

THE LINK

**OK-LSAMP Biannual Newsletter
Spring 2009**

*The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority
Participation in Science, Technology,
Engineering, and Mathematics
Funded by the National Science Foundation
(Cooperative Agreement Number #RD 0902027)
A. James Hicks, PhD, Alliance Program Director*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Amazing People</u>	Pages 2-6
<i>Mentors; BD Fellows; Scholars; and Alumni</i>	
<u>Amazing Places</u>	Page 7
<i>East Central University</i>	
<u>Amazing Events</u>	Page 8-9
<i>Women of Color Conference; Local Research Symposia; New England Science Symposium; National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)</i>	
<u>Amazing Opportunities</u>	Page 10
<u>Amazing Universities, Administration and Staff</u>	Page 11
<u>OK-LSAMP Mission and Goals</u>	Page 12

Helping minority students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics since 1995.



Greetings from the PI—Gordon Emslie, PhD

I am extremely pleased to report that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has renewed funding for the Oklahoma LSAMP Program for an additional five years, from 2009 through 2014. In addition, the Bridge to the Doctorate program at the University of Oklahoma has been funded for an additional two-year cohort of students in pursuit of the doctoral degree.

As part of the agreement for this continued funding, a Governing Board, consisting of the presidents of all eleven Alliance universities and chaired by Chancellor Glen Johnson of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, has been formed. This Board will help ensure that the Alliance efforts are strongly supported at the highest level on each of the participating campuses.

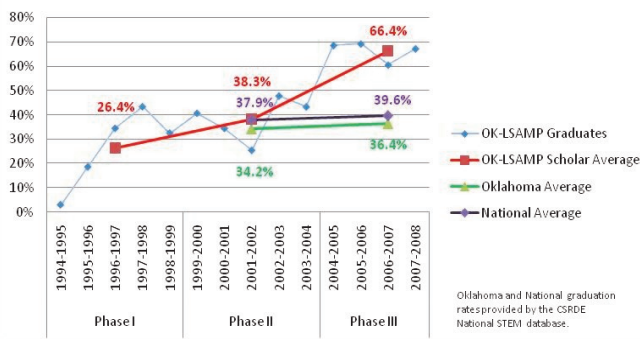
Dr. Cornell Thomas, the OK-LSAMP PI, recently left Oklahoma to assume the presidency of Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas. Cornell is a valued friend and colleague, and he was committed not only to the ideals of the LSAMP program, but also to the practical implementation of these ideals. We shall miss his collegiality, leadership, and support, and we wish him well in his new position.

With the news of Dr. Thomas's departure, the Oklahoma State University provost recommended to NSF that I become the new OK-LSAMP Principal Investigator, and that recommendation was accepted by NSF. With two proposals pending review by NSF (one for the LSAMP award itself, and one for the OU Bridge to the Doctorate supplement), it has been a busy few months. There has been considerable communication with NSF, ending, happily enough, with the gratifying results noted above. Equally important, I have had the opportunity to meet our dedicated campus coordinators and some (but not yet all!) of our scholars. I have also had the privilege of working more closely with Program Manager Kay Porter and Data Manager Fara Williams. Kay and Fara have a truly amazing commitment to the success of this program – they not only handle the multitude of day-to-day and long-term issues associated with a large federal grant, but are also very much “people people,” committed to the success of each and every student in our program. With Kay and Fara at the helm, the program is in good hands.

The OK-LSAMP program is now entering its fourth 5-year phase. As such, it is rightfully considered a “mature” program, and with this recognition comes increased expectations. Our goals for the next five-year period are to substantially increase the number of historically under-represented students graduating with bachelors degrees in STEM fields from universities in Oklahoma, and, perhaps even more importantly, to encourage more of these graduates to continue their education into graduate school.

Students who earn masters and doctoral degrees are the lifeblood of the professional career paths, including the professoriate and high-level jobs in the private sector. The master's degree has truly become the “career credential,” opening the path to a greater number of career opportunities. According to data recently released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, recipients of advanced degrees can expect, on average, to earn between 26% and 60% more than bachelor's degree holders, leading to over a million dollars in enhanced income over their working lifetime. And, just as importantly, recipients of advanced degrees contribute greatly to society in the course of pursuing their careers. We want as many as possible of our “immediate family,” our Oklahoma LSAMP scholars, to enjoy the benefits of earning an advanced degree, and we also want our “extended family,” the community at large, to benefit from the enhanced contributions that they will then bring with them.

Graduation Rates in STEM Disciplines



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

To these ends, the OK-LSAMP campus coordinators met at the University of Oklahoma on April 14 to establish strategies to increase graduation numbers and graduate school entrance rates. It was a very engaging meeting – over the next year or so, the Alliance plans to introduce a variety of initiatives including:

- the introduction of “enlightenment” courses to provide purpose and direction to newly-enrolled STEM undergraduates;
- visits to our campus graduate programs and research fairs by faculty and students from Alliance institutions, and
- offering LSAMP scholars the opportunity to engage in graduate course work in their senior year, course work that provides a “head start” to that all-important masters or doctoral degree.

We will also be hiring a graduate assistant to assist LSAMP scholars on all Alliance campuses in preparing for entry into graduate school.

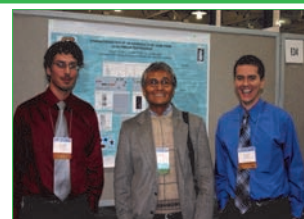
It promises to be an exciting time for the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation. Our goal is to provide a quality educational and career-prospect-enhancing experience for all our scholars; your success is our success. I will be making site visits to our Alliance campuses this fall, and I look forward to hearing your ideas for making our strong Alliance even stronger.

Amazing Mentors

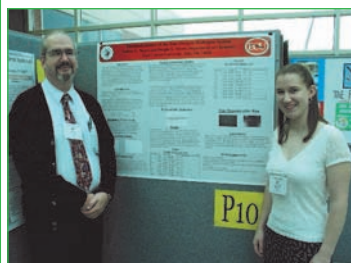


Carl Rutledge, ECU Campus Coordinator, has been with the OK-LSAMP program from the beginning. He was, and continues to be, instrumental in the organization and implementation of program activities. Carl received a BS, MS, and PhD in Physics from the University of Arkansas. His research interests include physics and astronomy education and x-ray diffraction studies of tetrahedral molecules in the liquid state. Currently, Carl is working on CCD photography at the ECU observatory. Over the years, the OK-LSAMP Program at ECU has sponsored 181 scholars, and Carl has mentored many of them. *Picture taken at the 13th Annual Research Symposium, September 15, 2007, L-R: Erik Gonzales, Sabrina Scroggins, Ambrie Walker, and Carl Rutledge.*

Dr. Gilbert John is a Native American OK-LSAMP mentor and Associate Professor in the Department of Microbiology & Molecular Genetics at OSU. He will participate in a summer research program at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York. Professor John (*center*) will be accompanied by OSU students **T. Andrew Mixson** (*right*) and **Daniel Trobare** (*left*), scholars in the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) and Native Americans in Biological Sciences (NABS) programs. The OSU faculty/student team will work with Brookhaven materials scientist Dev Chidambaram on developing a biosensor using molecular, microbial, and chemistry methods. **Dalton Kelley**, OSU LSAMP and mechanical engineering major, will also participate in summer research at Brookhaven.



Brookhaven Lab conducts research in the physical, biomedical, and environmental sciences, as well as in energy technologies and national security. Brookhaven also builds and operates major scientific facilities available to university, industry, and government researchers from across the nation. Discoveries made at Brookhaven have won six Nobel Prizes.



Dwight D. Myers received an AGS from Kansas City Community College and a BS, MS and PhD from Wichita State University. He is currently a Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry at East Central University. Dr. Myers is a physical chemist whose research interests include vaporization studies of high temperature superconductors and the

(Continued on page 3)

Amazing Scholars

Darron “DJ” Lamkin, OSU Mechanical Engineering junior, received the Deans Excellence Award (*pictured below left*) as well as Outstanding Student Assistant Award at the Multicultural Engineer Program Banquet. He has been extremely active in the local and regional chapters of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). DJ has made numerous leadership presentations for NSBE. He



recently attended the NSBE national conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he was the only student invited to attend the T. Boone Pickens VIP book signing and luncheon event (*pictured right*). In January, DJ also had the opportunity to attend presidential inaugural events in Washington, D. C.



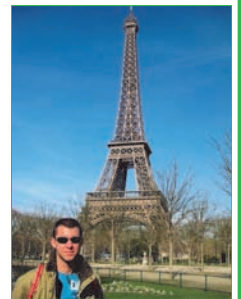
Matthew Matlock graduated in May with a BS degree in Computer Science, as well as a BS degree in Mathematics, from the University of Tulsa. His research interests include artificial intelligence, game theory, auction theory, and mechanism design. Matt has conducted research with Dr. Sandip Sen. He presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in 2008 and again in 2009. In May 2009, Matt traveled to Budapest, Hungary, to attend the International Joint Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (AAMAS), where he presented and published a paper titled "Effective Tag Mechanisms for Evolving Cooperation." This paper is an extension of previous work presented and published at the 2007 AAMAS. In the Fall, he will be enrolled as a PhD candidate at Duke University, where he plans to continue research in Auction Theory and Mechanism Design with Dr. Vincent Conitzer.



Dalton Kelly, OSU Mechanical Engineering junior, participated in a study abroad course, ENGR 4060: Technology of France. This was OSU's first experience with a spring break study abroad trip. The purpose of the course included learning about French modern and ancient technology. Students traveled to cities such as Paris, Toulouse, Nimes, and Dijon and explored different facilities and



attractions while in each location. The Airbus facility in Toulouse, the Pont du Gard outside of Nimes, and the John Deere facility outside of Dijon were utilized for engineering study. Several places of historical and cultural significance, such as the Louvre and Notre Dame, were also visited. Over 20 students as well as engineering faculty, Dr. Glenn Brown and Dr. Camille DeYong, participated in this trip. Overall, it was a great experience and Dalton hopes to participate in future study abroad programs.



(Continued from page 2)

thermodynamics of zinc-oxygen-hydrogen systems—a project on which he mentored his daughter, Audrey. Audrey, a former OK-LSAMP Scholar, graduated with a BS in chemistry and is currently working on her Ph.D. at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Myers has mentored students and conducted research at the NASA Ames Research Center. In his free time, he volunteers with the Happyland Fire Department and is an avid amateur radio operator.

Bridge to the Doctorate



OK-LSAMP strives to encourage and offer opportunities for minority students to obtain their doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Oklahoma State University has had two cohorts of BD Fellows, Cohorts I (2004) and III (2008). The University of Oklahoma has also had two cohorts of BD Fellows, Cohorts II (2005) and IV (2009). This brings the Oklahoma Alliance total to 48 BD Fellows.

Pictured L-R: 1st Row—Erik Gonzales, Shawna Hughes, Minh Ngo, C. Doug Yarholar; 2nd Row—Marcus Benjamin, Richard Osei, Michael Henry, Jonathan Gonzales; 3rd Row—Scott Fine, Matthew Hough, Zachary Carpenter, Cody Pinkerman

Jacob Manjarrez, Cohort I, is currently working on his PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at



Oklahoma State University. His research involves the characterization of a tumor suppressor linked to breast cancer and its relationship with the molecular chaperone Hsp90. After completing his PhD, Jacob plans to continue on the path to become a faculty member of an academic institution including continuing to a post-doctoral training position and possibly a second until his skill set has developed to the level that he deems prudent for a faculty member to possess. *“I have come to appreciate many things, but one that stands out is the continuous support and encouragement*

from the OK-LSAMP staff, whom I have the greatest confidence has all the scholars’ best interests at heart. If I could leave two pieces of advice to the students still in the undergraduate program, it would be to select a mentor that suites your style of study, either being hands-on or hands-off, and develop relationships with as many of your colleagues as possible. Many times it is these people that will ensure you find success in your studies.”

Steven Harris, Cohort II, is currently working on his PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Oklahoma. His research in Dr. Susan Schroeder’s lab focuses on ribonucleic acid (RNA) structure, function and thermodynamics. He is finishing a portion of the project in which he will determine the 3D structure of a small hairpin RNA using a technique called nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). After graduation, he plans to begin researching a phenomenon called RNA interference and its uses as it pertains to drug therapeutics. *“My experience as an LSAMP scholar and BD Fellow has allowed me many opportunities that I would not have had otherwise. I also enjoy polishing my presentation skills at the annual symposiums. My advice to the current and future scholars would be to make sure they stay focused on the final goal (PhD) and don’t let anything get into the way of them reaching it! It’s not going to be easy, but it is worth it in the end.”*



Lila Peal, Cohort I, is currently working on her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Oklahoma State University. Lila is conducting research to identify the targets of an Arabidopsis thaliana RNA Binding Protein that is unregulated in response to oxidative stress. She recently published “Ozone responsive genes in Medicago truncatula: Analysis by suppression subtraction hybridization” (Puckette M, Peal L, Steele J, Tang Y, Mahalingam R. J Plant Physiol. 2009 Mar 4. [Epub ahead of print]). After completing her PhD, Lila plans on working in postdoctoral positions and using that time to decide whether to go into academia or industry. *“The OKAMP programs from undergraduate years and the BD Fellowship provided funding, support, and opened opportunities that I might not have had otherwise. Always strive for excellence.”*



Amazing Alumni: Where Are They Now?

OK-LSAMP is proud of our Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation alumni and would like to share some of their successes.



Halito! An'chukmakinni. (Hello! I am doing well.) I first heard of the LS-OKAMP program while working on my undergraduate degree at SWOSU in Weatherford, Oklahoma, where Dr. Brian Campbell took me in and assisted with developing my skills as a scientist and presenter. OKAMP has provided me many opportunities to hone and further develop those skills. Many years have passed since Dr. Campbell and I first met. I have now given numerous presentations, worked on several research projects, and have begun my own work as a scientist. I am currently working for the Chickasaw Nation, my people, as the Ecological Resources Manager and finishing my MS thesis in Watershed Resource Management titled "Phosphorus and Nitrogen Reduction by

Vascular Plants in the Rhizosphere of Bioretention Cells with a Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Association." I have been with the Chickasaw Nation for about two years where I was first hired as the Ethnobotanist/Ecologist. My time with the Nation has been exciting and productive. I still conduct ethnobotanical research for the Nation in addition to many new duties and will pursue my PhD work at OSU in Stillwater, Oklahoma, in the Fall 2009.

*Recently, I was appointed to develop and manage a program that incorporates traditionally important plants into the 106 acre grounds of our new Chickasaw Cultural Center (CCC) in Sulphur, Oklahoma and other initiatives across the Nation. This program will utilize native plants and natural habitat types to treat storm water, provide environmentally sensitive and aesthetically pleasing landscaping for our facilities, and bring otherwise rarely seen plants and natural areas to our citizens. The CCC grounds will serve as an outdoor classroom, ever-changing and growing. This type of approach will foster many education and outreach efforts for tribal citizens and all visitors who share in the experience. Traditionally important plants including crops will be grown on site and utilized throughout the grounds to facilitate our efforts. This program will continue to grow and provide benefits for everyone in the area for years to come. We must preserve and protect our cultural resources but we must also embrace new and exciting ways of doing things as any thriving culture does. Chipisalacho. (I will see you.) **Steven Bond***

After receiving her BS in Biological Sciences from SWOSU in 2006, **Elizabeth Saladin** continued her studies at Howard University. Currently, Elizabeth is a third year medical student and will be completing her program in May 2010. She has received the Indian Health Service scholarship and will be proudly serving her Seminole Nation community following her residency.



Elizabeth has had the opportunity to participate in research at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, working in Dr. Richard Siegal's lab studying a rare disease called TRAPS: Tumor Necrosis Factor Associated Periodic Syndrome. The project is ongoing and publications will result from this research.

Elizabeth and her husband recently had their first child, a precious baby girl. In addition to enjoying her family and other blessings, she plans to continue intertwining research with her love for medicine. Elizabeth plans to begin a scholarship fund to help minorities to be successful. Her advice for current and future OK-LSAMP scholars is to, "Keep up the hard work. The path to our success might not always seem as attainable as it is for others, but it is possible. When we work hard and don't give up, we can reach our dreams and when we do, we can truly be proud of a job well done."

If you are an alum of OK-LSAMP, we want to hear from you. Please provide us with an update on the degrees you have earned and the projects you have completed as well as your current projects and interests and any advice you may have for current and future scholars. Thank you.

114 Thatcher Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078
kay.porter@okstate.edu; 405-744-6710
fara@okstate.edu; 405-744-7820
okamp@okstate.edu, fax 405-744-4202

SAVE THE DATE!

Be sure to mark your calendars for
The OK-LSAMP 15th Annual Research
Symposium on Saturday, October 3, 2009.

Keynote Speaker: Daniel H. Wilson,
OK-LSAMP alumnus



Daniel H. Wilson is a roboticist, an author, and host of *The Works*, a History Channel series that uncovers the science behind everyday stuff. Born in Oklahoma, he earned a PhD in Robotics from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, where he also received Masters degrees in Robotics and Machine Learning. Earlier, he earned a Bachelors degree in Computer Science from the University of Tulsa. He has published

over a dozen scientific papers and holds four patents.

Wilson is a contributing editor to *Popular Mechanics* magazine and the author of *How to Survive a Robot Uprising: Tips on Defending Yourself Against the Coming Rebellion* (Bloomsbury USA, 2006), voted best book of 2006 by Wired magazine and optioned by Paramount Pictures; as well as *Where's My Jetpack?: A Guide to the Amazing Science Fiction Future That Never Arrived* (Bloomsbury USA, 2007) and *How to Build a Robot Army: Tips on Defending Planet Earth Against Alien Invaders, Ninjas, and Zombies* (Bloomsburg USA, 2008). His latest book, *The Mad Scientist Hall of Fame* (Citadel, 2008), was released in August 2008.

A forthcoming book, *Bro-Jitsu: The Martial Art of Sibling Rivalry* (Bloomsbury Childrens, 2009) was optioned by Nickelodeon Movies and Wilson was hired to pen the screenplay. He has also performed world-building for Dreamworks Animation SKG. Currently, Wilson is writing a young adult novel, *The Robonomicon* (Bloomsbury Childrens). For additional information on Daniel H. Wilson, visit www.danielhwilson.blogspot.com/.

Amazing Places

Partner campuses in the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation are featured in this and subsequent issues of The Link. Each partner institution is vital to the success of the Alliance, and it is only fitting to highlight the special qualities and characteristics of each campus that contribute to that success.

East Central University (ECU) serves the east central region of Oklahoma, including Pontotoc and surrounding counties. The main campus is in Ada, a city of 16,000 about 90 miles southeast of Oklahoma City and 115 miles southwest of Tulsa.



Science Hall, "Old Main," was the first building on campus.

ECU courses are also taught in Ardmore, McAlester, and Shawnee, as well as online. ECU enrolled 4262 students from 25 different states in Fall 2008. Its diverse enrollment included 67% white, 21% Native American, 5% African American and 3% Hispanic. There were also 98 international students representing 24 different countries.

ECU was the first regional university to begin a McNair Scholars Program. An Environmental Research Apprenticeship Program (ERAP) is also present on campus. Both programs work in cooperation with the Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Laboratory. This facility is a federal groundwater research laboratory located in Ada, Oklahoma. Since 1995, 64 OK-LSAMP Scholars have either conducted research at the Kerr Lab as McNair Scholars or worked at the lab as ERAP participants. This close connection of ECU with Kerr Labs was a major factor in acquiring funding to build the new Physical and Environmental Sciences Building. Kerr Labs offers ECU students many opportunities that would otherwise not be available at a primarily teaching university.

Over the last five years, ECU has remained one of the top five in the nation for producing Native American BS degrees in physics. It is the only institution in Oklahoma to offer an accredited BS degree in environmental health science, and it boasts one of the few cartography departments in the nation. East Central University is one of only three universities in the nation with a medical physics BS degree program. The nursing

department rates highest in the state with students passing the Registered Nurse (RN) test by more than 90% over the last five years.

ECU has raised more money toward academic scholarships and has received more external grant funding for programs and research than any other regional university.



Physical and Environmental Science building was completed in 1991.

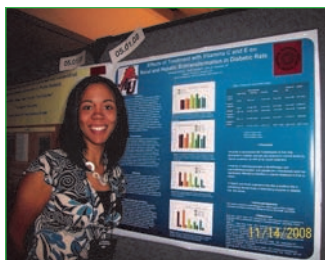


Kerr Environmental Research Laboratory

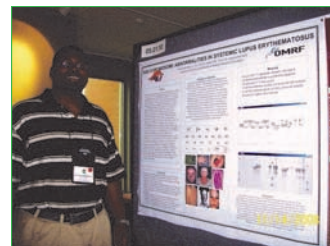
Amazing



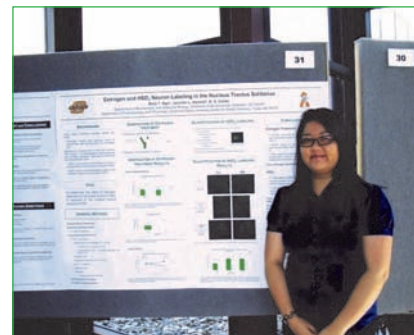
OK-LSAMP Scholars and a BD Fellow accompanied Fara Williams to the **Women of Color in STEM** Conference in Dallas, Texas, on October 24-26, 2008. The conference was a wonderful opportunity for scholars to meet and talk with women who have made amazing accomplishments in STEM careers. Workshops on topics such as financial management, interviewing, and resume design/creation were interesting and helpful for career planning and advancement. *Pictured L-R: Abigail Ntrel, chemistry, SWOSU; Minh Ngo, forensics, OSU-CHS; Tiffany Thompson, biology, ECU; Lauren Miller, geology, OSU; Joquetta Robertson, Biology, ECU*



Oklahoma Research Day at Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow campus, October 2008, was a great success. The many OK-LSAMP Scholars presenting at this event included **Shabree Nichols** (left) and **James Harding, Jr.** (right) both from Langston University.



The Oklahoma State University **20th Annual Research Symposium and Research Scholar Conference** was held on February 18-20, 2009. **Minh Ngo** (right), OSU BD Fellow, received 2nd Place for her poster on “Estrogen and HSD₂ Neuron Labeling in the Nucleus Tractus Solitarius.” **Dalton Kelley** (left), OSU Scholar, received 1st Place for his poster on “Product Development Research at General Motors.”



Brandon “Bubba” Brooks, OSU Microbiology, presented at the **New England Science Symposium** held at Harvard Medical School on April 3, 2009. The New England Science Symposium is an “opportunity for biomedical and health-related researchers to present their work, exchange ideas, and expand their professional network. Researchers from all levels of higher education are welcome.” (www.mfdp.med.harvard.edu/med_grad/ness/) At the symposium, Brooks’ poster presentation received the Ruth and William Silen, MD Honorable Mention Award.

Events



Oklahoma Scholars presented at the **23rd National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)**. Eleven students and three sponsors traveled to the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse on April 15, 2009, for the three day event. In addition to presentations, attendees

enjoyed meeting fellow researchers, listening to the plenary speakers, going to dinner, and participating in the evening activities such as a river boat cruise. Poster presentations included:

Leethaniel Brumfield, III, LU Biochemistry, "Reusable Solid Rocket Motor Ballistics: Low Level Tail-Off Analysis;" **Dalton Kelley**, OSU Mechanical Engineering, "Product Development Research at General Motors;" **L. Meghan Liles**, OSU Microbiology, "Effect of Surfactants on the Aggregation Behavior of Wheat Flour Batters;" **Lydia Meador**, OSU Biology, "Polymorphism in Microsatellite Loci in *Impatiens Capensis* (Balsaminaceae);" **Lauren Miller**, OSU Geology, "The Potential use of Magnetic Susceptibility as a Correlation Tool within Estuarine Deposits of the Gulf of Mexico;" **Chrystal Moore**, NSU Biology, "Impact of Wastewater Treatment Plant Effluent on Antibiotic Resistance in Trinidad;" and **Lauren White**, OSU Environmental Science, "Behavior, Time Management, and Foraging Modes of a West Indian Racer, *Alsophis Sibonius*." Oral presentations included: **Stefi Krull**, OSU History, "A Life of Leadership: an Analysis of the Life, Moral Foundations, and Accomplishments of William Wilberforce;" **Matt**



Matlock, TU Computer Science, "Effective Tag Mechanisms for Evolving Cooperation;" **Abigail Ntreh**, SWOSU Biology, "Developing Biomarker-Based Tests for Rheumatoid Arthritis;" and **Quinn Woodard**, TU Electrical Engineering, "Designing an Autonomous Robot-Player for Board Games." **Brian Campbell**, SWOSU Campus Coordinator; **Cindy**



Cisar, NSU mentor; and **Fara Williams**, OK-LSAMP Data Coordinator attended the event as sponsors. **Thank you, EPSCoR, for funding this trip.** Pictured Left, L-R: Matt Matlock, Quinn Woodard, Dalton Kelley, Abigail Ntreh, Stefi Krull, Lauren Miller, Lydia Meador, Chrystal Moore, Leethaniel Brumfield, Meghan Liles, and Dr. Cindy Cisar.

Amazing Opportunities

BE SURE TO LOCATE AND APPLY FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

Research experiences are an integral part of the OK-LSAMP program. It is important for each scholar to seek, apply for, and participate in full summer internships. There are a variety of opportunities available. It is never too early to search on-line to find an internship opportunity that matches your discipline and interests. Some great internship programs include:

- ⇒ Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) funded by the National Science Foundation. These opportunities exist all across the nation with several international opportunities. www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm.
- ⇒ IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) programs
- ⇒ Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) programs
- ⇒ Summer Minority Advanced Research Training (SMART) programs.

Presentations are an important step to developing the skills necessary for sharing research ideas, processes and results. In order for OK-LSAMP Scholars to be prepared for and competitive in their respective fields, presentation experience is essential. Conferences are also a useful way to network and meet people with whom future collaborations may develop. Below are opportunities for undergraduate students to attend conferences and present research projects. **Remember to check the deadlines for submitting abstracts and completing travel scholarship applications.** Also remember that each OK-LSAMP Scholar is *required* to attend and present, if possible, at the OK-LSAMP Annual Research Symposium.

- ⇒ University of Texas LSAMP Symposium, El Paso, TX, September 10-12, 2009. research.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=research.utep.edu/lsamp
- ⇒ New Mexico LSAMP Conference, Las Cruces, NM, October 1-3, 2009. (Presentations on October 2) <http://www.nmsu.edu/~nmamp/conference/index.htm>
- ⇒ **OK-LSAMP 15th Annual Research Symposium, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, October 3, 2009. www.ok-lsamp.okstate.edu**
- ⇒ Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) National Conference, Dallas, TX, October 15-18, 2009. www.sacnas.org/
- ⇒ Oklahoma Academy of Science Fall Technical Meeting, October, 2009. oas.ucok.edu
- ⇒ Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Conference, Washington, D. C., October 28-November 1, 2009. neptune.shpe.org/shpe2009/
- ⇒ 2009 American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) National Conference, Portland, OR, October 29-31, 2009. <http://www.aises.org/Events/NationalConferences/2009NationalConference>
- ⇒ Oklahoma Research Day, November 13, 2009. www.nsuok.edu/nsuba

Other Opportunities

Women of Color STEM Conference, Dallas, TX, October 29-31, 2009. www.womenofcolor.net. Those in Oklahoma who may be interested in attending, should contact Kay Porter, 405-744-6710.

Amazing Universities

For information on each partner campus including admission qualifications and student services, visit the websites of the universities. For information on campus specific requirements and activities of the OK-LSAMP program, contact the Campus Coordinator.

[Oklahoma State University](http://osu.okstate.edu) (OK-LSMAP Lead Institution)—osu.okstate.edu, [Cameron University](http://www.cameron.edu)—www.cameron.edu, [East Central University](http://ecok.edu)—ecok.edu, [Langston University](http://www.lunet.edu)—www.lunet.edu, [Northeastern State University](http://nsuok.edu)—nsuok.edu, [Northwestern Oklahoma State University](http://nwosu.edu)—nwosu.edu, [Southeastern Oklahoma State University](http://www.se.edu)—www.se.edu, [Southwestern Oklahoma State University](http://www.swosu.edu)—www.swosu.edu, [University of Central Oklahoma](http://www.uco.edu)—www.uco.edu, [University of Oklahoma](http://www.ou.edu)—www.ou.edu, [University of Tulsa](http://www.utulsa.edu)—www.utulsa.edu

Administration & Partners

ADMINISTRATION

Institutional Diversity
408 Whitehurst
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
okamp@okstate.edu
www.ok-lsamp.okstate.edu

Gordon Emslie, Ph.D.

PI/Program Director
Assoc. VP, Research &
Technology Transfer
Dean, Graduate College
201 Whitehurst Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-6368
gordon.emslie@okstate.edu



Kay Porter

Program Manager
114 Thatcher Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-6710
kay.porter@okstate.edu



Fara Williams

Program Data Coordinator
114 Thatcher Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-7820
fara@okstate.edu



Rosemary Hayes, Ph.D.

Program Evaluator
Center for Institutional Data
Exchange and Analysis
1700 Asp Avenue, Room 131
Norman, OK 73072
(405) 325-2158
rhayes@ou.edu



PARTNERS

Cameron University (CU)

Keith Vitense, Ph.D.
Physical Sciences Dept.
2800 W. Gore Blvd.
Lawton, OK 73505
(580) 581-2887
keithv@cameron.edu



East Central University (ECU)

Carl Rutledge, Ph.D.
Physics Dept., 109 Admin. Bldg.
1000 East 14th Street
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 559-5392
crutledge@mac.com



Langston University (LU)

Sharon Lewis, Ph.D.
Dept. of Chemistry
PO Box 1500
Langston, OK 73050
(405) 466-3316
salewis@lunet.edu



Northeastern State University (NSU)

Jody Buckholtz, Ph.D.
705 N. Grand Avenue
Tahlequah, OK 74464
(918) 456-5511 x3839
buckholtz@nsuok.edu



Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NWOSU)

Timothy J. Maharry, Ph.D.
Math Department
709 Oklahoma Blvd.
Alva, OK 73717
(580) 327-8583
tjmaharry@nwosu.edu



Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SOSU)

Tim Patton, Ph.D.
Biology Department
1405 N. 4th Street
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 745-2284
tpatton@se.edu



Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU)

Brian Campbell, Ph.D.
Chemistry & Physics Dept.
100 Campus Drive
Weatherford, OK 73096
(580) 774-3118
brian.campbell@swosu.edu



University of Central Oklahoma (UCO)

Gregory Wilson, Ph.D.
Nigh University Center, Rm 404
Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 974-3497
gwilson@uco.edu



University of Oklahoma (OU)

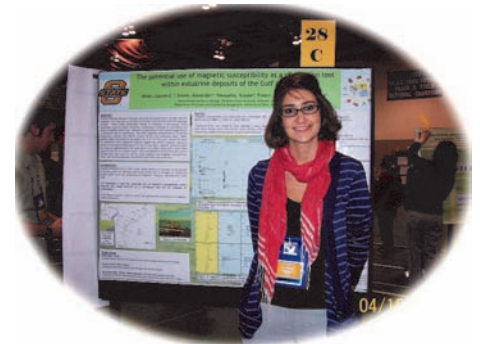
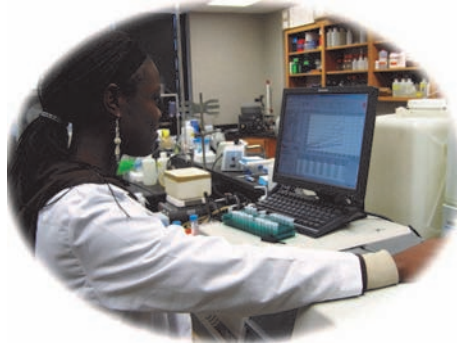
Simin Pulat, Ph.D.
202 W. Boyd CEC 107
Norman, OK 73019
(405) 325-1069
pulat@ou.edu



University of Tulsa (TU)

J. C. Diaz, Ph.D.
Comp. Sci. & Math Dept.
600 S. College Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 631-2228
diaz@utulsa.edu





Pictured above L-R: Dr. Patricia Rayas-Duarte with BD Fellow Shawna Hughes, OSU mentor/mentee; Abigail Ntneh, SWOSU Biology Scholar conducting research; and Lauren Miller, OSU Geology Scholar presenting at the '09 National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation In Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
Oklahoma State University, 114 Thatcher Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078
www.ok-lsamp.okstate.edu, okamp@okstate.edu

Our Mission: *The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) is a consortium of Oklahoma colleges and universities working together to develop programs aimed at increasing the number of students from under-represented populations who receive degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.*

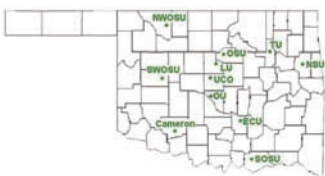
Our Goals: *The primary goals of the OK-LSAMP program currently focus on the expansion of undergraduate research experiences, international experiences, intense graduate school preparation, and entrance into doctoral programs.*



If you know of an amazing person such as an outstanding mentor, excellent presenter or author, new doctoral graduate, award winner, former OK-LSAMP scholar, and/or just an especially dedicated person; **place** such as a campus or lab/research facility; or **event** such as symposiums, research days or conferences; **please let me know.** Be sure to include as many details as possible about the person, place, or event, and contact information for you in case I have questions or need more information. I look forward to creating future issues to keep everyone informed on the Amazing People, Places, and Events of the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

Thank you. Fara Williams-

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions for The Link,
please call 405-744-7820 or e-mail fara@okstate.edu.



Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation or Oklahoma State University.