The FASEB MARC Program unveiled a ‘new look’ for 2003 with the addition of the FASEB MARC “Career Corner” booth at the Beta Kappa Chi (March), SACNAS (October) and the ABRCMS (October) conferences. The “Career Corner” offers one-on-one/group mentoring and career counseling services and information provided by Dr. Howard Adams, President of HG Adams & Associates, Inc.

Based on the booth visits at the SACNAS and ABRCMS conferences in October, the response to “Career Corner” has been overwhelming! Students and junior faculty members alike took advantage of the opportunity to sit down and chat one-on-one with Dr. Adams and Ms. Jacquie Roberts (who provided resume/CV critiques).

As a special bonus, visitors to the “Career Corner” received an autographed copy of “Get Up With Something On Your Mind” by the author, Dr. Howard G. Adams.
**What We’ve Been Doing**

**Travel Awards to Scientific Meetings**

The FASEB MARC Program recently awarded travel grants to the following for meetings held during the July 2003-June 2004 grant period: **ABRCMS 2003**: Poster Presenters: Naomi Abrams, Alabama State University; Anastasia Amoakoh, College of St. Elizabeth; Lorena Bagain, Chaminade University; Stephanie Buckley, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Michelle Caleb, Savannah State University; Kamun Chan, Bard College; Kelly Diggs, Alabama State University; Nada Elbuluk, Arizona State University; Charlene Fajardo, Chaminade University; Adrienne Goodrich, Thomas Jefferson University; Rasheeda Hawk, University of Southern California; Marlon Hudson, Alabama State University; Oluwakemi Johnson, University of Pittsburgh; Melissa Liriano, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Alexander Lodge, Grambling State University; Jessica Mercer, Howard University; Nicole Onyeneho, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; John Osiri, Grambling State University; Clarence Owens, Hartwick College; Vanessa Rosario, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Alicia Sherrell, Delaware State University; Terri Stoner, Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine; Ryan Susa, Rochester Institute of Technology; Ericka Thomas, Spellman College; Brandon Walker, Grambling State University; Jennifer Waller, Grambling State University; Raquel Washburn, Chaminade University; Danielle York, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Regina Celestin, Stanford University; Patricia Nugent, Delaware State University; Nicole Torres, University of Puerto Rico-Humacao; Lucieann Vechioi, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. **FACULTY/MENTOR & STUDENTS**: Dr. Paul Copeland, Hector Caban and Alexandra Rodriguez, UMDNJ; Dr. Harriette Howard-Lee Block, Stacy Lloyd and Latasha Rabsatt, Prairie View A&M University; Dr. James Raynor, Ashley Cheek and Lauraysha McMillan, Fayetteville State University; Dr. Granville Wrenford, Kenya Lemon, and Joyce Roberts, Albany State University.

**SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF REPRODUCTION MEETING 2003**: Poster Presenters: Olga Bolden-Tiller, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Carmencita Rojas Cartagena, Ponce School of Medicine; Rocio Rivera, University of Florida; Seydou Samake, Fort Valley State University; Dr. Juan Ramirez, Carla Candelaria and Julisa Delgado, University of Puerto Rico. **SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY MEETING 2003**: Graduate Student: Franklin Nwagbara, Florida A&M University; Poster Presenter: Chonnettia Jones, Emory University.

For more information about the FASEB MARC Program Travel Awards to Scientific Meetings, visit our website: https://ns2.faseb.org/marc

“I have developed into a more confident researcher thanks to the pure exposure in science I have received as a participant in FASEB MARC’s research conferences as a Travel Awardee. Kudos to the great folks at FASEB MARC!”

Lisa McPhatter, Ph.D. Student, Duke University

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**MARC Student Day at Experimental Biology 2004 and the EB2004/FASEB Minority Student Workshop**

Since 1996, the FASEB MARC Program has co-sponsored the AAA/FASEB Minority Student Workshop at the Experimental Biology (EB) meetings. For 2004, the AAA and FASEB will be joined by three additional EB2004 participating societies (ASPET, AAI and ASIP) in the planning and sponsorship of the upcoming EB2004/FASEB Minority Student Workshop. Dr. James Story (above) of Meharry Medical College and a member of AAA, is the chair of the MARC Student Day at EB2004 Committee and organizer of the EB2004/FASEB Minority Student Workshop. The MARC Student Day at EB2004 activities are scheduled for Monday, April 19, 2004. Information about the MARC Student Day at EB2004 activities is available on the FASEB MARC Program website at: https://ns2.faseb.org/marc
MARC Visiting Scientists Program

FASEB Members Bring Expertise, Influence to Minority Institutions

Durisala Desaiah visited Savannah State University in 1999 and 2001 through FASEB's Visiting Science Program for Minority Institutions. Each visit lasted only a week, but according to Chellu S. Chetty, a professor of biology at Savannah State, the impact of Dr. Desaiah's stay has endured.

Dr. Chetty says that during his time there, Dr. Desaiah:

· Increased the awareness of biomedical research in healthcare system and of opportunities for minority students in graduate and medical programs;
· Provided one-on-one mentoring to undergraduate students and peer-review advice to faculty members preparing research proposals;
· Provided hands-on experience for postdoctoral fellow and undergraduate students in advanced research techniques;
· Delivered class room lectures and faculty seminars in topics closely related research being conducted at Savannah State University; and
· Offered guidance in the preparation of posters and manuscripts for presentation and publication respectively.

"Long after his departure, as a result of his continuing association with Savannah State, students and faculty were able to present two posters, one at the 9th Internal Congress of Toxicology, Brisbane, Australia on July 8-12, 2001, and another at the International Society of Neuroscience-Rio Satellite Meeting, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in August 2001," Dr. Chetty said. "And, we were able to present another paper at the ASBMB/ASPET joint meeting in Boston, Mass., in 2000."

This is one of the many success stories to come out of the Visiting Scientists program, FASEB's 21-year effort to arrange for visits by members of the Federation's constituent societies to minority institutions. The program, funded by the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Programs through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), provides opportunities for education and research at minority colleges and universities by interaction with distinguished investigators in the biomedical sciences.

As did Dr. Desaiah, a member of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the visiting scientists can provide guidance on curricula, advise students on career choices, discuss opportunities for biomedical research, and convey the excitement that can be derived from a career in the life sciences. "We've presented papers at FASEB society meetings, attended FASEB sponsored summer research conferences and attended grant writing seminars," said Dr. Chetty, who serves as a member of the FASEB/MARC Advisory Board. Dr. Chetty was able to develop successful grant applications and received close to $2 million from NIGMS, allowing him to start a research laboratory and hire a postdoctoral fellow and a few undergraduate students. One of these students was Johnny Johnson, who benefited greatly from the visiting scientists program and other MARC activities.

"Many undergraduate students at minority institutions usually lack exposure in research," Dr. Chetty said. "This program is highly beneficial to the undergraduate institutions like Savannah State University. It provides students an opportunity to interact with the scientists and faculty from research-intensive institutions. The visiting scientists also provide the information about the summer internships available at their institutions. If the visiting scientist has served on NIH/NSF review panels, as in the case of Dr. Desaiah, he/she can provide ideas and suggestions for the preparation of effective grant proposals by the faculty at the host institutions."

The FASEB/MARC program sponsored Dr. Chetty and Mr. Johnson to attend the Boston meeting, where Mr. Johnson presented a paper that was published in 2001 in the International Journal of Toxicology and received the 2001 American College of Toxicology President's Award for the best paper published in International Journal of Toxicology. Johnny parlayed these accolades into a summer research position at the State University of New York at Stony Brook (SUNY) in summer of 2001 and eventually gained admission to the graduate school there with a five-year scholarship and tuition waiver. He said that he owes much of his success to Dr. Desaiah's visit.

Dr. Desaiah said such testimony is the main reason he began participating in the program years ago. Through it, he's developed relationships with scientists at many Historically Black Colleges and Universities, including Jackson State University, Selma University in Alabama, Alcorn State University in Mississippi and Tougaloo College.

In spite of the benefits to be gained from participating in the Visiting Scientists program, FASEB has seen a drastic decline in the number of FASEB scientists applying to the program. In 1996, 18 FASEB scientists applied to the program, and 17 awards were made.
MARC Visiting Scientists Program

For the July 2001-June 2002 grant period, only 2 scientists applied to the program with two awards made.

Jacquelyn Roberts, the program director for the FASEB MARC Program, said the program is not well utilized. Dr. Chetty agreed: “The program and its objectives need to be known so that they can communicate with their colleagues who can provide the much-needed technical help to the minority institutions,” he said.

FASEB accepts applications for the Visiting Scientists program year-round. For more information on participating in the program, contact the FASEB MARC Program at (301) 634-7020, or e-mail at marc@faseb.org or visit the FASEB MARC Program website and sign-up to become a FASEB MARC Visiting Scientists TODAY at http://ns2.faseb.org/vsp/vspapp.asp

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FASEB Visiting Scientists Program Activity

The FASEB MARC Program sponsored Visiting Scientists for the following institutions between July 2002-September 2003:

- Universidad Metropolitana hosted Dr. Thomas Landefeld of California State University, Dominguez Hills on October 17-21, 2002.
- California State University, Dominguez Hills hosted Dr. Lovell Jones of the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Center on November 4-5, 2002.
- Hampton University hosted Dr. Wilma Olson of Rutgers University November 20-21, 2002.
- Hampton University hosted Dr. Bernard Chasen on November 20-23, 2002.
- Universidad Metropolitana hosted Dr. Thomas Landefeld of California State University, Dominguez Hills on November 21-24, 2002.
- University of Hawaii at Manoa hosted Dr. Johnny He of the Indiana University School of Medicine on November 24-28, 2002.
- Savannah State University hosted Dr. Howard Adams of HG Adams & Associates, Inc. on January 14, 2003. MARC-sponsored Faculty/Student Career Development Seminars & Workshops.
- Jackson State University hosted Dr. David Morrison of GWSW, LLC and Dr. Anthony Coelho, Jr. of NIH/OD on February 20-21, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program.
- Southern University hosted Dr. Dorothy Hudig of the University of Nevada-Reno on March 12-14, 2003.
- California State University, Dominguez Hills hosted Dr. Juliette Bell of Fayetteville State University on March 13-14, 2003.
- Hunter College, CUNY hosted Dr. Stephen Russell of GWSW, LLC and Dr. Anthony Coelho, Jr. of NIH/OD on March 20-21, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program.
- Benedict College hosted Dr. Jamboor Vishwanatha of the University of Nebraska Medical Center on April 14, 2003.
- University of Puerto Rico at Humacao hosted Dr. Lawrence Berliner of the University of Denver on April 21-25, 2003.
- Tuskegee University hosted Dr. David Morrison of GWSW, LLC on June 4, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program for NSPAA.
- Savannah State University hosted Dr. Howard Adams of HG Adams & Associates, Inc. on August 8, 2003. MARC-sponsored Faculty/Student Career Development Seminars & Workshops.
- University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas campus hosted Dr. Howard Adams of HG Adams & Associates, Inc. on August 27, 2003. MARC-sponsored Faculty/Student Career Development Seminars & Workshops.
- University of Houston hosted Dr. David Morrison of GWSW, LLC and Dr. Anthony Coelho, Jr. of NIH/OD on September 16-17, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program.
- University of Texas at Brownsville hosted Dr. David Morrison of GWSW, LLC and Dr. Anthony Coelho, Jr. of NIH/OD on September 18-19, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program.
- Universidad Metropolitana hosted Dr. Howard Adams of HG Adams & Associates, Inc. on September 19, 2003. MARC-sponsored Faculty/Student Career Development Seminars & Workshops.
- Texas A&M, Corpus Christi hosted Dr. Stephen Russell of GWSW, LLC and Dr. Anthony Coelho, Jr. of NIH/OD on September 20-21, 2003. MARC-sponsored Grantsmanship Training Program.
- Shaw University hosted Dr. Howard Adams of HG Adams & Associates, Inc. on September 23, 2003. MARC-sponsored Faculty/Student Career Development Seminars & Workshops.
- Virginia State University hosted Dr. Thomas Landefeld of California State University, Dominguez Hills on September 24-26, 2003.
The Summer of 2003 was another banner year for the FASEB MARC Summer Research Opportunity Program. A total of 75 students participating in summer experiences at 16 institutions were funded:

**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital:** Vanessa Enriquez-Rios, University of California-Santa Cruz; Sharifa Glass, University of Houston; Marisa Rodriguez, University of Houston; Kimberly Walker, Tougaloo College; Jennifer Ann Erdrich, Stanford University; Arlene Garcia-Soto, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; Angela Rollins, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Stefani Martin, Union University; Vyvya Jones, Jackson State University; Marquitta Richardson, University of Michigan; Danella Rodriguez, University of Puerto Rico; Joaquin Zalacain, University of Puerto Rico. **University of Michigan:** Giancarlo Cuadra, Binghamton University; Cristina Capella-Gonzalez, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Pedro Ortiz Rivera, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Angela Rollins, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Stefani Martin, Union University; Vyvya Jones, Jackson State University; Marquitta Richardson, University of Michigan; Danella Rodriguez, University of Puerto Rico; Joaquin Zalacain, University of Puerto Rico. **University of Rochester:** Giancarlo Cuadra, Binghamton University; Cristina Capella-Gonzalez, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Pedro Ortiz Rivera, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Leslie Unger, University of California-Santa Cruz; Karla Hernandez, Metropolitan University; Tamara Sanni-Sanoussi, Hobart & William Smith College; Michael Nagib, Binghamton University. **Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine:** Isabel Sumaya, California State University-Bakersfield; Yerai Oliveras Sanchez, University of Puerto Rico. **University of Oregon:** Anita Bhansali, Johns Hopkins University; Samuel Bracamonte, Oberlin College; Ping-Hsu Chen, University of California-Berkeley; Kristen Kai, Wellesley College; Alexandra Lecorps, Xavier University of Louisiana; Richard Shoge, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. **University of Iowa:** Muyibat Adelani, University of South California. **Boston University:** Danella Rodriguez, University of Puerto Rico; Joaquin Zalacain, University of Puerto Rico. **New York University:** Azurri Collier, Emory University; Javier Garcia, Rice University; Gretchen Barbosa, Universidad de Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; Aliya Frederick, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. **University of Arizona:** Sherrina Green, Tougaloo College; Afton Nesbitt, Jackson State University; Adrienne Baksh, Johns Hopkins University. **Emory University:** Koriand’r Conyers, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

“The FASEB MARC Program makes a difference! The student subsistence support made it possible for us to expand our SROP to include talented undergraduates whom we otherwise could not have funded. The outcomes speak for themselves: a number of these students are now enrolled in Ph.D. programs, either at Rutgers or elsewhere. Thank you to FASEB MARC and to the dedicated and responsive individuals who lead and administer this successful program.” Dr. Evelyn Erenrich, Assistant Dean, Recruitment and Retention, Rutgers University Graduate School and UMDNJ Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

ABOUT FASEB MARC SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM: Our objective is to develop better research opportunities for minority students by providing support to visit, learn, and participate in new research techniques at prominent research laboratories and institutions during the productive summer “recess” periods. We are interested in working with your organization by providing funds to supplement and/or cover the travel and subsistence (travel, lodging, and per diem) expenses for the underrepresented minority students who have been selected to participate in your summer research programs. In addition, we also provide funding to support the participation of the SROP student and her/his SROP mentor to the ABRCMS meeting.
The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Visiting Scientists Program for Minority Institutions was initiated in 1981. The program aims to strengthen the research and teaching capabilities at minority institutions by sponsoring visits of prominent and distinguished scientists who are active members of the FASEB Constituent Societies.

In this program, member scientists visit minority institutions for periods of one or more days to present lectures and seminars of general and practical interests; provide advice on research, curriculum, and graduate opportunities; discuss career trends and opportunities in the biomedical/behavioral sciences; and assist in the preparation and development of grant proposals. Follow-up visits by the visiting scientists are encouraged as a means of fostering collaborative research opportunities, as well as creating opportunities for reciprocal visitations by faculty and students from the host minority institutions.

Visits may be initiated by the Visiting Scientist or the Host Institution. Visiting Scientist travel expenses and funds for necessary supplies, slides reproduction, etc., are provided by the FASEB MARC Program.

The FASEB MARC Program is currently accepting applications from Society Members who are interested in participating in the Visiting Scientists Program. Enroll today and join hundreds of other FASEB Society Members who are making a difference in the lives of tomorrow’s future scientists!!!

Register online TODAY at http://ns2.faseb.org/vsp/vspapp.asp. For more information about the program you may contact Jacquie Roberts or Cheryl Wright at 301-634-7022 or 7109. Or you may email us at marc@faseb.org

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