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Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FASEB MARC PROGRAM ANNOUNCES THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2009
POSTDOCTORAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT AWARD**

Bethesda, MD – The FASEB MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) Program is pleased to announce the selection of six early career scientists as recipients of the 2009 FASEB Postdoctoral Professional Development and Enrichment Award. The FASEB Postdoctoral Professional Development and Enrichment Award (funded by a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health) was established to recognize outstanding achievement by an early career life scientist from an underrepresented minority group. These awards are primarily intended for advanced postdoctoral fellows or new assistant professors who will be able to utilize these resources to gain knowledge, skills and training to enrich their competitiveness for research funding, publication in top tier journals and employment in prestigious research intensive settings.

The six recipients of the 2009 award are:

- **Lydia Contreras, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Wadsworth Center – New York State Department of Health, Center for Medical Sciences – (*ASBMB Member*)
- **Carolyn Fisher, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Associate in the Radiation Biology Department of Duke University (*ASPET Member*)
- **Keith Keene, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, University of Virginia (*ASHG Member*)
- **Tennille Leak, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh (*ASHG Member*)
- **Veronica Lopez, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University (*ASNS Member*)
- **Julius SternJohn, Ph.D.**, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Microbiology, University of Minnesota (*ASBMB Member*)

Recipients of the award receive a \$3,000 unrestricted career development award and a certificate of recognition. In addition, a travel award up to \$2,500 is provided to each award winner to support his/her participation in a national scientific meeting. This is the second year that the FASEB MARC Program will make these awards.

For more information, please visit The FASEB Postdoctoral Development and Enrichment Award website: <http://www1.faseb.org/postdocprofdevaward/>. The [FASEB MARC Program](#) is funded by a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health. A primary goal of the MARC Program is to increase the number and competitiveness of underrepresented minorities engaged in biomedical and behavioral research.

FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 90,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. Our mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to its member societies and collaborative advocacy.