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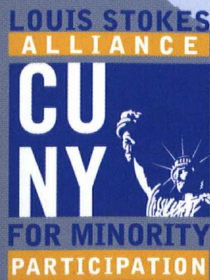
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# new york city alliance

## NEWS

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### *Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Experience*



## Julianne Vernon - Macedonia



Julianne Vernon, joined the EWB-Macedonia team at the University of Florida during her first semester of the graduate program. The key interest in the program was to apply her engineering skills to an environmental problem in a developing community that needed the help. The team was already in Phase two, Implementation section of the proposed outline from the previous visit to Kratovo, Macedonia.

Due to the scope of the problem and the limitation of the team in regards to time and money, the plan that was to be implemented consisted of the implementation of a plastic PET recycling system and an education program for K-12 grades. To initiate this phase, the background information that was collected on the previous three trips to Macedonia was reviewed. Then the project was broken into three sections, recycle

*Continued on next page*



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New York City Alliance News

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bin design, transportation, and education.

Julianne was part of the recycle bin design and education team. For the recycle bin design they tailored a design after the bins in the US. However, they had to modify this design to meet the needs of the community and the weather for that particular area. AUTOCAD was used to create layouts and a blueprint of the design. Five designs were created and prototypes were built out of cardboard. The entire Macedonia team then voted on which one to use. Included in the design process was the task of finding a welder in the town to fabricate the bins. This was done through correspondence through the USAID and Peace Corps volunteers stationed in Kratavo, Macedonia.

The goal of the educational component of the project was to make the townspeople aware of the dangers of environmental health issues. After some research we found an environmental teaching aide for the K-12 grades by the California Department of Education. The team used this as the 'backbone or kernel' and then modified/tailored it to suit the children and parents in Macedonia. They also included do-it-yourself projects like creating a compost in the backyard. Additional pamphlets were created to create awareness of the new PET recycling bins that were going to be placed around town. All the pamphlets were translated and printed here in the US and shipped to Macedonia.

The EWB-Macedonia team at the University of Florida was awarded the EPA P3 phase one award. The team defended the implementation scheme for Phase two. Julianne was one of the four team members who presented in Washington, DC for the EPA P3 Phase two awards, and received an honorable mention at the award ceremony. They continued to make presentations to companies and college departments for donations. A Bake Sale, gold tournament, and a banquet dinner were also used to raise funds. With these funds the team was able to send a group of three students to implement the building and placement of our recycling bins. To date, the bins are doing great and the revenue will purchase more recycling bins for Kratovo and neighboring towns.

**Julianne Vernon** is from the Bronx, New York and her family originated from the country of Belize. She was the first person in her family to go to college. She graduated from the Chemical Engineering Department in 2004 at City College of New York and worked the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Wastewater Treatment in the Process Engineering Section. She is now a doctoral candidate in Environmental Engineering at the University of Florida Gainesville working on fate, transport and remediation of mercury in aqueous and sedimentary mediums with the use nano-technology. Julie was a member of the Engineers without Borders Macedonia team for two years that implemented a plastic bottle recycling program and an environmental education program for K-12 grades with funding from EPA, engineering companies, and private individuals..

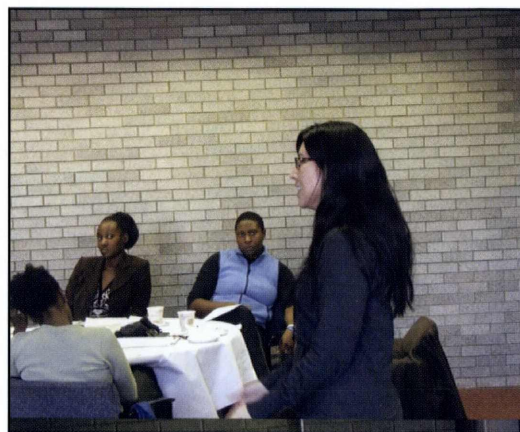
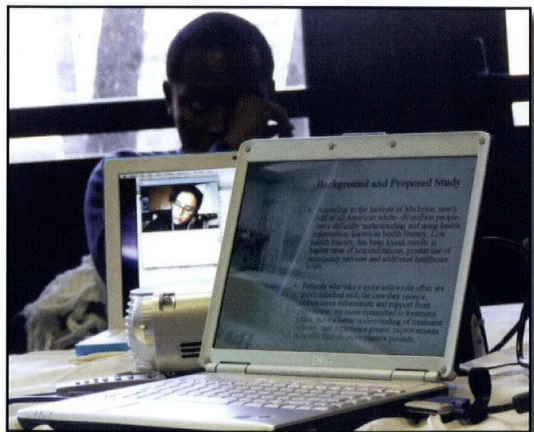
# NYC Alliance Bridge Update



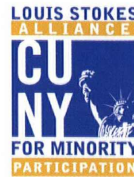
## Bridge to the Doctorate Cohorts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

A series of activities were designed and implemented to ensure the transition to doctoral programs. These activities serve to create a learning community of scholars across the campuses given the fact that the participating students take courses and conduct research at different campuses. Senior LSAMP Scholars are allowed to participate in Bridge activities and are encouraged to apply directly to doctoral programs nationally and to compete for Graduate Research fellowships. Bridge scholars act as peer mentors and role models to undergraduate LSAMP Scholars.

**Seventeen Bridge Scholars** who elected to pursue the Doctoral degree in CUNY, have been awarded support by the Graduate Center and their respective home campuses. Bridge students on acceptance to the doctoral program at the Graduate Center are eligible for funding by the AGEP program, and other NSF funded programs such as CREST, GK-12, and IGERT programs. In addition, the LSAMP Office works closely with Bridge Mentors, CUNY Research Institutes and Centers to provide competitive support packages via the LSAMP Graduate Research Assistantship award. The Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP) offers a number of awards to Bridge Scholars beyond the first two years of the Bridge award.



# BRIDGE TO THE DOCTORATE



*"The Bridge to the Doctorate program will provide the necessary incentive to enable the New York City LSAMP program to build the critical mass needed to remain catalytic, recruiting and retaining top LSAMP Research Scholar graduates to pursue graduate studies through to completion of the Ph.D."*

Dr. Neville A. Parker, NYC LSAMP Project Director, Herbert G. Keiser Professor.

## *Program Elements*

*Bridge students will be beneficiaries of a proactive retention and professional enrichment program that will include academic and research mentoring, GRE workshops, roundtable discussions with advanced doctoral students, faculty and administrators, and attendance and participation at local and national professional conferences. An annual stipend of \$30,000 per year is provided.*

*All candidates must be accepted into a graduate degree program in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines at a unit of The City University of New York (CUNY).*

## *About the Graduate Center*

The objectives of this Bridge to the Doctorate program is to entice newly minted LSAMP STEM graduates to forego the immediate rewards of the workplace and embark on an extended journey that would provide the long-term gratification of a research/academic career. A unique and distinguished intellectual partnership, The Graduate Center is the doctorate-granting institution for The City University of New York (CUNY). Here, 4,000 students and 1,600 faculty join in the shared enterprise of exploring and expanding the boundaries of knowledge within 32 doctoral programs in the humanities, social sciences and sciences. More than a third of the rated Ph.D. programs rank among the country's top 20.

## *Application Material*

*Eligible students will be required to submit the following:*

- A graduate LSAMP Application (<http://nyc-amp.cuny.edu>)
- Personal Statement.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Undergraduate and Graduate transcripts.
- GRE score (if taken).
- Recommendation letter from LSAMP Research Faculty Mentor addressing the student's ability to successfully pursue doctoral study.
- For more information on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics programs at CUNY please visit the CUNY website at [www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu)

### *The NYC LSAMP Central Office*

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212-650-8854 or [cbrathwaite@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:cbrathwaite@ccny.cuny.edu)

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### *NYC LSAMP Contact Info:*

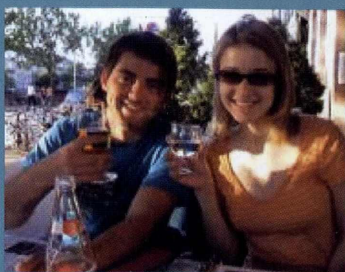
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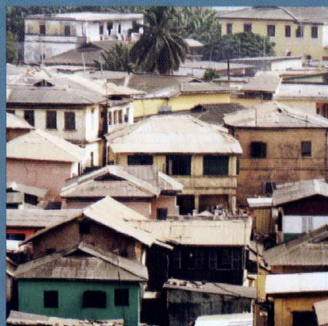
**France**  
chemistry/chem eng/matls sci,  
engineering, physics, mathematics,  
biology/life sciences

**Ghana**  
biology, chemistry, ecology,  
environmental science

**Brazil**  
chemistry/chem eng/matls sci/  
molecular biodiversity, engineering,  
physics, math, biology/life sci

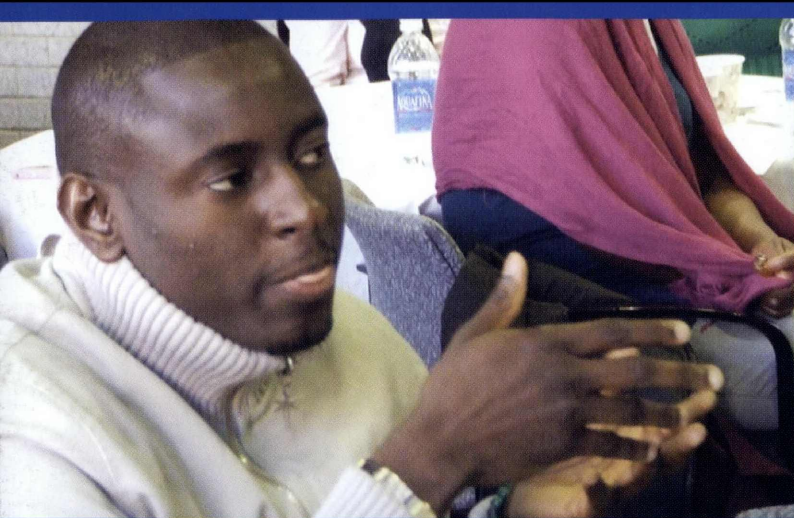
**Argentina**  
chemistry/chem eng/matls sci,  
engineering, physics, mathematics,  
biology/life sciences

*In addition, research opportunities exist in about 20 additional NSF international REU locations around the globe with research opportunities spanning most STEM fields*



Overall funding package is \$10,000 including free housing abroad and a predeparture trip to NSF and an embassy application and more info at [www.chem.ufl.edu/~reu](http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~reu)

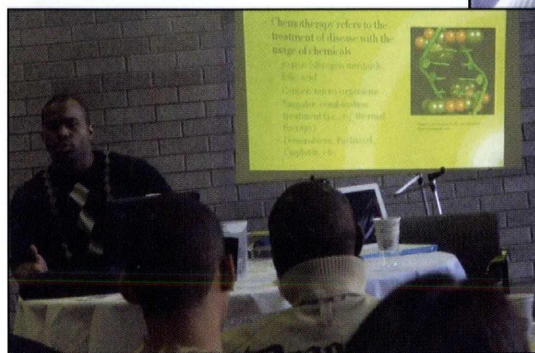
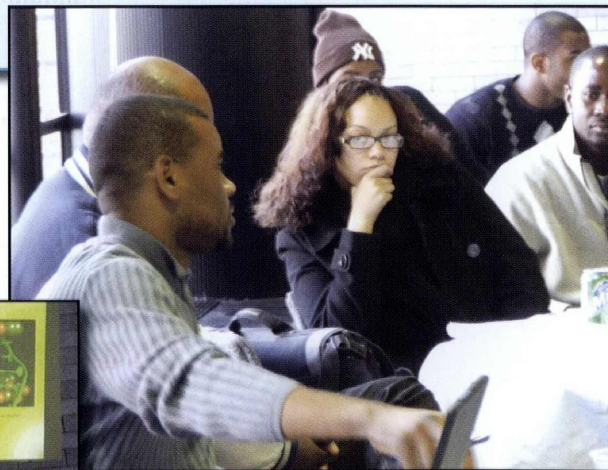


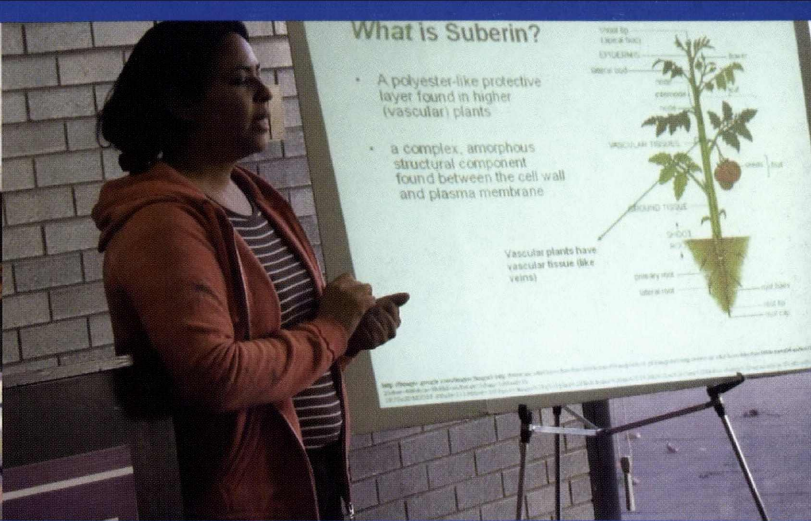


## NYC Alliance Bridge Update (con't)

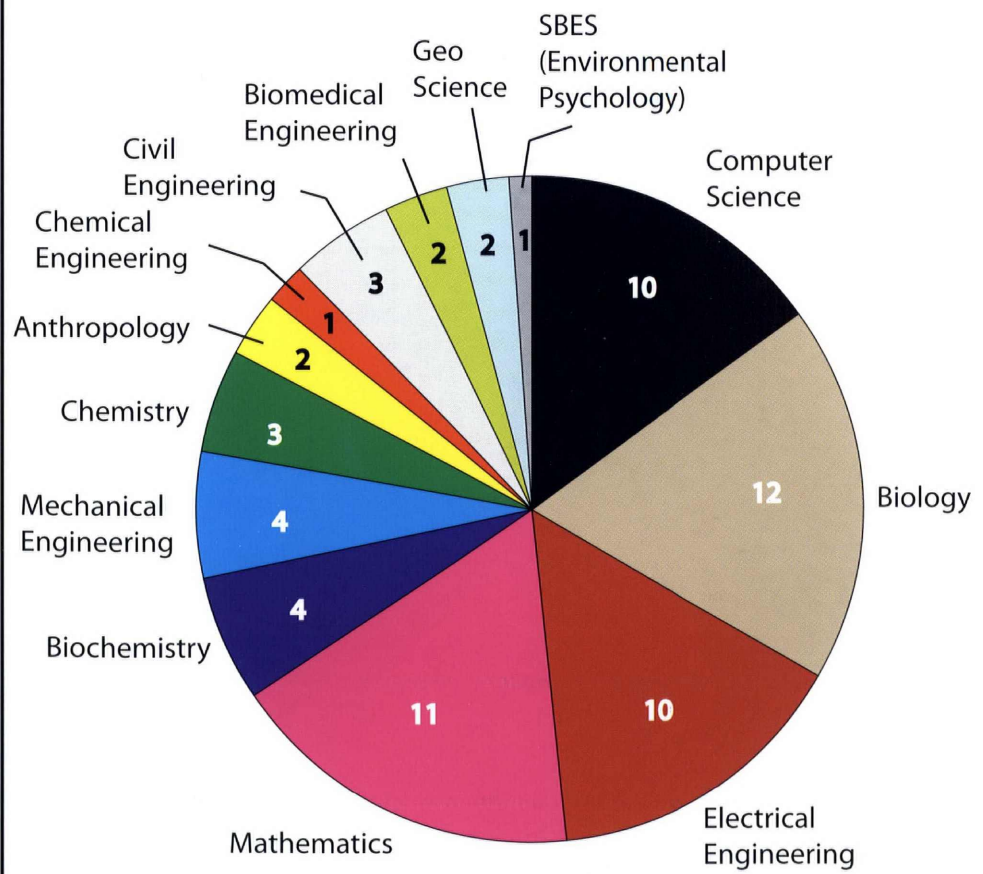
### Major Outcomes: Bridge to the Doctorate Cohorts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

- Thirty four (52 %) Bridge to the Doctorate Scholars have gained acceptances to Doctoral programs
- Seventeen (26 %) BD Scholars are currently enrolled in MS programs
- Six (9 %) are currently seniors completing the Baccalaureate Degrees
- Three (5 %) completed MS degrees and did not enroll in Doctoral programs as of 9/2008
- Four (6 %) completed the undergraduate degree and have not yet enrolled in graduate school
- Seventeen (17) Bridge Scholars successfully matriculated into doctoral programs at the Graduate Center
- Twelve (16) Bridge Scholars matriculated into Doctoral Programs outside of CUNY
- Three Bridge Scholars from Cohort 5 have gained acceptances to Doctoral programs
- Twelve Bridge to the Doctorate Scholars are currently receiving/received AGEP support to pursue doctoral study
- Three Bridge Scholars have successfully obtained NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Awards
- Thirty four Bridge Scholars started their studies at a Community College or graduated from a Comprehensive College of CUNY
- Sixteen Bridge to the Doctorate Scholars started studies at a Community College.
- Over forty faculty members participated as Bridge to the Doctorate mentors
- Seven Bridge Mentors are directors of research Institutes or Centers at CUNY





### NYC LSAMP Bridge Scholars by Discipline

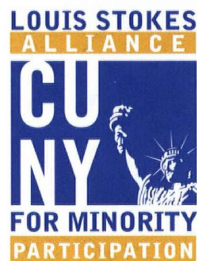
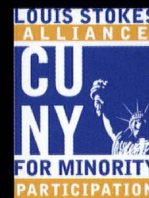


# 2009 Urban University Conference

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For more information visit our website:  
[nyc-amp.cuny.edu](http://nyc-amp.cuny.edu) or call 212-650-8854

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