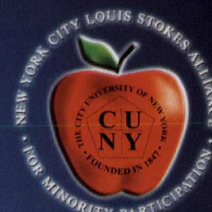


NEW YORK CITY ALLIANCE NEWS



VOLUME X ISSUE I

DECEMBER 2002

THOUGHTS FROM THE PROJECT DIRECTOR LSAMP PHASE III

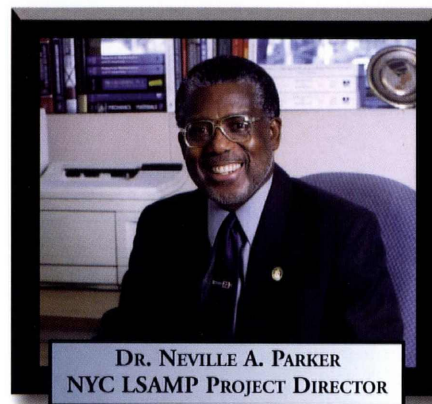
L SAMP Phase III creates windows of opportunities for us to collaborate, partner and set goals as a consortium. With institutions across CUNY participating to their full potential, the goal of graduating 1,500 students by 2007, and substantially increasing the rates of graduate school attendance, will be attainable.

The Alliance will intensify its pre-college activities by leveraging, partnering and working more closely with the New York State funded STEP/C-STEP, Biomedical Engineering, NASA PAIR, CUNY Honors College, and K-12 programs that identify and recruit minority students. These potential LSAMP students will be engaged during the Summer sessions at CUNY to go beyond the playgrounds and gymna-

siums of the University. These future college students must be in the classrooms or laboratories developing a sense of ownership of science and of CUNY.

The Alliance will balance the emphasis placed on all academic disciplines and will also increase the opportunities for leveraging with other programs in CUNY. We can now target a group of undergraduates in the Behavioral Sciences to look at issues specific to minority STEM education and the teaching/learning strategies. They will be our future core of evaluators. A target group in the Biological Sciences will be developed for freshman and sophomore students interested in the MD/Ph.D. career path, preparing them for the NIH funded RISE, MARC or MBRS programs. We will continue developing proposals that will seek to exploit the presence of minority-focussed Biomedical Centers, the Structural Biology Center planned at the South Campus of the City College, and the Biomedical hub in New York City. For the Biomedical Sciences this could be as much as \$300,000 over the five years of Phase III.

Expansion of the bridging activities for graduate education at CUNY will be expanded in the form of Summer Research Experiences. From 2003-2007, we anticipate leveraging approxi-



DR. NEVILLE A. PARKER
NYC LSAMP PROJECT DIRECTOR

mately \$350,000 with CUNY Institutes and Centers, CREST, NOAA-CREST, CBE, RCMI, AGEP, RISE, McNair, etc., as well as research/doctoral faculty funded via federal sources (grants and contracts) to offer funding packages to recruit, retain and graduate minority graduate students. The aforementioned program directors and administrators are invited to map out and commit resources to underrepresented minority students in the graduate research opportunities of the university.

The non-CUNY activities with the HBCUs, HSI and Tribal Colleges should allow for submission of joint proposals, faculty exchanges, graduate/undergraduate training, as well as post doctoral/faculty recruitment to the university. The chartered CUNY

IN THIS ISSUE:

Thoughts from the Project Director	Cover
SACNAS 2002	Page 3
Summer 2002	Pages 4-5
JustGarciaHill Portal	Page 6
NSF-CREST	Page 7
Urban University Series 2003	Page 8

continued on page 2

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New York City Alliance News

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NYC LSAMP PHASE 3

continued from page 1

Institutes and Centers of the university must become major players in the effort to mentor underrepresented minorities from undergraduate through junior faculty stages of the educational continuum.

Organizations such as QEM, NACME, AAAS, NSBE, SHPE, NAFEO, professional societies of minority scientists and engineers, and foundations would be possible partners.

LSAMP Phase III will function in a complementary way with other related NSF-funded educational activities within the region. We will, via the CUNY Consortium for Minority Participation in STEM (CCMP-STEM), develop Memoranda of Understanding with institutions having related NSF supported projects at partner institutions.

These potential AMP students will be engaged during the Summer sessions at CUNY to go beyond the playgrounds and gymnasiums of the University. These future college students must be in the classrooms or laboratories developing a sense of ownership of science and of CUNY.

NYC LSAMP Phase III will allow

CUNY and its individual colleges to continue building on the institutionalized accomplishments of Phases I and II during the upcoming five year period. Activity coordinators, the LSAMP Central Office, Campus Learning Center, CUNY

Central support, research assistantships and peer tutors all constitute the institutionalized cost sharing of the NSF cooperative agreement. The University's commitment to the mission and spirit of the LSAMP at the current level of \$400,000 per year of centralized support forms the essential foundation of CCMP STEM. Developing partnerships, (community, civic, regional and CUNY wide), and funding streams that build on the CUNY Central support five fold, must be achieved by the fall of 2003.

THE URBAN UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE 2003

The Sixth Annual Urban University Conference: Gateway to STEM-CUNY Models for Community University Partnerships will be held at York College of the City University of New York on **April 11th, 2003**. Held annually since 1998, the conference has attracted 200 participants in 1998, and over 500 participants in 1999, 2000 and 2001. In 2002, the event attracted over 600 participants during the two days of the program.

The Urban University Conference Series serve to highlight the research work done by faculty and CUNY students involved in undergraduate and graduate research, serve as networking events for other minority scientists and engineers, and as a forum for students to gather information on internships, graduate programs, and employment.

The Sixth Annual Urban University Conference will include:

Student Research Presentations

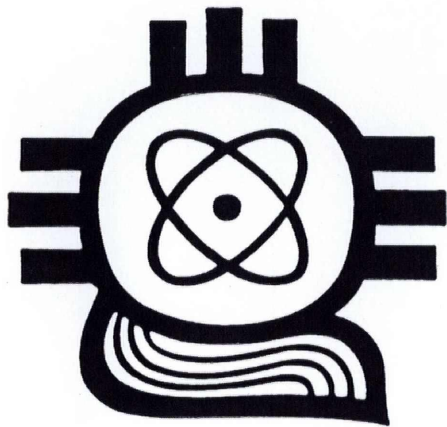
Central to the City University's mission of access and excellence are the undergraduate research programs across the University. The Urban University Series poster sessions serve as a forum for students to present their research work to faculty, administrators, and fellow students.

continued on page 8

SACNAS 2002

"Community: a Catalyst for Science"

Reproduced with permission from SACNAS News



How many great-great-great-grandparents have you had since 1492? Dr. Clifton Poodry asked this question during the Genetic Education for Native Americans (GENA) workshop, part of the 2002 SACNAS National Conference held in Anaheim, California from September 26-29. Dr. Poodry, who is the director of the Minority Opportunities in Research Division (MORE) of the National Institutes for Health (NIH), continued, "We want to know how many people have contributed to who you are today." People called out answers from 7 to 1,000,000. The correct answer was staggering. Since 1492, each individual on this planet has approximately 1.3 million ancestors. Dr. Poodry and his colleagues at GENA, Drs. Lynne Bemis and Linda Burhansstipanov, then explained that this figure provides a concrete example for the inherent connection between all humans on the planet and truly redefines the concept of "community."

Thoughts on interconnection and community were prevalent throughout the entire SACNAS Conference entitled, "Community: a Catalyst for Science", where there was a record breaking attendance of over 2,100 participants. Examining the link between the larger

community and the course of science, the conference centered on numerous questions: How do Native American and Chicano/Latino communities drive science? To what extent do Native American and Chicano/Latino scientists apply their research to assist their communities? And how can we as members of SACNAS take science back into our communities? Many sessions, keynotes, and special events focused on defining and celebrating community, while others discussed the challenges and disparities found within the Native American and Chicano/Latino populations.

Dr. Maria Elena Zavala, SACNAS President, formally launched the conference on Thursday night when she said, "As a community, we are affected by science in our daily lives. The welfare and future of this country is based on the development of all of our people." Dr. Zavala also recognized the K-12 educators in attendance as forming the foundation of the SACNAS community when she said, "You who work with our students, our future is in your hands. Without hard work, none of us would be here."

After Dr. Zavala's welcome, Dr. Frank Talamantes, former SACNAS president and vice provost and dean of graduate studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz cultivated a deep sense of purpose for the conference in his keynote address entitled, "Health in the Community." Talamantes made a connection between academic and medical health within the Latino and Native American communities and described the growing health disparities including infant mortality, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and immunization. Dr. Talamantes urged that to close the gap in education and health disparities, "we need to train ac-

ademic and medical scientists to have a cultural confidence." Dr. Talamantes was first in a line of distinguished keynote speakers throughout the conference that included: Ms. Christina Castillo-Comer, Nobel Laureate Dr. Thomas Cech, and Drs. Jack Farmer, Nancy Jackson, Clifton Poodry, Lillian Tom-Orme, and JoAnn Trejo, all of whom touched on the conference theme and described the role SACNAS members can play in addressing the scientific needs of the community.

NYC LSAMP Scholars are encouraged to attend and participate actively in student centered science and engineering conferences. Seven LSAMP Scholars participated in the SACNAS 2002 conference held in Anaheim representing City College, Queens College, Medgar Evers College and the College of Staten Island.

NYC LSAMP Scholar

Chanda Oton on SACNAS 2002

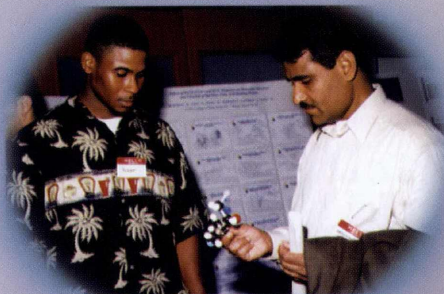
As I got on the first plane I noticed three girls, all with poster carriers. I instantly thought they were going to SACNAS. Seeing them again also on my connecting flight to Anaheim confirmed it. I had never met these three individuals before, but they were familiar in the sense that we all had the same goal, and had more in common than anybody else on the plane. We all were academically excelling in school and conducting research. We all saw ourselves succeeding in life, as scientists, representing our schools, families, communities, and culture. I knew all this before we even had a chance to speak. That was the beginning of SACNAS 2002 for me.

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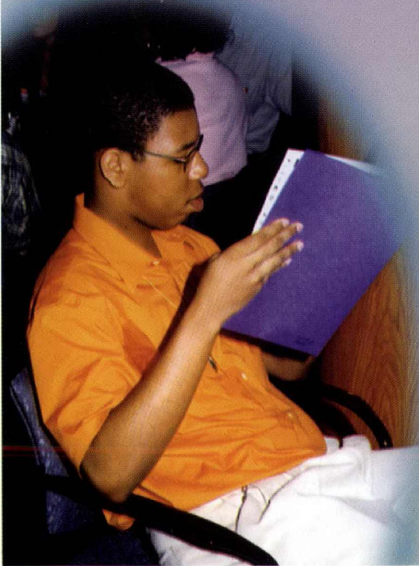
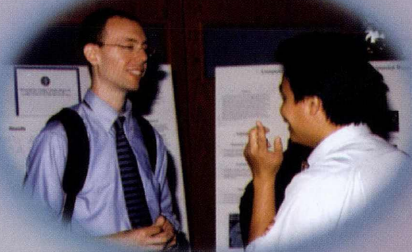
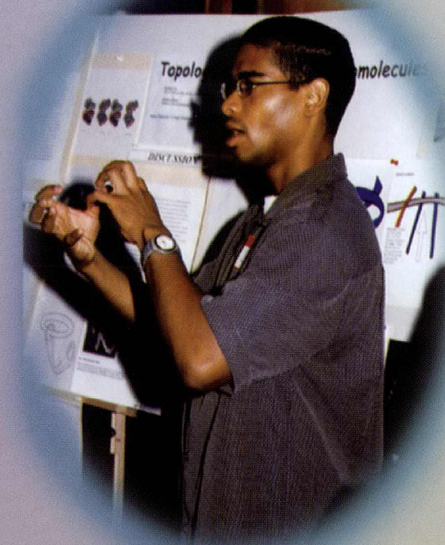


The LSAMP CUNY Summer Research Program drew participation from 70 CUNY students.

CUNY LSAMP Offsite components included collaborations with Stony Brook and SOARS-Colorado. LSAMP Scholars had research experiences at Brookhaven National Labs, Oak Ridge National Labs, the Goddard Space Flight Center, the Environmental Protection Agency, SUNY Downstate, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, the U



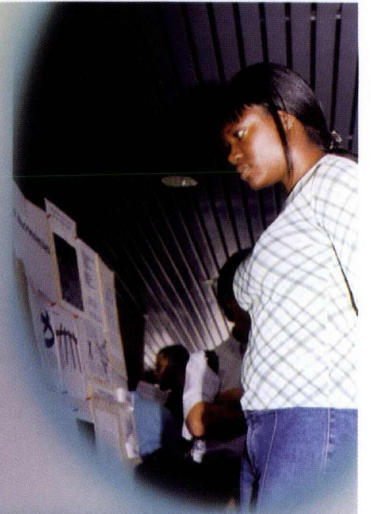
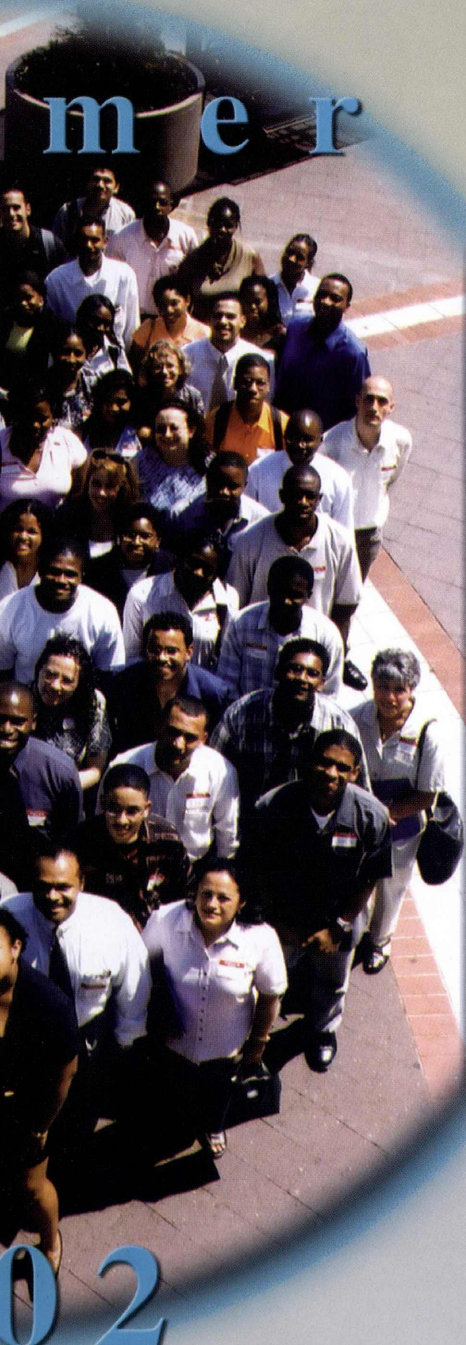
From inception, 262 LSAMP Scholars have earned BA or BS degrees.



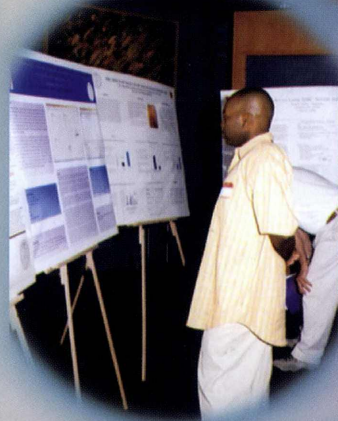
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*NYC Alliance Summer Activities included
Over fifty faculty members
Summer 2002*

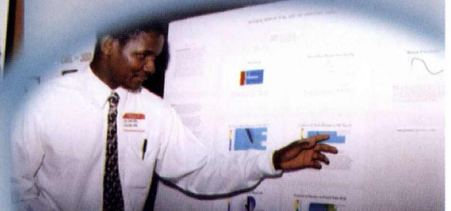
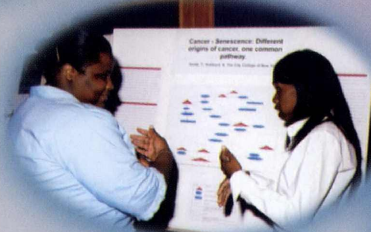
with Department of Energy and NASA Laboratories, SUNY and the opportunity to train at SUNY-AGEP Stony Brook, the NASA Glenn, Goddard Institute for Space Studies and an Agency, Metropolitan Transit Authority, Duke University, University of Wisconsin and the University of Massachusetts.



For the 2001-2002 academic year 202 LSAMP research scholars were offered CUNY institutional support.



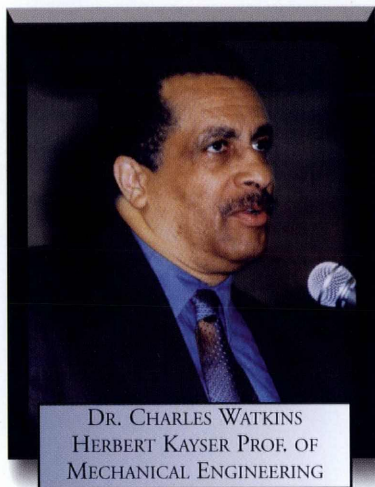
Over 100 CUNY faculty mentors participate in LSAMP activities.



udes a CUNY based Research Program. participated in the LSAMP Research Program.

CREST CENTER FOR MESOSCOPIC MODELING AND SIMULATION

CUNY News



DR. CHARLES WATKINS
HERBERT KAYSER PROF. OF
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

The

National Science Foundation through its Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Engineering (CREST) program has awarded a five-year \$2 million grant to The City College in Partnership with Hunter College. The award is to establish the

describe sub continuum physical systems whose sizes are intermediate, between the macroscopic and the atomic scale. In terms of size domain, it overlaps nanoscopic. Mesoscopic systems research is evolving rapidly with the twin driving forces of the need for progress in this area and the arrival of the technological and scientific tools that make its exploration feasible. These systems are of immense scientific interest, and increased knowledge of their details and the ability to simulate them is vital to progress in the characterization of matter and processes at the microscopic and macroscopic levels. The frontier mesoscopic systems research conducted by CMMS will impact a multiplicity of existing industries, such as polymer production, construction, oil exploration and production, aerospace and biotechnology, and new industries springing from innovative technologies based on biomolecular computers or superfluid cooling.

Center for Mesoscopic Modeling and Simulation (CMMS). City and Hunter will be reinforced through the active participation in CMMS of CUNY partners, Graduate Center/Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), and Central Administration/ New York City Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (NYC LSAMP), and by key external scientific and educational outreach collaborations.

The mission of CMMS is to significantly advance scientific knowledge of complex mesoscopic condensed matter and materials systems and the capability for their simulation and to increase the numbers of persons from underrepresented groups entering computational science and engineering careers in areas related to CMMS's scientific focus.

The Project Director for the center is Charles Watkins, former Dean of Engineering at City and presently, Herbert Kayser Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The Center Co-Directors are Godfrey Gumbs, Physics Chairperson and Chianta-Stoll Professor at Hunter, and Joel Koplik, Professor of Physics and member of the Benjamin Levich Institute at City.

The scientific focus of the center is physicochemical modeling, simulation and analysis at the mesoscale level of several distinct, but physically related, condensed matter and materials systems. CMMS's human resource development focus is to impact the national problem of severe minority underrepresentation in applied scientific computing. The mission of CMMS is to significantly advance scientific knowledge of complex mesoscopic condensed matter and materials systems and the capability for their simulation and to increase the numbers of persons from underrepresented groups entering computational science and engineering careers in areas related to CMMS's scientific focus.

The term "mesoscopic" has emerged within the last decade to

CMMS will bring together researchers from chemistry, physics and key engineering departments with their external collaborators into five highly interdisciplinary research groups with each group responsible for one of the center's six research project thrusts. The primary investigative tool will be high-performance parallel computing.

The External Advisory Board for CMMS includes representatives from Exxon/Mobil Research, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and NASA Glenn Research Center. Collaborative ties have also been established with the Particulate Fluids Processing Centre, Univ. of Melbourne, Australia; a research consortium consisting of the University of Naples, Italy, and K. U. Leuven, Belgium; and a European Union consortium consisting of nine laboratories -- university, government, and industry.

CMMS also will have close ties with NYC LSAMP. It will recruit students for a LSAMP mini institute that will operate under the auspices of the center. Neville Parker, Herbert Kayser Professor of Civil Engineering at City and NYC LSAMP Project Director, will serve on the Executive Committee of CMMS.

NYC LSAMP students interested in graduate or undergraduate research opportunities with CMMS should contact Professor Watkins at (212) 650-5439 or watkins@ccny.cuny.edu

JUSTGARCIAHILL:

**THE NATIONAL WEB
SITE FOR MINORITIES
IN SCIENCE** *CUNY News*

JustGarciaHill (JGH),

The National Web Site for Minority Scientists recently launched its totally revamped portal, www.justgarciahill.org. The goal of this project, now supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health, is to aid in the professional development of minorities in science research by enhancing communication, collaboration and mentoring among minority scientists and students. Membership is open to minority scien-

tists, would-be minority scientist and any other scientist who demonstrates support for these goals.

The site contains a membership database with the largest number of under-represented minority scientists and minority students in the pipeline, a much-needed national resource. Since minority scientists are few and dispersed, an on-line community should promote their interaction and networking.

The redesigned portal features an on-line magazine **Progress**, with engaging articles and columns dealing with the professional development of minorities in science, and the foreboding disparities in health between minority and majority populations. The current issue includes a profile of Erich Jarvis, an outstanding young scientist at Duke University who rose from the welfare role in New York City and mediocre grades in college to obtain the prestigious Alan T. Waterman award from NSF. It also features a provocative article "The Ivory Tower is still White",

about holding academic institutions accountable for diversifying their faculty. Interviews with Donna Shalala, former Secretary of Health and Human Services, professional administrators at the NIH, and minority scientists at Universities provide a wide range of views on the topic. The site encourages user participation in on-line forums on selected articles and other related topics. Anonymous polls on issues relevant to the community of minority scientists provide another vehicle for engaging the JustGarciaHill membership. A biography project highlights contributions to science by minority scientists.

The site also provides free job and resume listing services as well as postings of research, grant and fellowship opportunities for students and scientists. With novel architectural features to permit easy update and posting of articles, professional writers and a content manager, the first edition bodes well for success in achieving its important goals.

SACNAS 2002

continued from page 3

**NYC LSAMP Scholar
Brent Lee Shue Ling
on SACNAS 2002**

It is a common myth that scientists conduct research in an isolated laboratory, far removed from everyday life. Some would be surprised then to learn that the scientist's research is often driven by the desire to combat issues or problems that arise in their immediate communities. The search

for a cure for breast cancer, the need to understand how climatic changes impact food production, or the quest to understand how quickly a disease will spread through a population reflect this link between the larger community and the course of science.

**NYC LSAMP Scholar
Tonya M. Bennett
on SACNAS 2002**

Initially, when I was presented with the opportunity to attend the SACNAS con-

ference in Anaheim, California I was a bit wary because I did not know what to expect. I found the mentoring room and the conversations with the scientists sessions most interesting. I was able to meet other Earth Science/Geology majors and professionals on a one-to-one basis. These sessions broadened my horizon on how varied the careers within my chosen field can be.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

February 21st - CUNY Conference in Science & Engineering - Graduate Center

April 11th - The Urban University Series Conference - York College

URBAN UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE 2003 *continued from page 2*

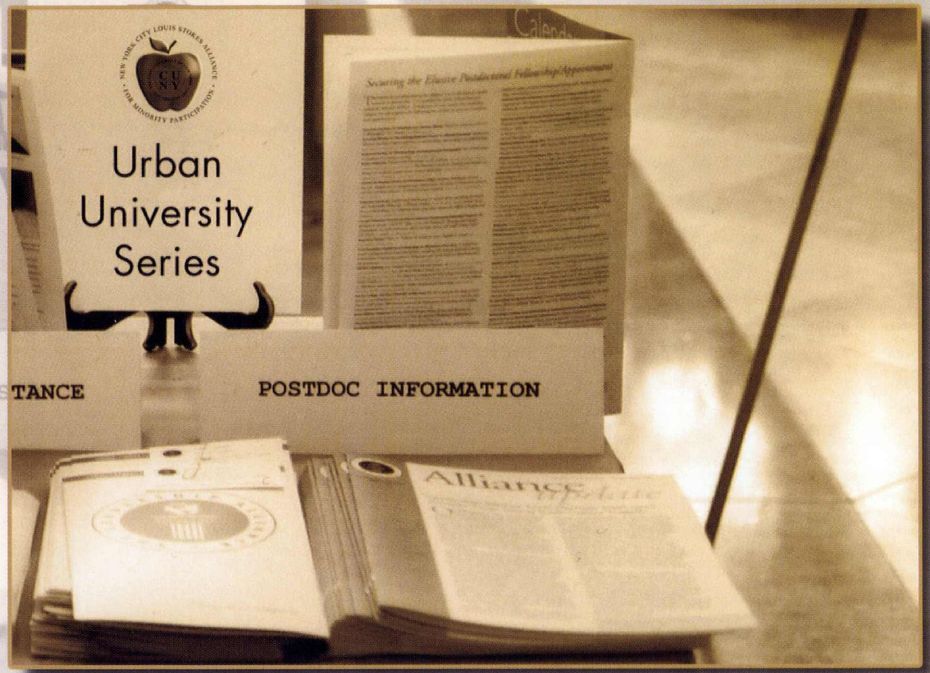
High Tech and Graduate School Expo

Students, staff, and faculty across the university will have the opportunity to connect with exhibitors on fellowship opportunities, job opportunities, graduate school and summer research programs.

Stakeholders Roundtable

An open forum for stakeholders to provide insight, advice, models and recommendations as the NYC Alliance tackle the issues of minority participation in the STEM enterprise. Participants are invited to contribute towards a blueprint for sustaining opportunities for students to participate in the STEM enterprise beyond Phase III.

For exhibitor information and to register, contact the NYC LSAMP office at (212) 650-8854 or ampcc@cunyvm.cuny.edu.



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