

H-LSAMP REVIEW

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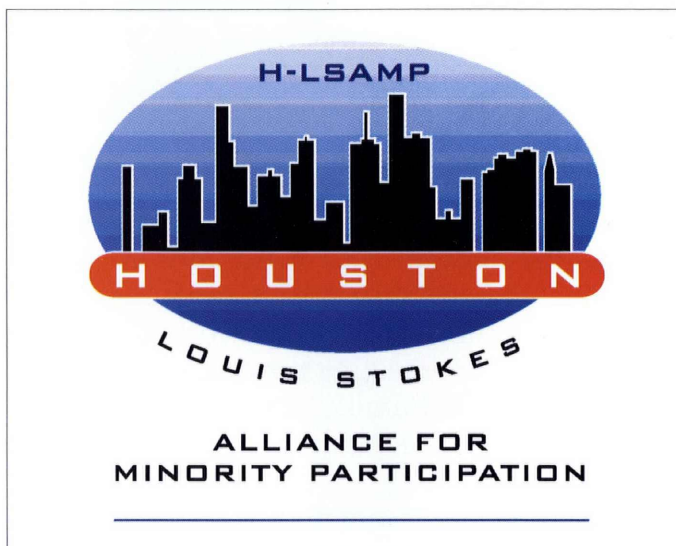
Special points of interest:

- H-LSAMP student chosen as commencement speaker.
- Third Annual Undergraduate Research Conference held in July, 2002.
- H-LSAMP achieving goal of increasing diversity in STEM fields.

TRANSFORMING THE WAY STUDENTS LEARN

In 1999, the Houston Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (H-LSAMP) was established when eight institutions of higher learning, the Houston Independent School District, and the National Science Foundation entered into a cooperative agreement to double the number of underrepresented minorities annually receiving baccalaureate degrees in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The institutions of higher learning involved in this consortium are—University of Houston, University of Houston-Downtown, University of Houston-Victoria, Texas Southern University, Southwest Texas State University, Rice University, Houston Community College System, and San Jacinto Community College District. These members bring to the LSAMP a strong, individual presence with unique attributes, which has created a successful collaborative effort from the beginning.

Since its inception, the H-LSAMP consortium has graduated 1298 STEM students over a two-year period, which represents nearly a forty percent increase. The minority enrollment in STEM fields



throughout the alliance drastically increased from 4,665 students reported during the 1998-1999 base year to 6,539 students during the first year of the program. These figures are still on the rise and exemplify the great achievements made by the H-LSAMP.

We are confident that Houston's AMP will have continued success for many reasons. The participating institutions have clearly demonstrated a commitment to the program by their regular attendance at meetings, voluntary sharing of information, and their collaboration on enrichment strategies. Many of the institutions also have superb records of enrolling and graduating a

large number of minority students in the STEM fields, and the local demographics favor recruitment of large numbers of underrepresented students. In addition, excellent minority programs exist at the institutions within the H-LSAMP and are being modified and copied at other institutions. Plans have, therefore, been articulated to utilize our resources to the highest degree possible to achieve our goals of producing an even greater increase in the number of underrepresented minority graduates.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Houston Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, I would like to invite you to share with us as we celebrate both our students' accomplishments and those of our constituent institutions in our continued strive for excellence. Through the pages of this newsletter we will honor some of the many achievements that have reflected the drive and ability of our talented members.



Dr. Sylvia Foster, PhD
Executive Director, HLSAMP

Now in its third year of operation, the Houston Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation is continuing to show exceptional progress toward achieving its original purpose of graduating minority students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematical (STEM) disciplines. The participating institutions are aggressively addressing each component of our objectives to ultimately accomplish our goal, and our students are consistently outperforming themselves every year. Furthermore, we are meeting the challenge of supplying the United States with an adequate number of scientists and engineers--of all ethnicities--to keep pace with technological advances.

With an ever-increasing number of graduates, as well as record numbers of participating students--who will undoubtedly perform beyond our expectations--the accomplishments of H-LSAMP are testament to the fruits of hard work and dedication. It cannot be denied that our undergraduate members as a whole are committed to earning quality education. Through their hard work and success they will set the standard and pave the way for all of the future LSAMP scholars.

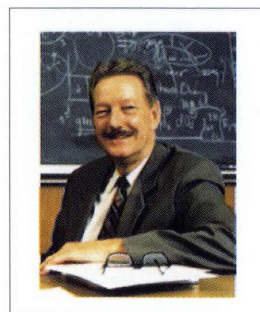
I am grateful to each and every one of our eight member universities for their dedication and cooperation as we strive to increase and transform the American STEM population. With their enduring support and commitment, we will carry on with this trend, surpassing all expectations and demands through our ever increasing ability to support and provide for those students whom we serve.

Sylvia Foster, PhD

"...we are meeting the challenge of supplying the United States with an adequate number of scientists and engineers—of all ethnicities..."

HLSAMP DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. John L. Bear is currently Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and Professor of Chemistry at the University of Houston. Dr. Bear received his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Texas Technological University in 1960. He was a Research Associate in the Chemistry department at Florida State University from 1960 to 1962. Dr. Bear joined the faculty at University of Houston in September 1963. He was Chairman of the Chemistry department from 1975 to 1992 and became Dean of the College in 1992. Dr. Bear has published over 110 scientific papers on the anti-cancer activity of rhodium and platinum compounds and the chemical and electrochemical reactivity of transition metal and lanthanide metal complexes. He has received research support from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, Robert A. Welch Foundation, Petroleum Research Fund and industrial contracts. During his career, Dr. Bear has been the researcher advisor for twenty-five Ph.D. and six Master Degree students. In addition, thirty-two postdoctoral fellows and visiting faculty scholars have worked for one or more years in Dr. Bear's research group at the University of Houston. He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences Panel established to evaluate the Medical and Biological Effects of the Platinum-Group Metals introduced into the environment by automobile catalytic converters. Dr. Bear has served as a consultant for the Institute of International Education to develop and operate summer science programs for college chemistry teachers in Pakistan, and he has established research and teaching collaborations between the University of Houston and major universities in France, Italy, and Russia. He is the university representative to the Council of Chemical Research and a past member of the Academic Advisory Board of Dow Chemical Co. He has presented over one hundred seminars and scientific papers at university, national, and international conferences.



Dr. John Bear, PhD
Director, HLSAMP

"There is one thing even more vital to science than intelligent methods; and that is, the sincere desire to find out the truth, whatever it may be."

Charles Sanders Pierce

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Texas Southern University, Dr. Bobby Wilson is a distinguished scientist and administrator, who has served Texas Southern University for over 20 years. His leadership abilities have afforded him the opportunity to serve the University in several positions. However, whether he serves as Professor, Department Chair, Dean, or Provost, his focus is the same, which is to provide students with a quality education. Before assuming his current position as Provost, he was Chemistry Chair, where he secured numerous fellowships, internships, cooperative agreements, and high tech research equipment for the benefit of students and faculty. His administrative accomplishments may be highlighted through: (1) acquisition of the Ph.D. degree program in Environmental Toxicology, which is the first and only Ph.D. degree program in the history of the University; (2) programs enhancements to equip students to surpass the requirements of academic and professional proficiency measures; (3) identification of resource to strengthen administrative faculty and staff initiatives; (4) promotion of campus outreach programs in the community and surrounding public schools; and (5) productive representation of the institution with public officials. He also lent his services to the National Science Foundation from 1995 to 1997 as Program Director of the Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology. Dr. Wilson earned the Ph.D. Degree in Chemistry from Michigan State University, the MS degree in Chemistry from Southern University, and the BS degree in Chemistry from Alabama State University.



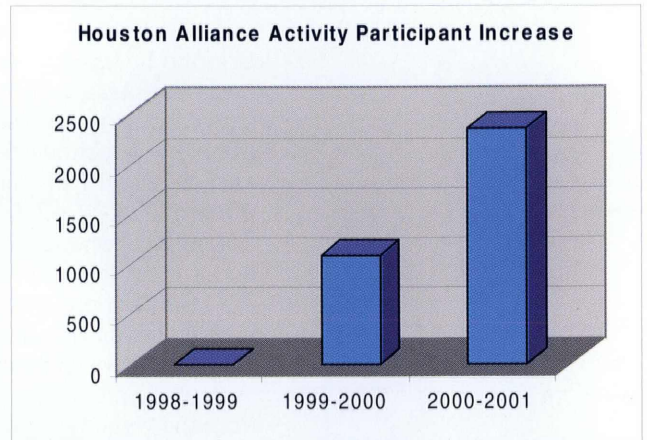
Dr. Bobby Wilson, PhD
Co-Director, HLSAMP

H-LSAMP FACT SHEET

As it stands, fifty percent of STEM students are at risk for dropping out or not completing college on time. The H-LSAMP program has developed and implanted a solution that has proven to be effective in solving this problem.

This approach, *The Collaborative Learning Community (CLC)*, allows the students in high-risk classes to reinforce classroom learning with specially designed workshop experiences where students hone learning and problem-solving

skills. Additionally, CLC workshops teach study and communication skills, help develop time management and goal setting abilities, and promote team building.

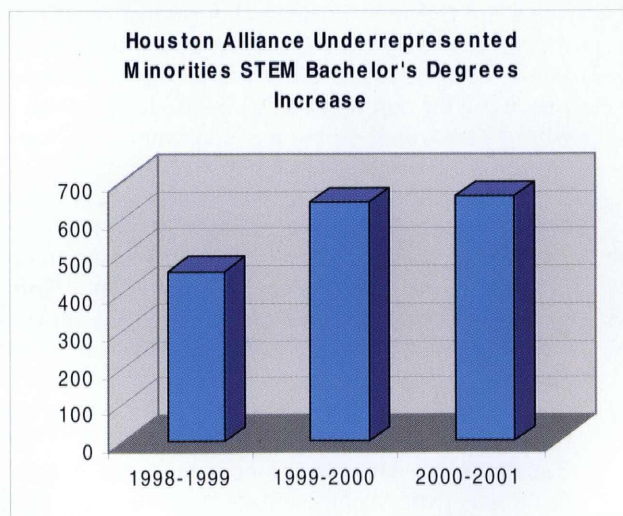


In addition to the CLC, H-LSAMP offers a variety of services as well. In terms of mentoring, H-LSAMP scholars are integrated into a dynamic, multi-tiered support and mentoring network designed to assure continuity of relationships and appropriate mentoring for each student's stage of progress, matching them with an H-LSAMP faculty advisor within their institution. Also, there is an abundance of research and internship opportunities available to students through the various alliance member programs. From governmental and university level work to research in the private industry, there are programs available in all STEM fields for H-LSAMP scholars.

Still, academic tutoring, personal mentorship, and real world experience only begin to encompass the multitude of services and opportunities H-LSAMP provides to its scholars in order to encourage students to pursue graduate study and ensure their continued success within the STEM disciplines.

"All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort, and effort means work."

Calvin Coolidge



RICE UNIVERSITY

THE ALLIANCES FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION AND THE PROFESSORATE (AGEP)



Nestled in the heart of Houston, Texas, one of the nation's largest and most culturally diverse cities, is the breathtaking architecture and vibrant greenery of Rice University. Like most prestigious universities, culture at Rice has been shaped largely by intellectual curiosity and cutting-edge research. What makes Rice unique, however, is the persistence of faculty, students and staff to prove that without cultural diversity, innovation cannot thrive. This sense of diversity is the foundation of the Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Program at Rice University where award-winning faculty and staff are developing a process to overcome the challenges of recruiting and retaining underrepresented minority students in science and engineering graduate study.

Over the last four years, AGEP has met and often exceeded expectations. For example, evaluating Rice University and the AGEP Program on academic merits alone, the following facts may regale you: Rice is consistently ranked among the top fifteen research universities nation wide and among the top three best buys for higher education; Rice students won 28 National Science Foundation graduate study Fellowships in 1998, more than any university in the country; and twenty Rice faculty are members of the National Academy of Sciences and/or National Academy of Engineering.

However, the AGEP Program measures success not only in the classroom, but in the community as well. One overwhelming side effect of the program is that AGEP's accomplished scholars are also citizens who enrich the surrounding community. For example, participants mentor a range of students from K-12 to college undergraduates, and through periodic lunches and seminars, are encouraged to engage Rice faculty and staff in academic and national agenda discussions that improve the quality of education received by everyone.

A true testament to the AGEP Program is not found in the publications, awards, and recognition that the participants receive, but rather in the students' willingness to help recruit future graduate students, create a close-knit community while at Rice, and develop friendships that last a lifetime.

Stipends and Financial Aid

Stipends and Financial Aid

Students accepted into the summer research program receive a stipend for living expenses. Students accepted to pursue a Ph.D. through the AGEP Program receive a stipend and tuition waiver.

How to Apply

For more information on this program and application materials, visit our website at <http://rgs.rice.edu/Grad/agep> or contact Theresa Chatman, Program Manager, at tlc@rice.edu or 713-348-5180.

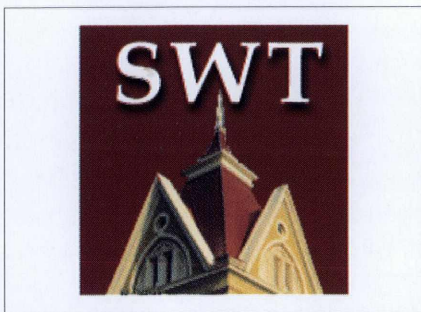
*"Inclusiveness, everyone
can play."*

Dr. Richard Tapia



SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

THE COLLABORATIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY



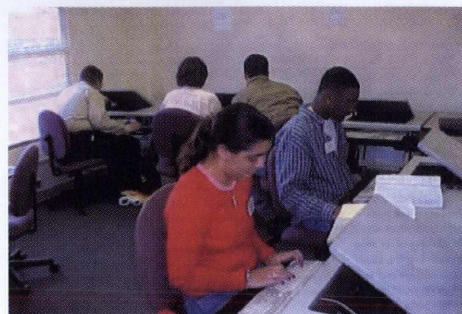
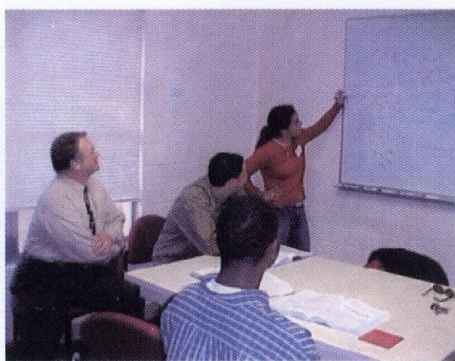
Southwest Texas State University is the sixth largest public university in Texas. It serves an ethnically diverse student body of over 23,500. As part of its mission to increase the number of students graduating with degrees in the sciences, mathematics, engineering, and technology fields, Southwest Texas has developed the Collaborative Learning Community (CLC). The CLC offers tutoring for students in courses such as biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics. They also provide mentoring, which assists the AMP Scholars through university life by joining the efforts of students and mentors with different levels of experience that are in the same field. Internship/job placement assistance can be found on the CLC's Internship and Job web page, which can be accessed from the Community's computer lab. Another service offered by the CLC is its series of workshops that are held

every second and fourth Thursday of each month with topics including: notetaking, money management, and resume building tips.

Southwest Texas has also been the home of the H-LSAMP Annual Undergraduate Research Conference to date. In July 2000, about 125 students participated in the first of the annual conferences. Dr. Illya Hicks of Texas A&M and Dr. Donna Washington-Stokes of the US Naval Research Laboratory in Washington DC were the guest speakers. The theme of the conference was "Building a Community of Scholars." The second annual conference was held in July of 2001 and hosted approximately 150 students. The theme for the conference was "Increasing Diversity in Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology" and the keynote speaker was Dr. Juan Meza of Sandia National Laboratories.

Southwest Texas State University has scholars in the fields of physics, mathematics, biology, computer science, industrial technology, manufacturing technology, chemistry, and visual communications.

Dr. Stanley Israel is the Principal Investigator at SWT and Dr. Vasquez is the director of the CLC. The Associate Dean for the College of Science, Dr. Greg Passty, and the Assistant to the Dean, Barbara Pascoe, help coordinate the LSAMP effort at Southwest Texas State University.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY



Texas Southern University is a comprehensive, state-supported, Historically Black University founded in 1927 and established as a state-supported university in 1947. The University's mission supports teaching, research, and public service. Its eight colleges and schools currently enroll approximately 7,000 students. TSU has a fervent record of success in implementing grants and contracts awarded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and other major agencies and

private foundations. A significant amount of research in science, mathematics and education is currently underway.

Texas Southern University offers the *Department of Chemistry Research and Engineering Apprenticeship Program*, sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Office through the Academy of Applied Sciences. Directed by Dr. Bobby Wilson, the Houston AMP Co-Director, it familiarizes secondary students with careers in science or engineering to prepare them for college-level study. It provides hands-on experience in scientific research and development during the summer under the direction of faculty mentors. Also, the *Science and Engineering Career Awareness and College Preparator Program* prepares talented pre-college minority students for study in one of the STEM fields at the college level. With up to four years of participation, students receive academic enrichment in computer science, mathematics, physics and chemistry. This program also includes career awareness and SAT/ACT preparation.

Under the leadership of Dr. Bobby Wilson, Provost and H-LSAMP Co-Principal Investigator, and Ms. Michelle Tolbert, H-LSAMP Program Coordinator, the Houston LSAMP program at TSU is intent on training and providing the finest academic products that Texas Southern University can offer. They have aggressively recruited students who were in the top quadrant of their high school graduating class and who had displayed tremendous talent and potential. The students are housed at the Scholar's Apartment Community, located within walking distance of their classes. They are initially placed in cohorts for classes taught by Dr. Willie Taylor, professor of mathematics, and Dr. Betty Taylor Thompson, professor of English. Dr. Willie Taylor has been instrumental in making provisions for the AMP students to attend mandatory tutorials in the STEM fields. He conducts calculus tutorial/workshops four times per week and on Saturdays.

TSU's LSAMP students make volunteerism a viable part of their educational training. They have been involved in serving food to needy families, helping with the Houston Food Bank, and distributing food to indigent families.



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

SCHOLAR ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



University of Houston is a comprehensive research university closely linked to the Houston metropolitan area. The largest Ph.D. granting and research university in Houston, and the only doctoral degree-granting institution in the UH System, the UH has a diverse student population exceeding 31,000, including some 6,500 graduate and professional students, and with over 900 ranked faculty members. It houses 23 centers and institutes that conduct research in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology fields. Classified as "Research University II" by the Carnegie Foundation, it has annual sponsored research expenditures in excess of \$40 million.

The *Scholar Enrichment Program* (SEP) of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics was implemented in 1992 for the enhancement and retention of underrepresented students. Based on the Collaborative Learning Community model, SEP's hallmark is the creation of a learning community for students in high-risk classes (those having high rates of D's, F's or withdrawals), with workshops, designed to enhance learning and problem-solving skills. SEP has produced higher retention rates and fewer withdrawals or failures, and its students consistently earn higher grades as a group than non-SEP students do. All workshops are staffed with experienced instructors and exemplary SEP participants who take special interest in the advancement of their students. As an example of its success, SEP boasts an average passing rate of **15.32%** higher in all courses providing workshops and an average GPA in lecture courses of **2.59** for workshop students—compared to **1.73** of non-workshop students. The Program for Mastery in Engineering Studies (PROMES) operates within a framework similar to SEP's and holds workshops in mathematics and science for disadvantaged students to improve study and problem-solving skills. The workshop component of the SEP and PROMES programs at the University of Houston has been classified as one of the strongest in the nation. With more than 60 undergraduate facilitators and a peak of more than 800 undergraduate students participating in the workshops during one semester, the workshops support a diverse group of students enrolled in "gateway" STEM courses such as calculus, chemistry, and physics. Moreover, the program has expanded to include certain key upper-division courses in specific majors, such as organic chemistry and statics. SEP also has a summer bridge program designed for marginal freshmen students. Summer bridge students are offered enrichment classes in college algebra, precalculus, freshman chemistry, and study skills. The PROMES program offers two summer programs for high school students. The PROMES SUMMER CAMP is an all-expense-paid two-week program designed to introduce students to science and engineering. The MESET program is a three-week all-expense-paid program whose mission is to give students the chance to explore opportunities in engineering and discover what it takes to be an engineer.

Under the leadership of Dr. John Bear, H-LSAMP Principal Investigator and Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Ms. Kymberly Riggins, Director of the Scholar Enrichment Program, Mr. Pablo Lopez, Program Manager, Ms. Jackie Booker, Program Manager, Dr. Gerhard Paskusz, Director of PROMES, and Mr. John Matthews, PROMES Program Manager, UH-LSAMP along with SEP and PROMES is determined to achieve their goal of doubling the number of qualified underrepresented students obtaining degrees in STEM fields at the University of Houston.



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON—DOWNTOWN SCHOLARS ACADEMY



The University of Houston Downtown (UHD), which was recently authorized with master's level curriculum, offers twenty-five degree programs in many different fields. An open admission, undergraduate, urban university, UHD provides opportunities for first generation college students and non-traditional students seeking career and education advancement. It enrolls approximately 9,500 students whose ethnic diversity directly mirrors that of Houston. For the second year in a row, US News and World Report has recognized UHD as the most diverse University in the West. The rapidly expanding Hispanic student body makes UHD one of the main centers of higher education for Hispanics in Texas, and has been federally designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution. UHD has developed partnerships with HISD, Tenneco and the Houston Endowment, a local movement that focuses on keeping at-risk students in school and preparing them for college. With these commitments, it follows that approximately 85% of UHD students are first-generation college students.

UHD has the Academic Year Bridge Program, which focuses on activities to empower capable entering students to bypass remedial college-level work in computer science and mathematics in place of more challenging coursework. Another UHD cooperative, the shell Foundation Scholars Program, provides financial support to undergraduates in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Its objectives are to increase student retention and graduation rates and provide opportunities for students to develop leadership potential. The University houses the Center for Computational Science and Advanced Distributive Simulation (CCSDS) which offers opportunities for Houston LS-AMP scholars to participate in research at the undergraduate level. Under their mission, the cooperating facilities aim to formally assemble a human resource base in the sciences, engineering technology, mathematics; perform research that supports funded activities; develop software; and investigate new technologies that respond to the needs of the funding agencies.

As a pipeline into STEM, the UHD Scholars Academy (SA) was established in 1999 by leaders in the CCSDS and the College of Science and Technology to provide a comprehensive support program for academically talented students coming to UHD under STEM scholarship programs, of which LSAMP is a major part. The UHD Scholars Academy, funded in part by LS-AMP, and working in collaboration with CCSDS and the Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences (CMS) and the Department of Natural Sciences (NS), provides support and enrichment through faculty and peer mentoring, promotion of tutoring, internship and research opportunities, and through seminars and field trips related to STEM academic careers. The Scholars Academy sponsors an annual College of Science and Technology Student Research Conference each Fall and Internship Fair each spring. The community of learners stays connected through weekly email newsletters and regular meetings with mentors and the Academy.

All LSAMP students at UHD are active members of the Scholars Academy, and many serve their peers as SA peer mentors and tutors in the LSAMP sponsored Collaborative Learning Community Center, a busy tutoring and mentoring center for mathematics and computer science courses for STEM majors. Some LSAMP scholars also serve as peer leaders in the PLTL program (Peer-Led Team Learning) for College Algebra and as tutors in the Science Learning Center.

The UHD Alliance performs under the leadership of Dr. Richard Alo, Principal Investigator LSAMP UHD and Executive Director for CCSDS, Sangeeta Gad, CCSDS, Mitsue Nakamura, CMS, and Dr. Phyllis Griffard, Director, SA.



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON—VICTORIA



The University of Houston-Victoria is an upper-level and graduate institution with selected bachelor's and master's degree programs in the arts and sciences, business administration, and education. Of particular interest to the AMP, it offers bachelor's degrees in applied arts and sciences, computer science, and mathematical sciences, and a master's degree in secondary mathematics education. A young school, having attained status as a degree-granting university in 1983, UHV has seen its minority graduation rate increase from 33% in 1993 to 86% in 1997. Still growing, UHV has significant potential to contribute to the AMP goals, since it is situated in a location where 45% of the population is either Hispanic or African American.

UHV has an academic center where student facilitators tutor mathematics and computer science for 10 hours per week.

Dr. Roy Foley and Dr. Li Chao are the UHV directors for the H-LSAMP.

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



The Houston Community College System enrolls almost 34,000 credit students at its five colleges. The largest community college in the Houston area and the third largest community college in the state, HCCS enrolls almost 45% of the area's 2-year college population.

Houston Community College System has *Teaching and Learning Centers (TLCs)* to prepare students to successfully complete computerized assignments. It offers free tutoring at many instructional sites. In some disciplines, open labs, staffed by full-time faculty, reinforce material taught in class.

Dr. Mahmoud Shagrani, the co-PI and the chairman of the Mathematics Department, and Mr. Charles Odion, the assistant chair for the Mathematics Department, are the H-LSAMP directors for the HCCS.

HCCS-LSAMP has a summer program where students attend a calculus review during the summer session. For the 2000-2001 academic year, HCCS-LSAMP experienced a 50% increase in the number of student scholars.

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE DISTRICT



San Jacinto College District is a community college comprised of three full service campuses in the Houston area: the Central, North and South Campuses. The college district serves a diverse body of approximately 17,500 full-time and part-time students.

Under the leadership of Sharon Sledge, principal investigator, and Dr. J. Terry Wilson, District Collaborative Learning Coordinator, the San Jacinto H-LSAMP recruited 70 students during the 2001-2002 academic year. These activities include but are not limited to tutoring students, speaking to high school students, working in chemistry and biology labs and participating in specific departmental programs such as National Chemistry Week. The students are also actively involved in science and mathematics workshops, and San Jacinto College District's H-LSAMP also offers *Study Skills Workshop*, which provides students with additional assistance and exposure to a variety of approaches to understanding and retaining academic material.

*"Strength does not come
from physical capacity.*

*It comes from an
indomitable will."*

Mahatma Gandhi

NEWSWORTHY EVENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Ronald Cotton, a University of Houston H-LSAMP scholar, was chosen to be the 2002 commencement speaker. He brought University of Houston's past, present, and future to life. Ronald was selected out of the forty applicants competing for the position. His captivating speech covers the 75 years of the university's history and stressed the importance of the graduates remembering their legacy. Ronald Cotton is an exemplary student, graduating with a 3.83 GPA, holding a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. He plans to continue his education beyond the baccalaureate degree.



Christopher Miller is a recent University of Houston graduate and an H-LSAMP scholar. He received his Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics and has already been accepted into the university's graduate program where he will pursue a PhD in Mathematics in hopes of becoming a university professor while doing mathematical research in medicine. Christopher is also working at the University of Houston as the Director of Mathematics for the CLC. Christopher has also received first place awards for his poster on *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and the cornea.



Erica Ruger received the second place award at the Second Annual HPA Undergraduate Research Conference at Baylor College of Medicine for the research she did at Morehouse School of Medicine during the summer of 2001. The title of her project was "Muscarinic Regulation of Potassium Current in Dopamine Neurons." Erica has recently graduated magna cum laude at the University of Houston and plans to further her education past the baccalaureate degree.



Two students from the University of Houston attended the 9th Annual Florida-Georgia L-SAMP Career Expo. It was held from January 31 to February 3, 2002. The Expo provided seminars, workshops, and networking interactions with business, industry, graduate and undergraduate institutions. One hundred twenty-six students competed in the oral and poster research presentations part of the conference. University of Houston H-LSAMP student, Sharifa Glass presented her research on "A Survival Fraction Formulation for Steroids Subjected to Fractionate Doses." Sharifa was the recipient of the 2nd place award for mathematics.



Twenty H-LSAMP students from the University of Houston attended the 8th Biennial Symposium on Minorities, the Medically Underserved and Cancer. The Intercultural Cancer Council and Baylor College of Medicine sponsored this symposium. The conference also included an oral and poster presentation competition. Seven awards were given for outstanding presentations and three awards were given to UH H-LSAMP students. Two oral presentations won an award. Megan Edmondson won for "Gonadotrophin Releasing Hormones (GNRH) Attenuates Pregnancy Induced Thymic Involution in the Rat," and La Tonya Evans for "Culturing Rat Hepatocytes Under Various Conditions for the Development of a Bio-Artificial Liver as a Bridge Treatment for Acute Liver Failure." Lisa Mouzi received an award for her poster presentation on "Identification of DFNA Loci to Determine Congenital Hereditary Hearing Loss."



"What people say you cannot do, you try and find that you can."

Henry David Thoreau

NEWSWORTHY EVENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Texas Southern University H-LSAMP students Ahtavea Castellanos, Kaotria Tatum, and Jessica Poole attended the Texas Academy of Science's annual conference in Spring 2002. Poole's paper, "A Curious Quadratic Involving Sums", was chosen from the many undergraduate papers in 15 different sections in the mathematics and science fields. Jessica, a sophomore mathematics major was awarded the Amir Moez Award and received the first place award for mathematics, as well as the first place, overall, award for the conference. Jessica's mentor and advisor is Dr. Willie Taylor, a professor of mathematics at Texas Southern University, and she plans to earn a Ph.D. in differential equations and then apply her degree to computational sciences.

Texas Southern University H-LSAMP students have participated in many community activities, as a way of giving back. LSAMP students volunteered at the SHAPE Community Center Food Co-op, sorting and distributing food packages on May 4, 2002. They also worked with the Houston Food Bank on May 11, 2002 and assisted at the channel 26 Houston Food Bank Telethon on May 13, 2002.

Roderick Brannon, Brandon Furlough, Yameskia Sandles, Sherrill Gilliam and Aleena Mohammed are Ambassadors for the Space Science at the Museum of Natural Science. These five TSU LSAMP Scholars are working this summer in conjunction with NASA JSC, the Museum of Natural Science, and UHD to educate Houston youth about Space Science.

TSU LSAMP scholars Terrance Overstreet and Cherie Lee are working this summer as interns at NASA Johnson Space Centers. The two Computer Science majors are working in the areas of database design and website construction.

Six TSU LSAMP Scholars were selected to participate in the Summer Pre-Graduate Research Experience (SPGRE) program at University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill. These Scholars are involved in research in a variety of disciplines. Ahtavea Castellanos, Katoria Tatum, and Siobhan Tarver are chemistry majors. Brian Hinton, and Shani Herrington are Computer Science majors. Finally, Evita Hollis-Berry is a mathematics major.

Jodie McCullough and Kori Brown are involved in the SPGRE program at North Carolina A&T University.

Michael Simmons, TSU LAMP scholar, is participating in the Minority Medical Enrichment Program (MMEP) at the University of Virginia.

Two dynamic Chemistry majors, DeNard Simmons and Derrick Smith are participating in an undergraduate research program at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory sponsored by the Department of Energy.

BreSean Cockrell is involved in undergraduate research at the University of Michigan in applied mathematics and science.

Cliff Robinson, computer science major, is an intern at NASA - Glen Lewis Space Center

Jessica Poole and Gerrick Green are participating in the AGEP Program at Rice University. Both of these scholars are involved in research under direction of Dr. Richard Tapia.

Abdel Mohammed and Rochelle have been selected to participate in the Ron McNair Scholars Program on the Texas Southern University Campus.

Latrice Living is completing an internship program at the University of Pittsburgh. Latrice is a computer science major at Texas Southern University.

Four TSU LSAMP Scholars, Ahtavea Castellanos, DeNard Simmons, Derrick Smith and Katoria Tatum, traveled to New Orleans, LA March 24-30, 2002, to participate in the 30th Annual National Conference for the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemist and Chemical Engineering (NOBCChE). These four students competed in poster session.

*“Each problem that I
solved became a rule
which afterwards served
to solve other problems.”*

Rene Descartes

San Jacinto College is the home of the Texas Aerospace Scholars Community College Program. Several of the H-LSAMP students were chosen to participate in this program. The sessions were held at NASA in April of this year.

The University of Houston-Downtown held an awards ceremony for the Scholars Academy on May 3, 2001. Approximately, 150 scholars and their parents were invited to attend. All of the University of Houston-Downtown H-LSAMP students were in attendance, along with faculty and staff. Presented during the awards ceremony was the Scholars Honors Corps Award. Eligible scholars must be in good standing with at least sixty hours. Their cumulative GPA must be a 3.0 and a 3.25 in their major. Seven UH-Downtown H-LSAMP scholars were recipients of the award.

University of Houston-Downtown H-LSAMP scholars Juan Carlos Hernandez and Diana Leal were recently featured on www.univision.com in a showcase of "Universidades con acento Hispano", or universities with a Hispanic accent. University of Houston-Downtown was recently recognized as one of the top twenty-five universities for Hispanics.

The University of Houston-Downtown Scholars Academy is a comprehensive scholarship program that supports students in STEM fields. The Scholars Academy established its first Student Research Conference, which was held on November 16, 2001. It was co-chaired by Drs. Christmas, DeLaVina, and Farnsworth. The conference opened with a keynote speaker, Dr. Tuuajuanda Jordan, a chemist at Xavier University, who spoke on the value and importance of undergraduate research. Student participants presented posters on their research and other academic projects. Twenty-six students presented posters. Four students made oral presentations as well. The conference ended with discussions for faculty members about their responsibility in undergraduate research.

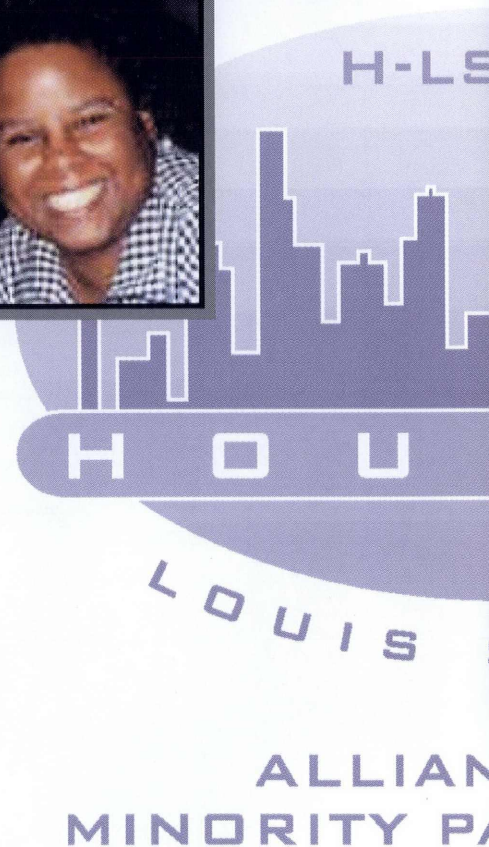
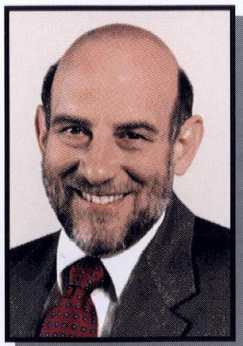
CONFERENCE NEWS



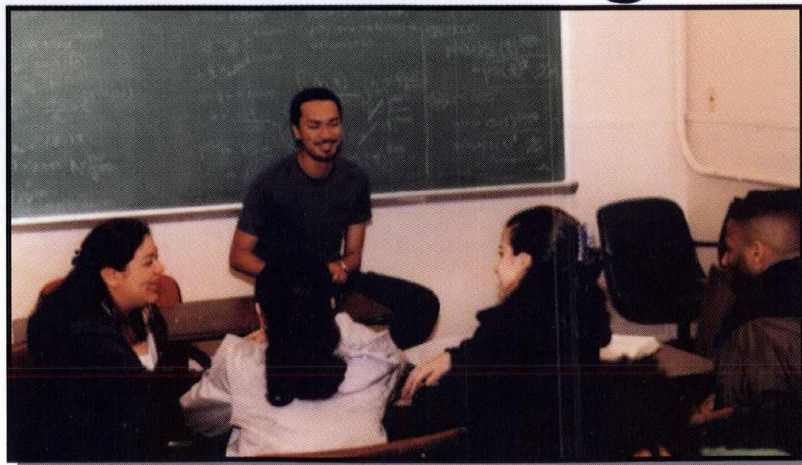
The H-LSAMP program influences the future careers of AMP scholars through an annual research conference, where the students showcase their research in oral and poster presentations and compete for first, second, and third place awards. The Third Annual Undergraduate Research Conference was held July 12-14, 2002 at SWT. Two Hundred Thirty-six people attended the conference (180 students; 56 faculty, staff, and graduate students)—forty-seven more than last year. Fourteen workshops were given and twenty-nine research presentations were made by students (8 oral and 21 poster)—seven more than last year. The increase in figures shows a direct correlation to the overall goal of the H-LSAMP to increase the number of minority STEM graduates.

Houston, Texas has been chosen as the home for the Fourth Annual Undergraduate Research Conference.

Community Leaders



Collaborative Learning Community



Students at the University of Houston participating in a calculus enrichment workshop led by Christopher Miller, a recent graduate in mathematics.

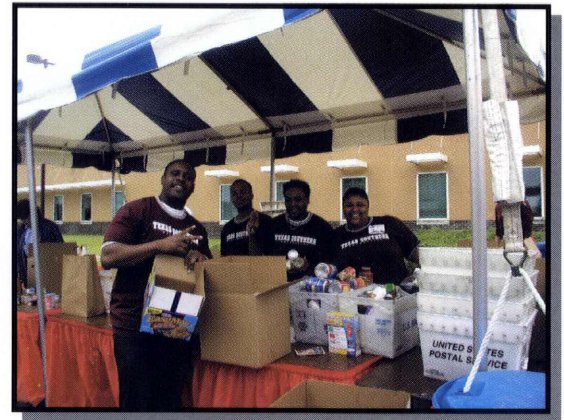
PROMES Banquet

Each year, PROMES holds its annual banquet to recognize the academic achievements and hard work of its students.



From Our Community to Yours

TSU students gave a helping hand at the SHAPE Community Center Food Co-op.



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H-LSAMP Summer Research Conference



"The H-LSAMP program influences the future careers of AMP scholars through an annual research conference, where the students showcase their research in oral and poster presentations ..."

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