic Medicine.

Dr. Kareematulai Arogundade is currently a medical resident in the field of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Tyler Texas. She received her B.S in Biology in 2001 from Howard University, her M.D in 2006 at Howard University College of Medicine and her M.S in Environmental science in 2011 from Steven F. Austin University. She is a member of the American College of Preventive Medicine, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Phi Beta Kappa scientific honor society and Beta Kappa chi scientific honor society.
Dereje Desta received his Ph.D. from Howard University in Immunoparasitology in 2007. After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Desta became a HHMI postdoctoral fellow at Hope College where he focused his research on understanding the transcription mechanism of the protist, Giardia lamblia and comparative analyses of microbial genomes linked to wet-lab experimentation. Dr. Desta has published a book entitled “Acriflavine inhibits the proliferation of Trypanosoma musculi by inducing apoptosis with specific binding affinity to kDNA”

Dr. Christine Barrow began her tenure as dean of Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at Prince Georges Community College (PGCC) July 2011. Dr. Barrow joined the college faculty in the Biology Department in 2000. She is regarded for developing and implementing the STEM Collegian Center and for a building a variety of strategic partnerships with numerous partners throughout the county. In January 2008, Dr. Barrow assumed the role of acting chair of the Biology department and was subsequently reappointed to the chair’s position in December 2009. Dr. Barrow received her bachelor of sciences degree from Tuskegee University in Alabama and her doctoral degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Sara Kalifa received her PhD in neuroscience from Howard University in 2008. While doing her PhD, she taught several physiology courses. She has worked in various capacities, most of which involved teaching and also neuroscience and cancer research. Her postdoctoral research was conducted in a cancer research laboratory, and she was also responsible for its overall management. Dr. Kalifa is a member of the Society for Neuroscience (SFN), Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), and Sigma Xi. She is currently assistant professor of biology at George Manson University.

Rakeb Abbay is an alumna of University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) where she received her bachelor degree in Medical and Research Biotechnology in 2003. While attending UMB, she was the member of National Dean’s list, member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor society. During her senior year, she received an award for excellence in Cell and Molecular Biology. Currently, Mrs. Abbay is attending Howard University pursuing her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology. She is a recipient of teaching assistant ship award throughout her graduate studies. She is also Associate member of the Howard University Chapter of Sigma Xi and member of American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB).

Cheu Manka is currently completing her Ph.D. Dissertation Research in the parasitology laboratory of the Department of Biology at Howard University where she has also served as a Teaching Assistant for more than two years. Cheu completed a summer internship at the Uniformed Services University/WRAIR. She also gained experience as a Research Technician, Research Assistant and Medical Technologist at the Children’s Hospital Philadelphia, VAMC/University of Maryland Baltimore and at the Children’s National Medical Center in the District of Columbia. Her research interests include infectious diseases, immunoparasitology and epidemiology.

Justin Wilson, Physiology BS 2005 Howard University. For his Ph.D, Justin is working on the”Non-conjugate eye movement during binocular and monocular fixation in Macaca mulatta “. Justin has made presentations numerous presentations: Gordon Oculomotor Research Conference, 2007, Bates College in Maine July 2008; Academy of Neurology:Boston, Massachusetts May 2009; Society for Neuroscience: San Diego, Ca November 2009; Annual Specialized Neuroscience Research Program Conference: New York, NY August 2010. Justin was recently initiated in the Society of Sigma Xi. Justin completed his Ph.D. degree in August 2011.

Dr. Angela Winslow is a Clinical Microbiology Adjunct Professor for the University of the District of Columbia Community College. She received her Ph.D. in Biology from Howard University in 2011. She is a member of the American Society for Microbiology and Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Society. Her research interest involves the rapid identification of pathogenic and food spoilage organisms. She is keen to begin a career as a research microbiologist using her combined coursework, laboratory and volunteer research experience.

Omar Tulloch enrolled at Howard University Spring 2010 as a dual, B.S. degree major in Architecture & Interior Design, thanks to the golden opportunity afforded to him through the University’s AMP Program. He volunteered as host and photographer at the Alliance for Minority Participation Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics student expose held at the U.S. Congress building. In April of 2011, he was also selected to participate in the Howard University Alternative Spring Break in New Orleans, Louisiana.
Francisco Abate is currently a senior at Woodrow Wilson High School. He has recently been accepted into the High School Internship Program where he is currently taking a psychology course at Howard University in addition to his high school classes. Each year Francisco has earned honor roll and participates in the school’s jazz band as well as in its theatre program. After graduating from high school, Francisco plans to get a degree in jazz theory with a minor in psychology, and then move on to get masters in music education. He hopes to become a music teacher and/or a mentor to Latino high school students.


April Y. M. Hodges, Ph.D., Nutritional Sciences. B.S., Bennett College, 2002; MS., Howard University, 2005. Donors and Awards: Science Enrichment Scholarship, 2007; Minority/Access to Research Careers Travel Award, 2007; Graduate Representative, Department Chair Search Committee, 2007; Compact for Faculty Diversity Award Sponsorship, 2006; Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Travel Award for Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Conference, 2006. Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Allan Johnson. Dissertation Title: The Influences of Dairy Product Consumption and Milk Micronutrients on the Parameters of the Metabolic Syndrome. Research Specialization: Metabolic Syndrome

Abena N. Brown-Elhillali, Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, BS, Howard University. 2003. Donors and Awards: Science Enrichment Scholarship; entered Howard University as a High School College Internship Students; completed Ph.D in Psychology under the direction of Dr. Jules P. Harrell. Her dissertation title was “Cardiovascular Reactivity and Attentional Bias in Anxiety.” She is currently a psychologist with Kennedy Krieger Associates in Baltimore, Maryland.

Kandis Stubblefield, BS degree, Howard University, Department of Biology, is currently a 3rd year graduate student at the Irell and Manella Graduate School of Biological Sciences located at the NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center City of Hope. Under the advisement of Dr. Jack Shively in the department of Immunology, her current research focuses on the tumor suppressor Sash1 (SAM and SH3 domain containing 1) and its interactions with the cell-cell adhesion molecule CEACAM1 (Carcinoembryonic antigen-related cell adhesion molecule 1).

Dr. Marcus Gomez Hodges, who currently works for Battelle National Biodefense Institute as a Biosafety and Biosecurity Specialist for the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center (NBACC), received his Bachelor of Science degree in 2000 from Saint Augustine’s College in Raleigh, NC, and his doctoral degree in biology from Howard University in Washington, DC. As a graduate student, he conducted research on infectious organisms such as Trypanosoma musculi and Plasmodium falciparum. Prior to his acceptance into the NBBTP, Marcus worked as a volunteer research scientist for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD, and as a NIAID postdoctoral fellow for the Laboratory of Allergic Diseases.

Jennifer R. Cohen received her BS degree in 2003 at Howard University, Department of Biology. In 2010, Jennifer received her Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins in the area of Biochemistry, Cellular & Molecular Biology. Her dissertation title was “Identification of a Golgi targeting signal in the cytoplasmic tail of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus envelope protein”. The thesis equivalent work was the characterization of DNA cut-and-paste transposable element, piggyback, and how donor flanking sequence influences element excision. Her goal is to use her experience and expertise to mentor young scientists and translate science to non-scientists. Jennifer is now a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins.

Mirna Martinez is a first-generation college student, senior biology major at Howard University. In the fall of 2013, she plans on attending a graduate school and focusing on an emerging discipline, immunology. Her research experience at the National Institutes of Health, have helped her understand the mechanisms and functions of immunology. Mirna intends on acquiring her doctoral degree; but most importantly, she will serve as a vehicle of change by surmounting the limitations of her career, and making public health not an option, but a necessity.
Aris Winger is an assistant math professor at Emory and Henry College in southwestern Virginia. He grew up in Washington, DC, was valedictorian of his high school class, entered Howard University, as part of the High School College Internship Program, when he was 16, and received his PhD from Carnegie-Mellon University at the age of 26. Aris teams up with his friend Big Easy on DCSouth.com, a gathering place for their interests in music, art, politics, racial issues, wedding videographer, and professional football.

Robin Kindred, MD College: Howard University Medical School: Washington University in St. Louis Hometown: Dallas, Texas Personal Interests: I enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, swimming and biking. I also love to attend outdoor festivals, carnivals and state fairs. Research / Career Interests: I look forward to reassuring young girls about changes in their bodies as they go through puberty, helping them to feel empowered as they decide to become sexually active or abstain, supporting them as they require obstetric care and helping them to navigate the changes caused by aging.

Dr. Mary Ayuk is an Immuno parasitologist at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. She received her Ph.D. in Biology from Howard University in 2011. She is a member of American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, the Third World Organization for Women in Science, and Sigma Xi. Her interest has been on genetic manipulation approaches to elucidate the function of relevant genes in parasites, consequently, based on the knowledge of those relevant host / parasites molecular mediators, developed other functional genomics tools (conventional RNAi and vector-based RNAi) in Schistosoma mansoni.

Raderrio Wilkins received his Bachelor of Science in Biology with an environmental concentration from Hampton University in 1997 and a Master of Science in Biology from Howard University in 2011 with a research concentration in aquatic ecology and microbiology. Mr. Wilkins has received numerous awards and acknowledgments for superior accomplishments in protecting human health and the environment. He is a Full member of the Howard University Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, the American Society for Microbiologists and Beta Kappa Chi.

Martha Gay is a 4th year PhD Pharmacology graduate student and previous Bridge to Doctorate recipient. She has successfully completed both her written and oral comprehensive examinations. Her departmental academic advisor is Dr. Robert L. Copeland and research advisor is Dr. Tamaro Hudson. Her research is performed at Howard University’s Cancer Center. They are currently collaborating with the VA Hospital on her dissertation project dealing with African American men and their relevance in prostate cancer. This semester Dr. Copeland and Miss Gay are diligently working towards her academic advancement into candidacy.

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Ms. Michaela E. Amoo is both an Alumna and continuing student of Howard University. She was the first Howard undergraduate to complete 3 undergraduate degrees, simultaneously, across two schools. Ms. Amoo was awarded a BBA in Actuarial Science (Insurance) Summa Cum Laude, a B.S in Mathematics Summa Cum Laude, and a B.A in Philosophy Summa Cum Laude. During her undergraduate studies, she was a member of the Dean's List, Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma Beta Sigma, and the Golden Key National Honors societies. Ms. Amoo chose to stay at Howard, and obtained her Master's in Electrical Engineering. Ms. Amoo is currently a PhD candidate, specializing in Reconfigurable Computing (Electrical Engineering).

Bethtrice Thompson is an alumnus of Jackson State University where she received her bachelor degree in Chemistry with a concentration in Forensic Science in 2008. She was also a participant of Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Program, and Louis Stokes Alliances of Minority Participation (LSAMP). Currently, Ms. Thompson is attending Howard University as a 4th year graduate student in pursuit of a Ph.D. in Biology. She was awarded a LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship Award in 2008. Ms. Thompson is a of Sigma Xi and is working on her Ph.D. thesis research at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

Naim Quail is a junior, sports medicine major at Howard University. During his years at Howard University, Naim Quail was accepted into the Drew Hall Honors Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the College of Arts and Science Honors Program. He participated in the LSAMP program in the summer of 2011 researching in chemistry with Dr. Talanova. Currently, Naim Quail on track to graduate in 2013.

Ashley Denise Henry is a Junior, Chemistry major at Howard pursuing a B.S. degree in chemistry. Aside from being a Howard University Legacy scholar, she received two awards from the Department of Chemistry in the spring of 2011. Ashley knew she was destined to pursue a career in medicine from a young age, and attended Monmouth County Academy of Allied Health and Science, a specialized high school, before becoming a proud Bison. She is currently conducting organic chemistry research with Dr. Oladapo Bakare and plans to attend medical school and become an infectious disease specialist with a concentration in HIV/AIDS.

Jamal A.L. Gwaltney a senior at Howard University from Baltimore, Maryland. He is an Applied Mathematics and Economics double major. During his time at Howard, Jamal has achieved many accomplishments, as a freshman, he received Howard University Department of Mathematics “Excellence in First Year Study Mathematics Award” in conjunction with the Louis Shapiro Math Scholarship. Jamal plans to pursue Master’s degrees in both of his fields of study, and obtain his Doctorate in mathematics from the University of Maryland.

Monica Adeleji is a senior honors student at Howard University. She is pursuing two Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Psychology, with a minor concentration in Chemistry. Monica has been an academic tutor through the LSAMP program since March 2010. She tutors Howard undergraduate students in Biology, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Physics. Ms. Adeleji is actively involved in various campus organizations, most notably the Health Professions Society and Beta Kappa Chi National Scientific Honor Society, and serves as the vice president for both organizations. After graduation in May 2012, Monica plans to go on to medical school in the fall.

Heba Elnaem is a senior pursuing two Bachelor of Science Degrees in Physics and Biology at Howard University. She is a tutor for the LSAMP program and has been tutoring extensively since her sophomore year. Ms. Elnaem has been very active in research and has participated in several on-campus and summer research programs. Her most recent research opportunity was through the Leadership Alliance Summer Program, where she worked in the lab of J.V. Shah at Harvard Medical School. After graduation, Heba intends to pursue a Medical Degree as well as a Masters of Public Health.

Chibuike Ezeibe is a senior biology major at Howard University. He is recognized as an honor student and member of many of prestigious societies such as the Beta Kappa Chi National Scientific Honor Society and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Alpha Chapter. He has been tutoring through the LSAMP Program since the fall of 2010. After graduation he is interested attending medical school where he will eventually pursue a MD and further specialize in internal medicine.
Brittany Hill is a Junior Biology major at Howard University pursuing her B.S. degree in Biology. She has worked as an academic tutor funded by a LSAMP grant since her freshman year at Howard. She was selected as a Cancer Research Intern at the NIH Bethesda campus for the summer of 2011. She focused on pediatric oncology, specifically on bone and muscle cancers. After her graduation in the fall of 2013, Brittany plans on participating in the NIH post-bac research program and then attending medical school. Brittany has been on the Dean’s List for all three years she has attended Howard and maintains a 3.65 GPA.

Khalea Wrensford is a Junior at Howard University pursuing her B.S. degree in Biology. She is an Honor Student in the University's College of Arts and Sciences and a tutor for the LSAMP Program. After she graduates in the spring of 2013, Khalea hopes to attend medical school. She has participated in the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) at Columbia University and studied abroad in Barcelona, Spain.

Kelly Brown is a junior at Howard University pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Medicine. She was accepted as a participant of the WHBR-LSAMP program in the fall of 2010; this program continues to cultivate her skills in the science and research field. Kelly was recently acknowledged on a publication with reference to the NMR levels of Dioxin in salmon oil and bacon fat. The WHBR-LSAMP has opened up many opportunities for her, dueling as a research assistant and teacher assistant, she is becoming diverse in the field of undergraduate research. Ms. Brown is currently working on the abstract of a new publication focusing on ethanol.

Klahe Butty is a junior LSAMP student at Howard University. For his research project, Klahe is participating in the project on the design of new fluorescent chemosensors for detection of hazardous lead ions in the environment. Klahe is in the process of preparing a poster for the undergraduate research symposium. After the completion of the BS degree, Klahe plans to enter a MD/Ph.D program.

Ruth Tessema is a senior biology major at Howard University. After arriving in the United States in 2005 from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Ruth began her education at the University of the District of Columbia. Owing to her resident requirements, she was able to become a LSAMP scholar. Currently, Ruth is her undergraduate degree at Howard University, and doing rigorous evaluation in order to pursue a lifelong dream of completing a Ph.D degree. Ruth is in the process of securing an exploratory volunteer internship related to the field of education. This internship will allow Ruth to meet and network with people early in her educational pursuit.

QuinTess Bond is a 17-year old dual enrollment senior at School Without Walls High School and Howard University. In the top 25 percent of her class, she is maintaining a 3.61 GPA while participating in many activities; including National Honor Society, African Culture Club, and softball. Outside school, QuinTess is a participant in the Upward Bound Program at Howard University where she was voted Senior Class Representative for the Class of 2012 and also won Most-All-Around Student. QuinTess is also a volunteer at Empower DC, a non-profit organization. After her completion of high school, QuinTess is eager to continue her studies majoring in Biology with a minor in Mathematics; her goal is to become an Orthodontist.

Christina De Bianchi obtained her B.S. from Howard University in Computational Physics in 2011. As an undergraduate, she served as a Louis Stokes Alliance Minority Participation Scholar, research assistant at the Howard University Computational Physics Laboratory, University of Wisconsin research intern, Princeton University Plasma Physics Laboratory technician, and an elementary school tutor in the Washington D.C. public school system.

Candice Brooks is a Senior Biology Major at Howard University’s College of Arts and Science. She is a member of Beta Kappa Chi Honors Society for Natural Science and Mathematics, and founding member of the D.C. undergraduate chapter of Phi Delta Epsilon International Medical Fraternity. She is currently conducting research in Neurodevelopment under Dr. Mark Burke at Howard’s University College of Medicine.
Michael Ongele is a junior at Howard University where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He is currently a LSAMP scholar working in the Howard University College of Medicine. Upon graduation, Michael plans on matriculating into medical school where he will pursue a MD/Ph.D. and looks forward to becoming a critical care internist in the Washington, D.C. area. Michael is a Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) alumni of the Duke University where he participated in a rigorous six-week summer program, which exposed him to the field of medicine and provided him with substantial clinical experience.

Kendall Williams, Mathematics. BS, 2005, Howard University. Since entering the Ph.D. Program, Kendall Williams has attended a numerous seminars and conferences and has conducted the following studies: Using Support Vector Machines to classify microarray data; while serving as an intern at the NSF, conducted a study on the progress of Mathematics majors being funded by the DOE; separating Miliken-Taylor Systems at Howard University. Kendall received his Ph.D. in 2010. He is currently Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the United States Military Academy.

April McLauchlin, Genetics. BS, 2003, University of NC, Chapel Hill. April took on a significant project involving FoxP3 and CTLA-4 Expression in Tumor and Natural Regulatory Cells as a Mechanism of Prostate Tumor Escape and Progression. April was awarded the Ph.D. in 2010 and is currently in medical school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Jennifer L. Nash is currently a graduate Applied Mathematics student at Howard University, Ph.D. Program. She was a recipient of the WBHR-LSAMP Fellowship in the Bridge to Doctorate program. She has obtained Bachelor of Sciences in Pure Mathematics at Central State University in May of 2008. In the summer of 2007, Ms. Nash participated in the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate summer program at The University of Iowa.

Jocelyn Myers, Biology. BS, 2003, Johnson C. Smith University. Jocelyn Myers received a NIH- Bridging the Career Gap for Underrepresented Minority Scientist. This funding allowed her to complete her Ph.D degree. Jocelyn worked on cysteine protease activity in Schistosoma mansoni. Due to her excellent research, she was invited to become a member of Sigma Xi. She has presented her research at several meetings (American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Annual Meeting, November 2007 Philadelphia PA; NSF- JAM June 2008 Washington DC. Jocelyn received her Ph.D. in 2010.

Sandra Dillahunt, received her Bachelor of Science in 2003 after completing her studies in Microbiology at Winston Salem College. Sandra is working on functional characterization of human and mouse sphingosine kinase I and 2 using short hairpin RNA. She has completed all of her necessary coursework for the Ph.D. degree and should receive the Ph.D. in May 2012.

Mellissa Fletcher, received her Bachelor of Science in 2004 after completing her studies in Chemistry at Howard University. Mellissa’s research is on the detection of benzopyrene-deoxyguanosine adducts by matrix assisted lserdesorptionionization time of flight mass spectrometry. In addition to a major publication, Mellissa has presented her research locally and at national meetings. Mellissa received her Ph.D. degree in 2009.

Adana Llanos, Genetics. BS, 2004, Howard University. Adana studied the associations among plasma adiponectin, leptin, folate, and IGF-I and age and BMI in women undergoing reduction mammoplasty. Adana has attended and presented in a number of conferences nationally. Adana received the Ph.D. in 2009. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at Georgetown University.
Kourtney Fulton, received her Bachelor of Science in 2004 after completing her studies in Mathematics at South Carolina State University. Kourtney was a participant in the Bridge to the Doctorate Program, and plans to teach mathematics at the college level and to become President of a University. In addition to tutoring students in mathematics, over the past three years she has attended and presented in the Joint Mathematics Conference. She has completed all of her course work and was admitted to candidacy in May, 2009. She hopes to complete the Ph.D degree by May, 2012.

Maya Holcombe. Received her Bachelor of Science in 2004 while attending Voorhees College. She is currently involved with research on the comparative DNA-fingerprinting of Japanese Flowering Cherries. Maya completed her Masters degree in 2011. And expects to be completing her Ph.D degree at Vanderbilt University by 2013.

Vic Boddie received his Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from Hampton University. Vic Boddie is currently working on his Ph.D. degree in Microbiology. He is studying bacterial isolates in ready to eat salads. Owing to this research, Vic was recently awarded the GK-12 fellowship this will allow him funding to complete his Ph.D. degree. Vic has attended and presented at two workshops (NSF Conference in Washington, D.C. for the Bridge to the Doctorate Program and the 2008 GK-12 Conference in Washington, D.C.). Vic should be admitted to candidacy in 2011 and expects to complete his Ph.D. degree in 2012.

Isabelle Garcia-Ramos, Anatomy. BS, 2005, University of Puerto Rico at H Macyaco. The limbic system-associated membrane protein (LAMP) is a 64-68 x lo(3) Mr glycoprotein that is expressed by subsets of neurons that are functionally interconnected. Isabel has worked with Dr. John Young on muscle regeneration in diabetic mice. She will work on one of these topics for her Ph.D. degree. Isabel will complete her qualifying exam for Ph.D. in October, 2012. She hopes to complete the Ph.D degree by May, 2013.

Thomas Hardy, Biology. BS, 2004, and Ph.D. in 2009 from Howard University. Dr. Hardy is an ecologist and seeks to understand how a biotic and abiotic factors influence species diversity within a given temporal and spatial domain. Dr. Hardy is interested in Phytotelmata, the fauna communities found within water-retaining structures of plants. Dr. Hardy is currently an assistant professor of biology at Virginia Union.

Sulman Rahmat, Anatomy. BS, 2004, Howard University. Sulman is working with Dr. Edwin H. Gilland on the evolutionary origins for social vocalization in a vertebrate hindbrain-spinal compartment. He is progressing in his studies and expects to be admitted to candidacy by December, 2011. He is to complete his Ph.D. by May, 2012. Sulman presented a poster at the Experimental Biology Meeting in Washington DC in April, 2011 and won a $250 Award for his abstract.

Shantelle Lucas, Microbiology. BS, 2004 North Carolina State University. Shantelle has been isolating primary cultures of fetal derived mast cells from mouse neonates. She has been using various transfection methods (transient, stable, and amaxa) in order to transfect sphignosine kinase 2 protein into the mast cells. Shantelle completed her Ph.D. degree in 2011. She is currently completing her postdoctoral studies at NIH.

Alicia Richardson, Mathematics. BS, 2004 Morgan State University. Alicia attended the 2006 Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio, Texas, January 12-15, the 2007 Joint Mathematics Meetings in New Orleans, Louisiana, January 5-8, and the 2008 Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego, California, January 6-9. She has passed one qualifying exam in Partial Differential Equations. She plans to take a second qualifying exam in Number Theory in January 2012, and the third qualifying exam in either Statistics or Cryptology the following May or August. She plans to apply for candidacy in the fall of 2012 and hopes to complete the Ph.D. degree by 2013.
Chiamaka Kalu received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 2004 from Claflin University. She is currently in the process of studying and characterizing the various lichens of rock samples collected from Rock Creek Park in Washington, DC. Chiamaka completed her Masters degree in May 2011. She is currently working at Johns Hopkins University.

Headley Murray, Computer Science. BS 2006, Howard University. Headley Murray and two of his classmates (Edwin Andrews, Kharim Ames) from Howard University were selected as the winning team of the Sixth Annual Microsoft Windows Media Player Skins Challenge, a unique college-level competition to create original user interfaces for the Windows Media Player. Due to this achievement, Headley was invited to become a member of Sigma Xi. Headley completed his M.S. degree in Computer Science during the summer, 2008. He is planning to enter the Ph.D program in Computer Science at Texas A &M University in January, 2012.

Peter McCalla, Mathematics. BS 2006, Morgan State University. Peter is working toward the Ph.D in Mathematics. His research topic in entitled *Elliptic Curves over Finite Fields*. He has completed all of his courses for the Ph.D degree. He plans to be admitted to candidacy in 2011 and should complete his Ph.D degree by May, 2013. In addition to his activity at Howard University, Peter served as a tutor in the Morgan University, Catch-Up Math Program. He was recently inducted into the Society of Sigma Xi.

Moses Ukaoma, Chemical Engineering. BS 2006, Howard University. He has won several awards for his LSAMP undergraduate research and was inducted into Sigma Xi as an undergraduate student. Moses decided to pursue graduate studies after his undergraduate training. His M.S. research is on characterization and modeling of the electrophoretic deposition (EPD) of silver nanoparticles. Moses has completed all of his coursework and has been admitted to candidacy for the M.S degree. He is scheduled to receive the degree in December 2011. He plans to continue the Ph.D. degree at Johns Hopkins University.

Belinda Hauser, Genetics. BS, 2006, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. Since entering Howard University, Belinda has been working on the detection of a gene copy of epidermal growth in established head and neck squamous cell carcinomas cell lines. This research has been presented at the American Association for Cancer Research(AACR) in San Diego, California. In June 2008, Belinda attended a workshop in clinical oncology in Aspen Colorado. Belinda defended her M.S. degree in the Fall of 2008. She is expecting to complete the Ph.D degree by May, 2013. She was recently inducted into the Society of Sigma Xi.

Duane Doles, Physics. BS, 2006, University of the District of Columbia. Duane has worked with Supernova Acceleration Probe (SNAP) at Fermilab. SNAP exposed Duane to satellite mission, which is advocated by both NASA and the Department of Energy. Duane is preparing for his Ph.D and hopes to complete this exercise by May, 2012. He should be admitted to candidacy by December, 2012 and the Ph.D degree should be completed by May, 2013.

John Johnson, Mathematics. BS, 2005, Texas A&M University. John is progressing in the Ph.D program in Mathematics. He is working with Dr. Neil Hindman, a mathematical genius, who have trained more Ph.Ds in mathematics than anyone in the country. John has attended several national conferences. John has completed most of his courses for the Ph.D and hopes complete the degree by May, 2012.

Joseph Williams, Chemistry; BS 2006, Miles College. Joseph is in the process of learning the mechanism of drug synthesis. During his research at Howard University, Joseph is using modem drug techniques involving screening small molecules’ for their ability to bind to a preselected protein target. Joseph is working with Dr. Joseph Fortunak, an expert in the production of various drugs used in the several disease conditions. Joseph in the process or completing his coursework. He should be admitted to candidacy by December, 2011 and hopes to complete his Ph.D May, 2013.
Christopher Agard, Biology. BS. 2007, Howard University. Every summer, Chris Agard works with Dr. George Middendorf in a study of a proscribed (deliberately set) forest fire in Southeastern Arizona at the Chincanua National Monument. The effects are examined in populations of spiny lizard, Sceloporus jarrovi. Christopher has attended and presented at numerous conferences and seminars. By the end of the fall semester, Christopher will have completed all the courses required by the Biology Department. He hopes to complete the process of candidacy by December, 2011. His Ph.D. degree should be completed by 2013.

Jorge Velez-Juarbe, Anatomy. BS 2007, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez. He has BS in Geology, and is a graduate student of anatomy with an emphasis in Vertebrate Paleontology. He is involved in the organization of the paleontological collection at the Department of Geology. He is making excellent progress in the Ph.D program, has published two papers and made presentations at international meetings, Jorge is a member of the Society of Sigma Xi. He will his Ph.D degree by May, 2013.


Kasey Davis, Anatomy. BS, 2006, Morgan State University. Kasey has an exciting project for her Ph.D work. Axon terminals synapsing on neurons in the nucleus tractus solitaries (NTS) originates from the central nucleus of amygdal (CeA). Kasey hopes to be admitted to candidacy during the upcoming academic year. She further hopes the her Ph.D degree should be completed by May, 2013.

Kimberly Mason, Microbiology. BS, 2004, St Augustine College. Kimberly is currently working on her Ph.D on the characterization of a nucleotide excision repair NER Defect (NER) defect in a Xeroderma Pigmentosum Cell. She has presented this research at several conferences(National Institutes of Health, Spring Research 2008 Conference, Bethesda, MD, May,2008;National Institutes of Health Summer 2008 Conference, Bethesda, MD, August 2008). She is making excellent progress toward her Ph.D degree and was admitted to candidacy in 2010. The Ph.D degree should be awarded by May, 2013.

Rhonda McCoy, Chemistry. BS, 2004, NC A&T University. Rhonda is working toward the Ph.D in Chemistry. Currently, she is working on the determination of cocaine, benzoylecgonine, cocaethylene and norcocaine in human hair using solid-phase extraction and liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometric detection. Her project for the Ph.D involves Density Functional Theory on DYP. In additional to her many seminars at Howard University, she has also presented at the Nanoscience Conference at Howard University. Rhonda completed her requirements for candidacy in 2010. She should receive the Ph.D degree by May, 2012.

Daniel Casimir, Physics. BS, 2002, Morgan State University. Daniel is working on his Ph.D degree in the area of Theoretical Physics. He is looking at a perverse sheaf approach toward a cohomology theory for string theory. In doing so, he and his major advisor( Dr. Abdul Rahman) present the construction and properties of a self-dual perverse sheaf S_0 whose cohomology fulfills some of the requirements of string theory as outlined by T. Hubsch in hep-th/9612075. Daniel has completed all of his course work. He was admitted to candidacy in December, 2009 and hopes to complete the Ph.D degree by May, 2013.

Mamadou M’Baye is a senior at Howard University, majoring in Sports Medicine with a minor in Chemistry. He is Currently conducting research in Neurology in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the Howard University, Mamadou hopes to obtain data outlining the effects of various drugs on the cognitive effects of pre-adolescent monkeys for insight into the human brain during development.
Abasi Bomani is a Junior Biology major, Chemistry minor at Howard University. Abasi realized the LSAMP program was fitting for him when his, now mentor, Dr. Galina Talanova explained the focus on her research project, which involves the measurement and potential extraction of heavy metal ions out of water. Abasi will be graduating with his Bachelor’s of Science in May 2013.

Kelly Boone is a senior Biology major and Chemistry minor at the Howard University. She is a member of the Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society, the Thomas B. Smith Biological Society, and the National Institute of Science. Ms. Boone interned at the Walter Reed Institute of Research for a summer. As a participant in the LSAMP program, she is currently working with the species Leishmania donovani and Taenia solium. After receiving her Bachelor in Science this school year, she anticipates attending graduate school to obtain her Ph.D. in Biomedical Research, focusing on virology and immunology.

Dr. Renee Lucille Forde is a Quality Assurance Auditor at Gene Logic where she is dedicated to improving quality systems that impact genomics service operations within the company. She is a proud graduate of Bennett College for Women where she received her B.S., and Howard University where she obtained her PhD. Renee’s graduate research identified the tissue specific-requirement of antioxidant superoxide dismutase 2, and its role in reversing age-related phenotypes in Drosophila melanogaster.

Chinedu Okpala is a Junior Mathematics major, Chemistry minor from Brooklyn, NY. He has been a participant in the WBHR LSAMP program since his sophomore year, performing research in the inorganic chemistry division. He realized STEM research was for him after sparking an interest in the discipline while enrolled in a general chemistry course. He plans on attending medical school after graduation.

Uzoma C. Ukaoma is an electrical/Computer Engineering major at Howard University. The LSAMP program has allowed him to be exposed to landmark innovations in gas chromatography, photonics, radiotelephony, and fiber optics, to name only a few areas. In addition, he has interned at Silorsky Aircraft in 2010 and at the Naval Air System Command in 2011. After the B.S. degree in 2013, he plans to work a few years in the field of electrical engineering and then to return to school to work on his Ph.D.

Jazzmine Miller is a Bachelor of Science student in Biology at Howard University with aspirations to attend pharmacy school continuing her education. While attending Howard University, participated in the LSAMP research program, as well as the COR research program. Ms. Miller has maintained a 3.35 GPA during her entire undergraduate. She has had the opportunity to participate in different volunteer opportunities benefiting various issues on health. Jazzmine has proven to be a major asset to her community as well as a true advocate of health education.

Dr. Marianne Siewe is currently a faculty member at Howard University College of Dentistry in the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. As a graduate student, she conducted research on infectious organisms. While in Dental school, she participated in summer research programs at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (OCBS), Baltimore, MD., where she assisted in the studies of the amount of Alkaline Phosphatase released by Osteoblastic cells as a result of Prostate Cancer as well as studies of Zinc effect on Prostate Cancer Cells in vitro.

Kenneth Boyd, Jr. is a Howard University junior student pursuing a B.S in biology. As an HCOP (Health Careers Opportunities Program) participant, MedDent Start Program attendee, and UPPER (University Partners in Progressive Emergency Research) research fellow at the Howard University Hospital, he discovered the WBHR-LSAMP program was for him when a professor referred the opportunity as Kenneth expressed his zeal for outside-of-the-classroom learning, he is exploring analytical chemistry with a focus on the synthesis and catalysis of inorganic compounds. He plans to obtain a PhD/DDS.
Dr. Eba Ongele, who currently serves as a science educator for Prince George’s County Public School system and as an adjunct faculty at Prince George’s Community College, received her Master’s and Doctoral Degrees in Biology from Howard University in 1993 and 2000, respectively. Dr. Ongele served as a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Maryland College of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland and as a public health laboratory specialist for the Association of Public Health Laboratories in Washington, DC.

Damien D. Myers is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University where he received a B.S. in biology with a concentration in biomedical sciences and a B.A. in chemistry in 2007. He began Howard as a Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Fellow in 2008 and is currently an Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Fellow. In addition, he is a member of the scientific fraternity Sigma Xi and is currently conducting sickle cell research at Howard University School of Medicine and is expected to graduate May 2013.

Chinyere Adaora Knight is originally from Detroit, MI, and is a doctoral student in the department of Microbiology at Howard University. Ms. Knight’s dissertation research involves investigating the biological and chemical properties of a novel strain of Bacillus with antifungal potential. Ms. Knight earned undergraduate degrees in chemistry and anthropology from Howard University in 2006. Ms. Knight was an investigator with the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) and the Howard University Science Engineering and Math (HUSEM) programs. Ms. Knight was a recipient of a Bridge to Doctorate Scholarship in 2008 to begin her graduate studies. She was inducted into Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society in 2009.

Bertina Cox, Chemistry. B.S., 2007, Winston Salem State University. Bertina received a NIH- Bridging the Career Gap for Underrepresented Minority Scientist. This funding will allow her to complete her Doctoral degree. Bertina is a third year student; she is currently enrolled in classes required for completion of her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Due to her academic accomplishments, she was invited to become a member of Sigma Xi. Bertina plans to receive her Ph.D in May 2014.

Helene Nguewou-Hyousse earned a BS in Electrical Engineering from Morgan State University in December 2006 Summa Cum Laude and a MSE in Bioinformatics from MSU in December 2010. Helene was a recipient of the MSU Graduate School Fellowship while completing her Master degree courses. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, where she accepted the MSU Fellowship. Her area of interest lies in Neuromorphic Engineering.

Steven Garcia is a senior industrial engineering major at Morgan State University. He is the recipient of the SEM Financial Award for fall, 2011. He was awarded 1st place at the 18th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at MSU in April, 2011. In November of 2010, he won 2nd place in the 2010 Boeing Company Business Case Competition Final at Morgan State University. He also received the SEM Financial Award for spring, 2011. He was a participant in the 2011 SEM Summer Research Program, authored a technical paper titled “Comparative Study: Energy Efficient Underfloor Air Distribution Systems vs. Conventional Air Distribution Systems” and presented at the 2011 SEM Summer Research Symposium at Morgan State University.

Suzanne Grey is a Doctor of Dental Surgery/ Masters of Public Health candidate of 2013 at the University of Maryland Dental School. She received her Bachelor’s of Science in Civil Engineering from Morgan State in 2006. She was the first student to enter the combined degree DDS/MPH degree funded through the National Institute of Health. Her efforts at the local level, lead to an election as National Vice President for the SNDA for the 2010-2011 academic year. In addition, Suzanne is in the in the process of publishing her research paper on her findings from her master’s thesis.

Donald Phillips is a Civil Engineer. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree at Morgan State University. While at Morgan, Donald had a cumulative GPA of 3.384. He realized in High School that STEM was for him, he always gravitated towards Science and Math and had an evident dislike of English. However, he loved doing presentations With some encouragement and support from some high school teachers, it wasn’t long before he found himself at Morgan State University in the Summer of 2007 in the PACE Program. He is a Structural Engineer for Wallace, Montgomery, & Associates, LLP and a graduate student at Johns Hopkins University. One day, he aspires to become a professor at his alma mater.
Montier Kess graduated from Morgan State University with a B.S. Industrial Engineering in 2009 and will earn her Masters of Engineering (concentration in Systems Engineering) in 2012. She has conducted summer research with KIMCOE and CIBAC from 2005 to the present. She participated in Summer Catch-Up Program and was a STEM Grant Recipient in 2009 & 2010. She is currently in graduate school at Morgan State University, full-time, and working full time as a defense contractor for DARPA, as a SharePoint Administrator/Developer.

Nnenna Ewing completed her B.S. in Engineering Physics from Morgan State University in 2008. As an undergraduate student, she served as a Clare Boothe Luce Scholar, and also participated in the SEM Financial Awards Program, as well as the SEM Summer Research Program. In 2007, Ms. Ewing presented her research at the Annual Morgan State University Research Symposium, and was awarded 3rd Place in the Physics/Engineering category for her project entitled “TSE Fear Conditioning System.” Post graduation in 2008, she completed her Masters of Engineering in Electrical Engineering soon after in May 2010 with her thesis project “An Investigative Study on Monitoring the Physiological Signs of Stress in Pilots.” Ms. Ewing currently is a U.S. government civilian, still working for the DoD in Aberdeen, MD.

Ofuje Daniyan received his B.S. in chemistry from Morgan State University in 2010 where he participated in the HBCU-UP Summer Research program in 2007 and the LSAMP (SEM) Summer Research Program in 2009. He is currently a 2nd year student at the University Of Maryland School Of Pharmacy.

Dr. Raenita A. Fenner earned her BS in electrical engineering from Morgan State University in May 2005. While at Morgan, Dr. Fenner was a participant in the SEM summer research program and presented her work at the LSAMP Summer Research Symposium at Norfolk State University in the summer of 2002. Dr. Fenner also held internships at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Wallops Flight Facility, and Southwest Research Institute. In August of 2007 and May 2011, Dr. Fenner earned her MS and PhD degrees respectively from Michigan State University. Dr. Fenner is now a member of the faculty at Loyola University Maryland in the Department of Engineering Science where she holds the Clare Boothe Luce Endowed Faculty Position.

Robert T. Mountain III: B.S. in Civil Engineering. He was awarded a summer internship with the US Army Corps of Engineers, in the summer of 04. While attending Morgan, Robert was inducted into Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. Upon graduation, in 07, he was commissioned into the US Army as a second lieutenant in the Infantry branch. In May 2009 Robert was deployed to southern Iraq in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While deployed, he was the platoon leader of a 30 man Motorized Infantry Platoon.

Dr. Sarah Womack participated in LSAMP Summer Bridge Program at Morgan State University (MSU) in 1994. She graduated summa cum laude from MSU with a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering then went on to pursue an M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial and Operations Engineering at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She has published in several peer-reviewed journals and currently works at Toyota Motor Manufacturing, North America in operations.

Charles Kelly is a graduating senior honor student at Morgan State University still working towards his Electrical Engineer B.S. degree. He has been able to maintain a 3.4 GPA in the past three years and is currently a member of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society and also a member of the National Society of Black Engineers. He has done internships with the Maryland State Highway Administration Office of Information Technology in Baltimore, MD and plans to further explore the broad range of engineering to find his specific interest which he would like to pursue as a career. He currently is working as a student with plans of graduating this May 2012, which LSAMP Summer Catch-Up program was a great contributor towards, and plans to go to graduate school immediately.

Dennis Jarrett II graduated from Morgan State University with a B.S. in electrical engineering. Dennis participated in the SEM Summer Catch-up Program and the SEM Financial Aid Program as well. The programs provided an opportunity to graduate quicker and gain experience while working in the engineering building. Experience from the program provided him the importance of team work and time management. He is currently working for KT Consulting as a Parent Classifier at Serco in Harrisonburg, VA.
Llavar Mindley graduated from Morgan State University in May of 2005 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He is currently working as a Field Application Engineer for a German Engineering company that has a U.S. office right outside of Atlanta, GA. While a student at Morgan State, he participated in several LSAMP/NSF supported programs. He was in the Summer Catch-Up Program as well as the Science, Engineering, and Math Financial Awards program.

Dr. Anthony Plummer Jr. is a senior research engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. He received his Ph.D. and Master’s degrees in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University in 2011 and 2007 respectively. His area of concentration is wireless networking and communications of which he has published many research papers. In 2005, he earned a Bachelor’s in Electrical Engineering from Morgan State University, where he participated in the SEM Summer Research Program. Dr. Plummer has also received many honors, including the Fitch Beach award for “Outstanding Graduate Student”, GEM Master’s and Ph.D. fellowships through Hewlett Packard and Intel respectively, and the Best Paper Award at the 2009 Globecom conference.

Carla D. Wheaden is a senior pursuing her Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering at Morgan State University. In her first year as a transfer student in the School of Engineering, she was recognized on the Dean’s List for academic achievement, and she achieved a 4.0 grade point average in her second semester. She was a research student in the LS-AMP Program-funded SEM Research Program at Morgan. In the spring and summer semesters she conducted research under the guidance of her professor in the design of an energy-efficient hybrid ventilation system for a commercial building. She has published the progress of her summer research project in the SEM Summer 2011 Research Journal, and she plans to continue in research as a graduate student in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research.

Justin Aneni earned his B.S. in Biology Pre-Medical track with a minor in Psychology from Morgan State University May 21, 2011. With grants from the LSAMP/NSF program, he began building research experience since his freshman year. With the skills acquired through research, he has written a professional student lab journal documenting his study and presented at several major research symposiums; including the HBCU-UP National Research Conference during his undergraduate career. He is currently pursuing a Master’s degree of Public Health from Morgan State University and is expected to graduate in May 2013.

Chester Nwachukwu is a senior electrical and computer engineering student at Morgan State University. He is recognized as an honor student and member of many of prestigious societies such as the Alpha Kappa Nu, Tau Beta Pi, and the Golden Key International Honor Society. Participating in the SEM Summer Catch-Up and SEM Financial Awards programs enabled him to excel in engineering, and exposed him to research opportunities and competitive internships. He has interned at Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago, Illinois and Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. After graduation he is interested attending graduate school where he will eventually pursue a PhD in electrical and computer engineering. Chester is overseeing a project where he and his colleagues are designing an online technical social network for his department, which he believes will revolutionize the way engineering students interact in an online platform.

Clarence Cupid is a senior student currently pursuing a B.S. in Industrial Engineering at Morgan State University. He participated in the SEM Summer Research Program in 2011, which was funded by the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP). This research entitled, Driver Performance in Night Time Driving, was presented at Morgan State University Symposium.

Mary O. Eesuola is currently a first semester senior at Morgan State University majoring in biology. She was accepted into the SEM Financial Awards Program in the fall 2010 Semester at Morgan State University, Civil Engineering Department. It was an honor to be able to participate in this program. She had the privilege of working in the Civil Engineering laboratory with Dr. Oguntimein. Working with Dr. Oguntimein helped in improving her research skills.

Kristen Selby is currently in her sophomore year at Morgan State University majoring in Electrical Engineering. This past summer Kristen has participated in Summer Catch-Up Program. She also will become SEM Financial Awards Program recipient for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year that will help her continue her education at Morgan State University.
**Natnael Jemal Ahmed** is a second year electrical engineering student at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. He has participated in programs such as CASA Program, Summer Cutch-Up Program and SEM Financial Awards Programs. He is also an Honors student. In addition, he is on the dean’s list with a cumulative GPA of 3.742. He is currently working hard to become an engineer and to be the first person to graduate from college in his family.

**Dacia Tarleton**, who holds a BS in electrical engineering from Morgan State University and a master’s in electrical engineering from Cornell University, graduated with her MBA from Georgia Institute of Technology in May 2011. While at Morgan State, Tarleton was a member of the Tau Beta Pi national Honor Society. During her junior year at Morgan State she was a recipient of the Duracell/NUL Scholarship/Intern Program for Minority Students. Today, she works as a senior consultant with North Highland. As an advocate for giving back to the community, Tarleton has lead projects with Hands on Atlanta and worked in the Atlanta non-profit community through Georgia Tech’s Pro Bono Consulting Program, which helps Atlanta nonprofits resolve key strategic challenges.

**Willie Smith** earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering in 1997 from Morgan State University and a M.S. degree in Systems Engineering from John Hopkins University in 2001. He began his career as an E-Business Consultant for IBM Global Services in 1997 and is currently a Quality Assurance Release Lead with UPS. While attending Morgan State University, Mr. Smith tutored and mentored with SEM Math & Science Tutoring Program. Also he received financial support to attend several conferences.

**Ugochukwu Madu** participated in the SEM Summer Research (Summer 2011). He joined the Morgan State University, Engineering program and became exposed more in depth to the STEM world. He was involved in researching about Solar panels as a source of energy and also researching about the accompanying electronic equipment that is necessary to make solar panel systems work. He was also involved in the design and optimization of an inverter- which is one of the electronic equipment that enable the use of solar panels. He has been on the Dean’s List at Morgan State, and he is also a student member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). He is currently in his senior year in the Electrical Engineering Program at Morgan State University.

**Angelitta Marie Britt** completed her B.S. in Mathematics in 2008 from Norfolk State University, where she was a full academic scholarship recipient and WBHR-LSAMP researcher. After graduation she was awarded the George Washington Carver Fellowship to attend Purdue University for the Ph.D. Angelitta participated in Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) national conferences and after completing her M.S. degree she began working as a consultant for Statistical Consulting Service (SCS), Department of Statistics, at Purdue.

**Tara Cousin** enrolled in Morgan State University in August 2003 with an undecided major. She decided to major Industrial Engineering and was a participant in the Summer Catch-Up program, a recipient of the SEM Financial Awards Program. She graduated in May of 2009 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Industrial Engineering, and landed her a promising career at Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona where she works as an Industrial Engineer for Electro-Optical Operations Center. She is currently the President of the National Society of Black Engineers for the city of Tucson.

**Karima S. Al-Bari** graduated from Morgan State University in 2008 with a B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering. As an undergraduate, Karima was mentored by Dr. John Wheatland, coordinator of LSAMP programs, and she was awarded each semester the Science Engineering and Mathematics financial award from 2004 to 2008. Between those years she was also a member of many other LSAMP Programs. With the support of the LSAMP programs, she was able to participate in the HBCU summit to report on Morgan State LSAMP student progress. Upon graduating, Karima landed a full time position with Clark Construction, LLC.

**Brian Roye** - B.S. Civil Engineering (Structural Engineering) May 2011. Brian started out doing architectural related courses at CCBC. After which, he transferred into Morgan as a freshman in the year 2007. He participated in one of the PACE summer program(Pre-accelerated Curriculum for Engineers. Brian participated in several summer internships; including the Bureau of Water and Waste Water (Storm Water Engineering) for Baltimore City. Brian is now pursuing his master’s degree in civil engineering with a concentration on structural engineering at Johns Hopkins University. He hopes to graduate in December 2012.
Brice Cannon performed research for the European Organization for Nuclear Research at the University of Arizona, and participated in a cultural immersion experience in Cairo, Egypt. He received his B.S. degrees in Optical Engineering and Applied Mathematics from Norfolk State University, May 2009. He is currently a Bridge to the Doctorate Fellow at the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a Ph.D. candidate in the Electrical Engineering program concentrating on photonics.

Dr. Nicholas Lumsden and Dr. Kimberly Lumsden are 2004 graduates of Norfolk State University from the department of Chemistry. While at NSU, both received the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences Scholarship. Upon graduation, Nicholas attended Eastern Virginia Medical School where he earned his M.D. in 2008; Kimberly obtained her M.D. degree from Penn State University. The former NSU alumni were married in May 2008. In 2011, the couple opened their first family medical practice.

Dr. Arthur Reynolds received the Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2011. He completed his undergraduate work at Norfolk State University as a Physics major and WBHR-LSAMP scholar. Dr. Reynolds was selected to present his research at several NSF funded conferences including HBCU-UP Undergraduate Research Symposium. Dr. Reynolds is currently practicing dentistry in North Carolina.

Dr. Jamila Crawford is an Obstetrics and Gynecology resident at the Texas Tech University School of Medicine. She is a 2003 graduate of Norfolk State University (NSU) with a B.S. degree in Biology Pre-Med and was the recipient of the WBHR-LSAMP research scholarship. She was a NSU student representative at the Thurgood Marshall Leadership Institute and Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference. She earned her MD degree from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC.

Phillip Hayes Jr. is the recipient of the Indiana Space Grant Consortium Masters Fellowship at Purdue University. He graduated with honors from Norfolk State University in May 2008 with a B.S. in computer Science. He interned with the National Association of Mathematics and Computational Science Institute, NASA, and Carnegie Mellon University. Phillip’s contributions to the project “Inventor’s Desk,” won him 2nd place at the Window Media Player Skins Challenge sponsored by Microsoft in 2007.

Brandon Little-Darku’s presentation on “Engineering Education Using Robotics” yielded him 1st Place at the WBHR-LSAMP Research Poster Competition in 2006. He received other awards also, Brandon received a B.S. degree from Norfolk State University and M.S. in Electronics Engineering with a concentration in RF Integrated Circuit Design and Bioelectrics in 2010 from Boston University. He currently works as an Electrical Engineer for the U.S. Department of the Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Jared Dixon participated in a cultural immersion experience in China and received a full academic scholarship from the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences (DNIMAS) program where he was a HBCU-UP scholar and tutor. Jared received the B.S. degree in Optical Engineering from Norfolk State University. He is currently a graduate student at the University of Maryland Baltimore County working with Dr. Anthony Johnson in ultra-fast spectroscopy.

Jerrod Young conducted research on at Norfolk State University (NSU) under the WBHR-LSAMP Program. Jerrod received his B.S. in Optical Engineering from NSU in May 2010. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Arizona, College of Optical Science, and co-op in the optics branch for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. He also served as intern with CREOL: College of Optics and Photonics, University of Central Florida Materials Research Sciences and Engineering Center (MRSEC), University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
Ashley R. Robinson is a Ph.D. candidate and a 2011 (M.S.) graduate in Computer Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute of Technology. In 2007, the National Science Foundation awarded her their prestigious graduate fellowship; as a student researcher, she holds four technical publications on her work with Human-Computer Interaction. As an undergraduate at Norfolk State University (NSU), she was a WBHR-LSAMP scholar and intern for IBM, Rice University, and NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. Ashley received the B.S. in Computer Science from NSU, May 2006.

Brandi R. Matthews won 1st Place in the Engineering competition for her work entitled “The Effects of Microwaves on Rectenna Devices” at the 2005 WBHR-LSAMP Undergraduate Symposium. Brandi is a 2008 (B.S.) and 2010 (M.S.) Electronics Engineering graduate of Norfolk State University. She is currently employed as a Nuclear Engineer for the Department of Defense.

Dovarius L. Peoples is a 2009 graduate from Norfolk State University (NSU) with a degree in Computer Science. In 2006, he participated in the WBHR-LSAMP Summer Research program at NSU, where he investigated Web credibility and Security. He was awarded the M.S. degree from the University of Maryland in Computer Science with an emphasis in Information Assurance (IA). He is currently the IA Branch Chief for the Department of Defense.

Samelia Okpodu was an Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence Scholar and participated in a cultural immersion experience in Morocco learning Arabic in 2007. She received her B.S. degree in optical engineering from Norfolk State University in 2008. She began graduate school at Howard University as a Bridges to the Doctorate Scholar in fall 2008. She is currently in her third year of her graduate program seeking a Ph.D. degree in physiology and serves as a National Institutes of Health intern. She has also travelled to Germany and France with the NSF PIRE program. After obtaining her Ph.D. in physiology, she plans to pursue the M.D. degree in ophthalmology.

Courtney Smith is a 2010 Optical Engineering graduate of Norfolk State University. She conducted research as a part of the WBHR-LSAMP program at Norfolk State University (NSU). Courtney is now investigating neural probes in the class 100 cleanroom at NSU while pursuing her M.S. degree in Electronics Engineering. She plans to earn a Ph.D. in Engineering Education.

DaShaun Joseph, a recipient of the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Science scholarship, earned a B.S. in Computer Engineering in May 2007 from Norfolk State University and M.S. from George Washington University. DaShaun entered Lockheed Martin's workforce as a stellar employee; her accolades include: Diversity & Inclusion SPOT Award and General Electric (GE) Scholar. She is currently a Senior Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin.

Annette Booker received the Dozoretz National Institute of Mathematics and Applied Sciences Scholarship, Gates Millennium Scholarship, and Bradley Graduate School Fellowship during her academic career. She received her B.S. in Computer Science from Norfolk State University and M.S. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute of Technology in 2006. Annette, a former WBHR-LSAMP scholar, is currently a Yield Engineer 2 at Samsung Austin Semiconductor in Austin, TX.

Edward Jackson received the Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools’ Proquest Thesis Award for thesis entitled: “Dynamic Output Analysis of a Port Simulation. Edward is a 2006 WBHR-LSAMP researcher, scholar, and graduate of Norfolk State University with a B.S. and M.S. in Electronics Engineering. Upon graduation, Edward transitioned to Aviation Missile Research Development & Engineering Center’s (AMRDEC) Software Engineering Directorate (SED) where he serves as Lead Mobile Applications Developer for the Precision Fires Manager Program Office in Huntsville, AL. There he was granted with the Missile Defense Agency Supervisory Cash Award for his exemplary contributions to technology.
Chantel Pinnock is a 2012 Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.) candidate at Temple University. She earned a B.S. degree in Chemistry from Norfolk State University where she served as a HBCU-UP/ WBHR-LSAMP Tutor. Her summer research and academic experiences include Summer Medical Education Program at Case Western Reserve University, Materials Research Science and Engineering REU at the University of Maryland College, and Virginia-Nebraska Alliance MCAT Prep Program at University of Richmond 2005. Chantel will begin a three-year surgical residency in 2012.

Timothy Jones earned a dual B.S. degree in Math and Optical Engineering (May 2007), and M.S. in Optical Engineering (May 2008) from Norfolk State University (NSU). As a WBHR-LSAMP scholar, he designed a replica of Cox Communications network. Timothy interned with Edwards Air Force Research Laboratory at the Edwards Air Force base in 2004, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (2005). He is currently a Nuclear Engineer in the Controls Engineering Division at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. In the Controls Engineering Division, he also serves as an Electrical Engineer and mentor to new engineers.

Angela N. Parker received her B.S. degree in Optical Engineering from Norfolk State University, May 2010 and a M.S. in Electrical Engineering with a concentration on Systems Engineering from Tuskegee University, May 2011. She interned with Argonne National Laboratory, (2007) and University of Arizona, (2008). Angela is currently working as an engineer for NAVSEA at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, VA.

Nikki Jackson obtained a B.S. and M.S in Computer Science from Norfolk State University (NSU). She was instrumental in organizing NSU’s first Video Game Institute designed to introduce students ages 14—19 to the world of video-game design. She also participated in internship opportunities across the globe including the Arctic Region Supercomputing Center in Fairbanks, Alaska. Nikki is currently an engineer at BAE Systems in Northern Virginia.

Oyindamola Oluwatimi is the 2010 recipient of the GEM Graduate and Purdue University Doctoral Fellowship where he is currently a Ph.D. candidate. He attended Norfolk State University (NSU) on a full scholarship and graduated with honors with a B.S. in Computer Science May 2011. Oyindamola studied in Japan and other internships included Iowa State University, Texas A&M, UCLA, and Johns Hopkins University. His research findings were showcased in several WBHR-LSAMP Symposia and HBCU-UP funded conferences.

Jacques Walker, a 2006 WBHR-LSAMP researcher at Norfolk State University completed his studies in Electronics Engineering with B.S. and M.S. degrees. He also participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) at Georgia Institute of Technology - Cyclic and Threaded Macromolecules. Jacques is an Electrical/Systems Engineer for Lockheed Martin Systems Integration in Owego, NY. Jacques is currently a Nuclear Engineer for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

Carolyn Reynolds obtained her B.S. degree in Optical Engineering from Norfolk State University in 2011. Carolyn also participated in HBCU-UP funded research projects and presented her findings at national meetings. Through her investigations she was able to acquire internships at Ball Aerospace & Technologies Incorporate and the University of Arizona where she is a Ph.D. candidate in Optical Sciences.

James Mathis is a 2011 Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences graduate of Norfolk State University (NSU) where he earned his degree in Physics. He realized his passion for Physics while participating in the Research Opportunities Program and Center for Emergent Materials program (funded by NSF). He also participated in the PACER program at Louisiana State University. He is currently, a first-year Applied Physics graduate student and Imes-Moore Fellow, at the University of Michigan with plans to focus on condensed matter physics.
Ebony Lanier obtained a B.S. in Computer Science in 2004 and M.S. in Electrical Engineering in 2006 from Norfolk State University (NSU). Ebony is currently an Electrical Engineer for NAVSEA. She is stationed in the Control Engineering Division at Norfolk Naval Shipyard where she uses technical expertise to ensure electrical systems are engineered effectively, operate safely and are reliable.

Kevin Santiago cultivated his love for science and technology at Norfolk State University (NSU) where he completed his B.S. degree in Optical Engineering in May 2011. While matriculating, he interned with Northrop Grumman Corporation, participated in WBHR-LSAMP initiatives, and is currently investigating ZnO Thin Films Characterization as a M.S. candidate (2013) in the Optical Engineering program at NSU. Upon graduation, he would like to obtain a Ph.D. in Materials Science.

Justin D. Griffin earned his B.S. degree (Cum Laude) in Computer Information Technology. While attending Norfolk State, Justin received numerous National and MEAC scholar-athlete awards. He is a Network Engineer on Northrop Grumman’s Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA) program. Justin is currently pursuing his Master’s of Business Administration with a concentration in Information Systems Management at Strayer University.

Kevin Reynolds is currently employed with NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA. His academic career began at Norfolk State University (NSU) where he majored in Physics and minored in mathematics. While matriculating at NSU, he participated in several research internships at Stanford Linear Accelerator, the Center for Materials Research, and most notably the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland, Germany. He recently graduated with a B.S. in 2007 and dual M.S. degrees in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University in May 2011.

Dr. Terra D. Irons is currently a toxicologist with the Department of Veterans Affairs, in Washington, D.C. She completed a B.S. degree in Chemistry from Norfolk State University. She was awarded a Ph.D. in Chemistry (May 2011) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was recognized for her studies on “Locomotion in larval zebrafish: Influence of time of day, lighting and ethanol” 2009 NeuroToxicology journal 30: 52-58. While interning for the Federal Bureau of Investigations she authored “Acute Neuroactive Drug Exposures Alter Locomotor Activity in Larval Zebrafish,” which was published in Neurotoxicology and Teratology 32: 84-90.

Dr. Taina D. Cleveland began her career at Norfolk State University (NSU). She was a 2003 recipient of the WBHR-LSAMP award; her scholarly work on “Isolation and Characterization of Putative Dipeptidyl Peptidase IV from Southern Copperhead Venom” was recognized at national conferences including HBCU-UP. Taina’s success is a wonderful example of achieving excellence through education! She recently obtained her Ph.D. (May 2011) in Materials Science and Engineering at NSU. Her doctorate research was completed in the Center for Materials Research at NSU.

Jarrett Blythe of Norfolk State University, was named as the 2008 – 2009 Recipient and National Scholarship of the Year by the Charles R. Drew Memorial Scholarship Commission. He was awarded the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Science full academic scholarship in 2006. Jarrett completed his undergraduate studies as an Optical Engineering major in 2010. He also received a $10,000 award from National Science Foundation in 2010. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA.

Jason Allen is a senior Computer Engineering major at the University of the District of Columbia. Jason plans to pursue a Ph.D. upon completion of his BS degree. He presented a poster at the 2010 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM (ERN). In 2011, Jason did a summer REU sponsored by the ARTSI Alliance (Advancing Robotic Technology for Societal Impact) at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of the UDC FireBots, and has participated in robotics competitions and ARTSI conferences.
Oluwakayode Bamiduro obtained his BS in Mechanical Engineering degree (cum laude) from the University of the District of Columbia in 2006. His participation as an LSAMP scholar afforded him the opportunity to further his education at Norfolk State University. Currently, as an IGERT (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship) participant, he is on a Doctorate degree track at Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA studying Materials Science and Engineering. The focus of his research is in thin film growth mechanism and characterization for solar cell applications.

Justin Bradley is a Computer Science Technology major in the University of the District of Columbia Community College. Summer 2011 was Justin’s first experience as an LSAMP participant. He was in the Computer Science workshop, preparing for the programming language course required by his degree. He plans to transfer to the four year BS degree program at UDC upon completion of the two year degree. Justin is looking forward to continued LSAMP participation.

Marsha Collins is a junior Biology major at the University of the District of Columbia. Marsha participated in LSAMP during the summer 2011 in a Mathematics workshop to strengthen her skills and increase her readiness for Calculus. Marsha felt confident and prepared at the completion of the workshop. Marsha plans to continue her studies after graduation in either graduate or medical school.

Damien Damte graduated from the University of the District of Columbia in 2011 with a BS in Information Technology. As an LSAMP participant, Damien researched the use of robotics in the classroom. His focus was as an adjunct to the early programming courses in the Computer Science Department. Damien was a member of the UDC FireBots robotics team and traveled with the team to conferences and competitions. He also did research in mobile phone applications and developed along with his team an application for the Apple iPhone. He presented a poster at the 2010 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM (ERN). He is currently contemplating graduate school.


Adama Diatta graduated with a BS in Computer Science from the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) in 2007. He continued his studies at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, VA. In 2009, he received an MS degree in Computer Science from Norfolk State. At the present time he is living and working in New York. He is a Software Test Engineer with Fujitsu Network Contemplating graduate school.

Gerald Emamali graduated with a BS in Computer Science from the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) in 2005. An LSAMP participant he attended a symposium in 2004 where he was offered a full graduate study scholarship to Norfolk State University (NSU), where he received a MS in Computer Science in 2007. He worked as a software engineer with IBM in Cambridge, MA. during a summer internship. After graduating from NSU, he worked as a network engineer for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He is currently an associate engineer at Booz Allen Hamilton, where he manages an operations team supporting the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and is also the lead systems engineer for Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) at the DIA.

Togba Liberty received an MS in Computer Science in 2011 and he is currently pursuing a MS in Electronics Engineering, both from Norfolk State University in Norfolk, VA. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of the District of Columbia with a BS degree in Computer Science in 2008. While at UDC, he won 3rd place in the Computer Science poster presentation category at the Washington, Baltimore, Hampton Roads Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) 5th Annual Conference where he presented a poster on a project based on robotic programming of the Sony AIBO dogs.
**Dion John** earned a BS in Computer Science from the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) in 2006 and a MS in Computer Science from Norfolk State University (NSU) in 2008. During his academic pursuits at UDC he participated in the LSAMP program for three years performing research along with his peers. He concentrated primarily on what was then the relatively new Microsoft .NET framework. During a LSAMP symposium he was offered a full scholarship for his graduate studies at NSU. Following graduation Dion began a career as a Programmer Analyst at Goldman Sachs & Company, New York, NY.

**Moeti Masiane** is a cum laude graduate of the University of the District of Columbia. He received a BA Applied Computer Science in 2005. After working for a few years, Moeti enrolled in Norfolk State University where he received a MS Computer Science in 2010. Moeti is now an IT resident with Google in Mountain View, CA.

**Glenn Nickens** received a BS Computer Science degree in 2007 from the University of the District of Columbia. In 2011 he received an MS Computer Science degree from Norfolk State University. Glenn works as an Applications Designer at Computer Services Corporation in Rockville, MD and is planning a return to graduate studies.

**Kafayat Olayinka** is a senior Physics major at the University of the District of Columbia. In summer 2011, she participated in the LSAMP Computer Science workshop to learn C++ programming. Kafayat also participates in STEM at UDC and is doing research with this program in Fall 2011. Kafayat plans to attend graduate school when she completes her four year degree.

**Aldrin Peralta** is just beginning his studies as a Computer Science Technology major in the University of the District of Columbia Community College (UDC CC). Aldrin participated in an LSAMP workshop summer 2011 where he learned C++ programming and will be more than able to keep up with this all important gateway course to a Computer Science degree. He plans to complete the Computer Science Technology AAS degree and then transfer to the flagship school for completion of a four year BS degree in Computer Science.

**Sean Smith** is a 2011 graduate of the University of the District of Columbia. His degree is a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently working on my Masters of Mechanical Engineering at Oakland University in Auburn Hills, MI. Sean works for Chrysler LLC as the Energy Specialist for the Powertrain.

**Joi Upton** is a senior at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) in Washington, DC. She is pursuing a BS in Computer Science and expects to graduate in May 2012. Joi has consistently made the Dean’s List and has also received an Academic Excellence Award, for having one of the highest GPA’s in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Joi is an LSAMP tutor. In summer 2010, she interned at Auburn University, Auburn, AL, and conducted research on game design, educational gaming and virtual environments. Along with two other students, she developed an application for a touch screen device that could be used in early elementary classrooms. In the summer of 2011, she went to New London, CT to intern at The Coast Guard Academy where she was a robotics mentor for high school students.

**Brodie Whitehead** earned his B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering from Virginia State University in May 2010. He was LSAMP student who worked on analytical study of thermal problems in manufacturing. He has presented his findings in this area at undergraduate conferences. Mr. Whitehead currently works for Newport News Shipbuilding Company and pursing a Master’s of Science in Material Science and Engineering at Norfolk State University.

**Kenneth King** earned his B.S. in Computer Engineering from Virginia State University in May 2011. He was an LSAMP scholar. He presented his research at NSF sponsored conference and was awraded first prize. In Summer 2009, he became the Student Ambassador for NASA Langley . He completed four NSF funded internships, at NASA Langley, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and two at Virginia State University. Currently, he works for Booz Allen Hamilton in the Criminal Investigations Management Information System (CIMIS), Asset Forfeiture Tracking and Retrieval (AFTRAK), and Redesign System Projects. Mr. King also works as a System Administrator for the Internal Revenue Service.
Christina Crawford graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2011 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Psychology. She was accepted into the Master’s of Psychology program at Virginia State University in August of 2011. As an undergraduate student, Christina was an LSAMP scholar, she researched *The Effects of Age and Body Mass on Cardiovascular Reactivity to Stress*. Christina has presented her research at the ERN conference, and the Virginia Psychological Association Convention.

Joe Allain Dollete earned his B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering from Virginia State University in May 2009. He was an LSAMP Scholar who worked on *The Effect of Compacting Pressure and Sintering Temperature on Copper Powder Metallurgy*. He received the Educational Advancement Alliance Graduate School Fellowship in STEM and went to Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ and graduated in May 2011 with a Master in Engineering in Mechanical Engineering with concentration in Manufacturing Processes. In Fall 2011 he became a faculty at Virginia State University, in the Department of Technology.

A. Hassan Abraham graduated from Virginia State University in December 2007 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering. He was an LSAMP scholar from 2006-2007. Hassan continued his graduate studies at VSU and completed his Master’s in Computer Science in May 2010. Currently, Hassan works as System Analyst at Luckstone and as an Adjunct instructor at VSU in the Computer Science Department.

Tashia Brewer graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2010 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Psychology. Upon graduation, She entered the Master’s of Psychology program at Virginia State University. Tashia was an LSAMP 2010 Summer Research Intern. She was able to present her research at various undergraduate research conferences and she also co-authored two published research reports. In addition, Tashia won first place for her poster presentation at the 2009 National Conference supported by NSF.

Brittany Johnson graduated from Virginia State University in December 2010 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics. She is currently pursuing her graduate studies in Computer Science with Concentration in Computer Security and Information at VSU. As an undergraduate, Brittany researched *Child Saver: Cross-Platform Visualization Display* derived from a Collaboration of Databases on LSAMP 2010 Summer Research Internship.

Latasia Jones was an LSAMP scholar from 2009-2010. She graduated with a B.S. in Biology in May 2010. Her undergraduate research has been presented at the annual meeting of the Virginia Academy of Science and the Plant and Animal Genome Society. Also as an undergraduate, Latasia two of her works published. Ms. Jones is now pursuing her M.Sc. degree. She spent Summer 2011 in Ghana and now she is working towards a career in Tropical Medicine.

Terrell Jones graduated from Virginia State University in Fall 2010 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Computer Engineering. He is currently pursuing his Master’s in Project Management at Virginia State University. As an LSAMP scholar, Terrell researched *Stolen Car Recovery Systems*. He had the opportunity to present his research at NSF supported conferences.

Ebony Asburry-Taylor graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2010 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Psychology. She entered the Master’s of Psychology program at Virginia State University in the Fall of 2010. As a participant in HBCU-UP funded research, Ebony presented at two undergraduate research conferences—the HBCU-UP National Conference and the Virginia State University.
Vinay Ramsay graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2011 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Biology. During his time at VSU, he presented research at the VSU undergraduate research conference in 2010 and 2011. He is currently a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army.

Nakiesha "Danielle" Bridgers graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2007 with a B.S. degree in Biology. Currently, she is pursuing her Doctorate in Fisheries and Wildlife at Clemson University. While an undergraduate at VSU she was an LSAMP scholar (2006-2007) and conducted a research on Bunchgrass Lizards in Arizona. She co-authored a publication of this research in the peer reviewed journal, Herpetological Review.

Desmond Crawley graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2011 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Psychology. He was accepted into the Master of Divinity program at Virginia Union University School of Theology. He will begin the program in the Spring semester of 2012. While an undergraduate student, Desmond was an LSAMP scholar. He researched The Spirituality, Gender, and Cardiovascular Reactivity to Stress. He presented his research at the ERN conference, and at the Virginia Psychological Association Convention.

William Person is a junior student in Manufacturing Engineering program in Virginia State University. He was an LSAMP scholar who worked on energy-efficient house by studying energy lost from windows. His findings were presented in undergraduate research conference. Currently, Mr. Person is working on sun-tracker for improving efficiency of solar panels in harvesting solar energy.

Micahel Westbrook graduated May 2010 with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. He is currently pursuing his Masters in Electronic Engineering at Norfolk State University and will graduate in May 2012.

Tierra Alvin graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2009 with a B.S. degree in Biology. She was 2006-2007 LSAMP scholar and together with Ms. Bridgers, conducted research on bunchgrass lizard biology in Arizona, resulting in a publication in the peer reviewed journal Herpetological Review.

Naseer Conway is a junior student in Manufacturing Engineering program in Virginia State University. He was an LSAMP scholar who worked on Centrifugal casting. He fabricated several parts under different conditions and measured physical and mechanical properties to find optimum manufacturing process condition. He presented his findings in this area in few undergraduate conferences.

Myishia Cowell is a Junior Computer Engineering student at Virginia State University. As an LSAMP scholar, she works on the creation of a standard operating procedure for the QC5000 printed circuit boards.

Jennifer Leach graduated from Virginia State University in December 2010 with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. Jennifer has been admitted to a graduate school but deferred her enrollment until next Fall.

Oneil Paul is a senior Computer Engineering student and will graduate from Virginia State University in May 2012.
Nacole King graduated at Virginia State University in May 2010 with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. Nacole is currently pursuing graduate studies at North Carolina State University. As an LSAMP Scholar, Nacole conducted research which presented at the LSAMP Conference.

Reneisha Hill graduated from Virginia State University in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. In Fall 2011 she started her Master’s at Howard University. She along with four other undergraduate students worked on a research topic related to Image Compression and Digital Wavelet Transformation. While an undergraduate student, Reneisha participated in the Emerging Research National (ERN) Conference and NSF supported conference at VSU.

Leeneka Mair graduated from Virginia State University in May 2011 with a degree Bachelor’s of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology. While an LSAMP scholar she worked on tensile strength testing in friction stir welds.
## STEM Areas of Students in the Eastern Region

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<th>Alliances</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Life Science</th>
<th>Math/Computer Science</th>
<th>Physical Science</th>
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<td>794</td>
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<td>318</td>
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</table>
Underrepresented Minorities: A Rich Pool of STEM Talent LSAMP Alliances

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