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funding opportunities and  
other items of interest  
posted online on the  
[PRIDE Bulletin Board](#)

**Save The Date:**  
PRIDE will hold its  
**2014 Annual Meeting**  
for Cohort 3  
Mentees/Mentors  
in Bethesda, MD  
**April 29 - May 1, 2014**

[Contact PRIDE-CC](#)

## Preparing for the Next Step: PRIDE II

The Programs to Increase Diversity Among Individual Engaged in Health-Related Research (PRIDE) opened its doors to the first Cohort of trainees in the summer of 2011. Following in the footsteps of the former Summer Institute Program to Increase Diversity (SIPID), the PRIDE Programs welcomed medical researchers of diverse backgrounds who were underrepresented in the biomedical or health sciences. There were six summer institute training programs providing mentored training and research tools with the eventual goal of funding their specific research projects.

A total of 151 Matriculates across 3 years (2011-2014) were trained in six programs: Behavioral and Sleep Medicine, Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology, Cardiovascular-Related Research, Comparative Effectiveness Research, Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders, and Mentoring Researchers in Latino Health Disparities.

We are preparing for the renewal of the PRIDE Program now that the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) has been made for the new PRIDE RFA. We're excited that NHLBI is continuing to pursue work with future researchers from underrepresented backgrounds in the biomedical and health sciences. As we do so, we can look back with great respect and PRIDE upon those who are advancing their careers and achieving their goals.

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### Who's in the News:

- [Girardin Jean-Louis](#): BSM PRIDE moved to NYU from SUNY
- [Keila López](#): CER congratulates Cohort 2 Mentee
- [Daniel López-Cevallos](#): Highlighted at 2013 APA Convention
- [Amani Nuru-Jeter](#): Alumna makes appearance at CVD Mid-year Meeting
- [John Ruiz](#): Coordinated 2013 APA Convention
- [Suzhi Wang](#): PRIDE-CC bids farewell

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### Have you done something noteworthy?

[Contact us](#) with information about your promotions, newly-funded grants, etc.  
We love to share good news on our Mentees/Alumni!



## Behavioral and Sleep Medicine

### **BSM Program Announces 3-Cohort Networking Conference**



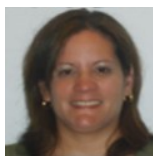
The BSM PRIDE Institute is excited to announce its **Summer 2014 Conference 'Mentoring to Empower Junior Minority Faculty through PRIDE Networking.'** PRIDE will bring all of our previous Cohorts back to New York to participate in the conference.

We believe many minority junior faculty are either unaware of the importance of networking or lack the confidence to initiate contact with established investigators who could mentor them to advance their research career. Therefore, the main goal of this conference is to foster networking through creating an opportunity for our scholars to interact with their peers who have similar interests but also interact with leaders in the field of behavioral and sleep medicine.

The conference will be held over a period of two days where we will have a series of workshops focused on early career development, networking, and mentoring. Speakers will also be invited to address emerging areas in sleep and behavioral medicine. **Scholars from Cohorts 1, 2 and 3** will also be asked to present their work and accomplishments.

**Girardin Jean-Louis, PhD**, is Professor of Population Health at the Center for Healthful Behavior Change in the Department of Population Health at the NYU School of Medicine, and Director of the NHLBI-funded PRIDE Summer Institute on Behavioral Medicine and Sleep Disorders Training Institute. During the past year, he moved the BSM PRIDE Program from its previous location at the State University of New York-Downstate (SUNY) to New York University (NYU) Langone Medical Center. The move was made for several reasons: 1) Better infrastructure to support training activities; 2) A greater array of funded mentors; 3) A center focusing on behavioral intervention, a strong focus of BSM PRIDE; 4) A well-established sleep laboratory, the other focus of BSM PRIDE; and 5) Opportunities to work with the neuroscience division working on genetics, circadian rhythm, and sleep.

Below are photos of the Cohort 3 Mentees who are in the midst of their PRIDE Program in Behavioral and Sleep Medicine, along with their Program Director:



Angela Bermúdez-Millán



Chimene Castor



Mirnova Ceïde



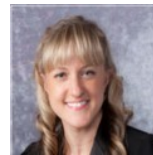
Andrea Duncan



Diana Grigsby



Sylvia Herbozo



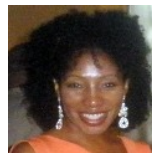
Amy Lowery



Alberto Ramos



Azizi Seixas



Shedra Snipes



Nikki Wooten



Girardin Jean-Louis, PI



## Cardiovascular-Related Research



### CVD Program Mid-Year Meeting at AHA Conference

**CVD PRIDE Cohort 3 held its mid-year progress report at the American Heart Association Conference** in Dallas, TX this past November, 2013. On November 16th, PRIDE scholars attended AHA seminars geared towards early career development, obtaining vital information from seminars such as “Navigating the NHLBI: The NHLBI’s Mission, Priorities and Future: What You Need to Know if you are Looking for Funding” and “Navigating Peer Review: How to Get Your Manuscripts Published in Leading Journals.”

In the evening, scholars and PRIDE faculty had a networking gathering. The next day, the scholars and faculty gathered for the formal progress report presentations. The scholars gave reports on the progress they have made on their research and mentorship since attending the Summer Institute, challenges encountered, and the many accomplishments achieved. The scholars asserted that, as a result of the summer training and guidance, they all now have established mentoring teams, several already obtained IRB approvals and together submitted 12 manuscripts. One scholar submitted an application for a promotion to Associate Professor and two others obtained internal funding for pilot data.

Dr. Lawton Cooper from NHLBI, and other Faculty from SUNY Downstate Medical Center as well as PRIDE Directors and Staff were also present. The feedback from the faculty was very well received and appreciated by the scholars, especially from Dr. Cooper who not only provided constructive comments but also insights about NIH grantsmanship and suggested great referrals. Additionally, **Dr. Amani Nuru-Jeter** (UC Berkeley), alumna of PRIDE Cohort 1, stopped by and shared her success stories and her experiences from CVD PRIDE.

There was a consensus that the scholars were on the right path for generating solid grant applications, publications and moving upward in their academic career. We would like to thank all participants involved in making this year’s Mid-Year progress report an absolute success!



#### **CVD PRIDE Scholars and Faculty During AHA Mid-year Meeting —**

*Standing* [L-R]: Kennon Weatherhead (PM), Kenneth Izuora, Hadii Mamudu, Cristina Barroso, Sharon Everesley-Jones, Mohamed Boutjdjr (CVD PI), Girardin Jean-Louis (BSM PI), Ade Amolaron, Antwan Jones, Freddy Zizi (BSM PC)

*Seated* [L-R]: Crystal Tyson, Melissa Lewis, Pamela Valera, Marta Suarez, Eugenia Mata-Greenwood



## Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology



### CGE Program Shares Mentees' Experiences with PRIDE

**PRIDE-CGE Cohort 3** returned to **St Louis, MO**, for their **Mid-Year visit** January 9-10, 2014. This visit consisted of individual meetings with Mentors, general discussion of the grant proposals, as well as a Mock Study Section (which also allows each Mentee to present their own grant applications verbally). Most Mentees are working towards an R01 or a K award.

**Cohort 2 Mentees** have committed to stay in touch with each other and have regularly scheduled conference calls to discuss career growth and brainstorm their research proposals among themselves. Some submitted their grants in October, others in February, and the rest are still developing their plans.

**Some quotes from the overall evaluations** by the Mentees about the PRIDE-CGE after attending the summer 2013 session include:

The Program structure, presentations, and the guest speakers made this program an invaluable experience in my formation as junior faculty. The tools and resources provided on how to properly conduct research and focus our projects, will surely improve the quality of my research. Even more, the grant writing session and the opportunity to speak to NHLBI representatives was very useful. It not only cleared many questions about the grant application process but also showed ways of how to formulate a good grant application. The brainstorming sessions and presentations of our projects were extremely helpful as the critiques and advice given during those sessions really mold our projects into better ones. Overall very satisfied with the experience and the vast amount of information I learned during the course of those 3 weeks.

This is a wonderful program. I was glad I was chosen as a fellow. The program has such great mentoring that is well beyond what I expected.

I am extremely grateful to have been chosen to participate. I would recommend this program highly.

Great Program. The best parts are the brainstorming sessions and the diversity of Mentees we have. Both make this a very interesting program. This was one of the most enriching experiences I had in my professional and personal life. I would miss the interaction with my peers and the Mentors. Great group of Mentors and lecturers. Great opportunity to create your own network.

I am very grateful to have been a part of this program. It shaped my training grant specific aims, and my career as a whole. It helped me develop skills to better communicate with Mentors and senior collaborators at my institutions and elsewhere.

The program provided a great overview of genetic epidemiology and an opportunity to dedicate concentrated effort to a research proposal with enough merit to warrant NIH-level funding.



#### CGE PRIDE Cohort 3 Mentees and Mentors —

*Back [L-R]:* Mike Province, Ingrid Borecki, Aldi Kraja, Lisa de las Fuentes, Susan Racette, Victor Davila-Roman (Co-Director)

*Middle [L-R]:* Jorge Silva Enciso, Javier Lopez, Francine Gachupin, Devita Stallings, DC Rao (Program Director)

*Front [L-R]:* Gloria Westney, Bamidele Tayo, Dale Hardy, Tesfaye Mersha



#### CGE PRIDE Cohort 2 Mentees —

*Back [L-R]:* Vivian Kawai, Marshaleen Henriques-Forsythe, Kamilah Ali, Marilyn Foreman, Hirut Gebrekristos, Uriyoan Colon-Ramos  
*Front:* Omar De la Cruz Cabrera



## Comparative Effectiveness Research



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

### CER Congratulates Cohort 2 Mentee Dr. Keila López

Over the summer, Cohort 2 returned for a productive second summer, enhancing their knowledge in Comparative Effectiveness Research, improving their writing skills, and developing their leadership potential. Cohort 2 also met with undergraduate students in the BEST Diversity Program (also funded by NHLBI) serving as invaluable Mentors and role models for college students considering careers in biomedical research. As we welcomed 11 new scholars to Cohort 3, some members of Cohorts 2 and 3 networked and shared experiences with one another. At the end of the summer, we congratulated **Dr. Keila López, MD MPH**, on being funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.



The **FIRST in CER PRIDE program** is excited for the current Cohort as they progress through this year. The program directors met with the Cohort 3 scholars for their first quarterly meeting, and over the past couple of months, the scholars have made progress toward their long and short-term goals.



#### CER PRIDE Cohort 3 Mentees —

[L-R]: Titilayo Ilori, MD, Dziwe Ntaba, MD MPH, Joanne Dempster, MD, Larissa Jennings, PhD MHS, Casey L. Overby, PhD, Rachel Torres, EdD MPH, Adrienne Phillips, MD MPH, Juan J. DelaCruz, PhD, Ernst Garcon, MD, Uchenna Ofoma, MBBS MS, and Roger F. Carbajal Mendoza, MD



## Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders

### FAGBD Shares Networking Experiences and Success of 2013 Summer Institute



Eight new Mentees comprised the Cohort 3 that participated in the PRIDE-Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders (FAGBD) - 2013 Summer Institute I that took place at the Georgia Regents University (GRU) from July 8-July 23. GRU President Ricardo Azziz, School of Medicine Dean Peter Buckley, and other noted GRU faculty and staff warmly greeted the Mentees with words of encouragement and support during our formal Welcome Ceremony.

The FAGBD PRIDE Program also scheduled an **overlap in the summer sessions** between the **returning Cohort 2 Mentees and the new Mentees**. During this two-day overlap, both Cohorts were able to network and share experiences. The returning Cohort, which joined their second Summer Institute from July 22-August 2, were able to attend the talks of the newly matriculated Mentees, providing them with a better understanding of their research areas and the opportunity to form new academic partnerships.

On their final day, the **Cohort 2 Mentees** were presented with certificates of completion during the graduation ceremony and encouraged by the FAGBD Directors to take advantage of the academic relationships and research skills that they have honed during the PRIDE Program. Mentees, Mentors and Teaching Faculty all agreed that the summer institute was a huge success.



**FAGBD PRIDE Directors at the Graduation Ceremony with the Cohort 2 Scholars —**

[L-R]: Juan Gonzalez (Co-Director), Kamal El Bissati, Olufolake Adisa , Alecia Nero, Lanetta Jordan, Anya Griffin, Raymona Lawrence, Abena Appiah-Kubi, Echezona Ezeanolue , Betty Pace (Director)



## Mentoring Researchers in Latino Health Disparities

**Cohort 2 Mentee Daniel López-Cevallos  
Highlighted at 2013 APA Convention  
Coordinated by Cohort 2 Mentee John Ruiz**



Investing in America's Future:  
Mentoring Researchers in  
Latino Health Disparities

2012 PRIDE Mentee **Daniel López-Cevallos**, along with SDSU-PRIDE Project Directors John Elder and Gregory Talavera were highlighted in a symposium entitled *Mentoring of Early Career Minorities in Health Research* held at the 2013 APA Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii on Wednesday, July 31, 2013. Dr. López-Cevallos is Associate Director of Research with the [Center for Latino/Latina Studies & Engagement \(CL@SE\)](#) at [Oregon State University](#) and Assistant Professor of [Ethnic Studies](#) and Adjunct Professor of [International Health](#).

At the symposium, Dr. López-Cevallos discussed both the challenges and rewards he faces as an early career researcher. Dr. Elder discussed mentoring from the perspective of a program director, including training models, program aims, Mentor qualities, and measuring success. Dr. Talavera emphasized mentoring specifics, including matching Mentors to Mentees, skill development, early career guidance, and cultural considerations. The symposium also featured Dr. Susan Czajkowski from the NHLBI, who discussed national efforts to increase the diversity of under-represented researchers and an overview of the PRIDE Program.

Coordinated by 2012 SDSU PRIDE Mentee **John Ruiz**, Assistant Professor in Clinical Health Psychology at the University of North Texas at Arlington and Chair of the APA, Division 38 (Health Psychology) Diversity Council, the symposium was an excellent opportunity to disseminate the positive outcomes of the PRIDE mentoring programs.



**SDSU Cohort 2 Mentees at 2013 APA Convention  
in Honolulu, Hawaii —**

[L-R]: John Ruiz and Daniel López-Cevallos



## PRIDE Program Staff —



**PRIDE Program Managers and Support Staff from the 2013 Annual Meeting**

[L-R]: Linda Schreier (CGE), Kennon Weatherhead (BSM & CVD), Denise Dickerson (CC), Cristina Padilla (MRLHD), Suzhi Wang (CC), Sophia Li Ferry (CER), Karen Clark Laseter (CC), Jenny Bing (FAGBD), Freddy Zizi (BSM).

## PRIDE-CC Bids Farewell to Parting Colleague



**Best wishes,  
Suzhi Wang!**

**Suzhi Wang, M.S.**, joined the Division of Biostatistics at Washington University in St. Louis as a Bioinformaticist in March 2009, and became an integral member of the PRIDE Coordination Core soon after it began. Her work primarily focused on database construction and management, web tool development and maintenance, data quality control, and data analysis. We recently bid her a fond farewell as she moved on to a new position she simply could not refuse.

As she moves on, we thank Suzhi for the wonderful tools she built into the PRIDE system, for the expertise she shared with us, for all the memories she left with us via her photo journalism, and for that wonderful smile, which is greatly missed. We wish her the very best!

The primary goal of the **Programs to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research (PRIDE)** is to encourage scientists and research-oriented faculty from diverse backgrounds to further develop their research skills and to gain experience in advanced methods and experimental approaches in basic and applied sciences relevant to heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders.

**PRIDE Programs Funded  
by the  
National Institutes  
of Health /  
National Heart Lung  
and Blood Institutes**



**PRIDE COORDINATION CORE  
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
IN ST. LOUIS**

[pridecc@wubios.wustl.edu](mailto:pridecc@wubios.wustl.edu)

For more information go to:  
[www.biostat.wustl.edu/pridecc/](http://www.biostat.wustl.edu/pridecc/)





## Programs to Increase Diversity ([PRIDE](#)) is a consortium of NHLBI-funded Summer Institute Training Programs for Junior Faculty.

- Each Summer Institute Training Program has the common goal of increasing the diversity among individuals who are engaged in health-related research
- Each Summer Institute Program has a unique, specialized research focus, as described below under Summer Institute Training Programs

### Eligibility Requirements

To be [eligible](#) to participate in a PRIDE Summer Institute Training Program, you must be:

- a junior-level faculty member or scientist (postdocs not eligible)
- from a minority group that is under-represented in the biomedical or health sciences
- a United States Citizen or Permanent United States Resident

### General Program Structure

- All expenses paid for a 3-week (on average) Summer Institute Training Program for two consecutive summers
- Year-long mentoring experience with recognized experts in the field
- Didactic course-work and hands-on practical training
- Specific training and coaching in grant-writing skills
- Mid-year meeting
- Annual Conference in Bethesda, Maryland

### Summer Institute Training Programs

#### [Behavioral and Sleep Medicine](#)

Location: NYU Langone Medical Center, New York, New York  
PI: Girardin Jean-Louis, Ph.D.      Co-Director: Gbenga Ogedegbe, M.D.

#### [Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology](#)

Location: Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri  
PI: D.C. Rao, Ph.D.      Co-Director: Victor Davila-Roman, M.D.

#### [Cardiovascular-Related Research](#)

Location: SUNY Downstate Medical College, New York, New York  
PI: Mohamed Boutjdir, Ph.D.      Co-Director: Judith Mitchell, M.D.

#### [Comparative Effectiveness Research](#)

Location: Columbia University, New York, New York  
PI: Melissa D. Begg, Sc.D.      MPI: Karina Davidson, Ph.D.      MPI: Anne Taylor, M.D.

#### [Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders](#)

Location: Georgia Regents University, Augusta, Georgia  
PI: Betty Pace, M.D.      Co-Director: Juan González, Ph.D.

#### [Mentoring Researchers in Latino Health Disparities](#)

Location: San Diego State University, San Diego, California  
PI: John Elder, Ph.D.      Co-Director: Greg Talavera, M.D.

For further information, email the [PRIDE Coordination Core](#)

Location: Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri  
PI: Treva Rice, Ph.D.

or directly contact the

Summer Institute Training Program of your choice.

[PRIDE Pre-Application Form](#) - [Click to be contacted for Next Cohort](#)