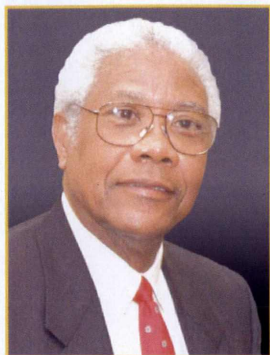


A Word from the Director



We at the Florida – Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (FGLSAMP) are delighted for the opportunity to host the LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The BD has proven to be one of the greatest forces for increasing the number of underrepresented populations that are pursuing Ph.D. degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The BD was created by way of the dynamic leadership at NSF, including Dr. A. James Hicks, National LSAMP Program Director and his staff.

This program serves a major source of inspiration to our FGLSAMP undergraduate scholars and an avenue to pursue their dreams of attaining the STEM Ph.D. degree. We are proud of our talented FGLSAMP BD Fellows, who are poised to be, not only the next generation of scientists and researchers addressing the needs of our country but as an example and a beacon of hope to the others that wish to become a part of the STEM enterprise.

Program Overview

Bridge to the Doctorate – The FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Initiative (BD), was conceived by the National LSAMP Office of NSF for the purpose of providing tremendous opportunities for LSAMP students to continue academic pursuits to obtain the Ph.D degree in STEM disciplines. FGLSAMP has had the privilege to host 4 cohorts of Bridge to the Doctorate Fellows under this initiative. The FGLSAMP BD program has experienced great success. Many of our BD Fellows, within the 4 cohorts have continued beyond the M.S degree and are currently Ph.D candidates.

Florida State University was the host institution of the first FGLSAMP - BD cohort, under the guidance of Dr. Patricia Stith with an emphasis on the natural sciences and engineering. FGLSAMP BD cohorts 2-4 were hosted by the University of South Florida. These cohorts represented an effort to encourage underrepresented minorities to pursue STEM Ph.D degrees in earth sciences (marine science) and engineering. Drs. Ashanti Pyrtle and Shekhar Bhansali serve as Co – Directors for the FGLSAMP BD program at USF.

Bridge to Doctorate Fellow Award

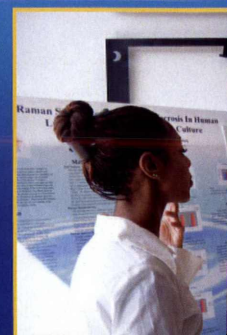
Selected Candidates for the FGLSAMP BD program received awards aimed at providing funding for the 1st 2-years of their graduate school careers. NSF provided an award that was both generous and comprehensive to better ensure success of the BD Fellows, allowing them to single mindedly focus on the academic pursuit. BD Fellows received the following:

- \$30,000 annual stipend (for 2 years)
- \$10, 500 cost of education allowance for tuition, healthcare, and other associated fees
- Funding for presenting research at professional conferences
- Participation in the NSF Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Assistance with proposal writing/submission
- Participation “short courses” developed specifically for FGLSAMP – BD Fellows to enhance academic and research performance.
- Opportunities for international research experiences.



“The NSF FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate at the University of South Florida helped me develop professional skills through seminars and presentations at national conferences (NYC LSAMP Urban Conference).”

*- Issa Ramirez, Ph.D. student • Mechanical Engineering
University of South Florida,
FGLSAMP BD Cohort IV (2006-2008)*



BD Profiles in Success

FGLSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellows have experienced tremendous success within their respective graduate education careers. We are proud that FGLSAMP BD has a retention rate of BD Fellows of 82%. One contributing factor for the successful outcomes stems from the academic support structure provided by the host institutions in properly addressing and anticipating some of the more common stumbling blocks for many graduate students looking to attain the Ph.D. degree in STEM disciplines. The other component of this model is that the institutions have embraced and committed to the success of the BD Fellows in a holistic manner, providing support mechanisms that are designed for every stage of the graduate education process.

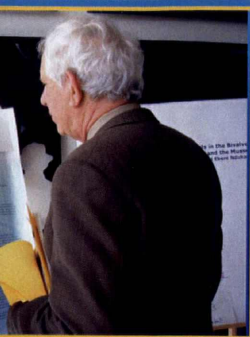
BD Fellows have also played a key role in the success of the program through their abilities to engage in research, present research at professional conferences; obtain fellowships that will help to secure the financial resources needed to continue pursuing the STEM Ph.D. degree. Some of the high points of FGLSAMP BD Fellows are as follows:

Research Internships

- Kathryn Bailey**, *Environmental Eng.* – Brookhaven National Lab, Summer 2007, Summer 2008
- Quenton Bonds**, *Electrical Eng.* – NASA Ames Center, Summer 2007 • NASA Langley Center, Summer 2008
- Issa Ramirez**, *Mechanical Eng.* – NASA Ames Center, Summer 2008
- Andrea Rocha**, *Environmental Engineering* – Oak Ridge National Lab, Summer 2007 and Summer 2008
- Ebenezer Odu**, *Electrical Eng.* – National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) • Boulder, Summer 2008
- Dorielle Price**, *Electrical Eng.* – NASA Johnson Space Center, Summer 2008
- Javier Pulecio**, *Electrical Eng.* – Brookhaven National Lab, Summer 2008
- Abongwa Zony**, *Electrical Eng.* – National Institutes of Health, Summer 2008
- Chenwi Zony**, *Electrical Eng.* – National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) • Boulder, Summer 2008

Academic Achievement

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Kathryn Bailey | Environmental Engineering | USF Graduate Fellowship - \$12,000 for 3 years Alfred P. Sloan Minority Fellowship - \$34,000 |
| Quenton Bonds | Electrical Engineering | NASA Fellowship - \$30,000 for 3 Years McKnight Doctoral Fellowship - \$12,000 for 3 years |
| Sennai Habtes | Marine Science | USA Scuba Scouts Fellowship – \$22,000 for 2 years Alfred P. Sloan Minority Fellowship - \$34,000 |
| Joniqwa Howard | Environmental Engineering | NSF GK-12 - \$30,000 for 1 year USF Graduate Fellowship - \$12,000 for 3 years USF Multidisciplinary Fellowship - \$20,000 for 2 years Alfred P. Sloan Minority Fellowship - \$34,000 |
| Warner Ithier | Marine Science | NSF GK-12 Fellowship – \$30,000 for 2 years |
| Yoli Jeune | Chemical Engineering | McKnight Doctoral Fellowship – \$12,000 for 2 years Alfred P. Sloan Minority PhD Fellowship (UF) |
| Marietta Mayo | Marine Science | NSF GK-12 Fellowship – 2 years |
| Erlande Omisca | Environmental Engineering | McKnight Doctoral Fellowship – 2 years Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship – 2 years |



“The BD Fellowship has been an incredible resource, not only because of the much needed financial aid, but also because of the support system it provides through the staff and other BD fellows. This award has been a great help for me to accomplish my academic goals and I am very grateful for it.”

- Karyna Rosario, Ph.D. student, Biological Oceanography
University of South Florida
FGLSAMP-BD cohort IV (2006-2008)



Program Contact Information

Florida- Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (FGLSAMP)

Bridge to the Doctorate

1540 South Adams Street – Suite A
Tallahassee, Florida 32307
850-561-2467 (p) • 850-561-2684 (f)

Ralph W. Turner, Project Director
Ralph.turner@famuedu

J. Byron Greene, Program Manager
Jackson.greene@famuedu

FGLSAMP is a sponsored program of the National Science Foundation

4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA
703-292-8640

Arden Bement, Director
abament@nsf.gov

A. James Hicks, LSAMP Program Officer
ahicks@nsf.gov

FGLSAMP – The Florida – Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for minority Participation (FGLSAMP) is a coalition of 13 institutions of higher education with a mission to increase the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded to underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. FGLSAMP is funded through the National Science Foundation (NSF) to address the critical need to increase the number of scientists and researchers adequately prepared to engage the high level scientific needs that impact our nation and the world.

