



# The Link



GUIDING AND SPONSORING MINORITY STUDENTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS SINCE 1995.

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- BD Fellows completing PhD requirements
- Scholar presentations and awards
- Featured campus: Langston University
- Summer is a great time to study for the GRE

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## WELCOME JEAN VAN DELINDER

I hope you enjoy reading the latest news from OK-LSAMP. The Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) is a very important national program addressing the lack of minority representation in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines at both the undergraduate (OK-LSAMP) and graduate (Bridge to the Doctorate) levels. The LSAMP program was established by Congressional mandate in 1991 to significantly increase the quality and quantity of minorities who successfully complete baccalaureate degrees in STEM and who continue on to graduate studies in these fields. The program supports increasing the



**Dr. Jean Van Delinder**  
Associate Dean, OSU Graduate College  
Professor, Sociology  
Principal Investigator and Program Director  
OK-LSAMP and Bridge to the Doctorate Programs

participation and advancement of underrepresented minorities.

The OK-LSAMP Alliance consists of eight regional and the three research institutions in Oklahoma.

In addition, the Bridge to the Doctorate is currently funding graduate students at Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma. In order to meet the challenges for a diverse workplace, along with the nation's increasing needs in STEM, OK-LSAMP is committed to the development of highly competitive STEM students from historically underrepresented minority populations - African-Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders - from pre-college through post-baccalaureate levels at Oklahoma's colleges and universities.

## OU RECEIVES COHORT VI BRIDGE TO THE DOCTORATE FUNDING

The University of Oklahoma has received NSF funding for 12 Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowships. Former LSAMP Fellows may receive \$2,500 per month for 24 months plus a yearly cost of education allowance of \$10,500



For additional information and applications, contact:

**Dr. Simin Pulat**  
University of Oklahoma  
Norman, OK  
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pulat@ou.edu

# AMAZING PEOPLE

## BRIDGE TO THE DOCTORATE FELLOWS



**Marissa Rice** (second from right) has been awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation. Congratulations, Marissa!



*"We are each gifted in a unique and important way. It is our privilege and our adventure to discover our own special light."*

*-Mary Dunbar*

Twelve former LSAMP scholars were selected as Cohort V BD Fellows. One of their first activities was to attend the 2012 National Science Foundation (NSF) Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) in Washington, DC. Fellows met with **Dr. A. James Hicks** - LSAMP Program Director, attended professional development sessions, and presented research posters along with other BD Fellows from across the nation.

Cohort V Fellows are: pictured L-R Back row -

**Charles Williams** received his BS in Computer Engineering from Oklahoma State University and is now an MS Industrial Engineering student.

**Jamere King** received his BS in Computer Engineering from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and is now an MS Electrical Engineering student.

**David Supeck** received his BS in Chemistry and Biology from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and is now a PhD Biomedical Sciences student.

**Dalton Kelley** is a Non-BD Former LSAMP scholar who attended the JAM conference.

**Joe Ross** received his BS in Physics from East Central University and is now an MS Medical Physics student.

**Eric Butson** received his BS in Chemistry from Northeastern State University and is now a PhD Chemistry student.

Front row -

**Ana Tehrani** received her BS in Mathematics from the University of Central Oklahoma and is now an MS Statistics student.

**R. Paula Arscott** received her BS in Chemistry from Texas Southern University and is now a PhD Chemistry student. Paula was accepted to medical school but

chose the research route.

**Nicole Bryant** received her BS in Botany from Oklahoma State University and is now an MS Botany student.

Individual pictures -

**Josh McLoud** received his BS in Biology from Oklahoma State University and is now an MS Botany student.

**Molly Parkhurst** received her BS in Botany from Oklahoma State University and is now completing her MS and beginning as a PhD Botany student.

**Marissa Rice** received her BS in Zoology from Virginia Tech and is now a PhD Zoology student.

**Darron Lamkin** received his BS in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma State University recently completed his MS in Industrial Engineering and is a PhD Industrial Engineering student.

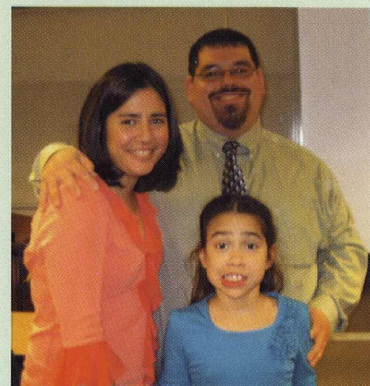
Dr. Lila Peal completed PhD requirements at Oklahoma State University in December 2011. She has returned to her alma mater, Langston University, where she is an Assistant professor in Chemistry.



Dr. Quinten Hughes completed PhD requirements at the University of Oklahoma in Engineering. He is now the CEO/Executive Director of No Ceilings in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Dr. Jacob Manjarrez completed PhD requirements at Oklahoma State University in May 2012. He now serves as an Associate Staff Scientist at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City. He is pictured with his wife and daughter.



Ryan Watley (OU Cohort IV), Cody Pinkerman (OSU Cohort III), and L. Megan Liles (OU Cohort IV) completed general exams and are officially PhD candidates.

Recent degrees completed include: **Brittanie Atkinson** (OU Cohort IV), MS Biology, **Ryan Jordan** (OU Cohort IV) MS Geology, **Shawna Ong** (OU Cohort IV) MS Electrical Engineering, Chris Mace (OU Cohort IV), MS Geology, and **Jacob Henderson** (OU Cohort II) MS Computer and Electrical Engineering. Jacob is now pursuing his PhD.

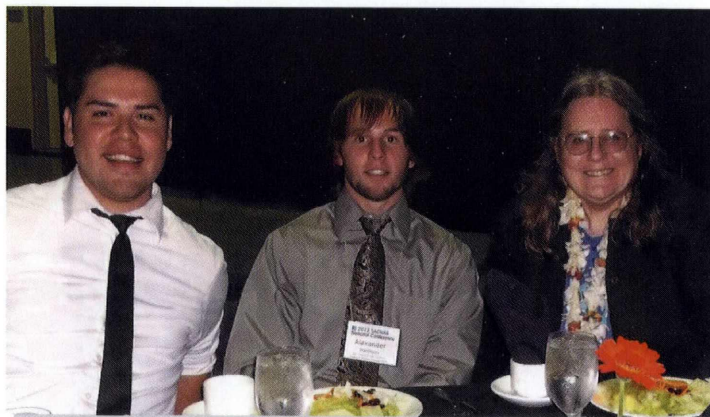
## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH



OU Scholar, **Diana Lucero**, participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program in Daejeon, Korea, at the Advanced Institute of Science and Technology.

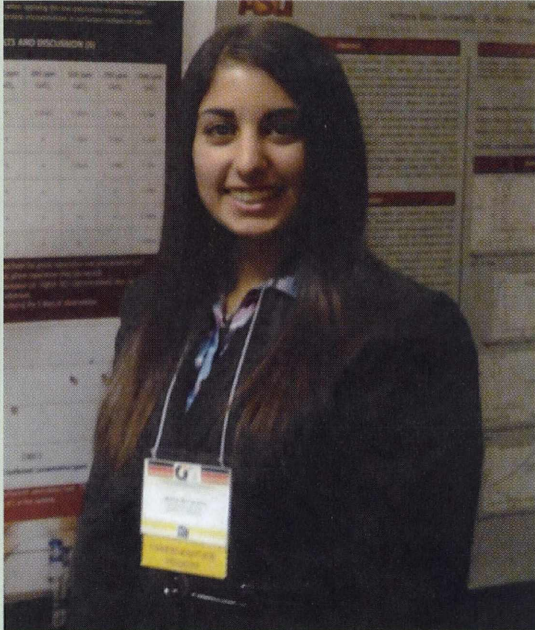


A total of 16 Scholars recently participated in research opportunities abroad. Locations included: South Africa (**Kymberli Whayne**), Costa Rica, France (**Kelsey Raus** and **Vicky Kelly**), Italy (Jason Kimmel), Kenya, Korea, Namibia, Peru, Turkey, China and Puerto Rico.



**Paul Martinez**, NSU Chemistry junior, and **Alex Hardison**, OSU Botany junior, participated in the Native American and Pacific Islander Research Experience (NAPIRE) program in Costa Rica during the summer 2012. They are pictured with **Dr. Wendy Townsend**, NAPIRE Coordinator, at the SACNAS Conference in Seattle, Washington.

# SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS



**Sheila Baradan** presented her research at the MSA Conference at Arizona State University.



**Guillermo Morales** participated in a NASA summer internship.



Scholar, **Alison Quiroga**, is presented with the Outstanding Senior in Architectural Engineering Award.



**Moises Martinez** is presented with the College of Engineering 2011 Outstanding Senior Award by President David Boren.



Scholar, **Megan Salisbury**, is presented with the Outstanding Senior in Environmental Engineering Award.

# Scholars and BD Fellows Have Articles Published

OK-LSAMP Scholars and BD Fellows continue to take the lead in areas of research.

Seven scholars recently had articles published in scientific journals and conference proceedings.

**Brittany Stoutermire**, LU, *Central European Journal of Biology*

**Chelsea Smith**, UCO, *10th Annual Symposium on the Conservation and Biology of Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles*

**Christina Newman**, SEOSU, *Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science*

**Guillermo Morales**, OU, *International SAMPE Symposium Proceedings*

**Kayla Love**, LU, *Central European Journal of Biology*

**Vicky Kelly**, OSU, *Molecular Plant*

**Joshua Hardisty**, OU, *Remote Sensing and Modeling of Ecosystems for Sustainability VIII (Proceedings Volume)*

Seven BD Fellows had a total of 11 articles published.

**Ryan Watley**, OU, *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*

**Josh McCloud**, OSU, *Frontiers in Genetics*

**Chris Mace**, OU, *Journal of Geophysical Research*

**Jonathan Gonzales**, OSU, *IEEE International Ultrasonics Symposium; Hilton Head 2012 Conference Proceedings; MEMS*

**Scott Fine**, OSU, *Soil Society of America Conference Proceedings; Annual Plains Anthropological Conference Proceedings*

**Zack Dunn**, OU, *IEEE International Instrumentation and Measurement and Conference Proceedings*

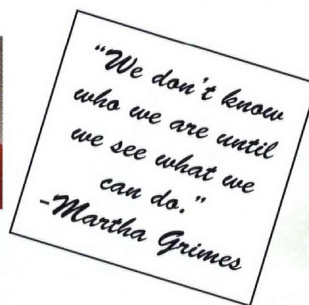
**Dominic Barrett**, OSU, *American Midland Naturalist*



Rosemary Hayes, PhD, (left) has served as the evaluator for OK-LSAMP for many years. However, she has moved on to other opportunities. We will miss her and wish her well in her endeavors. Sandra Whalen (right) is the new evaluator for OK-LSAMP. Sandra



worked with Rosemary on the project for several years and has been at the Center for Data Exchange and Analysis since 2000. We welcome her aboard!



## OSU President Burns Hargis Invited OK-LSAMP into his Home

OSU Scholars and Bridge the Doctorate Fellows were invited to the home of President and Mrs. Burns Hargis on September 4, 2012. The evening event was a time for the President to become more familiar with the LSAMP and Bridge to the Doctorate programs and to personally meet the students. Scholars and Fellows had one-on-one time with President Hargis and were able to discuss some of their research projects.



Scott Fine, BD Fellow, got married.

P. Simin Pulat, Coordinator, has a new daughter-in-law.

Nicole Bryant, BD Fellow, got engaged.

Josh McLeod, BD Fellow, has a new baby.

Maria Dang, Scholar, recently got engaged.

Cord Carter, Scholar, loves to praise the Lord.

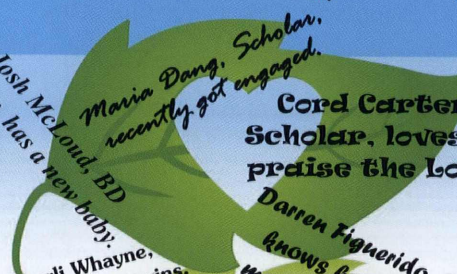
Darren Figueroa, Scholar, knows how to do card magic, plans to write a magna, and got married.

Kymerli Whayne, Scholar, is having twins.

Witman Braun, Scholar, made a special proposal.

David Sugeck, BD Fellow, is running for national SACS CAS office.

Cherril Orange, Scholar, sings.



R. Paula Arscott, BD Fellow, has a black belt in karate.

Kayla Davis, Scholar, tap dances.

Princess Hayes, Scholar, "bleeds (IBM) blue."

Alex Hardison, Scholar, is rarely seen without his skateboard.

Jonathan Gonzalez, BD Fellow, plays the drums.

Danica Johnson, Scholar, still has her first car.

Scholar Karen Myers's dad is a mentor.

Sandra Whalen, Evaluator, and her husband serve as faculty in residence at OU.

Eduardo Flores, Scholar, ate vegan for two weeks.



SHARON LEWIS, COORDINATOR, DEMANDS EXCELLENCE.



JODY BUCKHOLTZ, COORDINATOR, RIDES A MOTORCYCLE.

Milecia Matthews, Scholar, is a car girl.



Maria Castaneda, Scholar, missed WOC due to a broken leg.

Tamica Blocker, BD Fellow, missed a symposium for the first time in YEARS.

WOC Crew loves to dance the night away.

Grant Williams and Mykle Chavez, Scholars, are Kay's new tech support.

Kelsey Dotzler, Scholar, collects books.

Jason Kimmel, BD Fellow, tutors freshman engineering.

Devon McLeod, Scholar, loves pigs.

TIM PATTON, COORDINATOR, ENJOYS WHITE WATER RAFTING.



Allison Potts, Scholar, fosters/rescues for the Cardigan Welsh Corgi National Rescue Trust. Send her a message if you want a Corgi. Their little short legs are so cute.

Daniel Dixon, Scholar, is known as "smart boy" to Kay.

Troy King, Scholar, is photogenic.

Jodeci Ross, Scholar, loves shopping.

FUN FACTS

J. C. DIAZ, COORDINATOR, IS A ROBOT WONDER.

Tanner Blair, Scholar, coaches the Northeast High School Robotics Team.

Bobby Ramirez, Scholar, plays the violin.



Valentin Sanchez, Scholar, set UAV world records.

Tanya Chapman, Scholar, loves to talk.

Carl Rutledge, Coordinator, attended his 50th class reunion.

Andrea Talley, Scholar, has a real southern drawl.

Lauren White, Scholar, is a globe trotter.

KODY JONES, SCHOLAR, HAS A 4.0, PLAYS A MEAN GUITAR, HAS A SONG ON THE OKLAHOMA RECORD DEAL, AND NOW HAS A SURE ON THE RECORD DEAL.

WIS Crew loves space pictures.

GEOFFREY KIBBLE, SCHOLAR, IS A CERTIFIED ROCK CLIMBING INSTRUCTOR.

Brad Ludwick, Coordinator, is a runner.

Elliott Hastrup, Scholar, loves to bowl.

Ka'Shay Warren, Scholar, is a professional photographer.

Bryce Fiddler, Scholar, plays the saxophone.

Kay Porter, Manager, is the formatting queen.

Paul Martinez, Scholar, loves his job.

The first new car of Amanda Mathias, Scholar, was a stick shift.

Joshua Warren, Scholar, is writing a book of poetry.

VICKY KELLY, SCHOLAR, GOT A RUSH PASSPORT FOR A TRIP TO FRANCE.

Kristen Enyart, Scholar, is a water polo champion.

Fara Williams, Coordinator, is a Project WILD woman.

## Some of the **RECENTLY GRADUATED SCHOLARS**

**Tristan Allen**, LU Biology, is at the University of Oklahoma in the MS Adult & Higher Education Administration program.

**Shaquita Banks**, UCO Biology, is now studying neuroscience at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

**Karole Blythe**, LU Biology, is now a PhD student at the University of Texas.

**Sara Bryant**, NWOSU Mathematics, is teaching in San Antonio, Texas.

**Gabbie Brown**, OSU Industrial Engineering, Quality Assurance Engineer Associate, Lockheed Martin, Missiles and Fire Control, Grand Prairie, Texas.

**Brandon Burgess**, OSU Plant and Soil Sciences, is currently in the OSU MS program.

**Cassandra Camp**, OSU Biological Science, accepted into the graduate program at the University Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

**Gregory Cook**, CU Chemistry, was accepted into the biomedical program at the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Zach Dunn**, OU Engineering Physics, accepted into the University of Oklahoma Bridge to the Doctorate program for continued studies in engineering.

**Courtney Garcia-Johnson**, SWOSU Chemistry, was accepted into the neuroscience program at Baylor University.

**Saad Gondal**, OSU Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, accepted to graduate school at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

**Dalton Kelley**, OSU Mechanical Engineering, is working at EnviroSystems in Seminole, Oklahoma.

**Jordan Knight**, OSU Electrical Engineering, Electrical Engineer, IT, Phillips 66, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

**Jeremy Hall**, OSU Electrical Engineering, is taking graduate classes.

**Vicky Kelly**, OSU Entomology, accepted into the entomology graduate program at Louisiana State University.

**Phoebe Lewis**, LU Biology, was accepted into the Biology and Molecular Medicine PhD program at Baylor University.

**Alex Macharia**, UCO Engineering and Physics, is now in product development at Cummins in Indiana. He is also working on his MSE in Engineering Management and Global Leadership at Purdue in the Thunderbird School of Global Studies.

**Brenton McCullough**, OSU Geology, is now attending graduate school at the University of Oklahoma.

**Onrella Nelson**, CU Chemistry, is attending Cornell University.

**Tanisha Payne**, NSU Biology, is in the University of North Texas Forensic Genetics MS Program.

**Allison Quiroga**, OU Architecture Engineering, accepted to continue with graduate studies at the University of Oklahoma in the engineering program.

**Aaron Riley**, ECU Medical Physics, is now a Science and Medicine Graduate Research Scholars Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**Megan Salisbury**, OU Environmental Sciences, accepted to the University of Oklahoma's geology and geochemistry graduate program.

**Brittany Stoutermire**, LU Biology, is in the Langston Physical Therapy PhD program.

**Dominique Thomas**, CU Multimedia Design, was accepted to the University of Oklahoma Instructional Psychology and Technology PhD program.

**Ondreia Thomas**, OSU Biological Sciences, is working in Washington, D.C. while she explores graduate opportunities in Florida.

## **SELECT PRESENTATIONS, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

**Tanner Blair**, OU Engineering senior, received an Outstanding Deans Council Leadership award.

**Joseph Brown**, OSU Chemical Engineering, was selected as the Multicultural Engineering Program (MEP) Freshman of the Year.

**Wilmon Brown III**, has been selected to present at the 2013 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM in D. C.

**Shanel Byron**, LU Biology senior, was inducted into Who's Who Among College and University Students.

**Ana Chicas-Mosier**, OSU Biology and Psychology, presented at the 2013 Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Meeting.

**Kayla Davis**, OSU Biochemistry junior, accepted to present at the 2012 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in San Francisco, California. She is also a 2012-2013 Niblack Scholar.

**Amber Douglas**, OSU Biological Science and Psychology junior, is a 2013-2014 Niblack Scholar.

**Joshua Hardisty**, OU Engineering senior, received an Outstanding Dean Council Leadership Award.

**Tim Hubin**, SWOSU Coordinator, was named a 2012 DaVinci Fellow in part because of his 35 peer reviewed publications and 8 patents. Tim also received the 2012 Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award for teaching, scholarship, and service.

**Ten LU Scholars** presented at the Emerging Researchers National Conference in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in Atlanta, Georgia, February 23-25, 2012. At the conference, **Phoebe Lewis** was awarded 1st place in the division of Cell and Microbiology and **Kayla Love** was selected 1st in the division of Chemistry and Chemistry Sciences.

**Phoebe Lewis**, LU Biology senior, received first place for her oral presentation at the K-INBRE symposium held January 14-15, 2012, in Kansas City, Kansas.

**Michelle Lopez**, OSU Chemical Engineering sophomore, participated in a summer internship at Occidental Petroleum Corporation and presented her research at the company.

**Kayla Love**, LU Chemistry senior, presented to the Board of Regents and the University President.

According to Diverse Issues in Higher Education, **SEOSU** now ranks 10th in producing Native American graduates.

**Milecia Matthews**, OSU Mechanical Engineering, and **Rachel Morgan**, OSU Industrial Engineering, received the Inclusion Leadership Program (ILP) top award and each received a MacBook Air as a reward.

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

**ShaRonda Pickett**, LU Biology senior, participated in a summer research program at the University of California-Berkeley. She was selected to present her research titled "Improved Modeling of Ligands on Asymmetry Axis" at Research Day at the Capitol.

**Abby Ramirez**, OSU Natural Resource Ecology junior, received first place at the October 2012 Oklahoma Orinthological Conference in Oklahoma City for her undergraduate poster presentation.

**Jason Semien**, OSU Electrical Engineering, was selected as MEP Student of the Year.

**Kymerli Whayne**, LU Biology senior, selected to present at the 2012 National Association of African American Studies Conference, February 13-18, 2012, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. First Lady Michelle Obama was scheduled as the guest speaker.

**Fara Williams**, OK-LSAMP Coordinator, served as a counselor at the first Cherokee Nation College Preparatory Institute (CCPI) in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

# AMAZING EVENTS

## OK-LSAMP ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The 17th Annual Research Symposium was held on Saturday, October 1, 2011. We were enthralled by the keynote address presented by **Dr. Tyrone Hayes**, professor at the University of California-Berkeley. Also known as the "frog man," Dr. Hayes' research focuses on the effects of atrazine (a chemical found in many pesticides) on frogs. Dr. Hayes' presentation was both extremely entertaining and educational. He has made numerous discoveries through his research and continues

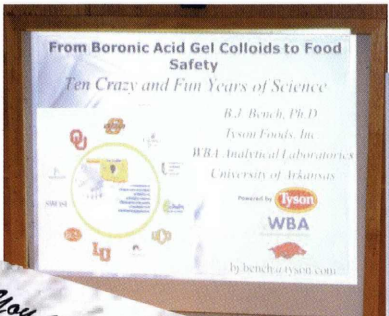
to search for more answers and collaborate with other researchers in the nation and across the globe. OK-LSAMP and invited scholars made 15 oral presentations and presented 41 posters to the 195 attendees to the symposium. In addition to the keynote address and research presentations, there was a session on Research Ethics given by **Evan Davis** and information on summer internships and graduate school opportunities was made available to attendees.

OSU's Institute for Creativity and Innovation partnered with OK-LSAMP in order to bring Dr. Hayes to Oklahoma. In addition to the symposium, Dr. Hayes made a presentation for the College of Education on Friday evening.

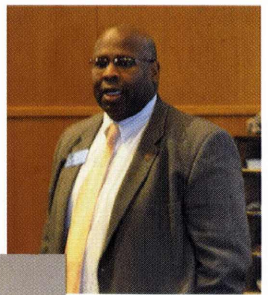
*Pictured clockwise from top right: Dr. Tyrone Hayes and Christine Crenshaw, Evan Davis, Saad Gondal - OSU Scholar, ShaRhonda Pickett - LU Scholar, symposium luncheon, and OSU President Burns Hargis.*







*"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do."  
-Henry Ford*



The 18th Annual Research Symposium, held on October 5, 2012, was extremely successful. Nearly 200 scholars, campus coordinators, professors, family and friends attended this one day event. Scholars presented their research using poster and oral presentations.

Dr. B. J. Bench, former OK-LSAMP Scholar from Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SEOSU), was the featured speaker. Dr. Bench currently serves as the Lead Chemist for Tyson Foods in

Fayetteville, Arkansas. He spoke on his research and experiences from his undergraduate years at SEOSU to graduate school in Texas and now in industry. He talked about the importance and excitement of research and the connections made along the journey.

The ethics session was given by Mary Gwin and Lawrence Ware, Oklahoma State University.

*Pictured above L-R: Dr. Bench; Dr. Jean Van Delinder, OK-LSAMP PI; Dr. Sheryl Tucker, Dean of the*

*Graduate College; Dr. Jason F. Kirksey, Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity.*

*Pictured below clockwise from top left: Kay Porter, OK-LSAMP Program Manager; Keynote speaker, Dr. Bench with wife Lara; main session; networking session; Raj Singh, LU Scholar; Dr. Bench receiving gifts of appreciation from Fara Williams, OK-LSAMP Grant Coordinator; Kody Jones, former NWOSU & current OSU Scholar; Poster Session.*



# WOMEN IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE



Cassandra Camp, OSU Scholar; and Fara Williams, OK-LSAMP Coordinator; participated on discussion panels. Zoe Austin, OSU; Justina Bradley, LU; Kristen Enyart, OSU; Nicole Gastineau, OSU; Tashae

Fellow; RaiAnna Paula Arscott, OSU BD Fellow; and Milecia Matthews, OSU Scholar; participated on discussion panels. Zoe Austin, OSU; Ana Chicas-Mosier, OSU; Amber Douglas, OSU; Kristen Enyart, OSU; DeYawna Jackson, OSU; Kayla Love, LU; Milecia Matthews, OSU; Gretchan Moore, OSU; Rachel Morgan, OSU; Sheila Stevenson, LU graduate; and Britani Vann, LU; volunteered. Darron "DJ" Lamkin, OSU BD Fellow, also assisted EPSCoR with set up and event registration at the museum.

Once again in 2011 and 2012, OK-LSAMP Scholars and BD Fellows served



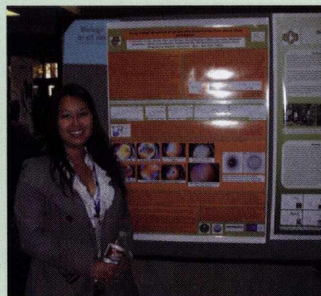
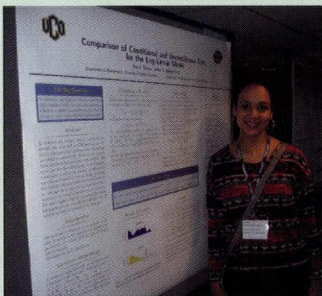
as volunteers at the annual Women in Science Conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The conference, sponsored by EPSCoR and the NASA Space Consortium, is designed for middle school and high school girls to increase awareness of careers in the STEM fields. Scholars gave hands-on demonstrations, assisted with a scavenger hunt, and led student groups to the different sessions of the conference. OK-LSAMP also continued to have representatives who presented on the discussion panels. In 2011, Tomica Blocker, OSU BD Fellow;



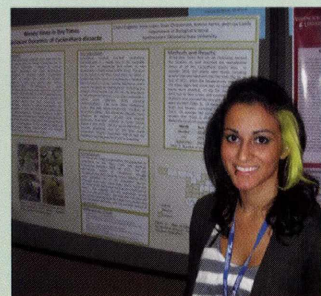
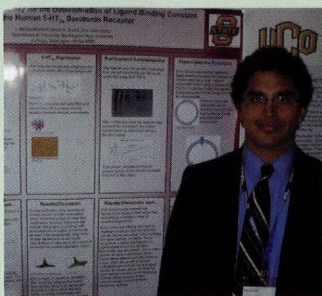
In 2012, Tomica Blocker, OSU BD



## OKLAHOMA RESEARCH DAY

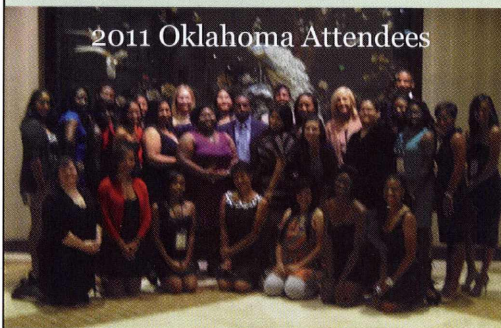
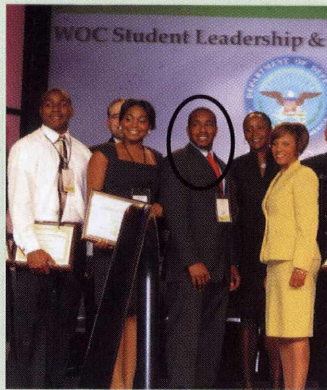


Dr. Mark Payton, former PI, accompanied Scholars to Oklahoma Research Day in Lawton, Oklahoma. Scholars from across the state included: ***Pictured clockwise from top left:*** Ana Tehrani, UCO; Cassandra Camp, OSU; Irene Lopez, SWOSU; and I. Abbrej Monreal, OSU. ***Not pictured:*** Anwuli Anyah, UCO; Sheila Baradaran, OU; Stephanie Barnett, ECU; Karol Blythe, LU; Christina Bruxvoort, UCO; Shanel Byron, LU; Gregory Cook, CU; Eugene Deloach, LU; Tiffany Glover, LU; Phoebe Lewis, LU; Kayla Love, LU; Antonio MacDonald, ECU; Brenton McCullough, OSU; Ricardo Montoya, OSU; Karen Myers, ECU; Brennan Ochoa, UCO; Samantha Peno, UCO; Mary Phillips, SWOSU; Terry Phillips, LU; JeAnna Redd, UCO; Priscilla Seaborn, UCO; Chelsea Smith, UCO; Chelsea Spencer, UCO; Katherine Stewart, NSU; Brittany Stoutermire, LU; Joshua Warren, OSU; and Tanner Wheeler, SWOSU.



Oklahoma Research Day is being moved from fall to spring. The next Oklahoma Research Day will be held on Friday, March 8, 2013, at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

# WOMEN OF COLOR STEM CONFERENCE



Each year, OK-LASMP Scholars and other students from Oklahoma attend the Women of Color STEM Conference. In 2011 and again in 2012, approximately 35 students made the trip to Dallas, Texas. The conference provides excellent opportunities for professional development workshops, one-on-one interactions with company CEO's, and a career fair with Fortune 500 companies. Also at the conference, Oklahoma scholars have received national recognition for their student leadership. The Women of Color Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Conference hosted by Career Communications Group Magazine recognizes students who are excelling in academics, research, and leadership. We are extremely proud of our Scholars.

**2011 Recipients** included (pictured above):

**Wilmon Brown**, Microbiology and Psychology senior, Oklahoma State University, selected as a Finalist for his research presentation at the conference.

**Brandi Andrews**, Industrial Engineering senior, Oklahoma State University, received a Student Athlete award.

**Courtney Garcia**, Biology senior, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, received a Student Research Award.

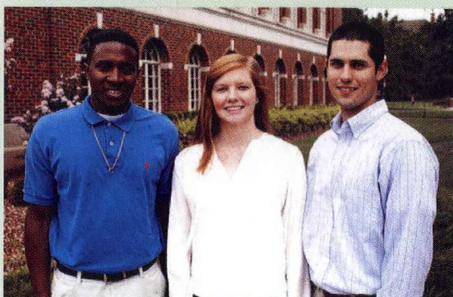
**2012 Recipients** included (pictured below L-R):

**Jordan Knight**, Electrical Engineering senior, Oklahoma State University, received a Student Leadership award.

**Kayla Davis**, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology junior, Oklahoma State University, received a Student Research Award.

**Kody Jones**, Mechanical Engineering senior, Oklahoma State University, received an award for Academics.

Also at the 2012 conference, **Fara Williams**, OK-LSAMP Coordinator, presented "Pursuing Higher Degrees: Applying for and Being Accepted to Graduate School." BD Fellows **Charles "CJ" Williams**, **Darron "DJ" Lamkin**, and **Jamere King** assisted with this presentation and served as mentors to the undergraduates during the trip and the conference.



# SCHOLARS IN SCIENCE: NATIVE AMERICAN PATH



*Pictured above: View of the Warf surrounding the conference center; Pictured below: SSNAP workshop held at Oklahoma State University*

Native American students from Oklahoma State University (including many OK-LSAMP Scholars) were provided with a unique opportunity as a select group. The Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) instituted a Scholars in Science: Native American Path (SSNAP) program at OSU.

Dr. Gilbert John, Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, led a team of OSU faculty and staff who organized and held a workshop to prepare Native American students for the task of presenting at a national conference and taking advantage of opportunities inherent in attending a national conference. Students who attended the September 8, 2012, one-day workshop were given travel scholarships from SACNAS to attend the SACNAS National Conference in Seattle, Washington, October 10-14, 2012.

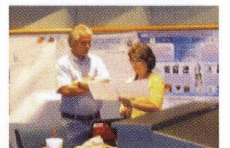
SACNAS reported 3,700 people attended the 2012 conference, 1292 student presentations were made and everyone had opportunities to be immersed in science and culture.

During the SACNAS Conference, SSNAP students participated in poster presentations, attended a career fair,

attended a Native American Pow-Wow and danced the night away at the Hispanic iPachanga! Cultural Event among other things. In addition to attending sessions on applying for graduate school, seeking funding, and meeting scientists one-on-one, the students were able to explore Seattle, visit the Space Needle, and take a ferryboat ride.

The OSU Division of Institutional Diversity was gracious in providing each conference attendee a shirt for the occasion. Many at the conference commented on "those orange shirts."

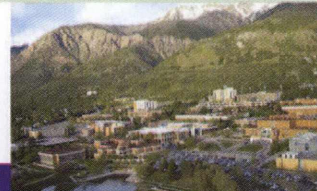
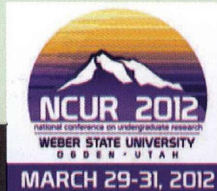
OSU students were accompanied by Dr. Jason F. Kirksey, Associate VP for Institutional Diversity; Dr. Gilbert John; Dr. Donald French, Professor in the Zoology Department; and Kay Porter, OK-LSAMP Program Manager.



SSNAP participants attended the 2012 Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) National Conference in Seattle, Washington, October 10-14, 2012.

# 2012 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Scholars from throughout the Alliance participated in the NCUR conference in Ogden, Utah. The EPSCoR program assisted with funding of the seven OK-LSAMP Scholars attending. Dr. Mark Payton from OSU along with Dr. Cynthia Murray and Dr. Tracy Morris from UCO accompanied the students. In addition to making scientific presentations on their research, students participated in excursions such as horse back riding, skiing, and touring Salt Lake City.



Pictured clockwise from bottom left: Dr. Cynthia Murray, UCO mentor; Ran Li, OU student; Ricardo Montoya, OSU Scholar; Kylie Gilcrest, UCO student; Mike Haszto, UCO student; Dr. Mark Payton, OK-LSAMP PI; Ana Tehrani, UCO Scholar; Kymberli Whayne, LU Scholar; Amanda Mathias, OSU Scholar; Ondreia Thomas, OSU Scholar; Cassandra Camp, OSU Scholar; and Vicky Kelly, OSU Scholar.



OSU Scholar.



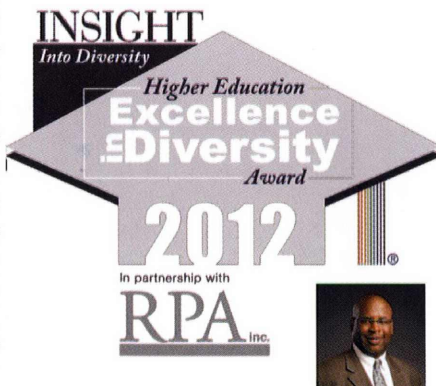
## OSU DIVERSITY EFFORTS RECOGNIZED



Oklahoma State University was one of the first recipients of the **Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award** given by **INSIGHT into Diversity** magazine. This award is in recognition of the diversity and inclusion efforts at Oklahoma State University. The OK-LSAMP program has contributed to the success of diversity efforts on campus and in the state. We are proud to have played a role in the efforts of increasing the number of students from under-represented populations who receive college degrees. Dr. Jason F. Kirksey, Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity is pictured below.

*"We hope the HEED award serves as a reminder that diversity and inclusion must remain priorities in the 21st century higher education landscape. Every college and university should recognize the importance of diversity and inclusion as being part of their everyday life on campus,"* said Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. *"Our students of today are the employees of tomorrow and the future of our country. As students begin to enter the workforce and a global society, they must first be surrounded by and*

*supported by faculty and staff that understand the differences among cultures and their needs."*



*The HEED award recipients were selected based on their institution's exemplary diversity and inclusion initiatives, and include all aspects of diversity including gender, race, ethnicity, veterans, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBT community.*  
<http://www.insightintodiversity.com/heed-award>



# AMAZING PLACES



**Langston University** was founded as the Colored Agricultural and Normal University (CANU) on March 12, 1897, under the second Morrill Act of 1890 by Oklahoma Territorial House Bill 151. It was the result of an appearance in July 1892 by

black citizens before the Oklahoma Industrial School and College Commission to petition the need for an institution of higher education for blacks who were not permitted to attend any of the institutions of higher education in Oklahoma Territory.

The institution's purpose was "to instruct both male and female colored persons in the art of teaching various branches which pertain to a common school education and in such higher education as may be deemed advisable, and the fundamental laws of the United States in the rights and duties of citizens in the agricultural, mechanical and industrial arts." One stipulation was that the land on which the college would be built would have to be purchased by the citizens. Picnics, auctions, and bake sales were held to raise money, and the land was purchased within a year by black settlers determined to provide higher education for their children.

### Key Historical Points:

- The town of Langston, located northeast of Guthrie (then capital of Oklahoma Territory), was established on April 22, 1890, exactly one year after the opening of Oklahoma Territory to settlers.
- On September 3, 1898, with an initial budget of \$5,000, CANU opened in a Presbyterian church in Langston.
- The name was officially changed to Langston University in 1941 as a result of it having been the name by which the institution was always popularly referred.
- Both the town and the university are named in honor of John Mercer Langston who became a symbol of the highest form of educational leadership. A graduate of Oberlin College in Ohio, he served on the Oberlin Board of Education, Oberlin City Council, as supervisor of the Ohio Negro schools, as inspector general of the Freedmen's Bureau schools, as the first dean of



the Howard University (Washington, DC) School of Law, as president of Virginia State College, as consul general to Haiti, and as a U.S. congressman from Virginia.

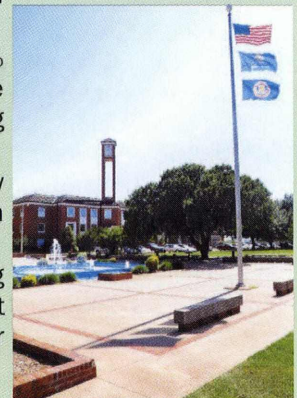
- Inman Edward Page, a native of Virginia and the son of a free man, served as Langston University's first president. A graduate of Howard and Brown Universities, Page was the first black teacher at Natchez Seminary in Mississippi and served as vice principal and principal of Lincoln University, also an historically black institution, located in Jefferson City, Missouri.
- Dr. JoAnn W. Haysbert became Langston University's fifteenth and first female president in August 2005. Under the inaugural mantra, "From Excellence to Greatness," she established a 10-year strategic plan, of which eighty percent was completed during her six years at the university.

- In January 2012, Dr. Kent Smith, a native of Louisiana and vice president at Ohio University, was named sixteenth president of Langston University by the Oklahoma State University and A&M Colleges Board of Regents.

- In addition to being the state's only historically Black institution of higher education, Langston University is one of the most

diverse, with all of Oklahoma's major ethnic and racial groups – Native Americans, Asian-Americans, Latinos, African-Americans and Caucasians – represented among its student, faculty and staff population.

- Langston University is the only university in the state of Oklahoma with a rural and an urban mission. Its main campus is located in the rural town of Langston City and it has urban campuses in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.
- Langston has a 90.4% passing rate on the registered nursing licensure exam for 2011.
- Spring 2012, a new public health program began.
- The School of Nursing acquired a state-of-the-art Human Patient Simulator laboratory.



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The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) is a consortium of Oklahoma colleges and universities working together to develop programs aimed at increasing the number of students from under-represented populations who receive degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Current goals of the program focus on undergraduate research experiences, graduate school preparation, and international experiences. Activities include faculty mentoring, conference and presentation travel, and meetings focused on professional development.

*"Sometimes, the best helping hand you can get is a good, firm push."  
-Joann Thomas*

### Summer Research Opportunities

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) [http://nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu\\_search.cfm](http://nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm)  
<http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/Discipline.asp>

Also Google: IDeA Networks for Biomedical Research Experience (INBRE), Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE), and/or Summer Minority Advanced Research Training Programs (SMART)

### GRE Preparation

<http://www.ed2go.com/osuokc/SearchResults.aspx?CurrPage=1&CategoryId=64&Sort=RELEVANCE&PrevSort=RELEVANCE&SortAsc=True>

### Personal Potential Index (PPI)

<http://www.ets.org/ppi/>



Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation or Oklahoma State University.

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Title IX Coordinator, 408 Whitehurst, Stillwater, OK 74078, 405-744-5371.

The graphic features a central map of Oklahoma with green dots and labels for various universities: NWOSU, OSU, TU, SWOSU, LU, UCO, OU, ECU, SOSU, Cameron, and NSU. To the left of the map is a circular collage of logos for member institutions including Oklahoma University (OU), Oklahoma State University (OSU), University of Tulsa, Northwestern, Northeastern Oklahoma State University, SWOSU, Eastern Oklahoma State University (ECSU), UCO, LU, and Cameron University. Below the collage is the text "HRD 0902027". At the bottom left is the National Science Foundation logo with the tagline "WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN".