

## Programs to Increase Diversity



### Special points of interest:

- Headliner: 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting was a success! (Story on page 1)
- Remembering Dorothy Coverson: PRIDE-GE Scholar (Story on page 1)
- News from the Summer Institutes (Stories on pages 2 – 4)
- Spotlight on Success (Story on page 5)
- PRIDE Faculty News (Story on page 5)

**Save The Date:**  
PRIDE will hold its  
2013 Annual Meeting  
for Cohort 2  
Mentees/Mentors  
in Bethesda, MD  
May 8-10, 2013

### 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MD, May 2-4, 2012

#### Bethesda, Maryland

The 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting was held in May 2012. About 90 scholars, mentors and faculty from 6 PRIDE Summer Institute Programs as well as NHLBI program staff and officers attended.

Some highlights of the meeting included a Plenary Dinner featuring **Dr. Michael Lauer** (Director, Division of Cardiovascular Sciences at NHLBI) who spoke on “Be a mensch and don’t get hurt!”. Other featured speakers included **Dr. Carl Roth** (Acting Deputy Director, NHLBI) who spoke on “Biomedical Research: The NIH and You” and **Dr. Fungai Chanetsa** (NIH Center for Scientific Review) who spoke on “Peer review at the Center for Scientific Review, NIH”. A mentoring workshop was hosted by Leading Edge Coaching and Development.

Primary activities at the 1st Annual Meeting featured networking and presentation of PRIDE scholars’ research via oral presentations, poster sessions, and mock study session grant reviews.

**Oral presenters included** Drs. Erica Sosa, Belinda Campos, Kevin Sterling, Natasha Williams, Alicia Rivera, Richard White III, Monik Jimenez, William Witola, Elvin Price and Ervin Fox.



**PRIDE Principal Investigators and NHLBI Program Officers:** [Pictured - Standing, L-R] Drs. Girardin Jean-Louis (BSM), Betty Pace (FAGBD), Juan Gonzalez (FAGBD), Josephine Boyington (NHLBI), and D.C. Rao (CGE). [Seated, L-R] Drs. Nakela Cook (NHLBI), Treva Rice (PRIDE-CC), Victor Davila-Roman (CGE), Melissa Begg (CER), and John Elder (MRLHD). [Not shown: Dr. Mohamed Boutjdir (CVD)]

**Mock Study Session reviewed applications by** Drs. Lenny Lopez, David Riley, KaMala Thomas, Lisa VanHoose, Tennille Presley, Levi Makala, India Ornelas and Ronica Rooks. **Scholar reviewers included** Drs. Leah Robinson, Samuel Taylor, Ellen-ge Denton, Amani Nuru-Jeter, Helena Duch, Marionette Holmes, and Koyejo Oyerinde.

**Posters were presented as primary participation by** Drs. Leticia Arellano, Peregrino Brimhan, Sharon McKenzie, Tracie Gibson, Renee Murray-Bachman, Jemima Frimpong, Alethea Hill,

Rafat Ahmed, Temitayo Oyegbile, and Rosa Rosario-Rosado.

Unfortunately, several Cohort 1 scholars were unable to attend the Annual Meeting. We have created a web page on the PRIDE Secure Site so they may see some of what they missed. **Evaluations are in and the 1st Annual Meeting was a success!**

**The PRIDE Programs welcome Cohort 2 for the 2012 Summer Institutes.** We anticipate close to 50 new PRIDE Matriculates across all six Summer Institutes.

We look forward to meeting you at the 2nd Annual Meeting in May.

### Remembering Dorothy Coverson, Ph.D., R.N.

**Dr. Dorothy Lee Coverson** was a Research Assistant Professor in the Cardiovascular Research Institute and Community Health and Preventive Medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine.

A scholar of the PRIDE Program for Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology, Dr. Coverson was heavily involved over the past year

in advancing her research involving CVD risk assessment and risk reduction among African-Americans.

As an integral part of the PRIDE-GE family, she truly will be missed.

The PRIDE Programs honor the memory of Dr. Coverson.



Jan 20, 1968 - Apr 12, 2012



The PRIDE Summer Institute is a research career advancing opportunity at SUNY Downstate Medical Center and NYU Langone Medical Center. This mentored research program addresses the difficulties experienced by junior investigators in establishing independent research programs and negotiating through the academic ranks.

The goal of this multidisciplinary training and mentoring program is to inspire mentees to conduct research by employing techniques at the forefront of their fields. The program includes providing fundamental training by interdisciplinary faculty in the area of health disparities, among others, establishing partnerships between mentors and mentees based on their mutual research interests in the area of behavioral medicine and sleep

## Behavioral and Sleep Medicine

disorders research and helping mentees to acquire the necessary skills in order to develop independent research interests and apply for independent research grants.

During the first summer, nine outstanding scholars participated at the institute. All nine scholars are doing very well and all are expecting to return for summer 2 from August 5-11, 2012.

During summer 2, Cohort 1 scholars will participate at a weeklong mock study program, which includes grant reviews and presentations, networking events, and interaction with mentors.

We are excited about the opportunity to work with our second Cohort of scholars from July 31-August 11, 2012.



## Cardiovascular-Related Research



### **Cohort I Scholars**

[Pictured - Standing, L-R] Freddy Zizi, Kennon Weatherhead, Drs. Thembi Conner-Garcia, Ronica Rooks, Bryan Curry, Amani Nuru-Jeter, Nketi Forbang, Cheryl Lynch, Jemima Frimpong, Alethia Hill, and Girardin Jean-Louis (PI/Director -BSM)

[Seated] Dr. Mohamed Boutjdir (PI/Director—CVD)

The Cardiovascular Health Related Research PRIDE Summer Institute provides intensive didactic and mentored research training to underrepresented minority mentees and those with a disability engaged in cardiovascular health disparities research.

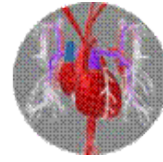
The goals of the PRIDE Summer Institute are to enable participants to develop a balanced perspective in determining research priorities, improve their capacity to address and eliminate health disparities and develop skills and networking opportunities necessary to achieve independent research careers in Cardiovascular Health.

Cohort 1 welcomed 11 outstanding mentees from various parts of the country. Most of our scholars after having participated in the CVD PRIDE 2011 have submitted manuscripts, grant applications, and have received academic promotions.

We are expecting to see all Cohort 1 scholars during summer 2 for our mock study session. While we continue to work closely with our Cohort 1 mentees, we are ready to welcome our new Cohort 2 mentees during the summer of 2012.



## Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology



### **Cohort I Scholars — Annual Meeting, May, 2012**

[Pictured - Standing, L-R] Drs. Elvin Price (Cohort I Scholar), Won Choi (Mentor), Victor Davila-Roman (CGE Co-Director), Ervin Fox (SIPIID Alumni), Kevin Yarasheski (Mentor)

[Seated, L-R] Linda Schreier (CGE Program Manager), Lisa de las Fuentes (Mentor), D.C. Rao (CGE PI and Co-Director), Lisa VanHoose (Cohort I Scholar), and Jane Armer (Mentor).

CGE Scholars attending the 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting were **Elvin Price**, PharmD, PhD, and **Lisa VanHoose**, PT, PhD. Dr. Price is an Assistant Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy. His oral talk was “Nuclear Receptor Genetic Variability at the Intersection of Vascular and Immune Cell Homeostasis”. Dr. VanHoose is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas Medical

Center. Her grant on “Cardiovascular Changes Related to Experimental Lymphedema” was reviewed in the Mock Study Session.

The 2nd PRIDE Summer Institute session for Cohort I (July-August, 2012) includes meetings with mentors, grant reviews and presentations, didactic lectures (Bioinformatics and other topics), and networking with the incoming Cohort 2.

## Comparative Effectiveness Research



**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER**

### **Cohort I Scholars— Summer Institute, June 2012**

[Pictured, L-R] Diana Hernandez, PhD, Ellen-ge Denton, PsyD, Koyejo Oyerinde, MD MPH, Karina Davidson, PhD, (Co-PI), David Riley, MD MS, Helena Duch, PsyD, Marionette Holmes, PhD MBA.

[Not shown: Omolara Uwemedimo, MD MPH]

The FIRST in CER PRIDE program at Columbia University had a phenomenal year, having just graduated its first Cohort of seven scholars.

Within the 2011-2012 year, **Marionette Holmes**, PhD MBA, Assistant Professor at Spelman College and **Helena Duch**, PsyD, Assistant Professor at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University received notice of independent grant funding. All of our scholars have been busy writing manuscripts, submitting diversity supplements and building up their CVs.

Over the past year, the scholars have enjoyed working together and learning how to prepare for careers in academic medicine through our series of Professional Development seminars. Additionally, our Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) methods workshops have been very well attended and have helped to expand the research toolkits of our scholars.

We look forward to welcoming our second Cohort of scholars in July 2012.



The Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders PRIDE Program, aims to provide a hands-on bench research training experience using functional and applied genomics approaches to study blood cell disorders. The goal of this program is to train junior-level faculty to perform research related to hemoglobin and red blood cell membrane diseases among others.

During the GHSU Summer Institute, mentees learn how to access public databases established by the Human Genome Project and to perform basic data mining procedures. Mentees are provided fundamental hands-on bench research training by interdisciplinary faculty in the areas of genomics, cell and molecular biology and proteomics. Partnerships between mentees and mentors are established based on mutual research interests. Grant workshops are conducted by NHLBI staff to assist mentees in developing a research focus and identifying viable funding sources to promote a sustainable and independent research program.



**Cohort I Scholars—Summer Institute, 2011**

[Back L-R] Levi Makala, DVM, PhD, Tracie Gibson, PhD, Sharon Singh, MD, William Witola, PhD, [Front L-R]: Betty Pace, MD (Director), Rafat Ahmed, MD, May Xiong, PhD, Tennille Presley, PhD, Juan González, PhD (Co-Director)

**The first PRIDE institute was held in July 2011 and by all measures was a success.** Seven outstanding mentees participated during the first Summer Institute and from their feedback the program is already having a deep impact on their careers advancement.



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

**Mentoring Researchers in Latino Health Disparities**

**Cohort I Scholars**

[Back L-R]  
Drs. Lenny Lopez, John Elder (PI, Director),  
India Ornelas, Rosa Rosario-Rosado,  
Richard White, III, Leticia Arellano,  
Greg Talavera (Co-Director)  
[Front L-R]  
Drs. Erica Sosa, Daniela Sotres-Alvarez  
(Institute Instructor), Belinda Campos,  
Monik Jimenez



All eight scholars from “Mentoring Researchers in Latino Health Disparities” attended and participated in the 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting held May 2-4, 2012.

The 2011 Cohort will return to San Diego from July 15 – July 21<sup>st</sup> for a Second Summer Institute which includes trainings in grant writing, grant presentations and a mock study section. The 2012 Cohort consists of ten accomplished Latino junior faculty members from across the country and will be attending a Summer Institute from

July 20<sup>th</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2011 and 2012 PRIDE scholars will have an opportunity to meet and network on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Institute for Behavioral and Community Health’s (IBACH) 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party.

IBACH was founded in 1987 by Project Directors, **Dr. John Elder** and **Dr. Gregory Talavera**, to conduct meaningful and relevant public health research and have a special focus on conducting Latino health research and training Latino researchers of the future.



## PRIDE COORDINATION CORE

### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Fax: 314-362-2693  
pridecc@wubios.wustl.edu

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

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  
sponsored by the  
National Institutes  
of Health,  
National Heart, Lung,  
and Blood Institutes**

## 2012 Annual Meeting Spotlight on Success

Three **SIPIID** Scholars (**S**ummer Institute **P**rograms to **I**ncrease **D**iversity, associated with PRIDE) were show-cased at the 1st PRIDE Annual Meeting for their achievements since completing their Summer Institute Training.

- Dr. Alicia Rivera participated in the Functional and Applied Genomics of Blood Disorders Summer Institute in 2007-2008.
- Dr. Ervin Fox participated in the Cardiovascular Genetic Epidemiology Summer Institute in 2007-2008.
- Dr. Tene Lewis participated in the Cardiovascular-Related Research Summer Institute in 2008-2009.



**Dr. Alicia  
Rivera**  
Harvard  
Medical  
School



**Dr. Ervin  
Fox**  
University of  
Mississippi  
Medical  
Center



**Dr. Tene  
Lewis**  
Yale  
University  
School of  
Medicine

These alumni were nominated by Institute faculty because of their continued progress since their SIPIID training, including doubling publication rates, receiving research and career development grant awards, and advancing in academic rank.

Congratulations to Alicia, Ervin and Tene!

## PRIDE Faculty News

### Melissa Begg, Vice Dean of Education at Columbia University, to Receive Inaugural Lagakos Distinguished Alumni Award

#### Boston, MA

The Department of Biostatistics announces that Dr. Melissa D. Begg will be the first recipient of the newly established Lagakos Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Begg will deliver a lecture and be presented with the inaugural award preceding the kickoff of the 2012 Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) Alumni Weekend.

This award honors the career of Professor Stephen Lagakos by recognizing Department alumni whose research in statistical theory and application have had a



major impact on the theory and practice of statistical science.

Dr. Begg graduated from the Department of Biostatistics at Harvard in 1989, and currently serves as the Co-Director of the Irving

Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. The award recognizes Dr. Begg's accomplishments in education, collaboration, methodology and leadership in academic administration.

**The lecture and award ceremony will take place on September 28, 2012 at 3:00 pm in FXB G12 at HSPH, with a reception to follow. All are invited.**

To find out more, please visit [www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostats/events/awards/alum/](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostats/events/awards/alum/)